

WE ARE THE CHURCH T-SHIRTS

WE ARE THE CHURCH t-shirts are available to purchase online only through 9/29 at www.bonfire.com/we-are-the-church-1. If you would like assistance ordering, please feel free to stop by the church office during business hours and someone would be happy to help you with your purchase.

NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERINGS

Each Neighborhood Gathering will be an open house format, hosted by members of FLC, and root beer floats will be served. Hosts will be sending out a postcard with the date/time/location of your gathering soon. Stay tuned!

ELDEN'S RECEIPTS FOR COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Community Preschool will begin collecting Elden's receipts at the store and here at church in the recycling center beginning September 1. Place your receipts in our basket to help us earn free classroom equipment!

SCANDINAVIAN TOUR INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Thursday, September 27 | 6:30-7:30pm | Family Room

First Lutheran will be traveling to Denmark, Norway and Sweden through Bursch Travel in 2019. Join us for this informational meeting to learn more details about this unforgettable trip.

TANZANIAN MARKETPLACE

Sat 9/29 & Sun 9/30 | Before & Worship | Family Room

There will be a display of Tanzanian-made crafts for sale in the Family Room. These items will also be available on Oct. 6, which is the day of the walk for Operation Bootstrap Africa. Stop by and take a look!!

OPERATION BOOTSTRAP AFRICA

Saturday, October 6 | 10:30am | West Entry

Registration begins at 10:30am and the walk will start at 11:00am. Operation Bootstrap Africa raises needed funds for textbooks for students at the MaaSAE Girls School in Tanzania. Refreshments will be served at the church following the walk. Pledge sheets available at the Welcome Center and in the church office.

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

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

If you are interested in joining our team, sign up at the Welcome Center by September 23.

SNOWBIRD SEND OFF POTLUCK

Sunday, October 7 | 5:30-7:00pm | Fellowship Hall

We would like to get all of our Snowbirds together for potluck meal. Adult Ministry is hosting this event. Please bring your favorite dish to share, beverages provided!

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

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. Our Lil' Kingdom Kids/Nursery is open and staffed during the 8:30am, 9:45am and 6:15pm worship. It is open for use but unstaffed at the 11:00am worship service. It is located on the preschool level of the building in the Rainbow Room.

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.

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.



SATURDAY | 09.15.18
SUNDAY | 09.16.18

WELCOME AND GREETINGS**GATHERING SONG**

(5:00/8:30/9:45) *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* #596
 (11:00) *Come, Now Is The Time To Worship* Lyrics on Screen

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: *Blessed be the † Holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.*

C: Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power. Silence for reflection.

P: *Source of all life,*

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

P: *"God hears our cry...in the name of Jesus Christ."*

C: Amen.

GREETING

P: *The Lord be with you.*

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: Gracious God, you call us beyond our comfort zones and bless us as we go. Give us faith to trust in your guiding hand and help us to remember that you abide with us now and always. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

(5:00) Roger and Barb Riley
 (8:30/9:45) *The Great Commission.....arr. Beall/Carter* Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S TIME

(8:30/9:45/11:00) Congregation sings *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands* as children come forward.

SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:19-20

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pastor Greg Billberg

SERMON SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) *You Are Mine* #581
 (11:00) *Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord* Lyrics on Screen

CONFESSION OF FAITH WE CONFESS OUR SHARED FAITH.

Apostles' Creed: on back cover of ELW hymnal.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**OFFERING WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.****OFFERING PRAYER**

P: *God of Life,*

C: you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. 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 are available upon request.

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

P: *The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION GOD'S BLESSING IS SPOKEN OVER US.

P: *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.*

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**DISMISSAL WE DEPART TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD.**

P: *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.

P: *And all God's children said,*

C: Amen!

SENDING SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) *Lord, Dismiss us with Your Blessing* #545
 (11:00) *And All the People Said Amen* Lyrics on Screen

PRAYERS

WEDDING: Ashley Moore and Tanner Thomson

BIRTHS: Wes Thomas Gibson born 9/5/18 son of Emalee Erickson and Cody Gibson

HOSPITALIZATIONS: Avanelle Gray; Pat Kuiper

SYMPATHY TO: Kim Bloom and family on the death of Kim's mom, Barbara Wilson; Martha Esbjornsson and family on the death of Martha's mom, Louise Tostenrud

RADIO BROADCAST

This week's radio broadcast is given with gratitude by Orlyn and Janice Struck.

FALL FUN DAY AT COUNTRY BLOSSOM FARM

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

The Family Ministry Team is hosting an all ages event for First Lutheran members of all ages. Those who bring a box of cereal or jug of juice for the Discovery Middle School Shelf will be given a discounted rate of \$5 off the regular price for wristbands. You'll pay when you arrive. For planning purposes, please sign up at the Welcome Center.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS Q&A

Wednesday, September 19 | 10:00-11:00am | Family Rm

Monday, September 24 | 6:30-7:30pm | Family Rm

Please join us for one of these opportunities to learn more about spiritual gifts, how to take inventories, and how our results can be put to use.

GOLF SCRAMBLE AND FUNDRAISER

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

COST: \$100. Pay at clubhouse. 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.

FALL PREVENTION MOBILITY CLASS

Tuesdays/Thursdays 10/2-12/20 | 10:00-11:15am | Fellowship Hall

COST: Free. Classes are based on the FallProof Program and designed to help individuals restore balance, improve safe movement and reduce the risk of falling. Your physician's approval to participate is also required. Sign up at the Welcome Center by 9/30.

BIBLE IN A NUTSHELL

Mondays: Oct 1, 8, 15 & 22 | 10:00-11:00am | Family Rm

Fasten your seatbelts as we make our way through the Bible in four weeks!