

# THE BUILDER

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



*According to the Grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. No one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.*

1 Cor. 3:10-11



## INSIDE

Advent & Christmas	1, 4
Pastor's Message	2
From the President	3
Youth & Family	5-7
Worship & Music	8
Giving	9-10
FLCW News	10
1st News/Library News	11
Study & Prayer	12
Relating	13
Memorials & Gifts	14
Serving & Reaching Out	15-17
Vision Council	17
Leadership	18
December 2016 Calendar	19
FLC Staff	20

### ***"Fear Not!"***

Is it any wonder or perhaps, it is a great wonder that each time the angels appear in the Christmas story to bring "glad tidings," they also bring the message, "Fear not." What were Mary, Joseph, Zechariah, and the shepherds afraid of? Isn't it interesting that their fear was evoked by a messenger of God? Were their fears different from our fears? Do we fear messages of "glad tidings?" Or do we fear messages of human endeavors and happenings? What do we fear in our own lives - loss, darkness, our own shadows, the future, economic insecurity? What do we do with our fear? Does it overwhelm us? Do we stuff it? Take it out on other people? Pretend we have no fear?

Our Advent series this year is "Fear not." We will hear of the angels' announcements and Isaiah's promises to a people in need of reassurance and good news. We will light candles to scatter the darkness and remember the Light coming into the world that no darkness can overcome. We will hear stories of some of our own brothers and sisters who have addressed fear in their own lives and been carried back into the season of hope.

On the fourth Wednesday, which just happens to be the longest night in the Northern Hemisphere, the winter solstice, we will hold a Blue Christmas service. Tradition says that this day which marks the shortest day of the year and the official start of winter is when nature and all her creatures stop and hold their breath to see if the sun will turn back from its wanderings, if the days will lengthen and the earth will once again feel the sun's warmth. On this darkest day of the year, we will gather with our honest yearnings (losses) seeking the return of light and hope.

Come and mark the season of Advent - letting God's word break into the fears of our own lives and hearing how it breaks into and shatters the fears of our world with the promise of Christ. Surely God is our salvation; we will trust, and will not be afraid.

Listening for the angels, blessed Advent to all.

*Pastor Dianne*  
Pastor Dianne



**Advent Vespers Services**  
**Wednesdays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21 - 5:30 p.m.** (See p. 4 for more Advent news.)



**Sunday School**  
**Christmas Program**  
**Sunday, Dec. 18**  
**11:00 a.m.**

Come share in the joy at this annual telling of the Christmas Story. A light lunch will follow in the Parish Hall for all families.



**Christmas Eve**  
**Candlelight Service of Holy Communion**  
**Saturday, Dec. 24**  
**3:00, 5:00 & 10:00 p.m.**  
(Nursery available at 3:00 & 5:00)



**Christmas Day**  
**Sunday, Dec. 25**  
**10:00 a.m.** (One service)  
Hear the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth.



**New Year's Day**  
**Sunday, Jan. 1, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m.** (One service)

## VISION & MISSION

## FROM PASTOR GREG GARMER

### The People of First Lutheran Church will....

Love one another as Christ loved us by: honoring, respecting, and affirming one another; practicing Christian hospitality; ministering to the elderly, and to those with special needs.

Grow in Faith through: strong Christian spiritual education programs for all ages; small group Bible studies; inspirational worship, art and music; cultivating a life of prayer; compelling youth and family ministry.

Share the Gospel through: a positive Christ-centered atmosphere; joyful fellowship with one another in Jesus' name; intentional, prayer-filled communication; gathering around the table.

Spread the Gospel through: active individual and congregational involvement in outreach to the local community; active individual and congregational involvement in global ministries.

*The Builder* is organized along key elements of Christian Discipleship. The goal is to provide a resource to assist individuals and the church body as a whole on the journey of spiritual transformation:

- Worship
- Study
- Prayer
- Giving
- Serving
- Relating

### "May the Lord of peace himself give you peace."

*Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving...Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone. - Colossians 4:2,6*

*Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. - Philippians 4:8-9*

*Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. - Ephesians 6:18*

*May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. - Galatians 6:14*

*Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. - 2 Corinthians 13:11*

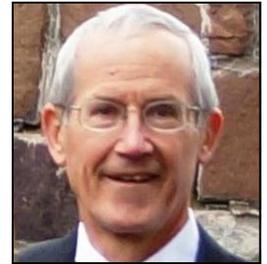
*Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for along ages, but is now disclosed... to bring about the obedience of faith - to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen. - Romans 16:25-27*

The above quotes give witness to the many times that the apostle Paul said goodbye to congregations he served.

When I was asked by Bishop Aitken and the Vision Council to help out during FLC's interim in January of 2014, I honestly thought it would be for no longer than a few weeks or months. But time goes by! And now the length of my service as an associate pastor in your midst will be three years by the end of December.

In all that time, by Pastor Mark Holman, Pastor Becky Wagner and now by Pastor Dianne and the entire staff, I have been blessed by stimulating and committed collegiality. Even more, I am grateful to the entire congregation for your strong partnership with one another and with us as leaders, in working through the interim process. And with you, I give thanks that we now see the door of a new beginning open and full with promise for this good community of faith.

Last spring, after Easter, I approached Pastor Dianne to ask if she had given thought to seeking my replacement. Her immediate reply was: "Oh, can't you stay on at least through December?"



## FROM PASTOR GREG

(continued from page 2)

As rewarding as it has been to serve as your associate pastor, I also know that if I am to get back to my "retirement" the time is coming for me to step aside. This coming year will be the right opportunity for the congregation to work with Pastor Dianne in charting a course for the future with the Vision Council, the current staff and you the congregation, to evaluate whether additional pastoral help should be called to assist this ministry for the long term.

As I complete this time in your midst, I find Paul's example in saying farewell to be helpful.

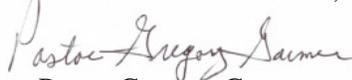
He kept focused on what is essential: Prayer in the Spirit, acknowledging that Jesus Christ is the true pastor, shepherd and head of his body the church.

Where Jesus is Lord, his people move forward in confident mission, welcoming the future and all the possibilities it unfolds. That is surely my prayer for you dear friends in Christ whom I've come to respect and love. I have been blessed by your partnership in the gospel and I have faith that the friendship we share in Christ will continue to provide a mutual blessing.

*Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with all of you.*

2 Thessalonians 3:16

With love in Christ Jesus,

  
Pastor Gregory Garmer



Author Chuck Haavik and his brother, Dave Haavik at Scandinavian Food & Craft Festival.

## FROM FLC PRESIDENT

### You Wouldn't Believe How Busy I've Been!

Our 2016 Scandinavian Food & Craft Festival is now a memory. FLC folks and many guests enjoyed great food and shopped for a variety of unique items, many of them handmade. And the best part is, all of the proceeds are joyfully given to deserving good causes.



One of the items on display that drew me in was a book titled Christmas Here in Northern Lands authored by Chuck Haavik, brother of FLC's own Dave Haavik. This book describes the season of Advent, when we wait through dark December for the Light of Christmas. "The northern night sky at Christmastime" is a unique gift to us in northern Minnesota, beautifully illustrated in Chuck's book. He encourages us to step outside on the night of Christmas Eve and take in the peace and calm of our northern sky.

I purchased a copy of this book, signed by Chuck, because it illustrates in words and art what Christmastime should be. Such a contrast to the shopping frenzy, constant advertisements, greeting cards that have nothing to do with why we celebrate Christmas - endless commercialization!

