

# First Word



April 2011

First  
Lutheran  
Church

116 Inner Drive  
Le Sueur, MN  
56058  
507.665.2615  
www.flcls.org

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*Mourning makes us poor; it powerfully reminds us of our smallness. But it is precisely here, in that pain or poverty or awkwardness, that the Dancer invites us to rise up and take the first steps. For in our suffering, not apart from it, Jesus enters our sadness, takes us by the hand, pulls us gently up to stand, and invites us to dance. We find the way to pray, as the Psalmist did, "You have turned my mourning into dancing." (Psalm 30:11) because at the center of our grief we find the grace of God.* - Timothy Jones, comp. & ed., Turn My Mourning into Dancing: Finding Hope in Hard Times.

Last month we began the Lenten journey. As ashes marked our foreheads we heard the spoken words, "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." With the bookends of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, the season of Lent invites us to live with an acknowledgement of our mortality and the certainty of death. Throughout these forty days we are reminded that we live authentically when we live in relationship – with ourselves, others, creation and God. Lent is a journey to the cross that includes the certainty of death and mourning, but because of Easter, we know it does not end there.

As human beings, we are reminded of the pain and loss that is so real in the world in which we live. The suffering in Japan in the aftermath of the earthquake, tsunami and radiation leaks is almost beyond comprehension. The unrest and violence in Northern Africa and Middle Eastern nations, together with the economic problems of the entire world causes us to sometimes wonder if there is any hope.

I am always powerfully moved when the season of springtime greets us; when the snow finally melts away, when birds return from the South and when the natural world around us erupts in new life. What has been for so long dreary and dead breaks forth in new life. Lent meets us at that base level of loss, brokenness, hurt, grief, and mourning, and pulls, pushes, or rearranges us so that we can again hear and be about life, wholeness, joy, gratitude and abundance. We are again changed, transformed.



During this season, we are taken to the very heart of our sacred faith, where we first encounter death and loss, and then are surprised and transformed into new life. We are first marked with the cross of ashes - reminded of our smallness and the pains we encounter – then we move into the waters that wash over us and claim us again in newness of life.

In the midst of your personal journey into these final weeks of Lent, and the celebration of Easter on April 24, I invite you to be fully present in those places of loss and pain and mourning... and to see the ways that you, and we, are transformed and called in new ways to dance. We journey together to the cross of Good Friday and look to the promise of Easter.

A fellow traveler on the Lenten journey with you,  
Pastor Carl Bruhler



## Sunday Schedule

**8:00 am:**  
Worship Service

**9:00 am:**  
Coffee Fellowship

**9:15 am:**  
Good News Hour  
Adult Forum  
First Choir  
Rehearsal

**10:30 am:**  
Worship Service

*Holy Communion  
on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>  
Sundays*

**Maundy Thursday  
Worship Service  
April 21  
with  
Holy Communion**

**7:30 pm**

**Last Month's  
Offering &  
Attendance**

**2/27/11 - \$2,362**

8:00 am— 50  
10:30 am— 117

**3/6/11 - \$5,383**

8:00 am— 98  
10:30 am— 56

**3/13/11 - \$2,343**

8:00 am— 49  
10:30 am— 99

**3/20/11 - \$4,575**

8:00 am— 92  
10:30 am— 129

**3/27/11 - \$2,938**

8:00 am— 53  
10:30 am— 148

Electronic Giving:  
\$1,940



**WORSHIP  
SCHEDULE  
for  
LENT**

**Le Sueur Ecumenical Lenten Services**

will be held at Zion UCC, 240 South Elmwood, on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Date	Message by:	Choir:	Ushers/Refreshments
April 6	Pr. Ed Nugent	St. Anne's	Presb./UMC
April 13	Lisa Johnson	Word of Life	St. Anne's



*Holy Week Schedule*

Palm Sunday: Worship at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday: Worship with First Communion at 7:30 p.m.  
Good Friday: Tenebrae Service at Presbyterian Church 8:00 p.m.

***Easter Sunday:***

Worship with Communion at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Easter Brunch served 9 to 11 a.m.

