

First Edition

Where the News is Good!

Published by First Lutheran Church

120 Chandler Street

Jamestown, NY 14701

January 2022

(716) 664-4601 – Phone (716) 488-2662 – Fax

Pastoral Leader in Transition – Daniel S. Rumfelt: pastorumfelt@gmail.com

Brian A. Bogey: bbogey@flcjny.org

Kimberly King: kking@flcjny.org

Office Manager – Liz Lobb: firstlutheran@flcjny.org

Tracy Grey: sundayschool@flcjny.org

Sexton – Mike Thompson: sexton@flcjny.org

Website: www.flcjny.org



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Do you have Questions? Or Feedback? A Suggestion?

Contact a Congregation Council Member listed below.

Eugene Comber, Gail Espinoza, Terry Horner, Michael Laurin, Karen Linn, Martha Paulson, Jim Wahlberg, Sandy Hatfield, Michael Dearman, Paul R. Johnson, and Jane Young

First Lutheran Staff

Daniel S. Rumfelt, Pastoral Leader in Transition

Brian A. Bogey, Minister of Music

Kimberly King, Worship Leader and Coordinator of Contemporary Worship

Liz Lobb, Office Manager

Mike Thompson, Sexton

Annual Meeting

First Lutheran Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 30, 2022

One Traditional Service at 10:00 A.M. in the Nave

Annual Meeting to Follow at 11:00 A.M. in the Nave



“And the one who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also, he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.” Revelation 21:5-6

This passage near the end of Revelation, the last book of the Bible, records the words of Christ as he declares the New Creation. His voice is rich with certainty and promise. *“Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more.”* All harm and hurt will be done with. Even COVID will be done with. For now, we continue to make our way in this world.

A year ago, COVID threatened our health and livelihood even as vaccinations were just rolling out. Today, even with all precautions, COVID continues to make its presence known. We all know folks who have been sick, some even who have died. But we continue to make our way.

We continue to make our way in the certainty and promise of Christ. We look to the day of his return, for it is our destiny to live in the New Creation. But we live in his promise right now, today, in midst of COVID, in midst of all the hurts, harms and fears that beset us before COVID was even a word. We make our way because Christ, with his sure and certain promise, is a living presence in our daily lives as Christians and as a congregation.

What do you remember about 2021 at First Lutheran Church?

More than a few deaths and funerals marked the early portion of 2021. We certainly remember the grief. But we also remember the renewing

Word of eternal life and the personal support given one to another which brings Christ to life among us. We began to reshape the Thrift Store into what will become a free resource for neighbors in dire need, referred by local agencies.

On Easter Sunday we celebrated communion for the first time in over a year. Sacred Fire, Choir and Bell Choir all returned to offer richness to our worship. On Pentecost Sunday five students made their Affirmation of Faith, confirming their baptismal faith as their own. In September Sunday School returned in person; with Children’s Gathering restored to the Contemporary Service. Next, we began celebrating a host of baptisms as new young ones began their faith journey and we received eight new adult members to First. Christmas Eve we raised our candles in the darkened spaces, sang Silent Night, and dared the darkness to overcome the light of Christ. All this while we wore our masks and continued spacing.

The call process saw two potential candidates reviewed diligently by the Call Committee: one of them also by the Council. The Spirit guided us to patience and trust as we discerned they were not the right fit for First. And after much preparatory work, we celebrated completion of our new drive-up and handicap parking: a “Welcome to First Lutheran” dream come true.

Now comes 2022. What will it bring? We don’t know for certain. But we will continue to give glory to God in worship and action. We will make our way in faith guided by Christ in the certainty that Christ is with us and that his word *“is trustworthy and true.”*

Blessings, Pastor Dan

Newsletter DEADLINE

The deadline for articles for the February 2022, *First Edition* newsletter is Monday, January 17th. Please have all information into the church office by that date. Thank you.