I look forward to the Advent season at First Lutheran! It will be Pastor Dianne's first Advent and Christmas with us - Wonderful! I remember from years past the evergreen trees near the altar, adorned with the blue ribbons of Advent, families lighting one more candle each week on the Advent wreath, and our Giving Tree in the Gathering Space where we select gifts to purchase for families in need. Jason and Karen will plan and lead us in the most beautiful music - choirs, bells, and instrumentalists. Our Sunday School children will talk, learn and sing about the real reason we celebrate Christmas.

As Chuck wrote when he signed the inside cover of my book, "May the light of Christmas be with you always!"



Candy Madich  
Congregational President

# ADVENT



Each day there is a different word to reflect on and a prayer. You may also download a PDF with daily reflections based on these themes at <http://bit.ly/2feX2Xn>

## HOW TO ENGAGE IN THE PHOTO-A-DAY ASPECT ON-LINE

Following the date on each day, you will see a theme word for that day. The purpose of this is to focus on that word and what it means devotionally. Then as you go throughout your day, you may see something that reminds you of that word, or something that evokes a response to that word. If you have a smart phone or camera take a picture and upload it to your favorite social media platform (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) and use these hashtags: #flcduluthadvent, #Advent2016, #hashtag the word each day and any other hashtag that says something about how you watch and wait and FEAR NOT! this Advent Season. Or, feel free to email them to Deb ([debflcduluth@gmail.com](mailto:debflcduluth@gmail.com)) and she will post them on the FLC Facebook page for you. The devotionals and photo challenge are hosted by the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (ELCA).

## November

- 27 – Hope: Matthew 24:36-44
- 28 – Flood: Genesis 8:1-19
- 29 – Promise: Hebrews 11:32-40
- 30 – Escape: Psalm 124

## December

- 1 – Prayer: Acts 1:12-17
- 2 – Wound – Isaiah 30:19-26
- 3 – Blessed: Psalm 72:18-19
- 4 – Love: Matthew 3:1-12
- 5 – Steadfast: Psalm 21
- 6 – Wilderness: Isaiah 41:14-20
- 7 – Heir: Genesis 15:1-18
- 8 – Justice: Psalm 146:5-10
- 9 – New: 2 Peter 3:11-18
- 10 – Rock: 1 Samuel 2:1-8
- 11 – Joy: Matthew 11:2-11
- 12 – Thirst: Psalm 42

- 13 – Food: Ezekiel 47: 1-12
- 14 - Infirmary: Matthew 8:14-17
- 15 – Tears: Isaiah 43:5-11
- 16 – Father: Galatians 4:1-7
- 17 – House: 2 Samuel 7:23-29
- 18 – Peace: Matthew 1:18-25
- 19 – Covenant: Genesis 17:15-22
- 20 – Exalt: 1 Samuel 2:1-10
- 21 – Generations: Matthew 1:1-17
- 22 – Magnifies: Luke 1:46-55
- 23 – Courage: 2 Samuel 7:23-29
- 24 – Child: Luke 2:1-14
- 25 – Gift: Hebrews 1:1-12

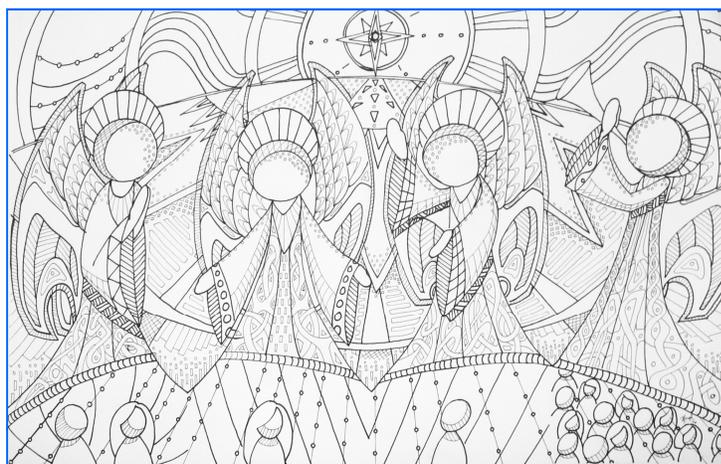
Starting on November 27, the first Sunday of Advent, you are invited to join Christians from all over the country (and maybe the world) in this photo-a-day devotional.

## Advent Vesper Services - Fear Not!

Wednesdays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21 - 5:30 p.m.

In a season filled with busyness and to-do lists that can weigh us down, come to the calming center of our mid-week candlelit Advent services.

With beautiful music from “Unfailing Light”, these simple services will reflect the message of angels in the Christmas story, always proclaiming “fear not”. Each week will focus on a different angelic appearance: to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and to the chosen people of God. And as we move through this season of waiting and trusting, all ages are invited to participate in a large scale coloring project, filling the bleakness with color and light. Each Sunday a new angel image will be added to our Advent banner ~ stop at the table outside the sanctuary to add your part to the joyful display. Special thanks to Angel Saur for creating these amazing banners.



# YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

## Sunday Mornings with 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders

On Sunday mornings meet up in the Youth Room for a time of games, snacks, hanging out, and digging into God's Word!

Cinnamon Roll Sundays on the first Sunday of the month and on GIFT, Growing in Faith Together, days meet in the Parish Hall.

## School Photos & Activities

Students, do you have an extra school picture? Consider bringing one to church to share with Deb. Her office door could use some sprucing up and what better way than with all the awesome faces of FLC youth?! The pictures are also a visual reminder to lift up prayers for our youth. Do you have an upcoming game, race, performance, recital, etc? Let Deb know and she would love to try to attend and cheer you on! [debflcduluth@gmail.com](mailto:debflcduluth@gmail.com)



**SERVE**  
Love Jesus. Love Others.

## Pack Food Backpacks

Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank partners with local schools and agencies to provide food to children on weekends. Each week nearly 700 bags of food are provided to children throughout NE Minnesota and NW Wisconsin as part of their local Backpack Programs.

Help pack for the Backpack Program on Thursday, December 1 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. There are 5 spots available for students 12 years and older. Sign up on the Kiosk in the Upper Commons or contact Deb Westerberg.

## Nursery Volunteers Needed

For students who are 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older that enjoy working with young children, your help is needed in the nursery on Sunday mornings. If you're interested, please talk to Gail in the nursery.

## Cinnamon Rolls

Sunday, December 4

Families, Cinnamon Roll Sundays happen with your help! On Saturday, Dec. 3 there's a need for a family or two to prep the rolls (takes about 60-90 minutes). Then on Sunday, Dec. 4 help is needed starting at 8:30 a.m. to bake the rolls and plate them for the sale. Please contact Deb to let her know how you'd like to help!

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School students (and others who would like to earn money for camp, summer trips, etc.) will help sell rolls between services.

Cinnamon Roll Sunday will not be held in January as it falls on New Year's Day.

## Confirmation Ministry

The next set of classes starts Jan. 11

3<sup>rd</sup> graders and their parents will meet again January 11, 18, and 25 to focus on Worship.

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents will meet January 11, 18, 25, and February 1, 8, 15 to focus on the Apostle's Creed and Communion.

If you haven't already pre-registered your child, please visit [www.flcduluthyouth.weebly.com](http://www.flcduluthyouth.weebly.com)



## Sunday School Christmas Program

Sunday, Dec. 18 at 11:00 a.m.

Come hear the Christmas story through the voices of our children! With liturgical leadership from the older youth, Sunday School kids 2 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be proclaiming the birth of Jesus through music and narrative for our worship service. Following the service, all are invited to the parish hall for a light lunch and fellowship.



### Christmas Lunch Helpers Needed!

A few volunteers - adults, youth, families - are needed to help with set-up on Saturday morning, Dec. 17, or help with serving and cleanup on Sunday, Dec. 18. *This is a great opportunity for volunteering and being involved!* If you can help, please contact Ann Beck at the church office (728-3668). THANKS!

