



March 2022
#729

The Chimes

First Evangelical
Lutheran Church
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From Pastor Bill

Covid 19 has been casting its ugly shadow on the world and, in our case, on the church for more than two years. We are not finished with this awful virus, but if the experts are right, we may be through the worst of the pandemic. Covid case numbers are now dropping precipitously. And those vaccinated persons who are getting the virus generally are not getting horribly sick. Covid, those who are most knowledgeable are telling us, may become an experience of that like the seasonal flu or a cold.

I am certainly not declaring the virus a done deal, but I do think it is time for us to start thinking of what it might be like to live not controlled by this pandemic. There are some of you who have not joined us in-person for worship or study for almost two years. I know that some of you may never return, but I would urge others of you who are thinking about returning to in-person reality to do so.

While we were on vacation, Bev and I watched our service online, being grateful for that opportunity but realizing that it was nothing like being with folks in person. Some of you, because of health concerns, may never get to be with us again. I understand that and am grateful that you can maintain a connection through our online worship and studies. Those things will never go away. But for those of you who can be here, I would urge you to begin to make your way back here. It's time. We miss you. Your pastor and pastoral assistant (Paula) miss you.

Our congregation has remained surprisingly strong during the pandemic. In fact, we have been remarkably creative and have welcomed many new people. Just think what fun you, if you have been away from our gatherings, will have as you encounter new folks and explore new possibilities for serving.

Covid has spoken a loud and overwhelming word. But don't let it speak the final word. The final word belongs to God who raised Jesus from the dead.



**The deadline for the
April Chimes will be
March 10.**



From Pastoral Assistant Paula

It is February 15th. Snow banks line the roadways, temperatures are still below the freezing mark on a consistent basis and I am hoping for a few more snowshoe adventures. However. I smell spring in the air. I smell new life emerging in the middle of February - even as snow clouds are hanging on the horizon. I smell spring.

The rhythm of seasonal change reminds me of the liturgical pattern of worship. There is a sense of order created by liturgy and when our lives are in disarray, or dis-ordered, the patterns of liturgy, sometimes without even knowing it, bring us to a place of newness. In the book, *liturgy of the ordinary*, author Tish Warren claims (and I would agree with her) that our worship together as a church forms us in a particular way and shapes us into people who value that which gives life and transforms us; value to that which transforms us day by day, by the rhythms of repentance and faith. We need to learn the slow habits of loving God and those around us.

Warren goes on to say that the kind of spiritual life and disciplines needed to sustain us in Christian life are quiet, repetitive, and ordinary. It's life embodied in the daily routines we live into day in and day out. So as we begin our journey through Lent and walk through our ordinary day, it may be helpful to look at our daily practices as liturgies and examine how they shape us. Our everyday habits and daily practices are interwoven with and transformed by our communal liturgies each Sunday.

"Examining our daily life through the lens of liturgy allows us to see who these habits are shaping us to be, and the ways we can live as people who have been loved and transformed by God." ~Tish Warren

Note: The Women's Book group via zoom on Monday mornings have been discussing Warren's book, liturgy of the ordinary.



Women of all ages are invited to attend the Saturday morning breakfast group from 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. every second Saturday of the month.

In February we discussed *Blessings, Woes and Laughter!* Join us!

Our next gathering will be held on: Saturday, March 12 at 8:30am.



Music Notes From Shar Music Director

Children's Musical Program Scheduled

Music programs are returning to First Lutheran! Following the **SMASHING** success of *"The Unfriendly Beasts"* at Christmas time, the youngsters from First have been working on their next project. Based upon stories from Holy Moly, students are preparing songs from six of these popular lessons.

- WHO** All young people ages 4 – 14 (and older!)
- WHAT** "Meals and Miracles"
- WHEN** Rehearsals are **WEDNESDAY** evenings from 6 – 7 pm
- WHERE** In the music room, and later in the Sanctuary
- WHY** Program will be presented on **MAY 8, 2022** during the **10:30 service**
- WHY** Increase our knowledge of the stories and explore playing musical instruments
- WHY** **MUSIC BRINGS US ALL JOY!**



Holy Week via Spirituals

Several years ago, I purchased a small book of Lenten reflections by Luke Powery. Powery used African American Spirituals as his foundational source. This is a genre that has always resonated with me due to its "bare bones" power to express the agony of suffering yet grasp the hope of God's presence. These are a few words from the preface of his book:



"Lent is a season of penitential reflection and repentance on the path toward the hope of Easter. That path walks in a dry desert where there is no water. The enslaved lived in their own inhumane wilderness for years, yet still sang songs of hope. From these cultural wells, we still drink."