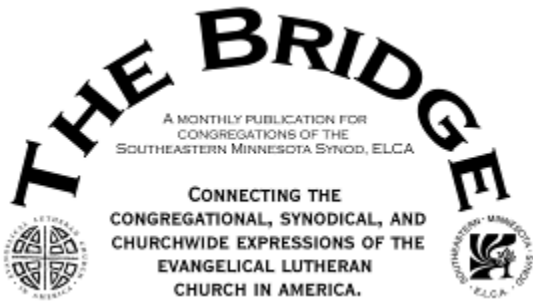


- Steve Alinder\*
- Jan Rhode\*\*
- Kay King
- Bob Podhradsky
- Ann Porter
- Ed Rasmusen
- Mark Sullivan
- Bob Terwedo
- Diane Anderson
- Christian Dwyer,  
Youth Representative
- \*President
- \*\*Vice President

**March Council Highlights**

The First Lutheran Church Council met on Tuesday, March 22 for the regular monthly meeting. Highlights of the meeting include:

- Welcomed Christian Dwyer as Youth Representative to Council.
- Discussed some 2011 goals: updating membership roster, involving more youth, increase worship attendance.
- Annual Congregational meeting date was set for Sunday, January 22, 2011 – possible congregational potluck?
- GACAC meeting on April 9 will be attended by Ellen Cauffman, Kay King and Pr. Carl Bruihler
- Need another person to serve as voting member at the SEMN Synod Assembly in Rochester on May 6 & 7 .
- Discussed involving youth to raise \$1,000 for Tanzania Companion Synod's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.
- Granted approval for Pr. Bruihler to use continuing education time for Dec. 5-21 trip to visit Companion Synod in Tanzania.
- Acknowledged FLC receipt of deed to parcel of land (approx. 2 acres) on Boright St. from Duain Swenson estate.
- Finalized plans for FLC Staff Appreciation between services on Sunday, April 10.
- Received report that Vivus Architecture & Design of Northfield will come on March 30 to begin chancel design work.
- Six Council members plan to attend *Leadership in Times of Anxiety* with the Rev. Dr. Peter Steinke in Owatonna on March 27.
- Reviewed building (sanctuary) use policy for non-member weddings/activities



## Building a Better Tomorrow

### Supporting Newly Called Leaders

The first years of rostered ministry can be a major transition. Pastors, Associates in Ministry, Deaconesses, and Diaconal Ministers alike have devoted years to study both in the classroom and in ministry contexts, but now it is time for them to live out their call in the “real world.” Seeing the need to support these leaders in their new calls, the ELCA implemented a First Call Theological Education (FCTE) program.

The FCTE program is a perfect example of the orchestration of this entire church. The churchwide level provides research evaluation and support to the synods who sponsor events and programming for first call pastors. Congregations pay a fee to cover the training and, even more importantly, support their first call leaders in attending such events, encourage them to have mentors and participate in colleague groups, and pray for them during the process.

Programming in the Southeastern Minnesota Synod has included retreats, two or three day-long workshops each year, colleague groups, and mentoring relationships. The programming is designed to start newly rostered leaders off with healthy habits, ministry reflection, and grounding in their calls.

Topics of the various events have included dealing with conflict, forgiveness, occasional services, mission support, financial well-being, information from the Board of Pensions, and self-care.

“This program is designed to provide continuing education and to get them off on the right foot,” says Rev. Linda Gunderson, the FCTE coordinator in the Southeastern Minnesota Synod. She encourages both the rostered leaders themselves and their congregations to look at FCTE, “Not as time away from ministry, but a time for ministry.”

Rev. Katie Fick is in the first year of her first call. As the solo pastor of a two-point parish with a minimal part-time staff, she reflects that it has been different for her in her first call than in seminary. “In internship and seminary, you’re always surrounded by colleagues...Here I have my responsibilities of learning this community and how I can best serve them, and that’s all on me. And I don’t have colleagues, other staff, or a supervisor to work with me on these things.”

She has found support in her experience with the synod-wide FCTE group and her local colleague group. In the colleague group, Katie has appreciated hearing others’ experiences and discovering that they’re having similar experiences. She benefited from developing a feeling that, “you’re not alone” and from developing relationships with colleagues in the area. The larger, synod-wide group adds a connection with the synod and an opportunity to, “get away a little bit from my situation and learn and take a breath.”

Rev. David Krinke has just finished his three years in FCTE. He echoes Katie’s sentiment about the importance of FCTE because of the support network it provides. One of the benefits to getting together with these networks is to grow together and learn from one another’s experiences. One example David remembers is the transition from the classroom to a first call. “You get so accustomed to a school situation where there is a right and a wrong answer...In first call, you start to learn that things aren’t as black and white in call as they are in a classroom setting.”