**There will be no Sunday School on December 25 and January 1.**

# YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

## G.I.F.T. Sundays

"I wanted you to know how important our GIFT Sundays are for us. We are doing the work of building bridges between our people. Thank you for your efforts! I have heard a few older members comment, who took the time and attended a GIFT gathering, how much they enjoyed spending time with families at the tables, whom they had never met." Beth Holst

"GIFT Sundays are really wonderful. I got to know a family I didn't know before because we happened to sit by them. What a great way to help us oldsters meet some of the youth. Bob and I look forward to next month!" Candy Madich

The next G.I.F.T. Sunday will be January 8 at 9:45 in the Parish Hall. All ages are welcome to gather, to grow, to be a part of community as we look at the Fruits of the Spirit.



Pictured below and above right: Celebrating a GIFT Sunday



## Christmas Break Break

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders, take a break from your Christmas Break at FLC with your friends! Meet up on Wednesday, Dec. 28 at 8:30 a.m. Spend the day hanging out, playing games and doing some activities around Peer Ministry. We'll wrap up the day at 5:15 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Cost is \$10. Please sign up by Dec 18 - release forms will be emailed out plus be available on the website and at church. (If an earlier arrival or later pick is necessary due to work schedules, please contact Deb.)



## Save the Dates:

Cardia Deo (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat): March 3-5  
Elementary Rejuve (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat): March 17-18

# YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

## Middle School Gathering

A group of FLC 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders and adult leaders attended the NE MN Synod's Middle School Gathering. The Middle School Gathering brings together nearly 1,000 youth and adults from across our synod to grow in faith and build new friendships, while digging into confirmation teachings in a unique way! The event includes a keynote speaker, band (comprised of synod youth musicians), large group assemblies, learning clusters (small group learning), family time (time to meet with your church group), hotel life (fun activities often including inflatable games, basketball, swimming pool, Wii, board games and crafts, prayer room and more), and worship.

The focus for this year's Middle School Gathering was the Apostle's Creed. The Creed is much more than a saying. It shapes our identity: I am created for a purpose, I am loved, I belong. It teaches us where and to whom we belong: I belong here, I belong to Christ, I belong to the community, I belong forever. When we know who we are, and we know where we belong...we know how to live. This Middle School Gathering challenged us to be equipped and inspired to live the Creed as we remember that no matter what, we belong to Christ forever.



## Promise Preschool

It has been a lovely fall both inside and outside at Promise Preschool. The children are busy at play; building social skills and enjoying many child centered activities and experiences.

There are still openings for 3-5 year olds. One rare Pre-K spot available and 4 spots in the mixed ages class. If you know of someone, please pass our contact info along. Also, PPS has a Facebook page. Please like and share! Thank you!

Sarah Ching  
director@ppsduluth.org  
728-3668 x214  
website: [www.pps902.wixsite.com/promise-preschool](http://www.pps902.wixsite.com/promise-preschool)



# WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRY

## Apostle Choir at Aftenro Home

Members of the Apostle Choir led the Sunday, Nov. 13, worship service at Aftenro Home. The children read the lessons, sang the Psalm, prayers and other songs, played piano and percussion instruments, and gave Thanksgiving cards, which they made, to the residents. Thank you!



Left to right: Addy, Stella, Andrew, Solan, Yeron, Annika, Andrew and Trevor. Missing from photo: David.

## December Music Opportunities for Instrumentalists

**December 18:** Sunday School Christmas Program at 11:00 a.m. service. Young pianists and instrumentalists are invited to play a sacred Christmas piece during the prelude music. Instrumentalists are also invited to play in a group on some Christmas carols. Please let Karen Sande (ksande@flcduluth.org) know if you can play and if you need help with music choices or need an accompanist; she has lots of beginning/intermediate music to choose from.

**December 24:** Christmas Eve services at 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Instrumentalists from high school age through adult are invited to play in an ensemble for one or more of the services. We will play prelude music and accompany some of the carols. Please let Karen (ksande@flcduluth.org) know if you can play, and which service would work best for you.

## Worship Notes

**Live Radio Broadcast:** KDAL AM 610, 8:30 a.m. Sundays  
**Live Streaming** of 8:30 service, go to [www.flcduluth.org](http://www.flcduluth.org).

**Sun., Dec. 4 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

Readings: Isa. 11:1-10; Ps. 72:1-7, 18-19;  
Rom. 15:4-13; Matt. 31:1-12

**Sun., Dec. 11 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

Readings: Isa. 35:1-10; Ps. 146:5-10; James 5:7-10;  
Matt. 11:2-11

**Sun., Dec. 18 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

Readings: Isa 7:10-16; Ps. 80:1-7, 17-19;  
Rom. 11:1-7; Matt 1:18-25

**Sat. Dec. 24 3:00, 5:00 & 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve**

Readings: Isa. 9:2-7; Ps. 96; Titus 2:11-14;  
Luke 2:1-14

**Sun., Dec. 25 10:00 a.m. \*\*note time\*\* Christmas Day**

Readings: Isa. 62:6-12; Ps. 97; Titus 3:4-7;  
Luke 2:8-20

*Readings are from Revised Common Lectionary.*

## FLUKE

*(First Lutheran Ukulele)*

*Note: Meeting only on Dec. 4 this month.*

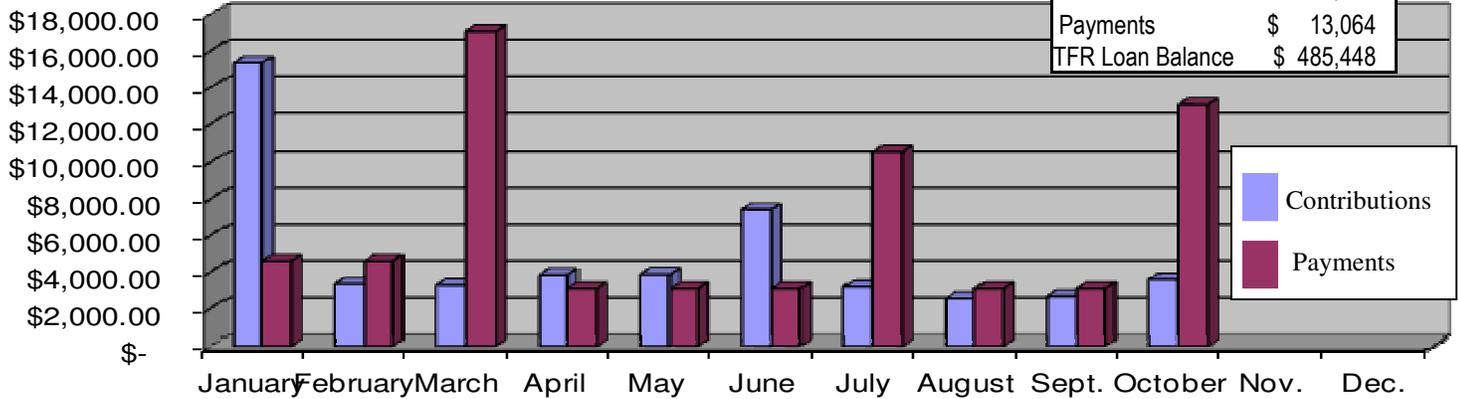


Have you ever wanted to learn how to play the ukulele? Do you already play but would like to get together with others to play some songs? All are welcome to FLUKE (First Lutheran Ukulele) – kids, youth, and adults of all ages and of all uke abilities! Angel Saur will lead the group through the basics of getting started, reviewing basics, and learning chords during the first part of the session (3:30-4:00 p.m.). Then from 4:00-4:45 p.m. will be about putting it all together and playing some songs as a group. Come either at 3:30 or 4:00, depending on where you're at in playing the uke.

