

WE CARE TEDDY BEARS

Community Preschool would like to challenge FLC to donate (small to mid-sized) teddy bears to the local North Ambulance to hand out to children in times of need. Bring your bears the week of 4/16-22 and place them in the totes located at both church entrances.

KIDS CHOIR SERVICE EVENT

Wed, Apr 25 | 5:00-5:30pm | Fellowship Hall

Enjoy the music of the Kids Choir as they sing some of their favorite songs and help serve supper during the Wednesday evening meal.

BRIDGE BUILDING AROUND IMMIGRATION INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Friday, Apr 27 | 10:30-11:30am | Family Room

A group from First Lutheran is being organized to travel to El Paso, TX and Juarez, MX. Vicki Schmidt, who leads delegations to the border, will be on hand to answer questions and help us plan. This kind of opportunity brings about improved understanding and bridge building between people.

FLC NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC

Wednesday, May 2 | 5:00-7:30pm | FLC

Please join us for this celebration! There will be a bounce house, games, live music, and food.

5:00pm: hog roast, 6:15pm: worship, 7:00pm: rootbeer floats. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and come as you are!

FAITH AND LIFE FORUM

Thursday, May 3 | 2:00-4:00pm | Fellowship Hall

We are excited to welcome former Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Mark Hanson, to be our speaker for our first Faith and Life Forum. The theme for the day is *Making Our Way Through Transition: Retirement, Health, Housing, Relations and Faith*. This event is free and is open to the public.

GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 6 | 2:00pm | New Church Site

A warm welcome is extended to all to attend this historic event. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

FOCUS NEWSLETTER FORMAT

Beginning in May, our monthly newsletter will become a quarterly publication. Please stop by or call the church office to confirm your email address and then request that both the FOCUS and e-news will be emailed to you.

DAY OF CARING

The Discovery Middle School 8th grade students will be partnering with United Way of Douglas & Pope Counties to do the Day of Caring again this year for our community on 5/17. Sign up forms located on the bulletin board by the water fountain.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church, where faith and life meet.

OUR MISSION

First Lutheran is a vibrant Christian community committed to connecting faith and life for people of all ages through worship, learning, and serving in Jesus' name.

MORE INFORMATION

Stop by our Church Office during business hours or by the Welcome Center before and after worship services. Volunteers and staff are available before and after worship services to assist you. Children's bulletins and Worship Bags are available for use at the back of the Sanctuary.

LEARN MORE AT

FIRSTLUTHERANALEXANDRIA.COM/EVENTS
or stop by the Welcome Center for our Weekly Calendar.

PRAYER REQUESTS | HOSPITAL VISITS

If you have a prayer request or if you or a loved one are hospitalized and would like a visit, please call or email the church office at 320-762-2196 or admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com.

GIVING

Offering envelopes are located in each pew. You can also give by texting 320.500.6014 or by visiting us online at firstlutheranalexandria.com/your-gift.

OUR PASTORS

Greg Billberg, Lead Pastor
Kari van Wakeren, Associate Pastor
Ben Jacobson, Associate Pastor



822 Douglas Street
Alexandria, MN 56308
320.762.2196

Emergency After Hours Phone Number: 320.219.5492.
For more information visit us online at firstlutheranalexandria.com.

Welcome

GREAT TO SEE YOU!



SATURDAY | 04.014.08
SUNDAY | 04.15.08

WELCOME AND GREETINGS

GATHERING SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) *Thine is the Glory* #376
(11:00) *Shout to the North* See Screen

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We take a moment to be still, confess our sins, and get right with God. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor concludes with a prayer and reminder of God’s forgiveness in Christ.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you have called us your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC

(5:00) Taryn Schmidt
(8:30/9:45) *With High Delight Let Us Unite...*Anderson Chancel Choir

CHILDREN’S TIME

(8:30/9:45/11:00) Congregation sings *Jesus Loves Me* as children come forward.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 3:1-7
Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:36b-48
The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Ben Jacobson

SERMON SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) Praise to the Lord, the Almighty #858
(11:00) *How Deep the Father’s Love* See Screen

BAPTISM (5:00) Pages 228-231

BAPTISM SONG (5:00)

Raindrops, oceans, lakes and rivers; welcome, child of God.
Mothers, father, brothers, sisters; welcome, child of God.
When the world feels wide around you, when the dark of night surrounds you, We are here to tend and guide you. Welcome, child of God.

CONFESSION OF FAITH WE CONFESS OUR SHARED FAITH.

Apostles’ Creed: on back cover of ELW

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (8:30/9:45/11:00)

LORD’S PRAYER

See back cover of ELW

DISTRIBUTION (8:30/9:45/11:00)

All are welcome. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice is available upon request.

COMMUNION SONG (8:30/9:45/11:00) *Lamb of God*, p. 112

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION BLESSING (8:30/9:45/11:00)

May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

BENEDICTION GOD’S BLESSING IS SPOKEN OVER US.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL WE DEPART TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD.

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace and share the good news.
Thanks be to God.
And all God’s children said,
Amen!

SENDING SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* #836
(11:00) *In Christ Alone* See Screen

PRAYERS

BAPTIZED: (5:00) Aubrey Jane Manderschied, daughter of Luke & Kristen Manderschied

HOSPITALIZATIONS: Sue Johnson, Tom Koudela, Jason Stratton, Jerome “Doc” Hanson

MILESTONE: 2nd Grade Worship Milestone (2nd graders learn more about our First Lutheran family and about the place where we gather to praise God and worship)

RADIO BROADCAST

This week’s Radio Broadcast is given in memory of Peter Reque, given by Beverly Reque and family.

TAKE STOCK

April 14-15 | Phone Calls & Entry

The First Lutheran Youth are inviting the members of the congregation to “Invest in Youth” by purchasing stock to help defray the cost of this summer’s youth trip to our National ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston. The minimum asking price is \$10. This is our major fundraiser each year for Youth Ministry. Students will be making phone calls and there will be a table set up in the Narthex.

TASTE OF DOUGLAS COUNTY

Thursday, April 19 | 5:00-7:00pm | Holiday Inn

Cost: \$25 advance, \$30 at the door. Proceeds benefit the Douglas County Car Care Program Tickets available at the Welcome Center.

CHURCH BRUNCH YOUTH FUNDRAISER

Sunday, April 22 | 9:00-11:00am | Fellowship Hall

Please join us for the annual Church Brunch Youth Fundraiser.

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

Food & Fellowship is a group of 6-8 people (couples or singles) who meet three times during the year and get to know one another over a simple meal. If you are interested in participating in this please sign up at the Welcome Center by Monday, April 30.

BULLETIN VOLUNTEER NEEDED

We are in need of a bulletin volunteer to help stuff and fold bulletins on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 11:00-12:00pm. Please contact Sara Renney, Communications Coordinator, if you are able to help. communications@firstlutheranalexandria.com

MAY DAY BASKETS SERVICE PROJECT

Help us reach DEEP and WIDE by spreading joy to the older adults in our congregation and/or those going through a time of need. Kids and youth will make May Day baskets and the congregation will deliver them. Baskets will be available for you to pick up in the East Entry beginning on April 21. Please help us deliver these baskets and spread some love!