

SPIRIT FEST

Sunday, September 9 | First Lutheran Church

Join us for Spirit Fest Sunday 2018! This is our opportunity to come together as a church family to celebrate the start of a brand new programming year here at First Lutheran. Join us for several activities including a breakfast buffet from 9:00-11:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

MATT KJELLAND MEMORIAL WALK/RUN

Sat, Sept 15 | 8:00am-1:00pm | Alexandria City Park

Join us as we remember our dear friend and family member for a 5K run, 5K walk, 1 mile fun walk through the park, and kids fun run. All proceeds go to The Matt Kjelland Scholarship Fund. For more information, see the Parish Health bulletin board.

FALL FUN DAY AT COUNTRY BLOSSOM FARM

Sun, Sept 16 | 2:00-4:00pm | Country Blossom Farms

All ages are welcome to join us for an afternoon of fellowship and family fun. FLC Family Ministry will have a tent to provide a gathering space, as well as fresh cookies for a treat! Meet at the entrance before paying. To get the special pricing for our group, please bring a non-perishable food item for The Shelf at DMS. Special wrist-band pricing for our group (\$5 less than usual): 3 and under- FREE, General- \$5, 65 and older- \$3, Military - \$3

FALL FAMILY MUSIC CLASSES

Musik Garden curriculum is used for this energetic time for children (ages 18 months-3 years old) and caregivers to enjoy elements of music through movement, rhythm, tonal patterns, and instruments. Register online at www.firstlutheranalexandria.com/family or in the church office by September 11. Pay in class or in the church office. Scholarships are available.

Option 1: Instructor - Paula (COST: \$40 plus \$10 for each sibling.)

Fridays, 9/14-11/30 | 8:30-9:30am | The Garden *(No class 10/19 or 11/22.)

Option 2: Instructor - Leila (COST: \$35 plus \$10 for each sibling.)

Thursdays, 9/20-11/15 | 8:30-9:30am | The Garden

GOLF SCRAMBLE AND FUNDRAISER

Sunday, September 30 | 12:00pm | Minnewaska Golf Club

COST: \$100. Pay at club house. Cost includes golf, cart, and meal. Sign up at the Welcome Center by 9/16. This event is held to raise funds to build a garage at our new site. Registration is 12:00-1:00pm. Shotgun start at 1:00pm.

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Saturday, October 6 | 4:00pm | Central Lakes Trail

We are considering putting a team together from FLC for this upcoming walk! If you are interested please contact Val Trumm, Parish Nurse, at val.trumm@firstlutheranalexandria.com or 320.762.2196 or sign up at the Welcome Center by September 23.

A TRIP TO CHANHASSEN

Wednesday, Oct 10 | 8:45am departure

COST: \$94 per person and includes lunch at Chanhassen before the 1:00pm show. Join us for this production of Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn* at Chanhassen Dinner Theatre. Sign up deadline is September 10. Call Hart Travel at 877.250.8857 to sign up, pay, and for further details.

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 or Monthly 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. For emergency after hours needs please call 320.219.5492.

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 WORSHIP LEADERS

Greg Billberg, Lead Pastor
Kari van Wakeren, Associate Pastor
Ben Jacobson, Associate Pastor
Randy Morken, Director of Music and Liturgy



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

THANKS FOR JOINING US



SATURDAY | 08.25.18
SUNDAY | 08.26.18

WELCOME AND GREETINGS**GATHERING SONG***Gather Us In* (vs 1, 3, 4)

#532

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**P:** *Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.***C:** Amen.**P:** *Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.**Silence for reflection and self-examination.***P:** *Eternal God our creator,***C:** *in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.**By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***P:** *"Since we are justified by faith...and for his sake, God † forgives you all your sins."***C:** Amen.**PRAYER OF THE DAY****C:** *Gracious God, we often seek out easy answers to our complicated lives and forget that you have promised to not only be present with us but that you will provide a way through for us. Remind us each day to trust in your grace and life giving presence and promise. Amen.***SPECIAL MUSIC**

(5:00) Paige Mackedanz

(8:30/9:45) Ben and Niklas Cook

CHILDREN'S TIME(8:30/9:45/11:00) Congregation sings *Jesus Loves Me* as children come forward.**SCRIPTURE READING** See insert.

