



March 2020  
#708

# The Chimes

First Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
1206 Whitehall Road  
Muskegon, MI 49445  
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## Crafty Day 2.0

Saturday, March 28

10:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.

- ◆ **Vendors and demos:**
  - **Scrapbooking**
  - **Cardmaking**
  - **TN Journals**
  - **Bible Journaling**
  - **More!**
- ◆ **Prize raffles**
- ◆ **Lunch, snacks, coffee and water provided**
- ◆ **Cost: \$20.00**

**Sign-up forms  
available online and  
at church**

**Call or email Shar  
Bourdon for details**



## Upcoming Events



- 4 Lenten Service
- 8 HS LYO
- 11 Wed Night Dinner by  
Confirmands
- 11 Lenten Service
- 15 Swimming Fun at  
Spring Lake Aquatic  
Center
- 18 Lenten Service
- 20-22 Confirmation Retreat
- 22 HS LYO
- 25 Lenten Service
- 28 Crafty Day 2.0
- 29 HS LYO

*The Chimes is published  
monthly by  
First Evangelical Lutheran  
Church,  
Muskegon, MI for  
members and friends of  
the congregation.*



## From Pastor Bill

Upon recommendation of our staff, approval of both our council and our congregation as a whole, we as a church recently adopted three new goals for 2020. The first goal focuses on helping our congregational members become more invitational and making our church better known in the greater Muskegon community. The second goal has to do with leadership and how we ready for ourselves for a future in which some of the current leaders are no longer able to lead. The third goal is centered on making our church community safer and healthier. In this communication I want to highlight goal number one.

We Lutherans are not well known for being invitational. Generally, at least in the case of First Lutheran, we are quite hospitable. But being invitational seems over the top to many of us. We don't want people to think that

we are pushy. Honestly, I don't want them to think that we are pushy. My perspective on the faith is not one that allows me or others to impose things on people. Sometimes there is nothing worse than an overly zealous religious person.

But being invitational doesn't have to be pushy. It can simply be a matter of telling others that the Jesus story or the experience you have at First Lutheran are very important to your life and that both have changed you.

One of the techniques that groups or institutions use to help people tell the story of their group or institution is the "elevator pitches." These are brief word events that you could share with people in the time that you spend with them as you are going up or down the elevator in some building. Obviously, you don't have time for a long, complicated speech; you only have time for a brief reflection.

Think about the elevator pitch you would develop for First Lutheran. What subjects would you cover? What would be important to you about First Lutheran that you would want people to know? Articulating those things and sharing them with others will help you as you say to people, "Why don't you come some Sunday? I love this community. My life is much fuller because of it."



Please plan on joining us each Wednesday evening during Lent at 7:00 p.m. Beginning on March 4, these 30-minute services will be built around the classic disciplines of Lent: repentance, prayer, fasting, works of love, alms giving.

This will be a different worship experience with individual members of the church offering reflections.

<i>Weekend</i>	<i>Scripture Readings</i>
<b>02/29 &amp; 03/01</b>	<b>Gen 2:15-17, 3:1-7, PS 32 Rom 5:12-19, Matt 4:1-11</b>
<b>03/07 &amp; 03/08</b>	<b>Gen 12:1-4a, Ps 121 Rom 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17</b>
<b>03/14 &amp; 03/15</b>	<b>Exod 17:1-7, Ps 95 Rom 5:1-11, John 4:5-42</b>
<b>03/21 &amp; 03/22</b>	<b>1 Sam 16:1-13, Ps 23 Eph 5:8-14, John 9:1-41</b>
<b>03/28 &amp; 03/29</b>	<b>Ezek 37:1-14, Ps 130 Rom 8:6-11, John 11:1-145</b>



## From Intern Paula

*There are two moments that matter. One is when you know that your one and only life is absolutely valuable and alive. The other is when you know your life, as presently lived, is entirely pointless and empty. You need both of them to keep you going in the right direction. Lent is about both.*

(Richard Rohr, *Wondrous Encounters: Scripture for Lent* p.9)


Most of you know I did not 'grow up' Lutheran so when Ash Wednesday and Lent rolled around it was typically a time that simply signified Easter was right around the corner. I did have a few Catholic friends and occasionally I would overhear what they (or their parents) were giving up for Lent. I distinctly remember one of them telling me that her father was giving up beer. I wondered if that meant forever, but she informed me it was only until Easter Day. I also recall a time or two seeing my dear aunt with the ashes on her forehead and as the manager of a local seafood restaurant, it was the most anticipated season as it meant increased sales - and all hands on deck every Friday!