In December the FLUKES will meet on Dec. 4. (There will be no meeting on Dec. 18 and Jan 1. Sessions will resume Jan 15, 2017.)

# GIVING

## TFR Mortgage Information 2016



Please remember TFR (Time for Renewal) in your giving. This project has created a new Gathering Space, beautified the sanctuary and provided the church with a magnificent Jaeckel organ.

## 2016 Mission Plan Update

	October				Annual Mission Plan	2015
	Mission Plan	Actual	Year to Date Mission Plan	Year to Date Actual		Year to Date Actual
Ministry & Mission gifts	\$59,405	\$65,166	\$593,259	\$591,599	\$768,249	\$589,740
<i>Plus Other Income</i>	<u>4,529</u>	<u>7,820</u>	<u>57,731</u>	<u>41,750</u>	<u>43,091</u>	<u>40,552</u>
Total Income	63,934	72,986	650,990	633,349	811,340	630,292
<i>Less Expenses</i>	<u>68,382</u>	<u>70,717</u>	<u>684,840</u>	<u>667,048</u>	<u>821,605</u>	<u>668,073</u>
Cash surplus (Deficit)	-\$4,448	\$2,269	-\$33,850	-\$33,700	-\$10,265	-\$37,781

### Giving for the Ministries & Missions of FLC

Weekly offering through:

Sun., Oct. 23	\$17,849
Sun., Oct. 30	\$ 7,715
Sun., Nov. 6	\$18,207
Sun., Nov. 13	\$13,062

### Worship Attendance

Oct. 23	325
Oct. 30	436
Nov. 6	367
Nov. 13	359

### Hunger Offering

Amount donated to the Hunger Offering in October: \$869.98

### Pledge Cards

#### Did you forget to put your name on your card?

There are 10 people who pledged but did not put down their names! If you think you might be one who forgot to turn the card over and write your name(s), please call or email Janet in the church office (728-3668 or janet@flduluth.org).

**Thank you** all who have offered pledges for next year. If you haven't pledged yet, please do. If you haven't pledged before, please consider making a monetary pledge that we might grow in our ability to reach more people with the good news of Jesus and with the good works we are able and called to do.

If you need a pledge card, please call the church office (728-3668), or pick one up at the Welcome Desk.

## GIVING

### It All Belongs to God: Even Our Time

Some believe that if you want to really know another person, take a look at her/his checkbook or automatic payment list. Therein lie the person's priorities and commitments.

Another list is found in our day timer, calendar or scheduler. These time recorders render yet another kind of measure. We can be understood by how we spend the 24 hours-a-day granted to us by the God that knows all. In Ecclesiastes we read that "For everything there is a season, and a **time** for every matter under heaven." So God tells us directly that **there is time** for what matters most.

Balancing our time is a goal of the conscience: Am I helping others, working hard, exercising, honoring family and friends? Am I allowing time for prayer and meditation, supporting my church, including my favorite activities, caring for mother earth? And am I taking the time to cook slowly for good health? Too much of any one thing can leave us feeling lop-sided. A keen balance, however, can give us "Time in a Bottle" (Remember this Jim Croce song?) which allows us to put our time where our heart is.

Time is a gift, a God-given gift. How we spend it is truly up to us. The entertainer Eubie Blake, who lived to be 100, was often asked what his secret was to live that long. Mr. Blake always replied, "I didn't do it, **t i m e** did it." He stretched out the "m" in "time," implying that it was a force from beyond himself. I believe he understood the notion of "the gift of time."

Please take a moment to re-look at the cards, "It All Belongs to God" (Conversation Starter Card Deck) that were created by Carlene Sippola as part of your Stewardship Team. Consider these three cards once again:

1. When it comes to volunteering, how do you decide where to put your time and talent?
2. What's more important, your gift of money or your time?
3. A person who is appreciated will always do more than what is expected. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?

God has granted us plenty of time to get it right. Thank you for the time you spend in Spirit-inspired activity.

Your Stewardship Team at First Lutheran Church

## FLCW NEWS

### Calling all Cookie Lovers and their Favorite 'Ugly' Holiday Sweater!

*A little sugar, a lot of fun... We're having a cookie exchange...so please plan to come!*



Dust off your favorite "Ugly" Holiday Sweater because we want to see you wearing it at the annual FLCW Holiday Cookie Exchange!

Festivities take place in the FLC Parish Hall Saturday, Dec. 10 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Join us for fellowship, treats and some much anticipated cookie exchanging fun.

**\*\*\*Cookie exchanging begins at 9:30\*\*\***

Please bring one dozen cookies (no nuts or coconut please) in a separate bag or disposable container for donation to the family Christmas party held at the *St. Louis County Jail*.

For exchanging: plan to bring at least 3 dozen of your favorite cookies. (If you bring 3 dozen cookies, you will go home with 3 dozen exchanged cookies.) To showcase the cookies as our decorations and add to the festivity of the table, creatively arrange your exchangeable cookies in a basket or on a platter.

Invite a friend or two and their "Ugly" Holiday Sweater. Don't forget to bring a large container to carry away your cookies to enjoy during Advent and Christmas gatherings! Hope to see you all on December 10!

### FLCW Bible Study Gathering

**All FLC women are invited to attend any of the gathering meetings listed.** Call church office for info.

#### Ruth Gathering

Mon., Dec. 5 - 7:00 p.m. - Homes

#### Mary & Martha Gathering

Thurs., Dec. 8 - 7:00 p.m., Upper Commons

#### Leah Gathering

Tues., Dec. 13 - 9:30 a.m., Parish Hall

#### Naomi Gathering

Thurs., Dec. 15 - 11:30 p.m. - Upper Commons

#### Dorcas Gathering

Wed., Dec. 21 - 10:00 a.m. - Homes

#### Esther Gathering

Wed., Dec. 21 - 1:00 p.m. - Parish Hall



# LIBRARY NEWS

Wishing you and your family a blessed  
Christmas!

Visit the Library for Advent and Christmas books and videos  
for you and your family to enjoy.

## New Books in the Library:

**America's Blessings: How Religion Benefits Everyone,  
Including Atheists** by Rodney Stark (Call #: 200.973  
Sta)

**Public Faith in Action: How to Think Carefully,  
Engage Wisely, and Vote with Integrity** by Miroslaw  
Volf, Ryan McAnnally- Linz (Call #: 261.7 Vol)

## A Selection of Adult Books on Display:

**Christmas Poems** selected and edited by John Hollander  
and J.D. McClatchy (Call #: 821.008 Chr)

**Come, Lord Jesus: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany** by  
Susan Briehl (Call #: 242.33 Bri)

**In the Bleak Midwinter: Forty Meditations & Prayers  
for Advent & Christmas** by Herbert Brokering (Call #:  
242.33 Bro)

**Making Room for Christmas:  
Preparing a Place for the Christ  
Child** by Herbert F. Brokering  
(Call #: 242.33 Bro)

**The Promise of Christmas is  
Jesus: A 30-Day Devotional** by  
Jack Countryman  
(Call #: 242.335 Cou)

**Spirit of the Lights** by Chuck Frederick (Call #: 394.2661  
Fre)

**Treasured Stories of Christmas** (Call #: 813.6 Tre)

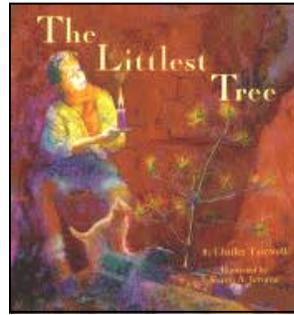
## Books for Children:



**The Christmas Mouse** by Toby For-  
ward (Call #: B For)

**Fear Not, Joseph** by Julie Stiege-  
meyer (Call #: B Sti)

**Itsy Bitsy Christmas** by Max Lucado  
(Call #: B Luc)



**The Littlest Tree** by Charles  
Tazewell (Call #: C Taz)

**Sacred Songs of Christmas:  
Family Treasury** (Call #: C  
Con)

**A Treasury of Christmas  
Stories and Songs** (Call #:  
B Tre)

## Videos and DVDs for Adults:

**Christmas Across America** (Video #508)

**The Nativity Story** – New Line Home Entertainment  
(DVD #26)

## Videos and DVDs for Children:

**Animated Stories from the Bible: The King is Born**  
(Video #215)

**The Toy That Saved Christmas** - Veggie Tales (Video  
#264)

**Saint Nicholas, A Story of Joyful Giving** (DVD #21)

**The Star of Christmas** (DVD #22)

## NEWS OF THE FIRST FAMILY



### *A Loss in the Family*

Family of Judy Anderson, Amy and Darren, on the  
death of Ken Anderson.