*The Bridge* is a monthly publication of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA.  
For more information, contact the synod office:  
Southeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA  
1001 14th St. NW, Suite 300  
Rochester, MN 55901-2551  
(507) 280-9457 [www.semnsynod.org](http://www.semnsynod.org)

This year’s theme is “God’s work. Our (Lutheran) hands.” It will take us back to the basics of what it means to be Lutheran. Keynote presentations, Bible study, workshops, and worship will explore the topic from a number of different angles. Hint: It’s not just hymns and Jello!

**Southeastern  
Minnesota  
Synod  
Assembly  
May 6-7  
Mayo Civic  
Center  
Rochester, MN**

**Synod Mission**  
Peace Lutheran Church began worshipping in 1999 in the Dover-Eyota school gymnasium. They hope to break ground on their new building in the spring of 2011. Congregations are invited to support this ministry through the 2011 Synod Assembly offering. Congregations may consider collecting a special offering or planning another way to lift up Peace prior to this year’s assembly.

**GIGG Schedule****April 6:**

Lesson: Lord's Prayer  
*Deliver Us from Evil*  
 Meal: Balder, Dirks,  
 Schwartz

**April 13:** at UMC

Lesson: Lord's Prayer  
*The Doxology*  
 Meal: Pizza - Bring \$2

**April 20:**

Holy Week No GIGG

**April 27:**

Lesson: Lord's Prayer  
*Review*  
 Meal: Kleschult\*,  
 Thomson, Hudson

**May 4:**

Lesson: Final  
 Meal: Potluck

\*UMC Family



**News  
 from GAC**

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual  
 Convention  
 of the  
*Association of  
 Congregations*  
 will be held at  
 Gustavus on  
 Saturday,  
 April 9, 2011.

**Student Leadership  
 Day**

April 9, 2011  
 Students currently  
 in grades 8-11 let  
 Pr. Carl or Gail  
 know if you are in-  
 terested in  
 attending.

## Student Leadership Day

will be held at Gustavus on April 9. GAC invites student leaders and potential prospects in grades 8-11, for a day of leadership development that will help participants consider what leadership is, ways to lead, to work with Gustavus student facilitators and develop an understanding of themselves as leaders in their congregations and communities. Tiger McLuen of *Youth Leadership* will keynote and will also lead training. A special afternoon workshop led by Richard Leider and Larry Spears, "*Discovering the Essence of Servant-Leadership*," will help participants see for themselves their God-given gifts and will help youth directors better understand their youth and how they can help the students succeed as leaders.

*Schedule for the Day:*

8:30 a.m. Registration  
 9:00 a.m. Music & games (Dive)  
 9:30 a.m. Welcome & Introductions  
 9:40 a.m. Worship: Proclaim Team from GAC  
 10 a.m. Keynote Address, Tiger McLuen  
 10:50 a.m. Small groups  
 Lunch in the Marketplace  
 12:15 p.m. Campus tour  
 12:45 p.m. Resource Prize Drawing  
 1:30 Afternoon Workshop  
 3:00 Closing Reception

**RSVP deadline April 1, 2011**

## Fed and Forgiven Holy Communion



The practice at First Lutheran Church is for students in the fifth grade to receive formal instruction before receiving their first Holy Communion. Students younger than fifth grade may receive communion with the approval of their parents and after participating in first communion instruction with the pastor and their parents. First Communion instruction will be offered in four sessions. Two sessions are on Sunday mornings during the Good News Hour at 9:15 a.m. on April 10 and 17. The other sessions will be on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. on April 13 and 20. Fifth graders will receive their first *Holy Communion* on Maundy Thursday, April 21, at the 7:30 p.m. service in which we remember Jesus instituting the Sacrament with his disciples. Contact Pr. Bruhler beforehand if interested in participating in these sessions.



## Visit Hometown Nazareth, Where Jesus was a kid.

Vacation Bible School June 6-10, 2011  
 9am – Noon each day

The Vacation Bible School committee has begun planning for the Le Sueur VBS. The theme for the 2011 is "Hometown Nazareth, where Jesus was a kid." We are looking for volunteers; high school thru adult to help with all aspects of this fantastic ecumenical faith development program: tribe leaders, market place shop keepers, game leaders, drama team and music leaders. Sign-up sheets will be posted mid-April. VBS will be June 6-10 and includes children from the entire community and is in partnership with First Lutheran Church, United Methodist Church, Zion UCC and Presbyterian Church. If you are interested in helping with any part of VBS please contact the Church Office or Gail Wentzlaff. Registration forms will be sent home with children mid April, and will also be available at church. Children who are eligible to attend Kindergarten in the fall of 2011 through grade 5 are invited to attend VBS.

