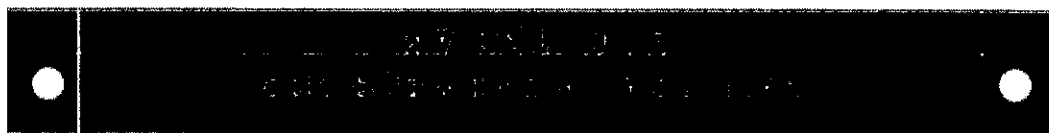


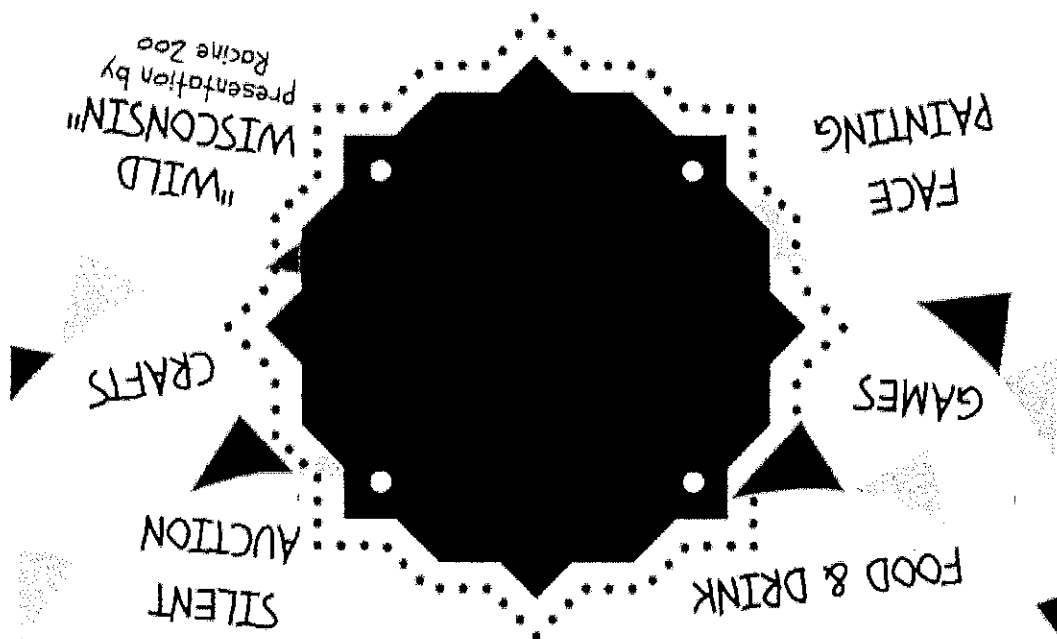


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



All proceeds will benefit the
Tree House Child and Family Center



We Forgot to Pray!

It had been a long day at the back end of a very long week. Thursdays for me are always busy days with Confirmation class in the school, Bible study, final sermon preparations, another Bible study, and ending the day with worship. I had come home for dinner before going back to lead really my third Bible study of the day and then worship. In my weariness and haste, we sat down at the table and began to eat dinner. After most of us had finished, the words came out of my daughter's mouth that shocked me and yet woke me up to something I didn't realize we forgot. "Daddy, we forgot to pray!" This was upsetting to her and so we joined together in our table prayer. "Come Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blest. Oh give thanks unto the Lord for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. Amen"

Have you ever had a moment like that when it hit you like a two by four upside the head that you forgot to pray when you had every reason to take that time with your Heavenly Father? It has happened far too often in my own life, and not just at the dinner table. Perhaps it has happened to you too. While there are many different kinds of prayers, the one that comes to mind right away is prayers like that table prayer, prayers of thanksgiving for all our blessings. We were taught as children to say thank you. We teach our children to be polite and say thank you to those who give them something. Yet how easy it is to just breeze through the days, weeks, even the whole year and forget to take time each day to say, "Thank you."

