

FOCUS *newsletter*

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FALL 2019

Legacy Gardens Wrap Up

This summer marked another “first” for our congregation as we moved our summer outdoor worship venue from City Park to the Legacy of the Lakes Museum. The Legacy

Gardens proved to be a beautiful setting for our congregation and visitors alike to worship together in God’s creation. The energy and feel of our 10:00am Legacy Gardens worship was enjoyed by

many as we gathered together weekly to enjoy donuts, coffee, fellowship, God’s Word, and His creation. Thank you for being part of this exciting new worship experience!

“... Behold, I am making all things new...”
Revelation 21:5

“Thank you to the leadership team for the outdoor services this summer. I appreciate the energy, the atmosphere, and the messages. I don’t think I have ever felt so comfortable at church. I am excited to go to church and proud to share the experience with others.”

-Ben Miller



Adult Study

Mondays, Sept 9 - 30 | 10:00-11:00am | Room 1A

Join us this fall as we dive deeper into God’s word through studying scripture and the promises for our lives. No sign up necessary.

Golf Scramble

Sunday, September 22 | 12:00pm Registration | Minnewaska Golf Course

No skill or experience necessary. Proceeds go toward the outdoor project at the new church. New this year is a Hole in One contest, which includes a free trip through Bursch Travel! Donation: \$100/person. Dinner only (5:30pm): \$15. No charge for children 10 and under. Sign up at the Welcome Center beginning August 10 - Sept 18. Pay at the time of sign up.

Christmas Boutique

Nov 8 & 9 | 9:00am-5:00pm | FLC

First Lutheran will transform our new space into a Christmas wonderland and be part of the Crafter’s Tour. There will be Christmas crafts, a bake sale, quilt raffle, lefse demonstrations and purchasing for the holidays, musical entertainment, a style show, friendship tables, and more! God has empowered us to faithfully

use our gifts, passions and talents to make a positive impact. Volunteers needed for all areas. Please contact Sally Baumann at 320.763.6006 if you are able to help with this exciting new event! If you would like to make crafts or bake sale items, please sign up at the Welcome Center by 9/3.

New Church Dedication & Open House

Sunday, September 29 | Dedication - 2:00-2:30pm & Open House - 2:30-4:00pm | FLC

We will dedicate our new building and have a brief program followed by an open house for the congregation and community.



Pastors' Pen

In a world that seems to be constantly in motion, it is always good to pause and give thanks. When we do, we are reminded of the many blessings our God has given us and the abundance of joy and life that surround us. Here at First Lutheran, we too, are caught up in the perennial movement of life and the renewing Spirit of God that makes us new over and over again. When we pause to look around, it is clear that there are so many things for us to celebrate and so many reasons to give thanks to God. Here are a few...

Summer Worship at the Gardens: This past summer, we began a new worship service at the Legacy Gardens. Through the help of many dedicated volunteers, this new worship service has gathered people of all ages, rain or shine, to experience and know the presence of God in our lives. Those who had a chance to join us were welcomed with radical hospitality and sent with renewed spirits.

Our New Church: On July 26, a large group of people gathered to move into our new space. We did two days of work in just a few hours! On the 11th of August, we transitioned from our Douglas

Street Property to the new church on 18th Avenue. Hundreds of faithful members gathered for worship that began in the old church and processed by car to the new church to finish the service.

The People: At the core of all that we do are the people of First Lutheran who come together in the name of Jesus. We are so grateful for our wonderful staff who are gifted and kind and here to serve. We give thanks for the members of this congregation, past and present, who have given of themselves for the sake of all that God has called us to be and do as the people of First Lutheran. What a joy it is to be the church together! Thank you for all you do.

As we look forward we know the year ahead will be full of change and excitement, but as we pause, we remember that it will also be built on the same foundation as the generations before us, gathering together to worship, to learn, and to serve in the name of the one who has called us his own. The old, the new, and everything in between, rests on Christ's promises for salvation and life. For that, we celebrate and give thanks.

Blessings,
Pastor Greg, Pastor Kari, Pastor Ben





Police escort procession from 822 Douglas Street to 1655 18th Ave E on Sunday, August 11, 2019.

On Our Way Rejoicing

This historic event marked the last worship service at Douglas Street and our first worship service at our new church home.