## 2011 Youth Works Mission Trip

This year the multi-generational mission trip will take our group of eleven out to South Dakota to the Cheyenne River Reservation at the end of July. Thank you to everyone who has helped send them on their way by partaking of the delicious cinnamon rolls during the Sunday hospitality hour. Watch for a bake sale and car wash to come later this spring. The group is being led by Connie Caspers and includes:

Klaire Hudson	Cole Pengilly
Haley Schaaf	Vic Pengilly
MiKayla Falkman	Caleb Radloff
Taylor Kiemele	Bill Radloff
Allison Schwarz	Grant Miller

**WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY**

*"The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity"*. Meets the first Tuesday of each month. The topic for April is *Barriers to Resurrection*. Come join in the discussion about overcoming barriers that keep us from fully experiencing the resurrection life Christ died to give us. All women are welcome to attend. The next meeting is

Tuesday, April 5  
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at First Lutheran

For more information, contact Rita Patrias 665-4198 or [patrita@tcq.net](mailto:patrita@tcq.net).

They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ~Mark 16:3-4

**Mary Unit** invites anyone interested to join them for their monthly study on the third Tuesday morning at 9:30. They will meet on April 19 at the home of Arlene Stagg. Elaine Ashpole will lead the study. For more information, contact Arlene Stagg at 665-3950.

**Ministry Team Support**

The next Ministry Team Support meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday April 5 at First Lutheran Church. This is an informal meeting to discuss and work on ideas and improvements to the Ministry Team program at First Lutheran Church. The meeting is open to all members of First Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions that you would like to share please attend the meeting or contact Bob Patrias at 665-4198. We hope you can attend!



**Church Yard Clean-UP:  
April 9**

The Property Team has scheduled a church yard clean up and trimming of shrubs in front of the church and around the sign. All people interested in helping out should be at the church at 9:00 A.M. with rakes, pruners, etc. If you have any questions, contact Randy Baum 665-6610. The alternate date in case of rain or snow will be April 16 at 9:00 A.M.

**CHANCEL DESIGN FUNDING**

At the Annual Meeting, approval was given to have VIVUS Architecture prepare several design alternatives for the altar, lighting, video projection and narthex. We still need to raise \$155 to have the amount needed to begin the design phase. If you would like to help reach the goal, please place your donation in the Sunday offering plate or drop off at the church office. The CDT thanks you for your support!

**New Member Orientation:**

Two sessions have been scheduled for Tuesday evenings, April 5 & 12, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Anyone may attend, even if you are not ready to become a member yet. This will be a time to learn about First Lutheran, ask questions and meet others who are considering becoming members. New members will be formally received into membership on Sunday, May 1. Contact Pastor Bruihler if you are interested.

**Stewardship Request**

The Stewardship Team is preparing for this year's Time and Talent survey. The Time and Talent survey is a means for the church to best use the gifts of all the members of this body of Christ by asking every member to tell us how they are willing and able to serve.



Last year an online tool called Survey Monkey was used to gather this information. It is paperless and takes only a few minutes to complete on your computer. To do this, they need your email address. This list will NOT be shared with anyone. Please fill in your name and email address (and other changes in your phone or address) on the tear-off portion of this bulletin. If you do not have a computer and want a paper copy of the questionnaire, please indicate that on the tear-off portion. If you have questions, talk to one of the team members at the table in the narthex.



**Please Note:**

- ◆ Deadline for the weekly bulletin is Wednesday at noon.
- ◆ Deadline for the *First Word* monthly newsletter is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Please have all submissions into the office by the days noted. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office at 507.665.2615.

Thanks!