But when I became a parent, I began to think about how I would introduce the passion story to our

children - a story that entails a cross, nails, beatings and blood...and a resurrection. I also began to wonder if Lent played a more significant role leading up to Easter; a role that included *us in this story of a sacrificial lamb. This dying and living again is not an easy thing to teach children let alone adults. The many books, movies, arts and crafts, songs, and Sunday school stories all played a vital role in helping our children understand that this thing called Easter, was more than a one day event. It has never been just a one day event.*

Today, I find that active participation in the season of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday, is crucial to my overall growth as a Christian and as a child of God. And seeking renewal through the disciplines of Lent (almsgiving, acts of service, prayer and fasting) never disappoints. The transformative power that comes from being honest with ourselves, about ourselves, brings wholeness and health to the world around us. It gives bodies of faith fresh perspectives and brings new life and hope to the injustices we see each day. It draws us closer to the One who is Love.

I invite you to walk into new territories this Lenten season. Learn something new. Find someone to help. Commit to an intentional time of meditation and prayer. Refrain from a familiar vice that may have more significance in your life than you think. Give yourself the time and space to reflect on new beginnings that come from ashes of the old. A space where we sense peace

 ....Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain; free to all, a healing stream flows from Calvary's mountain....

("Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" ELW #335).

## Confirmation News

### Confirmation Students will be serving Wednesday Night Dinner:

**When:** March 11

**Who:** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year students

**What:** Stay tuned!!!

### Confirmation RETREAT @Cranhill Ranch!

**When:** March 20, 21, 22

We will leave on Friday night after school and return in time for church on Sunday.

More information about what to bring and specific departure and arrival times will be forthcoming. Please see Paula if you have any questions.

**Just a reminder:** Mentors will meet with their third year students on March 18th immediately following the Wednesday night Lenten service.

## Attention: All Youth AND Their Families!

Please join us for **Swimming Fun** at The Spring Lake Aquatic Center on **Sunday, March 15th!**

Join us for an afternoon of swimming, sliding, and playing in the water at the Spring Lake Aquatic Center!! BYOT—Bring your own towel. Lockers are available for use. If you want to lock up your belongings, please bring your own lock. Facilities are available for changing.



### What you need to know:

- Sunday, March 15
- Spring Lake Aquatic Center
  - 16140 148th Street, Spring Lake
- Anytime from 1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.
- Bring your Swimsuit and a Towel
- Cost: \$5/person (Children & Adults)
- Waivers must be signed
  - See Amy Badley, or visit the church office for a form
  - Only one form needs to be filled out for each family
- Families to provide their own transportation



Amy Badley's Contact Info:  
231-730.4149—call or text  
[amy@firstlutheranmuskegon.com](mailto:amy@firstlutheranmuskegon.com)

*Spring Lake Aquatic Center*  
<https://slfac.com/aquatics/>



Come **BE PART** of all the **FUN!!!**

Fun things are planned for March 8 and 22! Join us from 4:00—6:00 p.m.!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Here are a few ideas/websites to explore with your kids as we move through the Lenten season: [“Resources for Celebrating Lent with Kids”](#) - Godspace

Please share any ideas or thoughts that you may have to help your children learn more about Lent!

We have begun the Lenten season and a new color on our Liturgical Calendar! What color is it?



## 40 ideas for Lent

(adapted from [www.houseforall.org](http://www.houseforall.org))