Well over one thousand people gathered to honor our time as a congregation at the church on the corner of 9th and Douglas Street, a church that was full of memories and a rich history and a place that had been our church home for over 70 years. It was a day that will be remembered for years to come. There was standing room only as hundreds of members and friends of First Lutheran squeezed into every available space for the last time. We sang classic hymns and gathered around God's Word as we have so many times before. Members and pastors prayed together and asked God to bless our memories and the

ministry we have shared together over the years. We picked up our hymnals and all the items from the church such as the cross, Christ candle, and paraments and departed singing, *On Our Way Rejoicing*. Next, we got into our vehicles and formed a procession to our new church home. There, we celebrated with communion and placed ourselves and this new chapter in First Lutheran's history into God's faithful hands. After worship, the congregation enjoyed a delicious picnic, fellowship and spent time enjoying our new facility.

Children & Youth Programming 2019-20

Pre-K - 1st Grade

Sunday 9:30-10:00am
Wednesday 5:30-6:10pm

6th - 9th Grade

Sunday (9th gr) | 6:00-8:00pm
Wednesday | 7:00-7:45pm
*Youth Leader opportunities available.

2nd - 5th Grade

Sunday | 9:30-10:00am
Wednesday | 3:45-5:00pm
Wednesday | 5:30-6:10pm
Kids Choir | Wednesday | 5:00-5:30pm

10th - 12th Grade

Sunday | 6:00-8:00pm
Wednesday | 8:00-8:30pm
*Youth Leader opportunities available.

Information and registration available online at
www.firstlutheranalexandria.com/children-youth.
2019-20 programming begins Wednesday, September
11. Register today to reserve your spot!



Lefse Making Classes

Friday, November 1 | 6:00pm

Saturday, November 2 | 10:00am

Monday, November 4 | 8:00am

*Tuesday, November 5 | 3:00-7:00pm

*Wednesday, November 6 | 9:00am-4:00pm

*Lefse making for bake sale.

**All classes will be held in the FLC Kitchen. No need to attend all sessions, pick one that will work best for you.*

Are you interested in learning how to make Lefse from the experts? We have a number of sessions taught by Marilee Bergerson, Jan Gilbertson and Lois Nelson. After the instructional classes (11/1, 11/2 & 11/4), we will then come together for a lefse making day (11/5 & 11/6) to make lefse for the Christmas

Boutique and Bake Sale happening on November 8 and 9. Do you have any lefse equipment that you no longer use and would like to donate to First Lutheran? Please drop it off in the kitchen we will put it to faithful use making lefse for years to come. The cost of the class is free but please bring a pound of butter or a bag of King Arthur All-Purpose flour.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wed, November 27 | 6:30-7:30pm | FLC

You are invited as we join St. Mary's and all of the Alexandria ELCA congregations at First Lutheran for Thanksgiving Eve worship. There will be a combined choir that will practice 45 minutes prior to worship. If you are interested in participating in the choir, email Randy Morken at randy.morken@firstlutheranalexandria.com. There will be no Wednesday night programming or meal at FLC on this date.

Faith Engagement

Saturday, Aug 24 - Sunday, Sept 30

As we transition from an amazing summer to a fun-filled fall, we pose the question: where will faith and life meet for you this season? This summer's worship at the Legacy Gardens is a perfect example of the amazing things that happen when we come together to serve, learn, and worship alongside one another. It takes dozens of people sharing their gifts of music, hospitality, and service to create such an incredible worship experience. Yet, this is only one example of the fun we've been having as we fellowship together. Nearly every day, First Lutheran members gather to serve together! Whether it's through bible study, baking, bus driving, youth programming, singing, or playing an instrument, the opportunities are endless

and we want you involved! This year, our Faith Engagement sign-up campaign (formerly Time and Abilities) will launch mid-August and will run through the end of September. Whether you've been a member at First Lutheran your whole life, or you've just recently joined, we want you in on the fun! Go ahead and try something new, we're all learning here! You can find the Faith Engagement form on our website, at the welcome center, or with the ushers at service. You'll notice the form is short and sweet, and that's because we want to connect with you further. Simply indicate the areas you're interested in being involved or learning more about, and someone from our team will be in touch with you!

Christmas Store

We have appreciated your support of the Children's Christmas Store for the past 20 years. Because of our move to the new church building, the Children's Christmas Store will NOT be taking place this year as we re-evaluate and reimagine it in our new space.

On our way rejoicing;
as we forward move,
hearken to our praises,
O blest God of love!





Fall Kick Off Schedule

Join us this week as we celebrate the start of our fall schedule!