The family of **Raymond Leland**.

# STUDY & PRAYER

## Sunday Morning Adult Education

No matter what our age, we are growing as disciples. Every faith journey needs nourishment and encouragement! Each Sunday you are invited to come to one of the scheduled programs or discussions in the Parish Hall or Adult Ed Room. All are designed to inform, inspire, challenge and equip us to better understand God's Word, and to living a life of faith. Grab a cup of coffee and treat on your way. Unless otherwise noted, forums and classes will begin at 10:00 a.m. On GIFT Sundays all ages meet together in the Parish Hall at 9:45 a.m.

## Schedule for December December 4

**St. Nicholas: Understanding the Myth - Parish Hall**  
The commercial Santa Claus figure has its roots in tradition very central to the Christian faith. By knowing the story of St. Nicholas we can better infuse this tradition in our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ! Led by Pastor Dianne.

### Dwelling in the Word - Adult Ed Room

For all seekers, come explore some of the familiar, and not so familiar, stories of the Bible. Each week will include a brief presentation to provide biblical context, followed by small group discussions to wrestle with questions together on what the story means in our own lives. This informal study will meet each week except GIFT Sundays. All are welcome!

## December 11

### Crucial Conversations - Parish Hall

How do we have safe conversations on important issues when we feel that the stakes are high? How do we lead with heart and listen with love? Using a brief individual assessment tool, Don Streufert and Pastor Dianne will guide discussion on recognizing our communication styles under stress, to help in faithful, constructive conversations in all our relationships. This is a follow-up to their October forum. All are welcome.

### Dwelling in the Word - Adult Ed Room

All welcome to this informal weekly Bible study and discussion (see above).

## December 18

### Dwelling in the Word - Adult Ed Room

All welcome to this informal weekly Bible study and discussion (see above).

## Friday Morning Bible Study

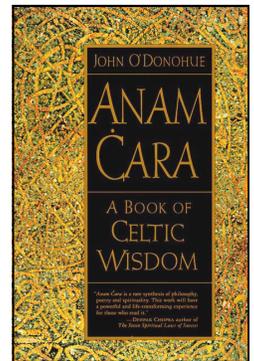
**Come feast on the Word!** This pastor led Bible study meets on Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Adult Ed Room.



Invite a friend or neighbor along this year. Have you met someone new at worship, a visitor? Invite them to Bible Study. All are welcome - no preparation or homework required.

## Tuesday Mid-Day Book Group on Break Until January

The Tuesday Mid-Day Book Group will resume on January 10, meeting Tuesdays from 11:45 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Upper Commons. The next book is Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom, by John O'Donohue. *Anam cara* is Gaelic for "soul friend." Julie Eckman will be facilitating our discussions. Please contact Brenda Sproat at [bsproat6@gmail.com](mailto:bsproat6@gmail.com) or Karen Sande [sande@fclduluth.com](mailto:sande@fclduluth.com) for more information or to be added to the email list.



**Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
will not be meeting in December. Next gathering will be Thursday, Jan. 12 at 1:00 p.m. in 3rd Floor Conference Room.

# RELATING

## Stories

The Ministry Teams are beginning to gather stories and photos of how God has been revealed in our midst this past year. When you think about it, was there a worship service, a service ministry moment, a stewardship question, a teaching event, a conversation, a meal, a Bible story, an experience this year that moved you, that opened you or someone you know up to Jesus Christ in a new way? Did you have an “aha” moment? A moment of connection? Ministry is not about numbers but about changed, deepened, and broadened lives. Help us to tell the story of how God has made a difference in your lives and in the world through FLC. Send your stories and/or photos to Nancy (nancy@flcduluth.org) or Pastor Dianne (pastordianne@flcduluth.org).

## Topnotchers meet December 16

Topnotchers will gather at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, December 16. Plan on a festive time singing Christmas carols. Invite a friend to come, too. If you aren't on the regular caller list, call Dorothy at 525-5550 or Elaine at 724-1068 by Tuesday, December 13 for a reservation. Cost is \$8.

## Be a Greeter on Sunday Mornings

How would you like to be a part of a very important ministry at First Lutheran? Be a greeter and welcome those who come into the church doors each Sunday morning. Call Jackie to sign up: 724-4796.



## FLC Crafters Group

The FLC Crafters will not be meeting in December because of Christmas. Plan on crafting together again in January.

## Homebound Ministry - Poinsettia Delivery

At this time during the holiday season, we are focusing on caring connections with members who are no longer able to attend worship. If you are aware of someone who is currently homebound that First Lutheran staff might not know of; if you would be willing to deliver a small poinsettia plant with a friendly visit; or if you would like to learn more about participating as a home communion minister, please contact Ann Beck at the church office, 728-3668, or annbeck@flcduluth.org.



## Angel Tree

Once again, First Lutheran is blessed with the opportunity to provide gifts for families in transitional housing during this Christmas season. Beginning the first Sunday of Advent, there will be a tree filled with Angel Tags, all with wishes of children and families in Duluth.



Many families and youth from places such as the American Indian Community Housing (AICHO) and Renaissance House are in need of extra help this Christmas to provide some special gifts for their families. This is a wonderful way to share in the upcoming Christmas season with others by demonstrating Christ's love through helping others.

**Wrapped gifts, with the angel tags, are due to the church by Sunday, Dec. 18.**

Please stop by the Angel Tree and take one of those angels off the tree (the goal is to have them all taken!). When you have chosen an Angel, please

sign up in the book, next to the tree, matching the angel color and number with the pages. Instructions will also be available at the Angel Tree. Financial Contributions are also welcome (submit to the office). There are eager people ready to shop for extra gifts.

## ELCA Good Gifts

Americans spend over \$300 billion on Christmas shopping each year. What if even part of this spending were redirected to fight against hunger and poverty? That ornament for a teacher could be changed into health and dental care for a child in an orphanage, or that sweater for your spouse could be transformed into a micro loan for a woman in Mexico. You could actually give a gift that changes lives for generations. Rethink your Christmas shopping this year and substitute at least one gift with a gift from the ELCA Good Gifts catalog. Look for the Good Gifts table in the Upper Commons between services during December and browse more than 65 giving options that support life-changing projects and programs around the world. These gifts can be purchased in honor of a special person in your life - just in time for Christmas.



# OCTOBER MEMORIALS & GIFTS

## October 2016 Memorials & Gifts

**Gifts to the Altar Guild in memory of Bill Keller** by Norma Hoffbauer; **in memory of Barb Benson** by Coralyn Worth.

**Gifts to CHUM in memory of Ruth Perkins** by William & Barbara Gravelle, Joanne Blakesley, Constance Lebeau, Greg & Alma Smith, Willie Witta & Melanie McColley, Greg & Mary Garmer, David & Lynn Tryggestad.

