

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 24th @ 10:00 a.m.

- ❖ 3 different hunts for different age groups.
- ❖ Large grassy area and playground for children to hunt for eggs.
- ❖ Games, crafts, candy, coloring, and more inside the gym after the hunt.
- ❖ Food and drinks.
- ❖ FREE!!

Congregation AND Community are invited!

Please share this event with friends, neighbors, and Facebook!

Wounds Heal Wounds

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

You might find it surprising to know that the largest organ of our body is not the lungs or the liver or even the brain. It's our skin which covers our body. The average adult has about eight pounds, or about 22 square feet of skin. The skin is a very important organ, but like all others, it is an organ that can be broken. Cuts, scrapes, and burns can all wound our skin. Those wounds hurt, even little paper cuts. With every wound, healing is needed. God has given our skin, the ability to heal, but, depending on the wound, it can take more time. During the healing process, it is better to cover it with bandages and ointments to keep those wounds moist and closed while the skin becomes whole again. Those wounds heal on their own and with a little help, but some wounds cannot heal on their own.

You and I are wounded. We may not look wounded, but we have deep gashes that are gushing with the blood of our own guilt. We have burns of rebellion against God with transgressions that cross the line into sin. We have deep scrapes of iniquities that fail time and again to measure up to God's commands. We deserve punishment for those self-inflicted wounds. Yes, we see our wounds, but there is no amount of effort on our part which can serve as an ointment to heal those wounds. When it comes to the wounds of sin, wounds heal wounds.

That might seem impossible. A wound does not heal another wound. Yet think of the aloe plant. You can break pieces off of it and the sap which flows from its leaves can be used for skin treatment on various wounds like minor cuts and burns. That aloe plant when broken was wounded to bring healing to another wound. A wound can heal another wound. It is, as Isaiah wrote, "his wounds" heal us. It is the the wounds of our perfect Jesus that are the healing ointment we need.

His skin wasn't just broken with a small cut or scrape. It was pierced. The soldiers opened wounds with whips that tore the skin of his body. A crown of thorns was pressed into his head. Nails like tent stakes were driven into his hands and feet as he was lifted on a cross. Jesus was wounded to heal our self-inflicted, blood gushing wounds of sin. By his wounds that ended in his death, we are healed. By his wounds, the blood guilt no longer flows from us. By his wounds we have peace with God, who no longer sees our wounds. He sees the wounds of Jesus on a blood stained cross. His holy wounds heal our wounds.

This Lenten season, may we continue to look to the wounds of Jesus and find healing. Just as the hymn writer says, "Jesus, grant that balm and healing in your holy wounds I find, every hour that I am feeling pains of body and of mind." (Christian Worship 121 vs. 1)

Dear Jesus, you didn't deserve the wounds of our sins that you carried on the cross. Yet you took our punishment so that we would have healing. When the wounds of sin burdens our hearts, show us the healing balm of your wounds once again to give peace to our hearts knowing that by your wounds we are healed.
Amen



First Evangelical Lutheran Church Information

Worship Services/Classes

- **Thursday:** Bible Class – 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday:** Services - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Bible Information Hour – 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.

Lenten Season Services

Lenten meals will be served by various church groups beginning at 5:30 p.m. and served until 6:15 p.m. All are welcome to join in this fellowship and support the work of our church.

March 7th – Choir serves Tacos

March 14th – Altar serves BBQ

March 21st – Ladies Aid serve Casseroles

Lenten Services, Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. – “JESUS CHRIST IS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST”

March 7th – Pastor Metzger ~ *Sunday school sings*

March 14th – Pastor Schultz ~ *Grades 7-8 sing*

March 21st – Pastor Waldschmidt ~ *Grades K-2 sing*

Easter Season Services – “Because He Knew”

Palm Sunday, March 25th – Services at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, March 29th – Communion Service at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 30th – Service at 1:30 p.m.

Tenebrae Service at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 1st – Easter Festival Communion Services at 6:00 and 9:00 a.m.

Youth Group serves breakfast between services

Pastor's “Get to Know Your Family” Visits

Pastor Heuer would like to get to know you and your family. The best way for this to happen is for him to come spend a little time with your family in your home. On the door by the church office, there is a sign up sheet with available time slots over the next few weeks in the afternoons and evenings. Take a look. See what might work for you. If none of those times work for you or these spots fill up, there will be more in the weeks to come. Any questions, please contact Pastor Heuer.