*If you are interested in receiving your newsletter electronically, please email the church office at [info@fcls.org](mailto:info@fcls.org)*

# APRIL CALENDAR & BIRTHDAYS

Friday, April 1		Saturday, April 2	
Birthdays: Bryan McConnell, Trevor LeRoss		Birthdays: Steve Hammes, Rick Rame, Mitch Hammes	
Sunday, April 3			
8:00 am	Worship with Communion		
9:00 am	Coffee & Fellowship		
9:15 am	Sunday School   First Choir Rehearsal		
10:30 am	Worship with Communion (Bus service available) Sonshine Choir Sings Birthday: Donnis Wicks		
Monday, April 4			
5:45 pm	Hospitality Steering Team Meeting		
7:00 pm	Mission Trip Meeting		
Tuesday, April 5			
6:30 pm	New Member Class		
7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Ministry Team Support Meeting	
Wednesday, April 6			
3:30 pm	Worship & Music Team Meeting		
5:30 pm	GIGG/Choir Meal	6:30 pm GIGG Lesson	
6:00 pm	Sonshine Choir Rehearsal	Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal	
7:30 pm	Ecumenical Lenten Worship (at Zion UCC) Birthdays: Sarah Possin, Elle Hammes, Kylie Gulbranson		
Thursday, April 7			
9:45 am	Bible Study		
4:30 pm	Christian Ed & Youth Team Meeting Birthdays: Carna More, Verne Strandjord, Mason Zeiher		
Friday, April 8			
10:00 am	Worship at Gardenview Birthdays: Aaron Jerdee, Aidan Strom		
Saturday, April 9			
8:30 am	Gustavus Association of Congregations   Student Leadership Day Birthdays: Charlie Schleeve, Ron Grothe, Ginger Nesbit		
Sunday, April 10			
8:00 am	Worship		
9:00 am	Coffee & Fellowship		
9:15 am	Sunday School   First Choir Rehearsal		
10:30 am	Worship Birthdays: Joy Bartle, Brenda Liebhard-Johnson		
Monday, April 11			
6:30 pm	BINGO at Gardenview—Workgroup #4 in charge, Amy Spinler & Tiffany Vanden Einde		
Tuesday, April 12			
6:30 pm	Prayer Shawl Team	6:30 pm New Member Class Birthday: Matthew Borth	
Wednesday, April 13			
5:30 pm	<b>NO Choir Meal at FLC</b>	6:00 pm GIGG Meal at UMC followed by Lesson	
6:00 pm	Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal	Sonshine Choir Rehearsal	
6:30 pm	First Communion Class		
7:30 pm	Mid-Week Lenten Worship at Zion UCC Birthday: Shelly Schelin		
Thursday, April 14			
9:45 am	Bible Study Birthdays: Rick Bruns, Cameron Peterson		



Friday, April 15

8:00 pm Taize Prayer Service—Presbyterian Church of Le Sueur  
Birthday: Henry Pesch

Saturday, April 16

Birthday: Charlie Weick

PALM Sunday, April 17

8:00 am Worship | 9:00 am Coffee & Fellowship  
9:15 am Sunday School | First Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 am Worship (Bus service available)  
Birthdays: Lowell Stagg, Vic Pengilly



Monday, April 18

Birthdays: Jim Logue, Kelly Schelin, Ethan Dwyer

Tuesday, April 19

9:30 am Mary Unit—Hosted by Arlene Stagg, Lesson Leader: Elaine Ashpole  
Birthdays: Bob Hortenbach, Nick Selders, Owen Lawrence

Wednesday, April 20

6:00 pm Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal | Sonshine Choir Rehearsal **NO MEAL**  
6:30 pm First Communion Class **NO GIGG**

Thursday, April 21

7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship with First Communion  
Birthdays: Elaine Ashpole, John Alinder, Doug Ellickson, Kevin Ellickson

Friday, April 22

8:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service at Presbyterian Church of Le Sueur  
Birthdays: Dana Allen, April Matz, Lynne Gross

Saturday, April 23

Birthday: Lisa Gross

EASTER Sunday, April 24

8:00 am Worship  
9:00 am Easter Brunch served 9 to 11 a.m.  
10:30 am Worship Joyful Noise Choir Sings  
Birthdays: Garry Schultz, Kelli McCormick, Abby Michaelis

Monday, April 25

Birthdays: Sigrid Berka, April Podhradsky, Thomas Eide

Tuesday, April 26

9:00 am Quilting Day | 7:00 pm Church Council Meets  
Birthdays: Leslie Dwyer, Nolan Rice, Shane Schilman

Wednesday, April 27

6:00 pm GIGG Meal followed by Lesson  
6:00 pm Joyful Noise Choir Pizza Party | Sonshine Choir Rehearsal & Celebration  
Birthday: Shane Gulbranson

Thursday, April 28

9:45 pm Bible Study  
Birthdays: Susan Halvorson, Andrew Jacobson

Friday, April 29

11:00 am Spring Luncheon  
Birthday: Justin Jerdee

Saturday, April 30

Birthdays: Rick Perkins, John Miller, Josh Johnson, Maggie King, Molly King

**DID WE MISS YOUR BIRTHDAY??**

If we missed your birthday, please accept our apologies! It just means our records in the office are incomplete! Please give us a call in the office so we can get our records up to date!