We extend a sincere thank you to the following people:

Memorial Fund

In Memory of Thomas J. Neelen by:

Sara & Hilton Goodrich
Valeria Neelen Siegel
Ann J. Saar
Marilyn & Ronald Wilcox
Kathleen & Terry Horner

In Memory of Frank & Marion Linn by:

Karen Linn Femia

Donation by:

Cummins Jamestown Engine Plant
Employees

Memorial Fund – Library Fund

In Memory of Thomas J. Neelen by:

Janet & Jim Wahlberg
Wendy & Fred Larson

Memorial Fund – M & M Fund

In Memory of Thomas J. Neelen by:

Mary Hubbell

Memorial Fund – Drive Thru

In Memory of Thomas J. Neelen by:

Joanne & Donald Puder

Donations by:

Sandra Hatfield

Christmas Memorial

In Memory of Myrtle & Herb Rahm by:

In Memory of Richard W. Carlson by:

Sue & Pete McGraw

Memorial Fund – Sunday School

In Memory of Karen Cotton by:

In Memory of Phyllis Riehm by:

Marcia Rupp

Memorial Fund – Choir Fund

Donation by:

Marjorie Switala



December, 2021

- Good of the Council: Tom Neelan's brother Craig, has expressed the family's appreciation and gratitude for the personal tenderness shown to them during Tom's Memorial service and luncheon, by Michael Thompson, our Sexton. Good Job Michael!!
- A Cappella Vespers – Gail attended the Dec 19th and felt the social distancing marked on alternating pew seating allowed for better viewing for the audience and was well attended.

- **Worship & Music:** *Traditional Service* on Dec 24th will begin w/special music at 9:40 PM and the Candlelight service w/Communion will begin at 10:00 PM; Dec 26th will see one service at 10:00 AM in the Nave. *Contemporary Service* on Dec 24th will begin at 4:00 PM with Candlelight, Communion and Children's sermon., will finish w/ Doug and Andrea on Silent Night. Greg Harvey came and used an existing fitting in the Nave to affix an unobtrusive microphone to enhance the volume when videoing the service.
- **Call Committee:** 4-5 days ago were notified of another candidate that we will begin our process with after the Holidays as many committee members are unable to coordinate schedules before that timeframe.
- **Stewardship:** let's update the membership list; when the transmission % rate lessens can we look at the re-connect dinner and check with Brian about an organ concert? Thank you for all those who have been sending in the pledge cards. Property will now set up a table to put offering envelope boxes on for people to pick up their boxes starting Christmas Eve
- **Pastor's Report:** Prepping for Christmas services; ELCA end of year report came today; a call came from a woman from Buffalo Holy Trinity about her father that has moved in Heritage/Gerry and could we arrange for him to have home Communion. Pastor also told her about our on-line viewing ability of services and she thought that would be something her father could/would do. Confirmation attendance needs improving.
- **Old Business:** can we resurrect the mid-week emailing updates – need to update/confirm emails/correct addresses/phones numbers for our directory.
- **Nominating Committee:** Jane Young, Janet Wahlberg, Karen Linn, Lorie Johnson, (Gail Espinoza) have contacted several people to invite membership onto the council, we are waiting responses. All interested people please see a committee member to put your hat into the ring!!
- **Drive-Thru:** Jim will call EMS services to make them aware of the safe, easy and handy entry to the church via the new handicap accessible drive-thru near the elevator.
- **Sexton Work Request Form:** a form (a work in progress) is available for requests to be completed by Sexton-find them in the office
- **Student Parking Lot negotiations:** still in communications with JPS – will elaborate at annual meeting
- **New Business:** Property has some brought some concerns/motions to discuss for council to vote on
- **Danielson Service Awards:** discussion ensued on many valued possible names, we all arrived at 4 deserving names to be revealed at the annual meeting
- **Awning Logo:** Jim, Jane, Gail and Sandy will meet with Chautauqua Sign to make final choices on emblem colors, font, etc. Jim to set up.
- **Altar Flower pricing:** appears the pricing has changed on the 2 vases /week that Francesca's offers and Altar Society has done a pricing check with several florists to see if there is a better deal for good fresh arrangements to last thru Sunday services, and decided to stay w/Francesca's but price is now \$45 for 2.



CHRIST IN OUR HOME

Devotional Booklets
January, February, and March
Now Available in the **Church Office** and also in
the Little Library

Call ahead to the church office to make sure a copy
is available.
716-664-4601



January 2022

**Please make sure you stop and
visit the library!!**

Synod Mission Message



...AND THE PANDEMIC ROLLS ON...

Just when we think we might be getting out of the woods, a new forest appears. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the livelihoods of people around the world. As businesses paused their work and travel halted, many people—especially those in low-wage jobs—lost their employment immediately. Undoubtedly, everyone reading this knows of someone who is unemployed because of the pandemic.