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Day 1: Pray for your enemies  | Day 21: Ask for help   |
| Day 2: Walk, carpool, bike or bus it. (if it is still snowing, come walk in the church)   | Day 22: Tell someone what you are grateful for (Sunday)  |
| Day 3: Don't turn on the car radio; turn off the tv   | Day 23: Introduce yourself to a neighbor   |
| Day 4: Give \$20 to a non-profit of your choosing (Sunday)  | Day 24: Read Psalm 121 <a href="http://bible.oremus.org">http://bible.oremus.org</a>   |
| Day 5: Take 5 minutes of silence at noon  | Day 25: Bake a cake and share a piece with someone   |
| Day 6: Look out the window until you find something of beauty you had not noticed before  | Day 26: No shopping day  |
| Day 7: Give 5 items of clothing to Goodwill   | Day 27: Light a virtual candle <a href="http://rejesus.co.uk/spirituality/post_prayer/">http://rejesus.co.uk/spirituality/post_prayer/</a> |
| Day 8: No complaining today   | Day 28: Light an actual candle (Sunday)  |
| Day 9: Do someone else's chore  | Day 29: Write a thank you note to your favorite teacher  |
| Day 10: Buy a few \$5 fast food gift cards to give to donate or give to people in need that you encounter (Sunday)              | Day 30: Invest in canvas shopping bags   |
| Day 11: Call an old friend  | Day 31: Fill a need in the church  |
| Day 12: Pray for people and situations in today's news  | Day 32: Donate art supplies to your local elementary school  |
| Day 13: Read Psalm 139 <a href="http://bible.oremus.org">http://bible.oremus.org</a>  | Day 33: Read John 8:1-11 <a href="http://bible.oremus.org">http://bible.oremus.org</a>   |
| Day 14: Pay a few sincere compliments   | Day 34: Call a friend (Sunday)   |
| Day 15: Learn more about recycling  | Day 35: Take five minutes of silence when you wake up  |
| Day 16: Educate yourself about human trafficking <a href="http://www.praxus.org">www.praxus.org</a> (Sunday)                    | Day 36: No sugar day – where else is there sweetness in your life?   |
| Day 17: Forgive someone   | Day 37: Give \$20 to a local non-profit  |
| Day 18: Internet/social media diet  | Day 38: Educate yourself about the history of Lent   |
| Day 19: Take five minutes of silence before you go to bed   | Day 39: Pray for peace   |
| Day 20: Check out morning and evening prayer at <a href="http://dailyoffice.wordpress.com">http://dailyoffice.wordpress.com</a> | Day 40: Pray for your enemies (you probably have new ones by now) then decide which of these exercises you'll keep beyond Lent             |

### Additional resources to help you make the most of this season of reflection:

- ◇ ["A Handbook for the Discipline of Lent"](#) by Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- ◇ ["Why You May Really Need Lent this Year \[and a Free Family Lent & Easter Devotional\]"](#) by Ann Voskamp
- ◇ ["Songs for Lent,"](#) Calvin Institute of Christian Worship
- ◇ ["The Lent Project," Biola University:](#) This is a wonderful series of daily reflections available online that include Scripture, devotional texts, works of art, poetry, videos, and music, all layered together to create some beautiful moments of meditation and reflection.

### Books and Meditations:

- ◇ [Wondrous Encounters: Scriptures for Lent](#) by Richard Rohr
- ◇ [Lent for Everyone \(Year A\)](#) by N.T. Wright
- ◇ [Lent at Ephesus, music from the Benedictines of Mary Queen of Apostles](#)
- ◇ [Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals](#) by Shane Claiborne, J. Wilson-Hartgrove, Enuma Okoro
- ◇ [The Slavery of Death](#) by Richard Beck
- ◇ [Eastertide: Prayers for Lent Through Easter](#) by Phyllis Tickle
- ◇ [Show Me The Way: Daily Lenten Readings](#) by Henri Nouwen
- ◇ [The Rule of St. Benedict](#)