We welcome you to join us as we begin Fall Kick Off Week on **Sunday, September 8** with worship at 8:30 and 10:00am in the Sanctuary. Brunch will be served from 9:00-11:00am in the Gathering Space. We will have an open house that morning for our Children and Youth ministries in the Multi-Purpose rooms from 9:00-11:00am. Families will be able to register and learn more about programming during this time. **Monday, September 9** at 10:00am in Room 1A begins our adult

study titled *God's Store/Our Story*.

Wednesday, September 11 marks the start of our Wednesday night fall schedule at FLC!

4:45-6:00pm | Meal

5:00-6:15pm | Children/Youth Open House

6:15-7:00pm | Worship

7:00-7:30 | Children/Youth Open House

We welcome all men to join us on

Thursday, September 12 from 6:30-7:30am in the Gathering Space for the monthly Men's Breakfast.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, September 15 | 9:30-10:00am | Sanctuary

This meeting is to approve hiring Tom Jollivet of Kairos and Associates to be our consultant on our next capital campaign, which will begin May 2020. The 8:30am worship will conclude a bit early to accommodate this meeting.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Memorial gifts are a meaningful way to convey sympathy to the bereaved and acknowledge the loss of a loved one. They are another way that we give thanks to God for the ways we have been blessed. Gifts may be designated to a particular fund or left undesignated, which allows them to be used for special projects and areas of greatest need.

BUILDING FUND

In memory of Gene Simpson, given by Lawrence & Sheri Evert
In memory of Ivan Wambheim, given by Eric & Karen Beenken, Friends & Family
In memory of Margaret Movold, given by Dianna Anderson, DeWayne & Dorothy Bisek, Doug & Patricia Kuiper, Ruth Nelson, Del & Cathy Kirkeby, Junnell Widmark, Jenny Trumm, Carol Serum, John & Margaret Schroeder, Ruth Osterberg, Ruth Amundson, Corinne Ehlke, Orin & Lois Lundberg
In memory of Geneva Anderson, given by Orin & Lois Lundberg
In memory of Bob Hocum, given by Greg & Val Trumm, John & Margaret Schroeder, Paul & Joan Thompson, Del & Cathy Kirkeby
In memory of Mayme Rajdl, given by Darrel & Margaret Kalina
In honor of Henry Erickson's Baptism, given by Al & Kathy Patton
In memory of Gene Westphal, given by Don Leland, Marlene Murtonen, Dianna Anderson, Greg & Val Trumm, Gracie Lewis, Dennis & Bonnie Miller, Marvin & Ruth Hiddleston, Elaine Gabriel, Junnell Widmark, Duane & Constance Shelden, Bill & Marilyn Grover, Jerry & Joyce Hansen, Carol Serum, Jenny Trumm, Dan & Deb Loken, Robert & Deanne Frarck, Scott & Natalie Miller, DeWayne & Dorothy Bisek, Tom & Jan Broten, Jan Ellison, Shirley Fielder, Connie Fields, Ann & Arlin Foss, Marjorie Guenther, Darrel & Jan Holverson, Larry & Joan Holverson, Roger & June Johnson, Sara Lundberg, Randy & Kay Nelson, Ruth Osterberg, Karen Schroeder, Art Berg, Gloria Therkildsen, Carol Westphal, Friends and Family

In memory of Peggy Giese, given by Richard & Sandra Telander, Glenda Seela, Gracie Lewis, Sonia Bale, Jerry & Joyce Hansen, Ken & Cindy Losch, Junnell Widmark, Ruth Amundson, Randy & Mary Morken

In memory of Bettie Ries, given by Darrel & Margaret Kalina

In memory of James Winger, given by Lyle & Elizabeth Lundebrak, Ruth Amundson

In memory of Judy Quernemoen Pinnt, given by Dan & Deb Loken, Leroy & Wanda Karrow

In honor of the Gospel 4+, given by Carol Westphal

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

In memory of Arlene Oberg, given by Greg & Val Trumm, Dale & Donna Weiss, Bret & Karen Brazel, Dan & Deb Loken, Leonard & Bonnie Didier, Friends & Family

In memory of Sylvan Buggert, given by Bret & Karen Brazel

FEED MY SHEEP

In memory of Alice Boom, given by Gregg & Mary Sonstegard

In memory of Gene Westphal, given by Mike & Barb Golden, Mary Norlien

HANDBELL CHOIR

In memory of Terri Bouressa's father, given by Bret & Karen Brazel, the Handbell Choir

In memory of Peggy Giese, given by Rich & Kathy Moen

MISSION QUILTERS

In memory of Peggy Giese, given by LaVina Larson

RADIO SPONSORSHIP

In memory of Mildred & Orin Toso, given by Jim & Karen Unterseher

In memory of Alice Boom, given by her children: Nancy Jenzen, Jeff Berg, Jim Berg, Jeanne Cauthren and Barb Lewis