LWMS Spring Rally

The LWMS Spring Rally will be held on Sunday, March 11 and we, First Lutheran of Elkhorn, are the hosts. Mark your calendars! Registration begins at 1:30 with opening devotion at 2:00 pm. Rev. Philip Henselin, executive director of Institutional Ministries, will be the speaker about prison ministry. The mission offering will be directed towards prison ministry. A door offering will be taken again on March 4 here at church for this home mission.

Easter Egg Hunt

Our Easter Egg Hunt will be held from 10 -11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 24th. Preparations are underway. A sign-up is on the brown door if you would be willing and able to help!

Toddler Open Gym

This program is intended for children ages 0-5 along with their parent/caregiver and will be held from 9:30-10:30 am in the school gym on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, October through May. The program will be open to our members as well as our community. We will have open play in the gym with various toys, as well as games, crafts, coloring, an area just for babies and more! We will also have a devotion and a snack. Share this information with others – by word of mouth or sharing/liking our Toddler Open Gym posts on our Facebook page.

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.

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. Gifts can be given at any time. *We have a number of families who have requested aid this year. Contributions to the Assistance Fund are needed and appreciated! If you are able to help provide a quality Christian Education, please see Mr. Schramm or Mrs. Papenfus.*

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.

Meals on Wheels

Our church is part of 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.

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 pantry is also in need of grocery bags - paper and/or plastic.* 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!

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. As always, personal contributions are kept in the strictest confidence. 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.

Pastoral Acts:

Funeral – Rev. Wernor Wagner, age 92 - Friday, January 26th
~ Pastor Wayne Meier and Pastor Victor Prange

FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

Schedule of Events

Sun., March 11 – Sun., March 18	“Paws for Books” Scholastic Book Fair - narthex
Mon., March 12	Science Fair – 6:30 p.m.
Wed., March 14	Grades 7-8 sing in 7:00 Lenten Service
Mon., March 19	Board of Education – 6:00 p.m.
Wed., March 21	Grades K-2 sing in 7:00 Lenten Service
Thurs., March 22	Grades 5 – 8 Field Trips
Fri., March 23	No Bus Service End of 3 rd quarter
Sat., March 24	Easter Egg Hunt – 10:00 a.m.
Mon., March 26 – Mon., April 2	No School – Easter Break
Tues., Apr. 3	School Resumes

Be sure to check out our website - www.firstatthecross.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.

Winter Sports Season

Both Boys' Basketball teams played hard in the tournaments last month. Boys' B-Team ended the season 4th seed with a record of 4-3, and won 2nd place in the tournament! Boys' A-Team ended the season with a record of 2-5 and lost in overtime for the consolation trophy in the tournament. Thank you to our coaches – Boys' B – Chad Greving & Jarod Sulik, Boys' A – Pastor Karl Schultz, Bob Babiak and Tyler Schuler, Cheerleading – Kristi Stueber. We truly appreciate them for sharing their time and talents this winter sports season.

Science Fair

Please join us in the gym on Monday, March 12th at 6:30 p.m. at our Science Fair. The students worked very hard on their projects and are excited to showcase them. All are welcome to attend the Science Fair!

Easter Egg Hunt

Our Easter Egg Hunt will be held from 10 -11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 24th. Preparations are underway. A sign-up is on the brown door if you would be willing and able to help!

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, Scholastic magazine, etc.; special programming, and more. Please save and turn in Kwik Trip milk caps and bag tops, General Mills Boxtops, and Frank's Piggy Wiggly receipts. Note our enrollment number when checking out at Office Max for us to gain credit for supplies. We also are a part of SCRIP – purchasing and/or ordering gift cards to use as gift or your everyday purchasing. 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 School 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!*

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 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. Gifts can be given at any time. ***We have a number of families who have requested aid this year, thus contributions to the Assistance Fund are needed and appreciated!*** *If you are able to help provide a quality Christian Education for other brothers and sisters in Christ, please see Mr. Schramm or Mrs. Papenfus.*

Ladies Aid Minutes for February 7, 2018

Beverly Freitag led us in the common table prayer. Pastor Heuer and 13 members were present. Carla Baudais served a red cherry dessert for Valentine's Day.