First Reading: Hebrews 10:23-25

*Word of God. Word of Life.***C:** Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: John 6:56-69

*The Gospel of the Lord.***C:** Thanks be to God.**SERMON**

Pastor Greg Billberg

SERMON SONG*Blessed Assurance*

#638

BAPTISM (9:45/11:00)

Pages 228-231

BAPTISM SONG (9:45/11:00)

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.

(8:30) Apostles' Creed: on back cover of ELW hymnal.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**OFFERING WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.****OFFERING PRAYER****C:** *Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.***WORDS OF INSTITUTION** (5:00)**LORD'S PRAYER**

See back cover of ELW

DISTRIBUTION (5:00)*All are welcome. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available upon request.***COMMUNION SONG** (5:00)*Lamb of God*, p. 112**COMMUNION BLESSING** (5:00)**BENEDICTION GOD'S BLESSING IS SPOKEN OVER US.****P:** *May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.***C:** Amen.**ANNOUNCEMENTS****DISMISSAL WE DEPART TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD.****P:** *Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.***C:** Thanks be to God.**P:** *And all God's children said,***C:** Amen!**SENDING SONG***On Our Way Rejoicing*

#537

PRAYERS

BAPTISM:

- (9:45) Elizabeth Susan Rohloff, daughter of Zach & Allison Rohloff
- (11:00) Cora Marie Denne, daughter of Megan & Brandon Denne

HOSPITALIZATIONS: Nancy Saucke; Ivan Wambheim

SYMPATHY TO: Marvin and Judy Trana on the death of Marv's Mom, Eleanor Hildreth; Todd and Sue Peterson on the death of Sue's Dad, Thore Ulberg; Larry and Pam Pearson on the death of Larry's Mom Beth Pearson; Jim Thompson and his family on the death of his wife, Joan.

RADIO BROADCAST

This week's radio broadcast is given by Orin & Lois Lundberg in honor of their 65th anniversary on August 28.

LAST WEEKEND FOR WORSHIP IN THE PARK

Sunday, September 2 is the last Sunday this summer for Worship in the Park! Please join us back at the church for 11:00am worship (and for Spirit Fest!) beginning Sunday, September 9.

GIVING TREE**August 4 - September 2 | West Entry**

The Lutheran World Relief Giving Tree is now up by the West Entry. The "leaves" on the tree indicate items for the school kits, baby care kits, health kits or sewing kits that we will send to LWR.

WHAT I DID THIS SUMMER**Wednesday, August 29 | 9:00-10:00am | Family Room**

You're invited to join Pastor Greg for a cup of coffee and to hear about his trip to South Korea, which he took earlier this summer with his son, Aaron.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**Wednesday, August 29 | 6:00-7:00pm | Family Room**

This is a time to get to know others, ask questions, and learn a little more about our background and ministry as a congregation. Please sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, August 26. Light snack will be provided. Childcare will be available.

WELCA POTLUCK SALAD LUNCHEON: "MUSIC BY PAM ANDERSON"**Thursday, Sept 6 | 12:00-2:30pm | Fellowship Hall**

WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) is a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Women of all ages are encouraged to attend the monthly WELCA gatherings.

2018-19 CHILDREN/YOUTH REGISTRATION IS OPEN!Register now online at www.firstlutheranalexandria.com on the Children & Youth Ministry page for the 2018-19 programming year!**MEN'S BREAKFAST****Thurs, Sept 13 | 6:30am-7:30am | Fellowship Hall**

Join us on the second Thursday of each month (September through May) for a great breakfast and speaker! All men are welcome.