With the inspiration of this book and the Gospel of Luke, I have chosen some songs that will hopefully capture the "spirit" of the season. We are hoping to make this a joint effort with an area church. I will include details next month! For now, mark you calendars on Good Friday, April 15, 2022 at 7 pm. Presentation is planned for 7 pm. If you are interested in singing with us, please contact Shar Bourdon at First Lutheran Church (231)744-1522 or (231)750-6275.



Faith Formation classes on Sunday (previously called *Sunday School*) provide opportunities to grow in faith and foster community. Here is an overview of classes offered:

9:30 am PK - 5 (Holy Moly)
9:30 am 6 - 8 Middle School
9:30 am Adult Class

****All classes gather in the gym for a time of singing and watch our Holy Moly video to accompany our lesson for the day. You will hear from Tafiq or his lovely cousin Dohleen and listen to a story from the Spark Story Bible! See you there!!!*



Jr. Church is a Faith Formation class that invites children PK - 2nd grade to worship in their own setting during the time of the adult sermon. It has been heart-warming to watch the children's fascination with the visual Bible stories. The children return to adult worship in time for communion.

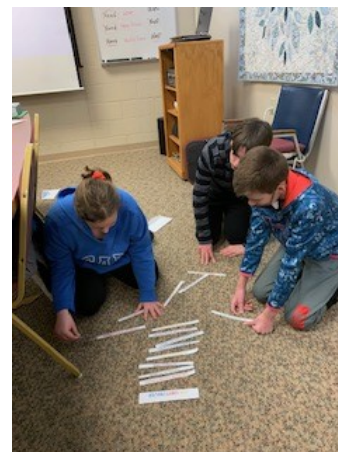
Education Ministry Needs You!

We are looking for people to **join** our **Education Ministry**. If you feel called to use your gifts in this area, please contact Paula Dusseljee at: paula@firstlutheranmuskegon.org You may also give Paula a call (744-1522) or stop in and inquire how you can help.

Confirmation



First and second year confirmation students are knee-deep in studying Luther's small catechism.



Can you name the key components of the small catechism? Can you identify the seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer? Ask a confirmation student and I bet they can give you the answers!



Official Acts



Deaths

Beverly Bringedahl

Date of Birth: 08-04-1941

Date of Death: 12-30-2021

Janet Labiak

Date of Birth: 01-02-1942

Date of Death: 01-20-2022

Edward Bleich

Date of Birth: 11-09-1937

Date of Death: 02-05-2022



**American
Red Cross**

Many thanks to everyone who donated the critically needed blood at last Monday's Blood Drive. Twenty-six pints of blood were collected to help those in need throughout Michigan and beyond. A huge thank you is also due to the Red Cross staff and committed First Lutheran helpers who have served at many of these Blood Drives over the past several years.

Our next Drive will be held on Monday, May 9th, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. We hope to see a full turn-out of donors, so please sign up at the Red Cross website at redcrossblood.org or **Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)**. Walk-ins are not accepted at this time. If you have further questions, please contact Judi Dix at 231-463-7886.



We would like to thank all who shared in the wonderful memorial service and luncheon on January 28th. We also want to thank you for all the love, prayers, cards, meals, visits and personal assistance and support over the past several years. Our appreciation is boundless. We are humbled but proud to be a part of this community.

The family of Janet Labiak

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Weekly Scripture Readings</i>
03/06	Deut 26:1-11, Ps 91:1-2, 9-16 Rom 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13
03/13	Gen 15:1-12, 17-18, Ps 27 Phil 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35
03/20	Isa 55:1-9, Ps 63:1-8 1 Cor 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9
03/27	Josh 5:9-12, Ps 32 2 Cor 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



Let's Go Sledding!!

There will be a sledding outing for the pre K-5th graders on March 13th at the hill right before the football field in Whitehall. We will have lunch at church after service and meet at the hill at 1:30pm. For directions, please ask Amber Thomas or Laura Lucht.

If there isn't enough snow we will do a movie and craft in the gym.