## March Birthdays!

- |    |   |    |   |    |   |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1  | Pat Robinson<br>Lisa Le<br>Jared Taylor           | 18 | Bella Studeman  | 27 | Mary Luther<br>Richard Elliott  |
| 3  | Kevin Howard                                      | 19 | Donna Daunt<br>Madison Sahlhoff   | 28 | Kassie Anderson<br>Luke Rop   |
| 4  | Ted Wierenga<br>Kenneth Newman<br>Jessica Neumann | 20 | Joyce Jamerson<br>Gregory Sharlow<br>Alexis Livingston                          | 29 | Glen Sharlow<br>Warren Robinson<br>Kami Kral<br>Brenda Endelman<br>John Robinson<br>Luke Kuenzli    |
| 5  | Madison Freeland                                  | 21 | Dennis Loughrige<br>Jean Becker<br>Sharon Cooke<br>Samuel Sharlow               | 30 | Suzette Mattson<br>Paul Bowen<br>Pamela Smith<br>Sandy Baker<br>Anna Frietsch<br>Elizabeth Frietsch |
| 6  | Ruth Verschueren                                  | 23 | Merritt Archer<br>Evelyn DiPiazza   | 31 | John Policka<br>Karen Golden<br>Amy Taylor<br>Douglas Berge   |
| 8  | Nancy Mackey<br>Janice Sharlow<br>Emma Brown      | 24 | Jordis Hutchins<br>Marilyn Fiser<br>Leonard Pruitt<br>Payten Bleich             |    |   |
| 9  | Katherine Gearhart                                | 25 | Eloise Cihos<br>Joseph Bowen<br>Melissa Frey<br>Megan Damm<br>Alyssa Freeland   |    |   |
| 12 | Sharon Klinger<br>Elizabeth Bevans                | 26 | Brian Lewis<br>Jeffrey Anderson<br>Cory Daniell<br>Derek Mead<br>Elena Swirczek |    |   |
| 13 | Joellen Hildebrand<br>Kaitlyn Pfhistner           |    |   |    |   |
| 14 | Abigail Righter                                   |    |   |    |   |
| 16 | John Goudzwaard<br>Tina Trulsen                   |    |   |    |   |
| 17 | Keith Endelman<br>Jerome Dibble<br>Laura Dyga     |    |   |    |   |

# Thank You!!

*Thanks to Lark Roberts who assembled the February Chimes.*

## Chimes Articles

Articles and information for the Chimes should be submitted via email to Rhonda Smith at rhondak33@comcast.net or placed in her mail box next to the church offices no later than the **15th of the month.**



## Our Monthly Donations for March

Baby clothes, clean and in good shape, diapers, and baby needs (age 0 to 5) for St. Mary's of the Woods.

## Weekly Attendance and Offerings For January

**Weekend of 1/4 & 1/5**

Attendance: 245  
General Fund: \$8,881.39  
Mortgage Fund: \$1,525.00  
Dollar-a-Day: \$980.26

**Weekend of 1/11 & 1/12**

Attendance: 169  
General Fund: \$6,077.78  
Mortgage Fund: \$1,638.02  
Noisy Offering: \$148.86

Total General Fund Offering received: \$27,885.43  
Total General Fund Offering needed: 33,354.92  
-\$5,469.49

**Weekend of 1/18 & 1/19**

Attendance: 165  
General Fund: \$5,506.72  
Mortgage Fund: \$945.00  
Noisy Offering: \$108.26

Total Mortgage Offering received: \$4,843.02  
Total Mortgage Offering needed: 7,192.00  
-\$2,348.98

**Weekend of 1/25 & 1/26**

Attendance: 234  
General Fund: \$7,419.54  
Mortgage Fund: \$735.00  
Noisy Offering: \$170.55

## Keepers

**Flo Bates**

667 Lake Forest Ln Apt P1  
Muskegon, MI 49441  
767-2494

**Elaine Brevick**

Seminole Shores  
850 Seminole Rd  
Norton Shores, MI 49441

**Linda Cates**

1585 Wolf Lake Rd.  
Muskegon, MI 49442  
788-1806

**Pat Mullinnex**

2284 Riverwood Drive  
Twin Lake, MI 49457

**Violet Peterson**

Sanctuary of the Oaks  
1740 Village Dr.  
Muskegon, MI 49442

**Jean Sodini**

Robbinswood Northcrest Campus  
2650 Ruddiman Ave.  
N. Muskegon, MI 49445

**Wally Tallent**

Hillcrest Nursing & Rehab  
Community  
695 Mitzi Dr.  
Muskegon, MI 49445  
744-1641

**FRIENDS OF FIRST**  
**WHO ARE HOMEBOUND****Sandy Fisher**

**(Carol Anderson's sister)**

Robbinswood Northcrest Campus  
Room 114  
2650 Ruddiman Ave.  
N. Muskegon, MI 49445