In India, Sukanti Majhi belongs to the “outcast” caste, so had very little social or economic opportunity to start with. She, her husband and two children moved 650 miles away to find work as bonded laborers, basically slaves. They worked in a brick kiln for five years till the pandemic hit, then lost their jobs. They returned, penniless, to their village. They did receive government assistance, but it was not enough for a family of four. Then she connected with Lutheran World Service India Trust, a partner of ELCA World Hunger that was helping with migrants’ needs. Sukanti received training and material assistance to start her own small grocery shop in her village, the first of its kind. Now, she has an income, and the community has access to goods that were previously unavailable.

“I pray to Almighty God to bless the LWSIT as they helped me for my survival and protected my family during the coronavirus crisis,” Sukanti said. Thanks to your gifts, programs like this one are responding to issues that uproot people from their homes and force them to migrate. *Thank you!*

We are church together for the sake of the world.
God’s Work. Our Hands.



NOTES FROM THE LOFT

January 2022

**Brian A. Bogey, Minister of Music
and Organist**

Thank you so very much to our Good News Ringers Bell Choir directed by Karen Linn and the First Lutheran Choir for their inspiring music and leadership at the festive Christmas Eve Traditional Worship Service. We also extend our sincere appreciation to our vocal soloists Julie and Scott Costantini, Marika Koch, and Beth Johnson along with piano soloist, Julie Livengood for the beautiful music they performed during the special prelude music time prior to the service and throughout the entire worship service. What a wonderful evening of inspirational music, word, and worship it was!

The choir will NOT rehearse on Wednesdays during the month of January. A little break after a very busy rehearsal schedule in December! However, we will continue to practice on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the choir room. A reminder that on Sunday, January 30th we will have one combined worship service at 10 a.m. in the church nave with the Annual Meeting to follow. Please note that the choir will rehearse on that Sunday at 9 a.m. prior to the 10 a.m. combined worship service.

Below is a list of Liturgists, Lectors, and Hymn Cantors for the month of January. Please contact me if there is a conflict and I will find alternate persons to fill-in. Thanks again for your leadership in our Sunday morning worship services!

<u>LITURGIST</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>HYMN CANTOR</u>
1-2 Brenda Ecklund	Paul R. Johnson	Beth Johnson
1-9 Frank Gozdalski	Lynn Novo	Peter Larson
1-16 Beth Johnson	Ross Blake	Julie Costantini
1-23 Peter Larson	Julie Livengood	Marika Koch
1-30 Brenda Ecklund	Gail Espinoza	Beth Johnson

During the months of January and February we will be celebrating the season of Epiphany. I was going to feature the **SYMBOLS OF EPIPHANY** during the month of January, however, I changed my mind and have decided to include that in our February issue of the "First Edition." I was inspired by a friend of mine by something that he passed along on Facebook.

My childhood friend, now Pastor John Abbey of Kileen, Texas, recently sent me something that he wrote and sent to his congregation this past year and so I would like to share it with you as we celebrate the New Year.

He states “In years past, we have had an extension ministry (first by cassette and later CD and in some cases DVD.) These recordings were delivered to the sick, to shut-ins, hospitals, and nursing homes, so that those UNABLE, (that is the keyword), to attend services in person could be blessed by these recordings.

As is often the case, convenience becomes temptation to REPLACE the BEST for the Livestream alternative. Livestream is a wonderful tool! It has its place especially for the previously mentioned groups unable to attend in-person. Not only that, but it can also reach hundreds, even thousands with the music and messages from the church.

That being said, it is a GREAT MISTAKE and hurts the local church and congregation when those who can attend just stay home because it’s convenient or easy. Church attendance is not optional, it is part of our spiritual discipline, our example and joy of fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.” Hebrews 10:24-25 states: *“Let us consider how to stir up one another in love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, but encouraging one another as the day of the Lord draws near.”*

**As church attendance numbers fade across the nation
and online services become very convenient,
it’s important to remember why church attendance
for you and your family matters so much.**

**You can’t serve from your sofa. You can’t
have community of faith on your sofa.
You can’t experience the power of a room
full of believers worshipping together on your sofa.**

**Christians aren’t consumers. We are contributors.
We don’t watch. We engage. We give.
We sacrifice. We encourage.
We do life together.
The church needs you.
and you need the church.**

In this New Year, 2022, let us make a wonderful New Year’s Resolution to worship regularly on Sunday mornings in our beloved First Lutheran Church with the faithful and with those who love and serve the Lord. AMEN and AMEN!

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!
PEACE AND LOVE,
Brian**

January, 2022
First Lutheran Church
Contemporary Worship

Kimberly King
Worship Leader & Coordinator of Contemporary Worship
Sacred Fire – Praise Team

Hello Everyone,

Wishing you a wonderful, safe, happy and healthy New Year!!

