

MEAL AND A MOVIE

Sunday, March 24 | 12:30-3:30pm | Grand Arbor

The Adult Ministry Board invites you to join us for this time of food and fellowship. The meal (soup and sandwich bar) will be served in the Pioneer Grill at Grand Arbor at 12:30pm and the movie, *Whale Rider*, will begin at 1:30pm in the G.A. Theater. Cost is \$17.00 (cost includes tax and gratuity). Please pay and sign up by Wednesday, March 20 at the Welcome Center.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Tuesday, February 26 | 6:00-7:00pm | Family Room

Sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, February 24. Light snack will be provided. Childcare will be available.

LENT WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Beginning Wednesday, March 6 we will once again be offering Wednesday Lent worship at 12:10PM & 6:15PM. Please feel free to join us for soup suppers from 4:45-6:00pm prior to 6:15pm Worship.

- March 6 - Ash Wednesday
- March 13 - The Anatomy of Fear
- March 20 - Fearing an Enemy We Don't Understand
- March 27 - Fear and Personal Relationships
- April 3 - Anticipating the Worst Case Scenario
- April 10 - Living with Fear, Yet Unafraid

BUILDING AND TRANSITION UPDATE MEETING

Wednesday, March 13 | 7:15-8:15pm | Sanctuary

Please join us for this opportunity to hear updates and see pictures of our new construction in progress. There will also be a chance to discuss and ask questions regarding our transition from our present building to the new location.

LENTEN SMALL GROUP BOOKS AVAILABLE NOW!!

Our theme for Wednesdays in Lent this year is Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times. This series will be based on a book by Adam Hamilton by the same name. If you would like to buy a copy of the book, you may do so at the Welcome Center or in the church office. Books are \$17 and must be paid for at the time of pick up. You can also sign up now by the Welcome Center to be part of a small group during the season of Lent to discuss the book and reflect on the sermon themes each week. Small group times, dates and locations are available with the sign up sheets. Please also feel free to lead your own small group if none of the offered times/dates work with your schedule.

DOUGLAS COUNTY FOOD SHELF MONTH

March is Douglas County Food Shelf month at First Lutheran. The Food Shelf is run by volunteers and entirely on donations and serves 500+ families per month. Cash donations are best and can be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office during business hours. (Checks can be made to FLC and include "Food Shelf" in the memo line.) A full list of items needed can be found on the sign attached to the shopping cart. Items can be placed in the shopping cart by the Welcome Center.

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.

*Please note that hospital visitor restrictions are currently in place due to the spike in Influenza cases.

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 | 2.23.19
SUNDAY | 2.24.19

WELCOME AND GREETINGS

GATHERING SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) *Wade in the Water* #459
(11:00) *Shine, Jesus Shine* (lyrics on screen)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: *In the name of the Father, † the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*
C: Amen.

We take a moment to be still, confess our sins, and get right with God. Silence is kept for reflection. Pastor will conclude with a prayer and reminder of God’s forgiveness.

P: *We thank you for this moment...We receive your gift of mercy and grace.*
C: Amen.

GREETING

P: *The Lord be with you.*
C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: *Generous God,*
C: your Son helped feed those who had gathered to hear of your love. By the power of your Spirit, use our gifts and help us provide for the needs of all who hunger for Your word of grace and acceptance. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

(5:00) Roger and Barb Riley
(8:30/9:45) Kaye Crawford

CHILDREN’S TIME

(8:30/9:45) Congregation sings *Give Me Oil in My Lamp* as children come forward.

SCRIPTURE READING See insert.

First Reading: Psalm 95:1-5
Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:13-33
The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Pastor Kari van Wakeren

SERMON SONG

(5:00/8:30/9:45) *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* #763
(11:00) *Great is Thy Faithfulness* (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: *Lord,*
C: be known to us in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. 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)
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: *May the fullness of God’s love be with you always. 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 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) *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* #674
(11:00) *Blessed Be Your Name* (lyrics on screen)

PRAYERS

HOSPITALIZATIONS: Louise Nelson, Ellis Liesemeyer
BIRTHS: Congratulations to Pat and Haley Kalina and family on the birth of their daughter on 2/19/19.
SYMPATHY TO: Wanda and LeRoy Karrow and Family, on the death of Wanda’s sister Darlene Soberg

RADIO BROADCAST

This week’s radio broadcast is given anonymously by a radio listener.

LINKING OUR PAST WITH OUR FUTURE

Sunday, February 24 | 2:00pm | Sanctuary
Join us for this celebration of our church’s history and future. There will be something for all ages including drama, music, humor, special memories and a drawing. Coffee and treats will follow. (All contributed photos for this event can now be picked up at the Welcome Center.)

WELCA MARCH LUNCHEON
Thursday, March 7 | 12:00pm | Family Room

Women of all ages are encouraged to attend the monthly WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) gatherings. Join us as we listen to Bonnie Miller’s program titled, “Opening Borders.”

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS
Each year Thrivent members are granted Choice Dollars to direct to the non-profit of their choosing. \$14,390 were contributed to FLC for Thrivent Choice Dollars last year. So far, \$5,769 have been contributed. Thrivent members have until March 31 to direct their 2018 Choice Dollars before they expire.

BAPTISM CLASS
Tues, March 12 | 6:30-7:00pm | Sanctuary

This class is for anyone interested in baptism at First Lutheran. Please sign up by contacting the church office.

MEN’S BREAKFAST
Thurs, March 14 | 6:30-7:30am | Fellowship Hall

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

TAKE STOCK
March 9-17 | 6:30-7:30am | Welcome Center
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 Chicago. 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 West Entry.