In memory of Margaret Movold, given by Linda Jones, Corky & Joanne Krogstad, Kathy & Vinal Franson, Andrea Jones

In memory of Geneva Anderson, given by Lois Wambheim
In memory of Barb Schuldt, given by Greg & Val Trumm

In memory of Bob Hocum, given by Sheryl Hocum & Family

In memory of her husband, Pastor John Gronli, given by Jeanne Gronli

In memory of James Winger, given by Corrine & Mark Becker Walsh, Carol & Rick Dau, LaVina Larson, Audrey Gustafson, Joan Suckow, Corky & Joanne Krogstad

In memory of Peggy Giese, given by Pat Johnson, Vinal & Kathy Franson

In memory of Judy Quernemoen Pinnt, given by Joan Suckow

In memory of their parents, Harold & Helen Schueler and Reubin & Elizabeth Anderson, and our friends and neighbors, Kathy Hegg & Dale Serum, given by Dave & Alice Anderson

In memory of Gene Westphal, given by Joan Suckow, Sheila Spartz, Jean Kurtz, Russ & Arlene Larson, Harvey & Marlene Miller, Warren & Pauline Olson, Rhonda & Brian Reynolds

In honor of their 56th Wedding Anniversary, given by Karl & Sandy Bloomquist

In honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary and in honor of our family, given by Jerry & Joyce Hansen

In honor of their parents, Pauline & Herman Schultz, given by Pauline & Warren Olson, Judy & Clark Hoffman, Roger & Ruthie Schultz, Marie Daugherty and George & Linda Schultz

In honor of the Pastors and the caring, supportive staff at FLC, given by Carol Westphal

In honor of their 65th Wedding Anniversary, given by John & Dot Swanson

WORSHIP & MUSIC

In memory of Judy Quernemoen Pinnt, given by Eldon & Linda Pierce



Worship Schedule

SATURDAYS

5:00PM | RELAXED WORSHIP

Our Saturday evening worship has a relaxed feel. We follow the same general order of service as on Sunday except that the musical accompaniment is usually led by piano and one song leader. Communion is served on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th (if applicable) Saturdays of the month.

SUNDAYS

8:30AM | TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Our Sunday morning traditional worship service includes classic hymns and songs set within a more traditional order of worship. Our Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Kids Choir, and other musical ensembles add additional flavor and depth to the service on a rotating basis. Holy Communion is served the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

10:00AM | CELEBRATION WORSHIP

Our Sunday morning Celebration worship service includes liturgical elements, yet offers present-day music of faith from inspiring composers alongside fresh renditions of classic hymns and songs. A worship team leads the music, and other music ensembles provide special music offerings. Holy Communion is served the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

WEDNESDAYS

4:45-6:00PM | MEAL

6:15PM | CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

During our Wednesday night worship, we strive to be a retreat in your busy week with contemporary worship for all ages. Worship follows a creatively liturgical format and is led by a worship team of youth and adults. The feel of this worship service invites you into the experience of worshiping as a community of seekers and believers alike. Come as you are. Holy Communion is served the Wednesdays that follow the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

To see our church calendar with full details and descriptions of all church events, please visit our website: www.firstlutheranalexandria/events.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- 9/4: FLC Habitat Build Day
- 9/8: Kick Off Week Begins
- 9/9: Adult Study
- 9/11: Wednesday schedule begins
- 9/12: Men's Breakfast
- 9/15: Congregational Meeting
- 9/20: Family Music Classes
- 9/21: Matt Kjelland 5K
- 9/22: Golf Scramble
- 9/23: New Member Orientation
- 9/23: Adult Study
- 9/29: Dedication/Open House
- 9/30: Adult Study

OCTOBER EVENTS

- 10/2: Family Music Classes
- 10/3: WELCA Luncheon
- 10/6: Snowbird Sendoff
- 10/10: Fall Writing Class
- 10/10: Men's Breakfast
- 10/17: Fall Writing Class
- 10/24: Fall Writing Class
- 10/19-20: Polkafest
- 10/27: Confirmation Sunday
- 10/31: Trunk or Treat

NOVEMBER EVENTS

- 11/1-2 & 4: How to make lefse
- 11/5-6: Lefse making days
- 11/7: WELCA Luncheon
- 11/8-9: Christmas Boutique & Bake Sale
- 11/14: Men's Breakfast
- 11/27: Thanksgiving Eve Worship