**Gifts to World Hunger in memory of Betty Nelson** by Gudrun Hoivik.

**Gifts to FLC Library in memory of Betty Nelson** by June Alsop; **in memory of Barb Benson** by June Alsop; **in memory of Ruth Perkins** by Irene Long, Harold & Audrey Naefke, Chris & Floyd Giese, Frame Family, Mary & Gary Thompson, Ed Turcotte, Merton & Glenyce Sheetz, Patricia Sampson, Eileen Lynch, Geraldine Williams, Richard Staff, Keith & Tori Setterholm, Donna & Roger Benrud, Dan & Marjorie Bergeland, John & Pat Carrow, David & Marcia Lothner, Jim & Carol Settergren, Norma Hoffbauer, Clayrce Swensen, Norma Hoffbauer; **in memory of Bill Keller** by Toivo & Annelie Sober.

**Gifts to Memorial Fund in memory of Betty Nelson** by Clifford & Mickey Wiklund, Dorothy Lutz, Winna Fae Nisswandt, Bob & Jacki Johnson, Coralyn Worth, Brad & Lezlie Oachs; **in memory of Bill Keller** by James & Susan Swenson, Bob & Joanne Jokela, Duane & Carrie Battisti, Loren & Tracey Erickson, Lynn & Sharon

Erickson, Arthur & Kay Amundson, Bob & Jacki Johnson, Steve & Margaret Broderius, Joyce & Thomas Goar, David Erickson, Mary & Nicholas Blessner, Claryce Swensen, Nancy St. Marie, Rodney & Elaine Ross, Donald Bjorklund, Jayne Lowry, John & Beryl Bredeson, Coralyn Worth, Ione Olson, Carol & Robert Kelley, Carol E. Anderson, Kermit & Marilyn Cook, Diane Kruger, Patricia & John Shelland, Dan & Jan McCarthy; **in memory of Barb Benson** by Dorothy Bjurman, Anne Kolodge, Bev Haugejorde, Bob & Jacki Johnson, Greg & Lisa Kolodge, Nancy St. Marie.

**Gifts to the Radio Ministry in memory of Ruth Perkins** by Stephen & Lynette Conley, Charlotte Mattson, Pat & Mel Johnson, Steve & Lynn Conley, Mark, Sheri & Alita Robertson, Ruth Hoadley, Marilyn & Ildi Sundheim, Earl Thorp, Jim & Beret Froehlich, Char Juntunen, Mavis Keller, Dave & Doris Walter, Dane & Jan McCarthy, Mark & Christine Osthus, Lois Reich; **in memory of Bill Keller** by Gudrun Hoivik, Norma Hoffbauer, Don & Laviere Johnson; **in memory of Betty Nelson** by Shirley Wuchter, Aini Lindquist; **in memory of Gene Huffman** by Karin Mehling, Sharon & Jay Rud; **in memory of Barb Benson** by John & Beryl Bredeson.

**Gifts to Time for Reneal in memory of Barb Benson** by John & Eleanor Collins; **in memory of Ruth Perkins** by Matt & Kay Eckman; **in memory of Bill Keller** by John & Eleanor Collins, Elizabeth Larson, Ruth Johnson, Tim & Beth Holst; **in memory of Betty Nelson** by Elizabeth Larson.

## LSS Crisis Nursery Diaper Drive

A total of 25,000 diapers are needed this year by the LSS Crisis Nursery, which temporarily provides free diapers for families who are experiencing an immediate crisis. About 700 crisis nursery visits were logged last year by parents or caregivers who have suddenly lost a job or transportation, had to flee an abusive situation with no supplies, or are living with friends or in a motel or car. "We want to keep kids safe by providing a crisis phone line, a few days of emergency child care by licensed caregivers, and diapers, formula, and clothing for whatever crisis they are facing." Providing a few free diapers is a proven method for relieving stress, and parental stress directly affects children's health and development. Large sizes 4, 5 and 6 and pull-on styles are most needed.

- You can drop your diaper donations off in the Upper Commons next to the elevator.
- Checks can be written to First Lutheran Church with "December Diaper Drive" in the notation.



# SERVING & REACHING OUT

## Help Still Needed for the Lutefisk, Salmon & Meatball Dinner

It's not too late to sign up to volunteer for this special dinner. Help is still needed for serving the Dinner on Wednesday, Dec. 7. Spots **at all times of the day** are still open and they need to be filled in order to serve the anticipated 1000 diners in a timely manner.

### Example jobs:

Tuesday Prep Day, Dec. 6

- Peeling potatoes and rolling meatballs
- Assisting cooks in various ways – cutting lemons, unwrapping butter, filling salt, pepper, allspice, and cinnamon/sugar shakers
- Setting tables and preparing the dining room.

Wednesday, Dec. 7

- Serving on the buffet line, serving bread & lefse
- Pouring coffee and beverages**
- Clearing and resetting tables in the dining room and lower commons.**
- Dishing up ice cream
- Helping wash pots and pans, running dishwasher
- Helping set up salads and other cold food items
- Singing the Lutefisk song!

**If you can work for 2 hours or 10, on Tuesday, Dec. 6 and/or Wednesday, Dec. 7 you are needed. If you have never worked at this event – NOW is your chance.**

If you have already signed up, and can work longer, please let Char know.

Tuesday volunteers, please come at the time you listed on the sign up sheets.

ALL WORKERS that signed up for **Wednesday**, please check at the sign-up station in the Upper Commons on Sunday, Dec. 4, if possible, to SEE WHAT you are scheduled to do and at WHAT TIME. **Check** your name off once you have received this information.

Please email [charjuntunen@hotmail.com](mailto:charjuntunen@hotmail.com) or call Char at 218-590-0420 if you need to know this info.

When you come to work on Wednesday, please sign in with the Volunteer Coordinator, **Beth Holst**, in the Library.

Also, to make parking spaces for our visitors, if able, please park away from the church (Rose Garden, synod lot, far parking lots), farther away on the street once the daytime parkers have departed. etc.).



## Communion Servers: Sign Up On Line!

First Lutheran Church is implementing an on-line process for members to sign up as communion assistants for both services every Sunday. Members indicate what dates/times they are available on a quarterly basis. This method should streamline the process and make it easier to plan for worship services every Sunday.

Sign-up sheets have openings for 3 communion assistants for each service. However, be aware that the third assistant may not be needed on the day of the service, e.g., use of an assistant minister, etc. Here are the steps for signing up for a particular date/time:

1. Go to <https://www.volunteersignup.org/XTCRD>.
2. A list of dates and service times will appear with the number of openings available for that date/time.
3. Once you have found a date/time that fits your schedule, click "sign up" on the right of the screen.
4. You will be taken to a form to fill out your information, i.e., name, email, phone number. Click the "Agree and sign up" button on the bottom of the screen after identifying the item in the picture.
5. A screen will appear indicating you are signed up. You will be sent a confirmation email. Reminders will be sent out during the week prior to the Sunday you are serving, so entering your email address in the form is important.
6. If you need to change or send any info regarding your date/time, there is a button at the bottom of the signup sheet labeled "contact the signup sheet manager" to click/send your message. You can also email Roberta Maughan at [ram96ie@yahoo.com](mailto:ram96ie@yahoo.com).

Thank your help in this important ministry at First Lutheran Church.

# SERVING & REACHING OUT

## Delegation from San Antonio Los Ranchos Visits Duluth Community

Marcela Murcia, Consuelo Ayala, Hayde Nolasco, plus their Sister Parish staff person, Carrie Stengel, arrived in Duluth on September 27 to meet, learn, and strengthen their community's relationship with the people of First Lutheran Church. When they left on October 6, we believe this goal was accomplished through the many connections made with people from our church and community.



their assistance, those hosting the delegates, those who brought food for the potluck, and all others who helped make the delegates feel at home. We invite any who are interested in learning more about our relationship with Los Ranchos and want to help plan a future visit to El Salvador to contact any of the committee members.