They saw that the stone ... had already been rolled back.



Mark 16:4

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the second Tuesday (April 12) from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact Rita Patrias for more information: phone 507-665-4198 or e-mail: [patrita@tcq.net](mailto:patrita@tcq.net).

**First Lutheran Quilters**

The quilters meet at 9:00 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month. The next opportunity to join in this project will be on April 26. Please contact Grace Kamrath at 665-6369 if you have questions.



**Our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbooks**

are still available in the narthex or the church office. They make wonderful gifts. 667 recipes now on sale for only \$10.00!

**Sympathy**

We extend sympathy to

- the family of Dorothy Woestehoff on her death on March 21, 2011.
- the Heimerman family on the death of Terri's mother, Oletta Mohler, of Cottage Grove. She passed away on February 25, 2011.
- Patsy & Everett Nash on the death of Patsy's mother, Tharon Holcomb of Baytown, TX. She passed away on Friday, March 25, 2011.



Thank you for all the prayers and cards of sympathy on the passing of my mother, Oletta Mohler, last month.

Terri and Dean Heimerman and family.

**Jazz Orchestra to Perform**

Luther College Jazz Orchestra will present a concert at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 10, 2011 at Mankato West High School, 1351 South Riverfront Drive, Mankato, Minn. Conducted by Juan Tony Guzman, the concert program will feature George Gershwin's beloved American classic *Rhapsody in Blue*, as well as a range of repertoire from early jazz to contemporary compositions. Freewill offering. For concert information, call 507.207.3837.

**Notes of Thanks**



Dear FLC family,

John and I want to let you all know how very much we appreciate all your concern and prayers you offered for our beautiful grand daughters and their parents. They were born at 34 + weeks on March 15th. They both weighed over 4 pounds. Annie Kay and Brynn Lende say thank you too. The girls are in the NICU in Sioux Falls, but probably not for long, as they are doing so well. Jenny is recovering well, too. Again, we deeply appreciate all you did for our family as we waited many anxious months for the safe arrival of the twins.

Sincerely,  
Ginny and John Clementson

A BIG thank you to the ladies who so prayerfully and lovingly made these beautiful prayer shawls. It is so comforting that each of us received a shawl. The warmth expresses your love to us and our love to you. May God bless you in all you do.

We love you,  
Charlie and Gerry Schleeve

**Easter Brunch Sign-ups**



A board is up in the narthex for GIGG students to sign up for shifts for the Easter Brunch on April 24. As all the food is donated, there are places to sign up for bringing various food items:

- |                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Strawberries               | Mandarin Oranges |
| Bananas                    | Peaches          |
| Pineapple                  | Grapes           |
| Salsa                      | Milk             |
| Orange Juice               | Apple Juice      |
| Cheese                     | Muffins          |
| Doughnuts, Rolls, Pastries |                  |

We are thankful for anyone who wishes to contribute these items.

**First Lutheran Church  
MISSION STATEMENT**

***UNITED** by Christ,  
God calls us to **LOVE** one another as  
we **RECEIVE, DISCOVER,**  
and **PROCLAIM** God's Word*

## Serving with a Heart of Jesus

On Sunday, April 10th, First Lutheran will honor it's paid employees. Their gifts of time and talents are truly a labor of love, God's love at work through them. These people are serving Christ by serving you. They are serving with a heart of Jesus. We are blessed to have such talented people on our staff.