A few weeks ago in worship we heard about ten lepers who pleaded with Jesus to heal them. He told them to go see the priests and on the way he healed them of that crippling disease. Yet only one of them returned to thank Jesus. The other nine forgot. Perhaps in their excitement and haste to get back home to their families, the very concept of saying, "Thank you!" just wasn't on their minds. Before addressing the one man who came back to praise and thank him, Jesus pointed out the other nine's forgetfulness. "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" (Luke 17:17)

In the coming weeks, the world will breeze through Thanksgiving on it's way to the shallow Christmas it offers. Yet as Christians pausing to give thanks, aren't days like Christmas, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday reason for us to return in prayerful praise to give thanks? When Jesus came into the world, God kept his promise to send our Savior. On Good Friday, Jesus willingly endured the suffering our sins deserved and died our death for us. On Easter morning, Jesus powerfully demonstrated his victory over sin and death so that we would have life with him even when we die. We are blessed with cleansing. It was because of the work of Jesus that we are cleansed. We are blessed with forgiveness. Look again. God is not done blessing us. He has blessed us with all that he placed in our lives - family, earthly possessions, food, clothing, shelter, and all that we need - all blessings from the gracious and merciful hand of our Almighty God.

When the unbelieving world does express it's thankfulness, they really aren't expressing it in a prayer to God. The fact is without faith their expressions of gratitude are empty. They recognize earthly blessings, but they have yet to recognize the source as well as the only blessing they really need - Jesus. We know that blessing. We know who to thank for every blessing. This Thanksgiving and every day, recognize what our God has given to you, may we always remember to pause in prayer presenting our requests to God. Among so many different kinds of prayers and petitions, may one of them always be prayers of thanksgiving.

Prayer:

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blest. Oh give thanks unto the Lord for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. Amen

First Evangelical Lutheran Church Information

Worship Services/Classes.

- **Thursday:** Bible Study -- 9:00 a.m.
Christian Book Club -- 6:00 p.m.
Service -- 7:00 p.m.
 - **Sunday:** Services - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Bible Classes and Sunday School -- 9:15 a.m.
 - **Saturday:** Men's Breakfast Bible Study -- 2nd Saturday -- 8-9 a.m.
Women's Bible Study -- 3rd Saturday -- 8-9 a.m.
- ❖ **Thanksgiving Eve Service** -- Wed., November 21st -- **6:30 p.m.** (*note time change*)
~Sparks/Flames will play the handbells before the service
~choir sings

Thanks & Giving Festival!

First Lutheran Church and School will be hosting our first ever Thanks & Giving Festival on Saturday, November 3rd from 9:30-11:30 am. This new, family friendly event will focus on giving back to and showing our appreciation for the local non-profits that enrich our community. We will have different activities, food, and a "Wild Wisconsin" presentation by the Racine Zoo. A silent auction will be held with all proceeds going to the Tree House Family and Child Center. All members are invited -- and please invite friends and neighbors! If you are unable to attend the event, but would still like to support the Tree House, donations can be given to Laina in the office.

The Giving Tree

A giving tree will be placed in the narthex this month to collect hats, mittens, scarves, and socks for those in need. All sizes and colors are needed. The tree will be up through December 9th, and all items collected will then be shared between Twin Oaks Homeless Shelter and the Elkhorn Food Pantry. Any questions can be directed to Vickie Mueller at 728-9554. Thank you for helping those less fortunate!

Advent by Candlelight

First Lutheran's Advent by Candlelight will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 2nd. If you enjoy decorating, we encourage you to be a table hostess. Hostesses provide table settings for 8 or 10 people, holiday table decorations, candles and a dessert. You can co-hostess a table too. It is lots of fun and requires only a few hours. We encourage hostesses to invite their own tables. Please sign up on the sheet on the brown door. Reservations are also now available for Advent by Candlelight. Invite your family members, friends and neighbors for a women's night of Christ-centered preparation for the holiday season. There is no charge for this event. Space is limited; we recommend that you make your reservations early! Sign up is on the brown door. If you have any questions, please talk with Amy Schnieder.

Christmas Decorating

Altar Committee has schedule the Christmas Season church decorating for Monday, November 26th at 6:30 p.m. All members of First Lutheran are welcome to help. If anyone is interested in joining Altar Committee, this is a great opportunity to meet many of the members. Please contact Alice Lembach, Altar Committee chairperson, at 723-8277 with any questions.

Christmas Memories Tree

Light Reservations will be taken through November 21st for our annual Christmas Memories Tree, which supports CEA, Altar, and Advent by Candlelight. Information and reservation forms will be available in the tract rack. Please see Laina in the office with any questions.

Christmas Parade

First Lutheran will have a float in the Elkhorn Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 1st. If you would care to help, please contact Tom Stech, Pastor Meier or Wally Holder. Please watch for more information about participating in the float/parade.