Weekly Offerings

December

Week ending 12/05/2021

General Fund: \$8,886.20
Mortgage Fund: \$885.00
Dollar-A-Day: \$622.00

Week ending 12/12/2021

General Fund: \$10,655.91
Mortgage Fund: \$2,139.00
Dollar-A-Day: \$152.00
Noisy Offering (Good Samaritan Fund): \$303.91

Week ending 12/19/2021

General Fund: \$7,101.62
Mortgage Fund: \$2,622.00
Dollar-A-Day: \$60.00
Noisy Offering (Good Samaritan Fund): \$149.38

Week ending 12/26/2021

General Fund: \$9,498.26
Mortgage Fund: \$300.00
Noisy Offering (Lutheran Disaster Response for
Kentucky Tornado Victims): \$169.14
Abiding Memorial: \$520.00

January

Week ending 01/02/2022

General Fund: \$6,733.12
Mortgage Fund: \$1,031.00
Dollar-A-Day: \$302.19
Abiding Memorial: \$100.00

Week ending 01/09/2022

General Fund: \$7,186.55
Mortgage Fund: \$1,350.00
Dollar-A-Day: \$60.02
Abiding Memorial: \$40.00
Noisy Offering (Lutheran Disaster Response for
Tornado Victims): \$97.70

Week ending 01/16/2022

General Fund: \$15,471.50
Mortgage Fund: \$515.00
Dollar-A-Day: \$60.00
Abiding Memorial: \$125.00
Noisy Offering (Lutheran Disaster Response):
\$149.00

Week ending 01/23/2022

General Fund: \$20,354.36
Mortgage Fund: \$820.00
Dollar-A-Day: \$123.00
Abiding Memorial: \$200.00
Noisy Offering: (Lutheran Disaster Response):
\$140.04

Week ending 01/30/2022

General Fund: \$6,177.62
Mortgage Fund: \$1,297.00
Abiding Memorial: \$150.00
Noisy Offering (Lutheran Disaster Response):
\$251.36





March Birthdays!

1	Lisa Le Pat Robinson	20	Joyce Jamerson Gregory Sharlow Lexie Livingston	29	Brenda Endelman Warren Robinson John Robinson Kami Kral
3	Kevin Howard	21	Dennis Loughrige Jean Becker Sammy Sharlow	30	Sandy Baker Sue Mattson Paul Bowen Anna Frietsch Elizabeth Frietsch Pam Smith
4	Ted Wierenga Jessica Neumann Ken Newman	23	Evie DiPiazza	31	John Policka Karen Golden
5	Madison Freeland	24	Jordis Hutchins Marilyn Fiser Payten Bleich Leonard Pruitt		
6	Nancy Mackey Janice Sharlow	25	Eloise Cihos Alyssa Freeland		
10	Phil Sielski Jack Parker	26	Jeffrey Anderson Cory Daniell		
13	Kaitlyn Pfhistner Joellen Hildebrand	27	Marti McDonnell Mary Luther Richard Elliott		
14	Abigail Righter	28	Luke Rop J.W. Stone-Moore		
16	John Goudzwaard Tina Trulsen				
17	Jerry Dibble Keith Endelman				



Keepers

Alta Breunsbach
MediLodge at the Shore
900 S Beacon Blvd
Grand Haven, MI 49417

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

Ken Kadrovich
1345 Hendrick Rd
Norton Shores, MI 49441-5737

David Kleis
5659 Rim Rock Ct.
Boulder, CO 80301-3553

Susan Lathrop
1105 Parkway St
Muskegon, MI 49442

Pat Mullinnex
Mailing Address:
2284 Riverwood Drive
Twin Lake, MI 49457
Home Address:
Sanctuary at the Park
570 Harvey St.
Muskegon, MI 49442