New Beginnings, Fresh Starts and Renewal of our faith. Below is scripture I found that encourages and brings new Hope!

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV

18 "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. **19** See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Ezekiel 36:26 NIV

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Contemporary Worship Service continues each **Sunday at 9:00am** in our Worship Center in the lower level of the church. The service lasts about 35 minutes. The first Sunday of each month we celebrate Holy Communion (COVID safe). Facial masks are now required for all within the church building.

Sunday School Our Contemporary Service ends with enough time for you to go to prepare and participate in Sunday School.

A GREAT Outreach Ministry - The service is videotaped each week and posted on Facebook, Vimeo and on our new church website. You have access to our current and past Contemporary Services on both our church Facebook page, Sacred Fire's page and on Vimeo.com. On Vimeo, search First Lutheran Contemporary Service and Sunday's date. For example, First Lutheran Contemporary Service 12.24.2021. Don't forget to share these services with your friends and family!!

You can continue to listen to contemporary music and inspiring messages everyday on FM radio channel 90.9 Family Life Network Or online at fln.org. Also, on Sirius XM radio, “The Message” on channel 63.

If you are looking for a devotional type inspiration, check out www.youversion.com Great site! They have an “App” too.

Remember that God is ALWAYS with us!!

As God continues to shine Love and Blessings on you! Remember to share God’s Love with others!!

Take Care and Be Safe!!

God’s Blessings to you all!

From All of Sacred Fire and

Kimberly King, Worship Leader and Coordinator of Contemporary Worship

“The Kingdom of God” *New Women’s Bible Study*

Scripture has a way of captivating our attention by using phrases and images that may seem mysterious or unclear. So, New Testament scholar Mark Allan Powell looks at one of these phrases, “*the kingdom of God*” – repeatedly used by Jesus – and similar expressions in the Bible to help us unravel scripture’s deeper meaning for our faith lives.

Join women from First Lutheran for a four-session study entitled “*The Kingdom of God: what does it mean for God to be in charge*”. We discover how “*the kingdom of God*” reflects an activity *not* a location *or* an earthly monarchy with a tyrannical ruler. And we explore its meaning for our lives now and in the eternal kingdom.

The study begins Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 1:30 PM, in the Fellowship Room. Each session is self-contained, so come for all sessions or as you are able.

Contact Lois Rumfelt (664-4409 or rumfelt@stny.rr.com), for more information.

NOTE:

All sessions take place
on the *third* Thursday
January – April at 1:30 PM
in the Fellowship Room

Poinsettia Memorials 2021



THANKS to our Altar Society and all others who helped decorate the Main Sanctuary and Contemporary Worship Center this Christmas season.

GIVEN IN
LOVING MEMORY OF:

Bruce Johnson
Donald E. Owen
Bennie A. Ditonto, Sr.

Bonnie S. Rhodes
Robert & Hildur Lee
Jeanette Perry
Roberta Schnars
Robert Perry

Daniel Hill
Emil & Tillie Puder
William & Sigrid
Hendrickson

Jon Gronquist
Reuben & Marian Rinaldo
Leonard & Hildur Tedquist
Fred & Ellen Johnson

Francis & Betty Webster
John & Jane Wahlberg
John & Esther Platt
Harold Kindberg

Walter Finley
Tom Espinoza
Steve Marchincin
Steven D. Marchincin

Doug & Nancy Kling
Don & Helen Alden
Burt & Dora Rose
Ronnie Rose
Evelyn Gustafson

Loved Ones
Nick Ingrao
Inga Britt Svenson
Mikey Rusignuolo
Greg Olson

Alan "Sam" Keefe
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon
Burmeister
Robert Burmeister
Robert Costlow

Mr. & Mrs. David Keefe
Lawrence Keefe
Mr. & Mrs. Paul McDonald
Mark LeRoy
Betty F. Carlson

Gary VanStee
Jack Burmeister
David Hegedus
Jon Anderson
James Costlow
Norman LeRoy

Martin & Elaine Bogey
Stephen & Daisy Bogey
Eric & Louise Johnson
Delores M.J. Nelson
Gustafson
Harold E. Nelson

Elmer & Mildred Nelson
William & Ebba Christianson
Gustaf & Daisy Johnson
Walter & Frances Bogey
David A. Bogey
Arnold & Louise Lundberg
Dr. Robert G. Ney