Church Library News

Recently several volunteers have worked on cleaning the church/school library. Old, outdated books have been given away, donated, or discarded. The remaining materials have been reorganized, and shelves are labeled to assist you in picking out books for your reading pleasure. Feel free to check out items you'd like to read. Just fill in the clipboard sheet that is on top of the card catalog with your name, the date, and book title. When you return the books just put them in the crate provided for returned books, and someone will re-shelve the books in their proper place. Parents – feel free to take books from the specially marked children's book shelves to use with your children during church services. Just put them back on that same shelf after the church service. Feel free to enjoy the materials that are in that room!

Toddler Open Gym

This program is for children age 0 – 5, along with the parent/caregiver and will take place from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in the school gym in the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from October through May. The program is open to our members as well as the community. Please invite friends! There is open play in the gym with various toys as well as games, crafts, coloring, an area just for babies, and more! During the hour, we will also have a devotion and snack. As this outreach program is a non-budgeted expense, monetary donations are appreciated!

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be added to our prayer chain and pray for members and present their needs, requests and/or praises to God, contact Kelly Stech - 262-728-8020 or Suzanne Manthe - 262-725-6131. If you have a specific prayer request, bright green forms are available in the tract rack - please indicate if you would like the prayer public in church, kept within the prayer chain, or if you only want the pastor to know. Please place prayer requests in the "church" box near the tract rack. *"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."* James 5:16

Christian Assistance Fund

A Christian Assistance Fund has been created for our congregation to follow Christ's directive to "love one another". Contributions to this account are appreciated. Designated Gift Envelopes are available in the rack on the side of the member mailboxes. If a member has need for assistance, application forms are available from pastor. Any requests are kept in the strictest confidence.

Meals on Wheels

Our church helps with the Walworth County Meals on Wheels program. If you would be willing and able to help, or have questions on what meals on wheels is about, please contact Doris Salem at 723-2537.

Christian Education Assistance Fund

No member of First Lutheran will be denied a Christian education in our school because of need. First Lutheran School has a Christian Education Assistance Fund to assist families with tuition costs. The Board of Education then distributes fund based on the application and need. If you would care to contribute to this fund or need a tuition assistance application, please see Mr. Schramm.

WELS Radio and TV Ministry

Music for The Master followed by **Message from The Master** radio program can be heard each Sunday morning on AM "JOY 1340" WJYI at 7:00 a.m. The Milwaukee television stations that air **Time of Grace** are: WBME (ME Tv) – Sunday at 7:00 a.m.; WDJT (CBS 58) – Sunday at 10:30 a.m.; WWRS – Thursday at 3:30 p.m. and WTMJ (4) – Friday at 12:05 a.m. The cable channels that air the program are Freeform on Thursdays at 5:30 a.m. and TBN (Trinity Broadcast Network) on Thursday at 3:30 p.m. Please check your local provider's channel listing for more information.

Helping Institutional Ministries

WELS Institutional Ministries accepts Meditations booklets that are no more than one year old, along with hotel/travel size shampoo, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes. These hygiene supplies are given out to returning citizens after incarceration. Please place these donated items in the box marked "Institutional Ministries" in the narthex. Thank you for your help.

Thrivent Members

A benefit available to Thrivent members is being able to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars to an organization. There is no additional cost to you for this program. Both First Lutheran Church and First Lutheran School are options for designation, along with a list of other organizations. You may go online, log into your account, and designate funds to your choice of organization(s), call your Thrivent representative, OR call Thrivent directly at 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted say, "Thrivent Choice". We encourage you to help an organization with this member benefit.

ACH Offerings

First Lutheran Church has set up an automatic payments option through VANCO Payment Solutions for member giving. Authorization forms for your gifts to the church are available in the office. If this form of giving is an option for you, please return completed forms to the office. Please contact the office or Mike Schwark with any questions.