Warren Robinson
1845 Moulton Ave
Muskegon, MI 494445-3127

Keith Stapel
1228 Lawrence St
Muskegon, MI 49442

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

Dave and Pat Walborn
18552 W Spring Lake Rd
Spring Lake, MI 49456

FRIENDS OF FIRST WHO ARE HOMEBOUND

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

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Dollar—A—Day</p> <p>9:30AM—Faith Formation</p> <p>10:30AM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>10:30AM—Online Worship</p> <p>6:00PM—Basketball</p> <p>6:00PM—Listening for the Word</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>8:00AM—Morning Prayer</p> <p>12:00PM—Quilter's Group</p> <p>6:00PM—P.E.O Group</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM—Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>11:00AM—Adult Education (via Zoom)</p> <p>6:00PM—Lion's Club Meeting</p> <p>6:30PM—Choir</p> <p>7:30PM—Band</p> <p>9:00PM—Compline via Facebook</p>	<p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>11:00PM—Tai Chi</p> <p>4:00PM—Journey thru Grief</p> <p>5:30PM—Wendnesday Night Dinner</p> <p>6:00PM—Bible Study</p> <p>6:00PM—Kids' Music</p> <p>7:00PM—Ash Wednesday Service</p> <p>7:00PM—Confirmation</p>	<p>12:00PM—Bible Study (via Zoom)</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>5:00PM—Ski Club</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Dollar—A—Day</p> <p>9:30AM—Faith Formation</p> <p>10:30AM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>10:30AM—Online Worship</p> <p>6:00PM—Basketball</p> <p>6:00PM—Listening for the Word</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>8:00AM—Morning Prayer</p> <p>12:00PM—Quilter's Group</p> <p>6:00PM—P.E.O Group</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM—Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>9:30AM—1st on 2nd Quilt Bee</p> <p>11:00AM—Adult Education (via Zoom)</p> <p>6:30PM—Choir</p> <p>7:30PM—Band</p> <p>9:00PM—Compline via Facebook</p>	<p>Chimes Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>11:00PM—Tai Chi</p> <p>4:00PM—Journey thru Grief</p> <p>6:00PM—Bible Study</p> <p>6:00PM—Kids' Music</p> <p>7:00PM—Confirmation</p> <p>7:00PM—Lenten Service</p>	<p>9:00PM—Lion's Club Board Meeting</p> <p>12:00PM—Bible Study (via Zoom)</p> <p>6:00PM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>5:00PM—Sons of Norway</p> <p>5:30PM—Bunco</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:30AM—Women's Breakfast</p>
<p>13</p> <p>9:30AM—Faith Formation</p> <p>10:30AM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>10:30AM—Online Worship</p> <p>6:00PM—Basketball</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>8:00AM—Morning Prayer</p> <p>12:00PM—Quilter's Group</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM—Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>11:30AM—Muskegon County Garden Club</p> <p>6:00PM—Lions Club</p> <p>6:30PM—Choir</p> <p>7:30PM—Band</p> <p>9:00PM—Compline via Facebook</p>	<p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>11:00PM—Tai Chi</p> <p>4:00PM—Journey thru Grief</p> <p>6:00PM—Bible Study</p> <p>6:00PM—Kids' Music</p> <p>7:00PM—Confirmation</p> <p>7:00PM—Lenten Service</p>	<p>12:00PM—Bible Study (via Zoom)</p> <p>6:00PM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>6:00PM—Crafty Group</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9:30AM—Faith Formation</p> <p>10:30AM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>10:30AM—Online Worship</p> <p>6:00PM—Basketball</p> <p>6:00PM—Listening for the Word</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>8:00AM—Morning Prayer</p> <p>12:00PM—Quilter's Group</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM—Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>6:30PM—Choir</p> <p>7:30PM—Band</p> <p>9:00PM—Compline via Facebook</p>	<p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>11:00PM—Tai Chi</p> <p>4:00PM—Journey thru Grief</p> <p>6:00PM—Berry Junction Trail Mtg</p> <p>6:00PM—Bible Study</p> <p>6:00PM—Kids' Music</p> <p>7:00PM—Confirmation</p> <p>7:00PM—Lenten Service</p>	<p>12:00PM—Bible Study (via Zoom)</p> <p>6:00PM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:00PM—Rental</p>
<p>27</p> <p>9:30AM—Faith Formation</p> <p>10:30AM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>10:30AM—Online Worship</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p>	<p>8:00AM—Morning Prayer</p> <p>12:00PM—Quilter's Group</p> <p>7:00PM—AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM—Cardio Drumming Class</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM—Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>11:00AM—Adult Education (via Zoom)</p> <p>6:30PM—Choir</p> <p>7:30PM—Band</p> <p>9:00PM—Compline via Facebook</p>	<p>9:00AM—Pickleball</p> <p>11:00PM—Tai Chi</p> <p>4:00PM—Journey thru Grief</p> <p>6:00PM—Bible Study</p> <p>6:00PM—Kids' Music</p> <p>7:00PM—Confirmation</p> <p>7:00PM—Lenten Service</p>	<p>12:00PM—Bible Study (via Zoom)</p> <p>6:00PM—In-Person Worship</p> <p>9:00PM—Compline via Facebook</p>		