The Church Council will host the hospitality hour between the services on April 10. Please join the Church Council in recognition of the following people:

- Joan May, Treasurer from 1982-1986; 1994 to present
- Virginia Miller, Organist PT 1985-1990; FT 1990 to present
- Wayne Brogger, Custodian 1989 to present
- Liz Osborne, Joyful Noise Director 1996 to present
- Marlys Olson, Financial Secretary 2004 to present
- Carl Bruihler, Pastor 2005 to present
- Marge Maetzold, Administrative Asst. 2007 to present
- Jennifer Weick, Choir Director 2007 to present
- Gail Wentzlaff, Coord. of Children, Family & Youth, 2008 to present
- Paul McDaniel, Substitute Organist 2009 to present
- Becky Pollack, Good New Hour Director 2011 to present



## Spring Luncheon to be held Friday, April 29

The Hospitality Steering Team is planning a noon luncheon on Friday, April 29. This event will be open to the public and they would like your help selling tickets. Imagine: if every family would sell 5 tickets, it would be a wonderful success! Please consider inviting your friends to join you or treat your favorite Administrative Professional to a TGIF (Tangy, Gooey, Irresistible, Fantastic ) lunch. Tickets are available at the church office, from members, and at Corner Drug. The menu includes Chicken Salad Croissants, Assorted Salads and TGIF Desserts. Take-outs will be available. Advance tickets will be \$8 (\$10 at the door). Children five and under are free. Proceeds will go toward a mission trip, a new laptop computer and kitchen needs. If you would be willing to help with this event, please call Connie Caspers 665-4391.



## A Lenten Prayer by Martin Luther

Lord Jesus,  
 You are my righteousness, I am your sin.  
 You took on you what was mine; yet set on me what was yours.  
 You became what you were not, that I might become what I was not.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

## Local Ministry Opportunities



**Treasures in Town**  
 206 South Main Street  
 Le Sueur, MN  
 Open Tues-Fri. afternoons  
 and Saturday mornings

## HOSPICE

**"We Live until We Die"**  
 Hospice provides individuals and their families with comfort, compassion, and dignity at the end of life.

ISJ Hospice  
 507/385-2618  
 800-327-3721 ext. 2618



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**Le Sueur Food Shelf**  
 427 South Fifth Street  
 Le Sueur, MN  
 Open 2:00-3:30 p.m.  
 Tuesdays and Thursdays

## How Many Volunteers? -- Part 2

### Help Wanted

*God is looking for  
your help in doing  
God's work!*

Opportunities include:  
communing with God,  
visiting with your  
neighbors and  
volunteering in church.  
Pay: beyond measure.  
Benefits: eternal.  
No experience neces-  
sary. Contact a Minis-  
try Team leader to  
learn more and apply!

In Part 1 of this series, the number of worship service volunteer activities at First Lutheran Church were tabulated. These activities include: Acolytes, Greeters, Ushers, Readers, Communion Assistants and the volunteers for Altar Guild, Nursery and Hospitality. To summarize, a Sunday worship service with communion needs about 12 volunteers. A Sunday worship service without communion needs about seven or eight volunteers. Remember, these numbers double on Sundays with two services. Recent average attendances for worship services are: 73 people at 8:00 AM, 135 people at 10:30 AM and 124 people at 9:00 AM (summer schedule). In other words, about one of every ten people at a worship service is a volunteer for that worship service.

In this article, we learn more about the pool of worship service volunteers. First Lutheran Church uses a Time and Talent survey to identify possible volunteers for many church activities. This survey also provides the opportunity for church members to indicate their volunteer preferences. The most recent survey results are from fall 2010. Of specific interest for this article are Time and Talent volunteer data for Greeters, Ushers, Readers, Communion Assistants and Nursery.

About 124 people indicated via Time and Talent they would volunteer for one or more of these worship service activities. Most of the volunteers are adults or confirmed members of the congregation. It is encouraging that many people are willing to volunteer for these activities. Now, let's dig further into this data.

How many people volunteered for each activity? Here are the numbers:

- Greeter (92)
- Usher (42)
- Reader (34)
- Communion Assistant (42)
- Nursery (14)

In other words, of the 124 volunteers about 74% are willing to Greet. About 34% are willing to Usher or serve Communion. About 27% are willing to Read. Finally, about 11% of the Time and Talent volunteers are willing to staff the Nursery. It may seem these numbers don't total correctly. There's a good reason! Let's continue on.

Now consider this, of these five possible worship service activities, 62 people (or 50% of 124 volunteers) volunteered for one activity, 34 people (27%) volunteered for two activities, 18 people (15%) volunteered for three activities and 10 people (8%) volunteered for four activities. As you can determine, these numbers total correctly. Curiously, no one volunteered for all five activities.