Food Pantry

Our church collects non-perishable food for the Elkhorn Food Pantry. The collection bin for donations is located in the narthex. Please note that the Elkhorn Food Pantry serves Elkhorn Area School District residents and is located at 14 W. Geneva Street. Representatives of Elkhorn area churches run the pantry. Our members Bill Holtz and Fred Baudais are on the Board of Directors. Our members - Bill Holtz, Carla Baudais, Jim and Vickie Mueller, Doris Salem, and Bonnie Nommensen share their time at the pantry. The Walworth County Food Pantry, which serves the rest of Walworth County and is located at 205 E. Commerce Court, is a *separate* entity from the Elkhorn Food Pantry. Your generosity in helping the less fortunate is appreciated! *The Food Pantry always welcomes new volunteers. If you are interested in helping one morning a week (Monday, Wednesday, or Friday) each month, please contact Carla Baudais.*

The Walworth County WIC Program

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program helps keep you and your family healthy and strong. WIC not only provides a variety of foods, but also employs dietitians and lactation specialists who can provide individualized nutrition counseling, tips for healthy meals, breastfeeding promotion and support and referrals to other services. Pregnant women, new moms, infants and children up to the age of five may be eligible for the program. Many working families qualify and the income guidelines increase every year. Immigration status is not considered when determining WIC eligibility. Contact the Walworth County WIC Program at 262-741-3146 or e-mail walcowic@co.walworth.wi.us to see if you qualify and to set up an appointment. We have a clinic in Delavan once a month at the Head Start facility on Hobbs Drive. Ask the WIC clerk when you call to apply. Brochures/information is located on the bulletin board across of the ladies room.

Pastoral Acts: **Baptism:** Deacon Russell Olson – October 7, 2018

Affirmation of Baptism: Ava Ruth Syverson – October 14, 2018



November 2018

www.firstelkhorn.com

pastorhorner@firstatthecross.com
 principal@firstatthecross.com
 secretary@firstatthecross.com

Council Hosts:		Ushers:	
Nov. 4	M. Schwark	8:00	10:30
Nov. 11	T. Stech	8:00	10:30
Nov. 18	J. Voigt	8:00	10:30
Nov. 25	B. Bruggger	8:00	10:30
M. Sulik		D. Mangold	
B. Holtz		R. Smith	
M. Dorn		D. Hintz	
M. Papentufus		C. Greving	
C. Greving		M. Yunker	
Thanksgiving Eve, Wed., Nov. 21 at 6:30 p.m.: T. Stech & R. Smith			

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
 415 South Devendorf Street
 Elkhorn, WI 53121
 Phone: 262-723-4191-church
 262-723-1091-school

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
TOG - Toddler Open Gym CBC - Christian Book Club SS - Sunday School BC - Bible Class						
4 Communion Services - 8 & 10:30 a.m. SS/BC - 9:15 am	5 MOM - 9:30 a.m. Dartball - here - 7:30 pm	6 Choir - 6:30 p.m.	7 Ladies Aid - 1:30 pm	8 Bible Class -9:00 am FLS Veterans Day Presentation - 1 pm CBC - 6:00 pm Worship Service - 7:00 pm	9	10 Men's Breakfast Bible study - 8-9 am
11 Worship Services - 8 & 10:30 a.m. ~GT. 3-4 sing 8 am SS/BC - 9:15 am	12 NO SCHOOL <i>Parent Teacher Con- ferences</i>	13 Choir - 6:30 p.m.	14 Sparks/Flames - handbells - 6:00 pm Thanksgiving Service - 6:30 p.m. ~choir sings	15 Bible Class -9:00 am TOG - 9:30 am CBC - 6:00 pm Communion Service - 7:00 pm	16	17 Women's Bible Study - 8-9 am
18 Communion Services - 8 & 10:30 a.m. SS/BC - 9:15 am	19 Board of Ed-6:30 pm Board Mtgs-6:30 pm Church Council - 7:00 pm	20 Choir - 6:30 p.m.	21 Sparks/Flames - handbells - 6:00 pm Thanksgiving Service - 6:30 p.m. ~choir sings	22 NO SCHOOL	23	24
25 Favorite Hymns Worship Services - 8 & 10:30 a.m. SS/BC - 9:15 am	26	27 Choir - 6:30 p.m.	28 Ladies Book Club - 7:00 p.m.	29 Bible Class -9:00 am CBC - 6:00 pm Communion Service - 7:00 pm	30	

November 2018

Council Hosts:

	<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Nov. 4	M. Schwark	J. Sulik
Nov. 11	T. Stech	B. Holtz
Nov. 18	J. Voigt	M. Dorn
Nov. 25	B. Brugger	M. Papenfus

Ushers:

<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
D. Mangold	P. Rote
R. Smith	C. & R. Collins
D. Hintz	S. Beaver
C. Greving	M. Yunker

Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 21 at 6:30 p.m.: T. Stech & R. Smith

Greeters:

	<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Nov. 4	Aaron & Anna Mertes	Paul & Michelle Lemke
Nov. 11	Dennis & Terri Carnes	Bill Holtz
Nov. 18	Marlene Schoenbeck	Gordon & Nancy Haak
Nov. 25	Doris Salem	Matt & Kristy Barker

Birthdays: shut in members are in **bold print**

3- Madison Garcia	23- Jocelyn Kopac
David Duwe	24- Ronald Bidlack
Michael Gilbert	Margaret Heller
4- Jon Cucchi	Rachel Nolte
5- Carolyn Schafer	25- Megan Erickson
Corinne Sanders	26- Trista Heuer
Allison Syverson	27- Betty Flitcroft
8- Kristen Barker	28- Barney Brugger
Everett Stech	29- Donna Ames
9- Joseph Lembach	30- Betty Grant
11- Max Greving	Benard Brellenthin
Faith Hintz	Ethan Fink
12- Jamie Walbrandt	Samantha Hoyord
13- Matthew Barker	
Paul Rote	
15- Peggy Schafer	
Johnny Helfvogt	
16- Nathan Duwe	
Kimberly Collins	
18- Dani Brellenthin	
19- Kerry Schafer	
20- Michael Dorn	
21- Marley Sulik	

Anniversaries:

Tim & Dani Brellenthin, November 6, 1965
Aaron & Anna Mertes, November 11, 2000
David & Donna Duwe, November 13, 1999
Ray & Jeannine Kayser, November 16, 1968

FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

Schedule of Events

Fri., Nov. 2	End of 1 st quarter
Sat., Nov. 3	Thanks & Giving Festival – 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Thurs., Nov. 8	Veterans day presentation – 1:00 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 11	Grades 3-4 sing in 8:00 service
Thurs., Nov. 8 – Sun., Nov. 11	SLHS Tip-Off Tournament
Mon., Nov. 12	No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Fri., Nov. 16	Special Meal
Mon., Nov. 19	Kindergarten “Turkey Walk” Board of Education – 6:00 p.m.
Wed. – Fri., Nov. 21-23	No School – Thanksgiving Break
Fri., Nov. 30	Basketball @ Lake Geneva – 5:00 p.m.

Be sure to check out our website - www.firstelkhorn.com. – and access the most up to date calendar for school events! You can also sync the calendar to your Google calendar.

Click on School - News+Events to see/print copies of the Wednesday News and/or monthly calendar.

Volleyball & Soccer Wrap Up

Congratulations to all of our athletes that participated in Volleyball & Soccer. The volleyball team ended their season 1-6 and placed 7th in the conference. The girls lost the first two games in the tournament. The boys' soccer team ended their season 1-4 and placed 6th in the conference. The boys played hard, but lost their game in the consolation bracket. Thank you to our coaches – Kristi Stueber – volleyball, and Trevor Schwartz and Ben Lutz – soccer.

Winter Sports Season Begins

Basketball and cheerleading practices are beginning. Students in grades 4-8 are eligible to participate. Be sure to watch our school's weekly newsletter – posted online and on the school bulletin board – for games and updates. The Google school athletic calendar is also a resource for game location and times, as well as updated on last minute changes. Come and cheer on our Badger athletes!

Thanks & Giving Festival!

First Lutheran Church and School will be hosting our first ever Thanks & Giving Festival on Saturday, November 3rd from 9:30-11:30 am. This new, family friendly event will focus on giving back to and showing our appreciation for the local non-profits that enrich our community. We will have different activities, food, and a presentation of “Wild Wisconsin” by the Racine Zoo. A silent auction will be held with all proceeds going to the Tree House Family and Child Center. All members are invited – and please invite friends and neighbors! If you are unable to attend the event, but would still like to support the Tree House, donations can be given to Laina in the office.

Veteran's Day Presentation

Please join us for our Veterans Day presentation on Thursday, Nov 8th @ 1PM. All members and all Veterans are encouraged to attend. The program includes a presentation by the VFW, singing by the students, and special gifts to the Veterans from the students. Please spread the word and join us in giving thanks for all of the men and women who have so nobly served our country. Please see Mr. Schramm if you have any questions, or need more information.

Help Feed the Turkey!

The 4K and Kindergarten classroom will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Elkhorn Food Pantry November 1st – 16th. The Kindergarten class will then deliver the items collected on the annual “Turkey Walk” to the Elkhorn Food Pantry. All are invited to help “Feed the Turkey” in the 4K/K classroom. Thank you for helping those less fortunate.