



FIRST LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

**February 2019**  
**Newsletter**

## Love is More Than Words

"I love you!" When spoken from the heart these three words express the affection and the love you feel for someone. Wives and husbands say them to each other. Parents say this to their children, but how do you know the speaker actually means them? How is the one who is supposedly loved know they are loved? Those words can be spoken with no real love behind them. Love is more than just words. Love is action that displays love that is in the heart. Consider God's love for you.

Throughout Scripture, God tells us how much he loves us. That love for every single person in this world led him to make a promise to send the Savior that we desperately needed. Yet what would have happened if God didn't send that Savior? Would we know God loved us? Could we even know what love is. If his love for us was only in words, but not in action, than we would have no hope of forgiveness, no hope of life, no hope of salvation because God who describes himself as love did not really love.

God didn't just tell us he loves us. He also showed his love. The Apostle Paul writes, "But God *demonstrates* his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8) When it comes to God's love, his love was more than just words spoken to a broken people. It was love in action. Jesus was the embodiment of God's love. He loved us so much that he demonstrated it by sending his one and only Son to die for us our sins and endure the punishment our sins rightly deserve. God says to you, "I love you," through his Word and then through that same Word he shows you his love in the outstretched arms of Jesus. We know what real love is because God demonstrated it and continues to demonstrate it every day in so many ways.

So what does that mean for our love? You know the old saying. Actions speak louder than words. Too often our love for others is only in saying those three words that roll off the tongue sometimes. Words expressing love are easily said, and they very important to say. Yet no matter how many times you say them, actions will always speak the love that is in the heart. Yes, it is important to say how much you love someone, but in a way it is more important to demonstrate your love.

Since we are loved by God, we are filled with love for others, love that takes action. It is demonstrated in so many ways among all the relationships we have with each other - spouses, families, your church family . Instead of listing how exactly you can show those three words in your life, consider this question. "I am loved by God. How can I demonstrate my love for \_\_\_\_\_ in my life?" The answer may not be the same for every person in your life. Yet no matter how you answer that question, love is always more than just the words that we speak to one another. Love is demonstrated. Love is lived every single day. Why? Because "God *demonstrates* his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

### Prayer

O Master of the Loving heart, the friend of all in need, we pray that we may be like you in thought and word and deed. Amen (CW 491 vs. 1)

# First Evangelical Lutheran Church Information

## Worship Services/Classes.

- **Thursday:** Bible Study – 9:00 a.m.  
Christian Book Club – 6:00 p.m. ~ *No class February 7 & 21*  
Service – 7:00 p.m. ~ *No service on February 7 & 21*
- **Sunday:** Services - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Bible Classes and Sunday School – 9:15 a.m.
- **Saturday:** Men's Breakfast Bible Study – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday – 8-9 a.m.  
Women's Bible Study – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – 8-9 a.m.

## Treasurer Monthly Update – January 2019

At the voter's meeting on January 13, a budget was passed requiring gifts totaling \$552,770. This number is large. One might ask- how will we accomplish this? We can only accomplish this offering goal through prayer and trust in our Lord. Our Lord invites us to talk with Him through prayer. Our Lord encourages worshipping Him regularly and consistently. Our Lord encourages us to give as we are blessed by Him regularly and generously. As we head into 2019, please pray with me that, with our Lord's help, we can complete this financial giving goal.  
Our Lord's Peace, Fred Baudais, Treasurer

## LPS Handbell Choir

The Luther Preparatory School Hand bell Choir will be here on Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. A door offering will be taken that Sunday to support the music program at LPS. *Please note that there will not be a Thursday evening service on February 7<sup>th</sup>.*

## Blood Drive

We are hosting a Blood Drive here at First on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 6 p.m. To make an appointment, please use the link on our website or call the office. All attempting donors will receive a special edition pair of Blood Center of Wisconsin socks – “R U My Type?”

## Him & Her Christian Concert

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> for the husband and wife duo – Him & Her. This Christian Concert will be held in the church, in place of our Thursday evening worship. We are collecting special donations to cover the cost of their performance. If you would care to contribute, please use the special envelopes located on the cart under the stairs.

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month now May. The program is open to our members as well as the community. Please invite friends! There is open play in 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!*

## Meals on Wheels

We help 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.

### **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 – please use the Designated Gift Envelopes, 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.

### **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.

### **Church Library News**

The church/school library has been updated. Feel free to check out items you'd like to read. On the clipboard sheet that is on top of the card catalog, write 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 bookshelves to use with your children during church services. Please put them back on that same shelf after the church service. Feel free to enjoy the materials that are in that room!