Pastor Heuer had a devotion on the Lord's Prayer, Matthew 6:9-13. There are many different translations (i.e. English, Greek, Spanish, German) and our hymnal has a modern English and the traditional King James Version of the prayer, but they are all the same prayer. Jesus taught us and his disciples this prayer to be in communication with him and God, the Father. We should pray for help, for needs, for thankful hearts; all in response to God's grace. An excellent passage to memorize is Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Doris Salem gave the treasurer's report with the balance of \$2316.00.

Old business: The church library was brought up for discussion after Nancy Haak had spoken with Wendy Peterson, the church librarian. Nancy and Laura Kuehl will go through the books in the library and dispose of out-dated books, so new books can be purchased from the library fund. A motion was made and carried that the Church Library donation of \$50.00 would be removed from the list of standing donations given by the Ladies Aid each year.

A motion was made and carried that the Ladies Aid would not have a meat bank any longer. We had a discussion last month and everyone this month was in agreement the meat bank was not necessary.

With the passing of these two motions, the Ladies Aid Constitution will have to be amended in the future.

New business: It was decided a kitchen shower for supplies would not be needed this summer since we had a wonderful response last summer. It will be brought up in June to have a kitchen cleaning day in the summer to clean often used cupboards.

Vicki Mueller had an updated list of shut-ins of the congregation. She also had a sheet for members to indicate which shut-ins they would befriend and send cards, visit or pray for.

The Ladies Aid will serve the Lenten meal on Wednesday, March 21. Vickie had a sign up sheet for the ladies to bring casseroles, bread/butter, green salad, cookies, and milk. Serving is from 5:30 to 6:15 pm and we should be there by 4:30 to help with set up.

A motion was made and carried to discontinue having a breakfast meeting in January. It was not sure why the January was a breakfast meeting and they were not well attended so the time will be changed to 1:30. All monthly meetings will start at 1:30 pm except for the Christmas dinner which starts at 12:30 pm.

Jean Klomp brought up an idea of having a spring tea during the May meeting. Morena Rote and Kathy Meier are on the serving committee and will work with Jean on the details. We will prepare May baskets for the shut-ins during the meeting.

The LWMS Southern Lakes Circuit Spring Rally will be held on Sunday, March 11 at 2 pm and we are the hosts. We are to provide light refreshments during the afternoon. Carla Baudais had a sheet to sign up for cookies, bars, cheese/sausage plates, crackers, and fruit plates. The speaker is Rev. Philip Henselin, executive director of Institutional Ministries, will speak on Prison Ministry. The door mission offering on Sunday, February 25 and March 4 will go to Prison Ministry.

Bev read 2 thank you cards. Happy Birthday was sung to Pastor Heuer.

We closed our meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

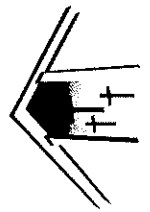
Respectfully submitted, Carla Baudais in the absence of Jean Willms

First Ev. Lutheran Church
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March 2018

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Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



firstatthecross.com

4 Communion Services-8 & 10:30 am BIH-9:15 a.m.	5 MOM Meeting -9:30 a.m.	6 Choir-6:30 p.m.	7 Ladies Aid-1:30 pm Lenten Meal-5:30 pm ~Choir serves Tacos Lenten Service- 7 pm ~Sunday school sings	8 Bible Study - 9:30 am	9 Bible Study - 9:30 am	10 Men's Breakfast Bible Study - 8-9 a.m.
11 Daylight Saving Time Begins - Spring Forward! Worship Services - 8 & 10:30 am BIH-9:15 a.m. LWMS Spring Rally- were-1:30 p.m.	12 "Paws for Books" Sparks/Flames - handbells@ LHCC Choir-6:30 p.m.	13 FLS Science Fair -6:30 p.m.	14 Lenten Meal-5:30pm ~Altar serves BBQ Lenten Service- 7 pm ~gr. 7-8 sing	15 Toddler Open Gym - 9:30 am Bible Study - 9:30 am Ladies Book Club - 7:00 p.m.	16 Toddler Open Gym - 9:30 am Bible Study - 9:30 am Ladies Book Club - 7:00 p.m.	17 Women's Bible Study - 8-9 a.m.
18 Communion Services-8 & 10:30 am BIH-9:15 a.m. Youth Group-Rock Climbing & Pizza	19 Board of Ed. - 6 p.m. Board Mtgs.- 6:30 pm Church Council - 7:00 p.m.	20 Choir-6:30 p.m.	21 Lenten Meal -5:30 pm ~ Ladies Aid serves casseroles Lenten Service- 7 pm ~gr. K-2 sing	22 Bible Study- 9:30 am	23 Bible Study- 9:30 am	24 Easter Egg Hunt - 10:00 a.m.
25 Palm Sunday Worship Services - 8 & 10:30am BIH-9:15 a.m.	26 Choir-6:30 p.m.	27 Choir-6:30 p.m.	28 Choir-6:30 p.m.	29 Maundy Thursday Communion Service-7:00 p.m. ~choir sings	30 Good Friday Service - 1:30 pm Tenebrae Service - 7:00 pm ~choir sings	31