Finally let's consider the Time and Talent information from another perspective. According to the 2010 Annual report for First Lutheran Church, we have 573 total confirmed members. Let's recalculate the previous numbers relative to the total membership of the church: 124 volunteers of 573 members (22%), Greeters (92 of 573 is 16%), Ushers or Communion Assistants (42 of 573 is 7%), Readers (34 of 573 is 6%), Nursery (14 of 573 is 2%), volunteers for one activity (62 of 573 is 11%), volunteers for two activities (34 of 573 is 6%), volunteers for three activities (18 of 573 is 3%) and volunteers for four activities (10 of 573 is 2%). What does this mean?

Well, that's a great question!

However, let's hold that question for now.

Next month, we continue this series. If you have any questions or comments about this article, please contact the author, Bob Patrias at 665-4198.



## Sunday Worship Schedule—April 2011

April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
Fourth Sunday in Lent	Fifth Sunday in Lent	Palm Sunday	Easter Sunday
<b>Readings</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	Matthew 21:1-11 Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 27:11-54	Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 114 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 Luke 24:13-49
<b>8:00 AM Service</b>			
<b>Reader:</b>	<b>Reader:</b>	<b>Reader:</b> Karen Malm	<b>Reader:</b> Gordon Gregersen
<b>Greeters:</b> Kevin & Mardi Enerson	<b>Greeters:</b> Chris & Julie Siehndel	<b>Greeter:</b>	<b>Greeters:</b> 2 Osbornes
<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>
Cole Pengilly Mason Zeiher	Hannah Mathews, Kallan Hudson	Claire Kelso, Dakota Slack	Trevor Thomas, Kylee LaPierre
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>
Chuck Frauendienst Wayne Swenson	Cole & Vic Pengilly	Doug Malm Bill Anderson	Chuck Frauendienst
<b>Communion Servers</b>			<b>Communion Servers</b>
Kevin & Mardi Enerson			
<b>10:30 AM Service</b>			
<b>Reader:</b>	<b>Reader:</b> Liz Osborne	<b>Reader:</b>	<b>Reader:</b> Gordon Gregersen
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Greeter</b>
Park Elem. Cub Scouts	Joel & Kristi Gregersen	Barb & Dale Flo	Jeannette Nelson
<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>
Grant Becker Daniel Felmlee	Allison Spinler Janie Schwartz	2 Osbornes	Mason Zeiher Zack Thomson
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Ushers</b>
Randy Baum Gene Schultz	Caleb & Bill Radloff	Randy Baum	
<b>Communion Servers</b>			<b>Communion Servers</b>
			Two Osbornes
<b>Nursery:</b> Allen Family	<b>Nursery:</b> Molly Schultz	<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>Nursery:</b>
<b>Hospitality: GIGG</b>	<b>Hospitality:</b> Church Council	<b>Hospitality</b> <b>7th Grade Girls</b>	<b>Easter Brunch</b>
Altar Guild: Diane Anderson	Altar Guild: Marcie Allen	Altar Guild: Mardi Enerson	Altar Guild:
If you cannot serve on the Sunday listed above, please contact Bob Patrias. (507-665-4198)			

<b>Maunder Thursday</b> <b>April 21</b> 7:30 PM at FLC
<b>Readings</b> Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
<b>Reader:</b> Logan Holland
<b>Greeter:</b> Melissa Holland
<b>Acolytes:</b> Bailey Fitzgerald, Taylor Kiemele
<b>Ushers:</b> OPEN Chuck Frauendienst
<b>Communion Servers:</b>
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Marcie Allen



First Lutheran Church  
116 Inner Drive  
Le Sueur, MN 56058

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Address service requested:

You are invited!

First Lutheran Spring Luncheon  
April 29, 2011

*Chicken Salad Croissants  
Salads and TGIF Desserts*

Serving 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
(Take-out available)



Tickets: \$8 advance donation  
(\$10 at the door)  
Children 5 and under: Free

**FIRST LUTHERAN STAFF:**

*Pastor:* Rev. Carl Bruihler  
*Coordinator of Children, Youth,  
Family Ministry:* Gail Wentzlaff  
*Admin. Assistant:* Marge Maetzold  
*Custodian:* Wayne Brogger  
*Organist:* Virginia Miller  
*Substitute:* Paul McDaniel  
*First Choir Director:* Jennifer Weick  
*Joyful Noise Choir Director:* Liz Osborne  
*Sonshine Choir Director:* Jennifer Weick

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