One of the gifts given us during their visit is an excerpt from the talk that Marcela Murcia gave on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>: “*Let us give thanks to God for each day, for all of the gifts we receive from God, especially the solidarity that our brothers and sisters at First Lutheran in Duluth have shown us... We also give thanks to God for all of the difficult moments we have gone through because when we look back on them, we see the presence of God in each one, when our problems have defeated us, sickness, absolute poverty, temptation, the suffering of the war; God has always been with us. ...In the end, many things that we think of as negative, but these things have to happen. But there are also many wonderful things that happen like: health, work, food, joy, family, friendship, patience, strength, affection, solidarity, and above all, a lot of love.*”

Muchos Gracias from the El Salvador Committee/Action Team: Anne Rogotzke, Joanne Jokela, Bob Jokela, Mary Streufert, Don Streufert, Will Sjoblom, and Dory Sjoblom (and Brooks Anderson)

At First, they participated in a Confirmation class, led a song for the children's sermon, gave a talk during the church services, had lunch and conversation with the Local/Global Action team, sang songs with the Promise Preschool children, helped make pupusas for the potluck, and presented a program on Saturday evening and at the forum on Sunday. In the community, the women learned about Native American Art at the Tweed Museum, heard from the PAVSA, AICHO, and Mending the Sacred Hoop organizations during a panel discussion, toured the Gimajji Building and Damiano Center, heard about the work of CHUM, were entertained by groups performing at a Sister Cities concert, learned about the Standing Rock Protectors, visited a CSA farmer, toured a Habitat for Humanity house and the Restore in Superior. For a mini retreat the women and Carrie traveled up the North Shore to stay in a cabin close to Lake Superior. They connected with Pr. Kris Garey, a former FLC member and delegate to Los Ranchos, visited Grand Portage State Park, and enjoyed time outside.

For those more deeply involved with the planning of the delegation, we gained a powerful perspective and insight into people's lives in El Salvador. We **appreciate** and **thank** the staff for their help with the visit, the worship team for their help with the Sunday service, the Local/Global Team for



## REACHING OUT

## VISION COUNCIL

*Vision Council meetings are open. You are welcome to see how your Vision Council works.*

### Pastor Alexei and Nadia Krongolm to visit in January



Pr. Alexei and Nadia Krongolm

Alexei Krongolm is pastor of our friendship congregation in Petrozavodsk, Russia. He and his wife, Nadia, both of whom visited us in 2008, will be here January 5-31 as guests of our *North-eastern Minnesota Synod ELCA/Ingrian Lutheran Church of Russia Companion Synod*

*Task Force and Vision Petrozavodsk.* The latter is a ministry partnership of several Lutheran churches with Nadia and Alexei and the Ingrian Lutheran Church in Petrozavodsk and Karelia, Russia. Our church is a foundational partner in this ministry (see our synod web sites). They will meet with and preach and share at several Lutheran churches, including ours on January 22, deepening our relationships, meeting with pastors and church leaders to share theological perspectives about ministry and faith in our two countries and how we can learn from each other and broaden and strengthen our mutual ministry partnerships.



### Vision Council Meeting Highlights 11/3/2016

**Devotion:** Vision Council opened with a devotion from Chapter Four of *Called by God to Serve* and brainstormed strengths of our congregations such as, but not limited to, strong friendships, members' connections to the outside world through work/volunteering, small groups and Bible studies, lay leadership, opportunities to serve and provide ministry, rich in blessings, talents shared, invitations for providing opportunities, dedicated staff, many people interested and active in growing in faith, commitment to education and passing the faith onto our children in the congregation, etc.

**Ministry Board Report:** Ministry Board reviewed Ministry Team Flyers and church logo. Worship Ministry Team brought Kirsten Bich as Chair and was approved by the Ministry Board. The "Meals on Wheels" Action Team under Local/Global Ministry Team was approved. Budgets are due at the end of November.

**Treasurer's Report:** October's Income and Expense report and a Time for Renewal will be shared at December's meeting.

**Senior Pastor's Report:** Copies of the Ministry Team brochures were provided and the church logo was discussed.

**President's Report:** Demolition of building on corner is complete. An oil tank was removed from below the ground which was discovered in the demolition process. A "Visitor's View" presentation was discussed and how the issues should be addressed and by what action teams. The tasks and photos will be brought to the Maintenance and Property Action Teams and will discuss Duane and Carl.

**Mission Planning Conversation:** The council will be answering questions such as the following as a part of the Mission planning process:

- God's mission is happening around us and is leading us – how can we partner with God ... in the church, in the community?
- Where is God calling us as a congregation?
- What drives First Lutheran Church?
- Who is God beckoning us to be in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?
- What is God up to?
- Where is the future already present in our midst?
- How do we know the Holy Spirit on the move here?

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, December 1, 2016, 6:00 p.m. in the Adult Ed Room

**NOTE:** Complete version of Vision Council minutes are housed in the church library.

## GET BETTER CONNECTED ON OUR WEBSITE

- Go to [www.flcduluth.org](http://www.flcduluth.org)
- Sign up for *FirstNews* weekly e-mail updates by sending an e-mail to [nancy@flcduluth.org](mailto:nancy@flcduluth.org)
- Sign up to receive a full color, digital issue of *The Builder* via email (go green)
- Download new and previous editions of *The Builder*
- An audio "widget" has been added on the sidebar of the web page/home page. This widget connects to the worship audio files stored online. Click on the one you want to download and it will take you to download link. These are large files that will take a few minutes to download (you can minimize) and then you just play on windows media player or other players.

## KDAL AM Radio Broadcast

### FLC Sunday Worship Service at 8:30 a.m.

First Lutheran Foundation invites and encourages members and friends of the congregation to sponsor a Sunday morning KDAL radio broadcast for \$100. The Foundation will match that gift with \$100 to cover the full cost of a broadcast (\$200). Call Nancy, 728-3668, to make arrangements.

## Hospitalized? Death of a loved one?

If you or a family member is hospitalized or if there is a death in the family, please call the church office at 728-3668. Because of hospital policies, the church is not always informed when a member is in the hospital. For emergencies after hours, contact information is provided on the church answering system.

## Holiday Concert at Sacred Heart Music Center



You are invited to attend a Holiday Concert on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 3:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Music Center (201 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street). It will feature young musicians from the community, including organ scholarship students, youth handbell choir from First United Methodist Church, and the Sterling Strings from East High School (FLC's Sara Revoir is a violinist with the group). The Twin Ports Wind Orchestra Brass will also perform, and David Tryggestad will lead a carol sing. Refreshments will be available. A freewill offering will be accepted for the Felgemaker organ fund. An accessible entrance is on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Parking is available in the Damiano Center lot across the street.