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.*

# FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

## Schedule of Events

Fri., Feb. 1	Basketball @ Lake Geneva – 5:30/6:30 p.m. – <i>Parents' Night</i>
Sat., Feb. 2	Basketball @ Trinity (make-up game) – 10:00/11:00 a.m.
Sun., Feb. 3	4K & K sing in 8:00 Sunday service
Fri., Feb. 8	Pep Rally – 2:00 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 8 – Sun., Feb. 10	B-Team Basketball Tournament
Fri., Feb. 15	Breakfast & Bible Bites – 7:15 a.m. Jump Rope for Heart Event
Fri., Feb. 15 – Sun., Feb. 17	A-Team Basketball Tournament
Sun., Feb. 17	Grades 3-4 sing in 8:00 service
Mon., Feb. 18	Board of Education – 6:00 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 22	No School – LLTC
Mon., Feb. 25	No School – Teacher In-service

*Be sure to check out our website - [www.firstelkhorn.com/school](http://www.firstelkhorn.com/school) – 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.*

## Winter Sports Season

Our Basketball and cheerleading season is coming to an end. Players and coaches have worked hard all season and continue to do so as they head into the tournaments. The tournament schedule will be posted in the Wednesday News and on the school bulletin board. We will hold Spirit Week Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> through Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, with our annual pep rally on Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the gym. We invite you to attend and support our Badger basketball players and cheerleaders!

## Breakfast & Bible Bites

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Breakfast & Bible Bites will be held on Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:15 a.m. We would “LOVE” to have you join us for a continental breakfast at 7:15 a.m. and chapel at 8:00 a.m.

## Jump Rope for Heart

On Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, students in grades K-8 will enjoy a fun afternoon of different jump rope events in conjunction with our annual awareness/helping others event. We are collecting pledges for the American Heart Association. If you would care to contribute, please contact the office.

## Honor Roll

The following students in grades 5 – 8 made the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter/1<sup>st</sup> semester honor roll:

**A:** Jacob M., Evan M., Landon Y., Caleb G., Miles H., Russell, H., Morgan P.

**B:** Alex P., Olivia L., Trent V., Bennett C., Riley F., Oliver J.

## Student Teachers

We welcome Miss Jennifer Adickes and Mr. Connor Ragner to First Lutheran. They are serving with Miss Stueber and Mr. Schramm until spring break at the end of March.

## Save for your School

First Lutheran School participates in a variety of promotions to help fund our school's non-budgeted expenses; classroom learning aids like TIME for Kids, Spanish, special programming, and more. Please save and turn in Kwik Trip milk caps and bag tops (*this program is coming to an end – please turn in all caps and bag tops by March 15th*), General Mills Boxtops, and Frank's Piggly Wiggly receipts. Note our enrollment number when checking out at Office Max for us to gain credit for supplies. We also participate in SCRIP – purchasing and/or ordering gift cards to use as gift or your everyday purchases. An information sheet is located under the stairs near the green SCRIP order sheets. If you order from Amazon, use AmazonSmile and designate First Lutheran Church for a percentage of your purchase to go back to the school. If you have questions regarding any of the programs, please contact Mr. Schramm or the office. *Thank you for helping your school!*

## The Ladies Aid January 2, 2019

Nancy Haak had the tables decorated for the Baby Shower for Pastor and Trista's baby girl due in February. She had a pink dessert to go with it. Although it was to be a surprise for Trista, Pastor said he could not find an excuse to get her to leave the house. He had to tell his wife. Elianna and Cathryn also came to watch their sister's baby shower.

We began with the table prayer. After eating, Beverly Freitag started the meeting.

Beverly Freitag read many thank you notes thanking the Aid for the Christmas gifts. She said she had sent out 4 cards this last month.

Carla Baudais thanked everyone for filling 4 boxes of food for the food pantry last month. Carla also thanked everyone for the items given for the institutional ministries which will be delivered by Mark Howard. Carla showed us the LWMS Mission Calendar which this year has messages from the wives of missionaries. Their birthdays are on the calendar. Carla purchased birthday cards for us to sign to be sent to the wives. If anyone wished to donate birthday cards or stamps they may, but otherwise she would purchase them.

Vickie Mueller also thanked everyone for the huge collection of mittens, scarves, hats, & socks placed on the giving tree. She took them to Twin Oaks Shelter, Elkhorn Food Pantry, Elkhorn and Delavan Libraries, and Delavan Piggly Wiggly, plus a few others were given.

Doris Salem was busy collecting our annual dues of \$12. She also gave the report for November having a total of \$3023 and December's total being \$2534.48. Our donations and gifts amounted to \$1286 for the year.

We then put Trista Heuer to work opening the baby gifts from 15 Aid members and 4 visitors, plus a couple of others who heard about our shower and wanted to give a gift.

Pastor Heuer asked if the Aid would donate finger food for the January 12th "Preparing for the Future" Seminar. A paper was sent around for us to sign up to do so.

