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# UPCOMING EVENTS

Please visit our website, [www.firstlutheranalexandria/events](http://www.firstlutheranalexandria/events), to see our church calendar with full details and descriptions of all church events.

## Bells on the Pond Concert | Sunday, April 8 | 4:00pm | Sanctuary

Bells of the Pond was originally comprised of members from Bells of the Lakes. Bells of the Lakes is a semi-professional community handbell ensemble representing the Twin Cities of Minnesota and is directed by William H. Mathis. Please join Bells of the Pond for a concert on Sunday, April 8 at 4:00pm. There will be a free will offering to help off set tour costs.

## Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, March 25: Palm Sunday Worship at 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00am

Wednesday, March 27: No worship/programming

Thursday, March 28: Maundy Thursday Worship at 12:10 & 6:15pm  
Last Supper Reenactment

Friday, March 29: Good Friday

12:00pm ELCA combined worship at First Lutheran

6:15pm Worship with Prayers Around the Cross

Saturday, March 30: No worship

Sunday, April 1: Easter Worship with communion at 7:00, 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am

**\*\*Due to the spring break schedule this year, the Palm Sunday Breakfast to support our youth going to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 22.**

## Congregational Meeting

Wednesday, March 21 | 7:15pm | Sanctuary

The purpose of this meeting is to review and discuss the financial plan and to vote on proceeding with construction of our new church home. This is a historic vote in the life of First Lutheran, we hope you will make every effort to be present. Watch for dates and times for Information Meetings leading up to the Congregational Meeting.

## Church Events

- Mar 1 - WELCA Dessert & Coffee
- Mar 5, 12, & 19 - Lent Monday Adult Forums
- Mar 6 - Baptism Class
- Mar 8 - Men's Breakfast
- Mar 9 - Relay for Life Fish Fry/ Silent Auction
- Mar 15 - New Member Orientation
- Mar 19 - Bookseekers
- Mar 19 - Church Website Navigation Class
- Mar 19 - Communion Education Class
- Mar 21 - Special Congregational Meeting
- Mar 25 - Palm Sunday
- Mar 29 - Maundy Thursday
- Mar 30 - Good Friday
- Mar 31 - No Worship
- Apr 6 - Raising the Roof Dinner
- Apr 8 - Bells on the Pond Concert



# VBS 2018

June 11-15 | 8:30-11:30am | FLC

Save the date for VBS 2018, Operation Kid-to-Kid, for ages preschool through 5th grade. Registration will be online and begins May 1. Save the date and keep an eye out for further details still to come!



## Lent Schedule

*Join us throughout Lent for food, fellowship, and worship.*

You are invited to join us Mondays through March 19 at 10:00am in the Family Room for the Lent Adult Forums. (See church website for full schedule of speakers.) Wednesdays throughout Lent include worship times 12:10pm and 6:15pm through March 21. Wednesday evening chef-prepared meals are served from 4:45-6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

- March 7: Beef stew with French bread, salad and veggie tray and Luther Crest cookies
- March 14: Penne pasta and rotini noodles with white/red sauce, garlic bread, salad and veggie tray, Luther Crest cookies
- March 21: Bacon, eggs and potatoes, coffee cake, fresh fruit, salad and veggie tray and Luther Crest cookies

1 Corinthians 1:18

*"For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."*

## Deep & Wide Celebration

In January, FLC children and youth packed a total of:

- 90 Hospice Kits for Global Health Ministries
- 70 Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits
- 32 Lutheran World Relief Baby Kits

These kits were packed with items donated by the congregation during our Advent of Gratitude Project. In addition, the kids and youth put together 109 Bags of Love that were picked up after worship and delivered to people from the congregation who have a health concern or don't get out and about like they used to. What an amazing act of service by all involved! Thank you for your participation and work in furthering God's kingdom among us by living Deep and Wide!



## Raising the Roof Dinner

Friday, April 6 | 6:00pm | Fellowship Hall

You are invited to join us for an evening of fabulous food, phenomenal fellowship and friendly fundraising at the Raising the Roof Dinner and live auction. Tickets are \$40 and will be available for purchase before and after all worship services at the Welcome Center or in the church office during business hours. Price includes a four-course dinner, live auction, and chance for prize money. Ticket and auction proceeds will go toward our new church building. Some of the live auction items include:

\*Beef Wellington dinner with wine pairing for six on Lake Geneva. Donated by the Gieselharts

\*Summer Brunch for six in a serene Gazebo setting. Donated by the Schroeders

\*Outdoor Photography Session for High School Senior Portrait or Family Photos. Donated by Karen & Dave Blom

\*Korean dinner for 6 on the shores of Lake Carlos. Donated by the Prigges

\*Special occasion meal for up to 25 people. (Think Mother's Day, 4th of July or Baby Shower!) Donated by Luther Crest Catering



## Pastor's Pen

With a new puppy in the house, I have spent much more time outside this winter than I have in recent winters past. From cold mornings to crunching in the snow on moonlit nights, I have been much more in tune with the quiet beauty of winter. The earth is covered in snow and the world seems bare. Everything often seems so still, but it is not so.

The earth is hard at work in the quiet and in the stillness being renewed. We know so well that spring will come and the ground will shout with new life. So it is also for us.

There are seasons of stillness in our lives, some that we invite and some that find us. Either way, we need them, for in that stillness comes renewal and new life. The Psalmist writes, "Be still and know that I am God." This call for us to be and know is a promise that even when we are still, God is moving.

Here at First, as spring approaches and the world is bathed still in the quiet of winter, we take time together to be and to hear God's promises of new life. Together during Lent we have remembered that God's Word and simple water have the power to renew our lives each day. That is the power of God in Christ and our Easter hope. In that we have come to know, to truly know, that even places that seem bare will soon be filled with life.

Join us in worship as we celebrate Holy Week and Easter, proclaiming the coming of spring in our lives, the Risen Christ, our Lord. (See front page for Holy Week schedule.)

Blessings,  
Pastor Ben