# LEADERSHIP

*Please feel free to contact us.*

## VISION COUNCIL MEMBERS

<b>President</b>	cmadich@aol.com
Candy Madich	206-0196
<b>Vice President</b>	ctzupancich@gmail.com
Teresa Zupancich	340-3223
<b>Past President</b>	suzanne@hbrstudios.com
Suzanne Rauvola	740-7310
<b>Treasurer</b>	ronduluth@hotmail.com
Ron Carlson	525-6542
<b>Secretary</b>	stfanning03@yahoo.com
Tammy Fanning	218-391-8398
<b>Ministry Board Chair</b>	teamream@aol.com
Diana Ream	727-4704
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	b.bich@lsc.edu
Vince Magnuson	vmagnuso@d.umn.edu
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	aaron.wedge1@gmail.com
Aaron Wedge	290-3872
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	sarah.climis@gmail.com
Sarah Climis	701-893-5271
<b>Senior Pastor</b>	pastordianne@flcduluth.org
Pastor Dianne Loufman	728-3668

## MINISTRY BOARD MEMBERS

<b>Senior Pastor</b>	Pastor Dianne Loufman
<b>Associate Pastor</b>	Pastor Greg Garmer
<b>Ministerial Associate</b>	Ann Beck
<b>Director of Music Ministries</b>	Dr. Jason Branham
<b>Director of Youth and Family</b>	Deb Westerberg
<b>FLCW Co-Chairs</b>	mbroderi@d.umn.edu
Margaret Broderius	728-6101
Carol Prohaska - carolprohaska@gmail.com	-H#724-2204
<b>Ministry Board Chair</b>	dream@workwell.com
Diana Ream	727-4704
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	eos608@aol.com
Dawn Boman	310-4887
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	samuels11@msn.com
Steve Samuelson	722-1788
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	tboom61043@gmail.com
Sharon Turnboom	218-428-2175
<b>Councilor-at-Large</b>	mmmargaret@msn.com
Mary Schmitz	591-6331

## STANDING MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

<b>Stewardship</b>	davidwesterberg@msn.com
David Westerberg	260-3116
<b>Worship Ministry</b>	kirbich@hotmail.com
Kirsten Bich	H# 727-3682
<b>Local &amp; Global Mission</b>	panderso@d.umn.edu
Paul Anderson	H# 728-5853
Brenda S-Johnson bsjohnsonslp@gmail.com	340-8284
<b>Evangelism &amp; Welcome</b>	margyenstad@gmail.com
Margy Bell	C# 310-6930
<b>Lifelong Learning</b>	georen625@gmail.com
George Rennan	C# 390-3526



# DECEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>End of Year Gifts</b></p> <p>For contributions to be recorded as gifts for 2016, they must be received in the office by noon on Friday, Dec. 30, 2016, or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2016. All mail postmarked or received in January 2016 will be recorded as 2017 gifts. The IRS does not allow exceptions.</p>				<p><b>1</b></p> <p>7:00 - Men's Disc-UC 9:00 MOPS-PH, etc 10:00 ELCIR-CF 11:30 FLCW Luncheon 12:30 Micah Team-307 5:30 Vision Council 5:30 Jubilation Rngrs 6:30 Comp III-CH</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>7:00 Sojourners I -CH 9:30 Bible Study - AER</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>10:00 AA-PH</p>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>CINNAMON ROLLS 8:30 Worship-S 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Youth Ringers-MR 10:00 Adult Forum-PH 10:00 Bible Study-AER 11:00 Worship-S 3:30 Ukulele-PH</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>5:15 AA - PH 5:30 Yogadevotions-GS 6:30 Soj. II - CH 7:00 Soj. III - CF 7:00 Ruth Gathering-H</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>4:45 Extreme Parenting-LC/PH 6:30 Ministry Bd-AER Preparations for Dinner - K, PH</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>10:30 Staff-AER 5:30 Advent Service-S 7:15 Senior Choir-S</p> <p><b>Lutefisk, Salmon &amp; Meatball Dinner 12:00-7:00 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>7:00 - Men's Disc-UC 9:00 MOPS Steering 2:00 OSL-CH 5:30 Jubilation Rngrs 7:00 Mary &amp; Martha-UC</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>7:00 Sojourners I -CH 9:30 Bible Study - AER 12:30 Topnotchers-PH 5:00 Promise Pre-school Movie Night-Classroom</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>9:00 FLCW Cookie Exchange-PH,K 10:00 AA-YR</p>
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>8:30 Worship-S 9:30 Healing Prayers-S 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Youth Ringers-MR 10:00 Adult Forum-PH 10:00 Bible Study-AER 11:00 Worship-S</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>1:00 Library Comm. 5:15 AA - PH 5:30 Yogadevotions-GS 6:30 AGO-AER 6:30 Soj. II - CH 7:00 Soj. III - CF</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>9:30 Leah-CF 11:30 Finance-307 11:45 Book Grp-UC 5:30 Evang/Wel-PH 5:30 Stewardship-PH 6:00 Lifelong Lmg-PH 7:15 Local/Global-UC 7:15 Worship-PH</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>10:30 Staff-AER 5:30 Advent Service-S 7:15 Senior Choir-S</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>7:00 - Men's Disc-UC 9:00 MOPS-PH, etc. 12:30 Naomi-UC 5:30 Jubilation Rngrs 6:30 Comp III-CH</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>7:00 Sojourners I -CH 9:30 Bible Study - AER</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9:00 SS Christmas Lunch Prep-PH/K 10:00 AA-YR</p>
<p><b>18</b></p> <p>8:30 Worship-S 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Youth Ringers-MR 10:00 Bible Study-AER 11:00 Sunday School Christmas Program-S No Ukulele gathering</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>5:15 AA - PH 5:30 Yogadevotions-GS 6:30 Soj. II - CH 7:00 Soj. III - CF</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>4:45 Extreme Parenting-LC/PH</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>10:00 Promise Pre-School Christmas Program-S, PH 10:00 Dorcas-Homes 10:30 Staff-AER 1:00 Esther-PH 5:30 Advent Service-S 7:15 Senior Choir-S</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>7:00 - Men's Disc-UC 5:30 Juliation Rngrs</p> <p>FLC Crafters will not be meeting in December.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>7:00 Sojourners I -CH No Bible Study</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>10:00 AA-PH</p> <p><b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Services of Holy Communion 3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.</b></p>
<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>10:00 Christmas Day Worship - S</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>5:15 AA - PH</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>6:30 FLC Foundation - CF</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>10:30 Staff-AER</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>7:00 - Men's Disc-UC</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>7:00 Sojourners I -CH No Bible Study</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>10:00 AA-PH</p>



# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

**First Lutheran Church**  
1100 E. Superior St.  
Duluth, MN 55802  
218-728-3668  
flchurch@flcduluth.org



VOLUME 69 No 12

**The Builder** (USPS 552-000) is published monthly by First Lutheran Church, 1100 E Superior St, Duluth, MN 55802-2285.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Duluth MN 55806.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE BUILDER, First Lutheran Church, 1100 E. Superior St, Duluth MN 55806-2285

## STAFF

**First Lutheran Church** www.flcduluth.org  
Office: (218)728-3668 flchurch@flcduluth.org

**Pastors:** (Ext. #) **E-mail**  
Pastor Dianne Loufman (207) pastordianne@flcduluth.org  
Pastor Greg Garmer (202) grgarmer@gmail.com

**Program Staff:**  
Dr. Jason Branham (212) jason@flcduluth.org  
Director of Music Ministry  
Karen Sande (213) ksande@flcduluth.org  
Asst. Director of Music Ministry  
Ann Beck (210) AnnBeck@flcduluth.org  
Ministerial Associate  
Deb Westerberg (215) debflcduluth@gmail.com  
Director of Youth & Family Ministry

**Office Staff:**  
Janet Freund (203) janet@flcduluth.org  
Nancy Hamre (204) nancy@flcduluth.org  
*The Builder* Editor nancy@flcduluth.org

**Custodial Staff:** **Other extension numbers:**  
Duane Sieger (232) Archives (211)  
Carl Guldner Youth Room (225)  
Promise Preschool (214)  
Kitchen (218)

## WELCOMING STATEMENT

First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes YOU into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace and forgiveness, regardless of: religious tradition, age, gender, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

### *The Builder* Schedule

- The following date is the deadline for submitting articles.
- Articles submitted after deadline will be published in the next issue. If possible, e-mail articles to: nancy@flcduluth.org.

#### **Deadline date:**

**January 2017 issue: Thurs., December 15, 2016**

For more information about staff, programs and events at First Lutheran Church, please go to our website:

**www.flcduluth.org**



PLEASE RECYCLE