**Dorothy Wood**

Hillcrest Nursing & Rehab  
Community  
695 Mitzi Dr.  
Muskegon, MI 49445

# First Evangelical Lutheran Church

## March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>1</b> * Dollar-a-Day Weekend * 9:15AM-Sunday School 10:30AM-Worship 12:15PM-Bell Rehearsal 4:15PM-Nursing Home Service 7:00PM-AA Meeting 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>2</b> 9:30AM-Gentle Yoga 12:00PM-Quilters' Group 1:00PM-Recorder Group 5:00PM-Blais Dance 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>3</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:00AM-Lions Club 6:30PM-Choir 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>4</b> <b>Bulletin Deadline</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 11:15AM-Staff Meeting 4:00PM-Journey thru Grief 7:00PM-Lenten Service 7:30PM-Confirmation <b>**Wednesday Night Programming**</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 11:30AM-Intercessory Prayer 12:00PM-Bible Study 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:00PM-Athletic Sensations 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>6</b> 1:00PM-Pickleball 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>7</b> 10:00AM-Blais Dance Class 5:30PM-Worship	
<b>8</b> 9:15AM-Sunday School 10:30AM-Worship 12:15PM-Bell Rehearsal 7:00PM-AA Meeting 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>9</b> 9:30AM-Gentle Yoga 12:00PM-Quilters' Group 5:00PM-Blais Dance 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>10</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 9:30AM-1st on 2nd Quilt Bee 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:30PM-Choir 7:30PM-Band 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>11</b> <b>Bulletin Deadline</b> 8:30AM-Stephen Ministry 9:00AM-Pickleball 11:15AM-Staff meeting 4:00PM-Journey thru Grief 7:00PM-Lenten Service 7:30PM-Confirmation <b>**Wednesday Night Programming**</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Lion's Club 11:30AM-Intercessory Prayer 12:00PM-Bible Study 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:00PM-Athletic Sensations 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>13</b> 1:00PM-Pickleball 5:00PM-Ski Club 5:30PM-Bunco 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>14</b> 10:00AM-Blais Dance Class 5:30PM-Worship	
<b>15</b> <b>Chimes Deadline</b> 9:15AM-Sunday School 10:30AM-Worship 12:15PM-Bell Rehearsal 1:00PM-Swimming Fun Event 7:00PM-AA Meeting 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>16</b> 9:30AM-Gentle Yoga 12:00PM-Quilters' Group 1:00PM-Recorder Group 5:00PM-Blais Dance 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>17</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:00PM-Lions Club 6:00PM-Berry Junction 6:30PM-Choir 7:30PM-Band 8:30PM-Basketball	<b>18</b> <b>Bulletin Deadline</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 11:15AM-Staff Meeting 4:00PM-Journey thru Grief 7:00PM-Lenten Service 7:30PM-Confirmation <b>**Wednesday Night Programming**</b>	<b>19</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 11:30AM-Intercessory Prayer 12:00PM-Bible Study 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:00PM-Athletic Sensations 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>20</b> <b>10:00AM-Feeding America</b> 1:00PM-Pickleball 6:00PM-Paper Projects 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>21</b> 8:30AM-Men's Bible Study 10:00AM-Blais Dance Class 5:30PM-Worship	
<b>22</b> 9:15AM-Sunday School 10:30AM-Worship 12:15PM-Bell Rehearsal 7:00PM-AA Meeting 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>23</b> 9:30AM-Gentle Yoga 12:00PM-Quilters' Group 5:00PM-Blais Dance 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>24</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 9:30AM-Senior Assistance Program 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:30PM-Choir 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>25</b> <b>Bulletin Deadline</b> 8:30AM-Stephen Ministry 9:00AM-Pickleball 11:15AM-Staff Meeting 4:00PM-Journey thru Grief 7:00PM-Lenten Service 7:30PM-Confirmation <b>**Wednesday Night Programming**</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 11:30AM-Intercessory Prayer 12:00PM-Bible Study 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:00PM-Athletic Sensations 6:00PM-Finance Committee 7:00PM-Church Council 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>27</b> 1:00PM-Pickleball 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>28</b> 10:00AM-Blais Dance Class 10:00AM-Crafty Day 2.0 5:30PM-Worship	
<b>29</b> 9:15AM-Sunday School 10:30AM-Worship 12:15PM-Bell Rehearsal 7:00PM-AA Meeting 8:00PM-Basketball	<b>30</b> 9:30AM-Gentle Yoga 12:00PM-Quilters' Group 1:00PM-Recorder Group 5:00PM-Blais Dance 7:00PM-AA Meeting	<b>31</b> 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 5:30PM-Blais Dance 6:30PM-Choir 7:30PM-Band 8:30PM-Basketball	<b>**Wednesday Night Programming**</b> 5:30PM-Dinner 6:00PM-Kids' Music 6:05PM-Adult Class	<b>Confirmation Retreat</b>			<b>Retreat</b>