Doreen Grams has a birthday this month, so we sang a Happy Birthday to her. After visiting, we closed with praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Willms, Secretary

# February 2019

## Council Hosts:

	<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Feb. 3	M. Schwark	_____
Feb. 10	T. Stech	B. Holtz
Feb. 17	_____	M. Dorn
Feb. 24	_____	P. Rote

## Ushers:

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

## Greeters:

	<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Feb. 3	Beverly Freitag	Gene & Patty Lauderdale
Feb. 10	Barb Schinke	Mark & Laina Papenfus
Feb. 17	Mike & Marsha Schwark	Scott & Amy Beaver
Feb. 24	Alice Lembach	Bill & Mary Schomburg

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

1- Gordon Haak	16- Connie Rudolph
Michael Schwark	Sharyl Hapka
2- Amelia Smith	17- Scott Christian
3- Mark Joitke	18- Paige Schwark
Elizabeth Wills	19- Lina Gilbert
4- <b>Walter Joost Jr.</b>	21- Jack Behling
Caylee Olson	23- Erin Utesch
5- Tim Wills	24- Christine Wills
Jackson Lambert	25- Mariah Wimer
6- Darlene Schafer	26- Joshua Kuehl
8- Pastor Heuer	Natalie Christian
11- Frank Klein	Cadon Olson
Karen Meinen	Bailey Golly
12- Karen Hauerwas	28- Gavin Lanser
<b>Marian Clary</b>	Alan Wood
13- Kaylee Wunder	
<b>Larry Du Bois</b>	
Gabriel Brotzman	
15- Cody Thompson	
Kaylee Lemke	

## Anniversaries:

Brandon & Nicole Behling, Feb. 11, 2000





# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

415 S. Devendorf Street  
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Phone: 262-723-4191-church

262-723-1091-school

E-mail: [pastorheuer@firststathecross.com](mailto:pastorheuer@firststathecross.com)

[principal@firststathecross.com](mailto:principal@firststathecross.com)

[secretary@firststathecross.com](mailto:secretary@firststathecross.com)

# February 2019

[www.firstelkhorn.com](http://www.firstelkhorn.com)

	<u>Council Hosts:</u>	<u>Ushers:</u>
Feb. 3	M. Schwark	8:00 D. Mangold S. Beaver
Feb. 10	T. Stech	10:30 B. Holtz C. Collins
Feb. 17		M. Dorn M. Papenfus
Feb. 24		P. Rote C. Greving M. Yunker

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>3</b> Communion Services - 8 & 10:30 a.m. ~4K & K sing - 8:00 SS/BC - 9:15 am	<b>4</b> TOG - Toddler Open Gym CBC - Christian Book Club SS/BC - Sunday School/Bible Class	<b>5</b> Choir - 6:30 p.m.	<b>6</b> Ladies Aid - 1:30 pm	<b>7</b> Bible Class - 9:00 am TOG - 9:30 am No Service	<b>8</b> FLS Pep Rally - 2:00 p.m.	<b>9</b> Men's Breakfast Bible Study - 8 - 9 a.m.
<b>10</b> Worship Services - 8 & 10:30 a.m. ~LPS Handbell Choir SS/BC - 9:15 am	<b>11</b> Altar Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	<b>12</b> Choir - 6:30 p.m. Alive with Christ Class - 7:30 p.m.	<b>13</b> Sparks & Flames - 6 - 7 pm	<b>14</b> Bible Class - 9:00 am CBC - 6:00 pm Communion Service - 7:00 pm	<b>15</b> No School - LLTC	<b>16</b> Women's Bible Study - 8-9 a.m.
<b>17</b> Communion Services - 8 & 10:30 a.m. ~Gr. 3-4 sing-8:00 SS/BC - 9:15 am	<b>18</b> Blood Drive- 2 - 6 pm Board of Ed. - 6 pm Board Meetings - 6:30 pm Church Council-7 pm	<b>19</b> Choir - 6:30 p.m. Alive with Christ Class - 7:30 p.m.	<b>20</b> Bible Class - 9:00 am TOG - 9:30 am Him & Her Christian Concert - 7:00 pm	<b>21</b> Bible Class - 9:00 am TOG - 9:30 am Him & Her Christian Concert - 7:00 pm	<b>22</b> No School - LLTC	<b>23</b> First Ev. Lutheran Church's 148th anniversary
<b>24</b> Worship Services - 8 & 10:30 a.m. SS/BC - 9:15 am	<b>25</b> No School - Teacher In-service	<b>26</b> Choir - 6:30 p.m. Alive with Christ Class - 7:30 p.m.	<b>27</b> Ladies Book Club - 7:00 pm @ K. Stech's	<b>28</b> Bible Class - 9:00 am CBC - 6:00 pm Communion Service - 7:00 pm		