Council Hosts:
8:00 J. Sulik
10:30 M. Schwark
Mar. 4 M. Schwark J. Sulik
Mar. 11 T. Stech J. Mueller
Mar. 18 J. Voigt M. Dorn
Mar. 25 B. Brugger M. Papenfus C. Greving

Ushers:
8:00 M. Hoyord/J. Schwark
10:30 S. Beaver
C. & R. Collins
P. Rote
M. Yunker

Lenten Services - Wednesdays, 7:00 pm: March 7 - J. Sulik & W. Holder
March 14 - M. Papenfus & M. Yunker March 21 - T. Stech & P. Rote
Maundy Thursday, March 29th - 7:00 p.m.: M. Dorn & S. Beaver
Good Friday, March 30th - 1:30 p.m.: J. Mueller & R. Mitton
- 7:00 p.m.: J. Voigt & M. Hoyord

March 2018

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March 4	M. Schwark	J. Sulik
March 11	T. Stech	J. Mueller
March 18	J. Voigt	M. Dorn
March 25	B. Brugger	M. Papenfus

Ushers:

<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
M. Hoyord/J. Schwark	S. Beaver
R. Mitton/W. & M. Holder	C. & R. Collins
D. Hintz	P. Rote
C. Greving	M. Yunker

Lenten Services: Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.:
 March 7 - J. Sulik & W. Holder
 March 14 - M. Papenfus & M. Yunker
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Maundy Thursday, March 29th - 7:00 p.m.: M. Dorn & S. Beaver

Good Friday, March 30th - 1:30 p.m.: J. Mueller & R. Mitton
 - 7:00 p.m.: J. Voigt & M. Hoyord

Greeters:

	<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
March 4	Jim & Vickie Mueller	Gordon & Nancy Haak
March 11	Frank & Dorothy Klein	Deb Buelow
March 18	Barb Schinke	Scott & Amy Beaver
March 25	Dennis & Terri Carnes	Kent & Kay Meyer

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

1- Donald Wuttke	17- Kent Meyer	25- David Hintz
Darlene Erickson	Sandra Walter	26- Kara Hohlstein
Michael Yunker	18- Renee Mangold	Hannah Miller
Angelika Filter	19- Mark Schweinler	27- Mark Papenfus
Stephanie Jacobi	20- Linda Godfrey	Bradley Freitag
2- Graham Hintz	Karen Schoenbeck	Rachael Coenen
3- Eva Haskins	William Schomburg	28- Joseph Garcia
5- Richard Gilkey	Paul Lemke	Megan Lambert
Chandler Kayser	Madison Bedard	29- Allison Lauderdale
6- Cynthia Klewin	Carley Bedard	30- Kaaren Nelson
John Bartelt	22- Brett Sharp	Luke Cucchi
7- Dorothy Klein	Mason Beaver	31- Trinity Dement
8- Jessica Drake	Taylor Elwell	
Isaac Bongard	23- Jill Clark	
11- Joyce Hammel	Adrien Maas	
Landon Yunker	Marsha Schwark	
13- Jonathan Stoppie	24- Helen Abbe	
14- Linda Kreft	James Lembach	
15- Ashley Nolte	Sarah Papenfus	
Kayden Young	Lily Behling	
16- Stacey Stelzer	Eden Schramm	

Anniversaries:

Thomas & Karen Schoenbeck, March 2, 1968
 Paul & Carolyn Schafer, March 4, 2000
 Larry & Kathy Du Bois, March 14, 1981
 Barney & Nancy Brugger, March 19, 1983
 Todd & Denise Fink, March 26, 1994