Allison Wells Ney
Christa Stineman
Rev. Dr. Paul A. & Rachel
Westerberg

Jean E. Peterson
Carl & Ethel Peterson
Harold & Britta Rubens
Stanley & Elizabeth Andersen

Ida H. Swift
Willaim Schaff
Marianne McElrath
Almeth & Anna Skoglund
Sherwood Wright
Dr. Wesley Chall

Ward W. Westerberg
Rev. Arthur & Margret
Henne
Frances Paterniti
Arthur & Charlotte Ackroyd
Robert & Lorena Saxton

Harriett & Russell Bonnett
Russell & Ina Chall
Rev. Ohmer & Lulabelle
Shellhaas
Sally Andrews
Richard Filegar

Donald B. Bube
Josephine DeBarr
Katherine (Kay) Carlson
Gilbert & Ingegard Nilsson
Carl Nilsson
Sally Hammond
Phyllis Johnson
June Carlson
Helen C. Larson
C. A. Norman & Sonya
Johnson
Mae Kunze
Rev. John Kidder

Doris Johnson Larson

Rev. Ray & Marge McGinnis
Alvar and Chrystal Nelson
Dick Overberg
Lucy Rider
George Sisson, Sr.

Evalyn & Carl H. Paulson
Randall Bloomquist
Richard E. & Joyce B.
Johnson
Sherwood & Marian
Bloomquist
Jeffrey L. Bloomquist
Howard & Joanne Lundgren

Joyce & Harry Rissel
Myrtle & Herb Rahm
Randall & Jake Hofgren
Beverly & Milan Walrod
James Walrod
Michael Seeley

George Allen Bergfeldt
Sture & Laura Bergfeldt
Charles & Anna Wahlgren

Mr. & Mrs. Earl Griffith
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Paul A.
Westerberg
Ward W. Westerberg
Our Parents
Mr. & Mrs. J. Nevil Horner
Mr. & Mrs. Ragnar T.
Carlson
Steven B. Carlson
Harry Hardinger, Sr.
Harry Hardinger, Jr.

Jaap A. Hauchman
Cody & Kathy Rissel
Carl & Margarite Pearson
Thomas G. Lockwood
Allene Hendrickson

Lucinda Blodien
Amy Winterburn

Robert Utter
Burdette Utter
Eric & Selma Utter

Lonnie & Margaret Colvin
Mary & Elzie Rumbaugh
Anna Bloomquist
Terry Palmquist
Kay Palmquist

Larry K. Ross
Marilyn L. Ross
Karen Ross Crossley
Walter & Anna Stanton
John & Barb Johnson

Richard L. Williman
“Capt. Rick”
Hazel & Russel Jacobson
Gordon & Mary Larson
Frank & Marion Linn

Rev. Billy Banks
Don Dennerlein
Herb & Elnora Peterson
The Lindstrom’s
Janice & Don Nagle
Alf & Viola Ecklund
Reuben & Marian Rinaldo

GIVEN IN HONOR OF:

Barbara Keefe
Marcia Rupp
Liz Lobb
Rev. Daniel & Donna Nagle
Rev. & Mrs. Daniel Rumfelt
Richard Burmeister
Jane Young
Paul Johnson & Lynn Novo
Mike Thompson
Bob Bragg

Our Grandchildren: Logan,
Christian, Isla, & Killian
Seekings
Ingrid, Rick, Gwyneth, &
Lukas Kraft
Meredith, Steve, Rowen, &
Linnea Toth

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL

Myrtle & Herb Rahm
Richard W. Carlson

PASTORAL CALL COMMITTEE

The Church Council would like to thank the following individuals who have accepted the Council’s invitation to be on the Call Committee for a new pastor:

Hannah Dearman
Brenda Ecklund
Gail Espinoza
Julie Gable
Tracy Grey
Peter Larson (Chairperson)
Lee Lindeman
Glenn Utter

(Jeanine & Mike Dearman – Non-Voting Members)

Altar Society Announces a New Price For Altar Flowers

As we see costs of goods and services increase all around us, so have florists had to raise their prices. As the florist charges us more, we are sorry to say the current rate of \$35 is unsustainable. Therefore, beginning January 1, 2022 the price of Altar flowers will be \$45.



Mailing Address:

LCDR Andy "SMEDIUM" Carlson
 VFA 211, Unit 200204, Box 4
 FPO AE 09502

MASR Scott D. Johnson
 8318 O'Connor Cres
 Norfolk, VA 23503-2716

CAPT Eric Spitzer
 850 Ticonderoga St., Ste. 100
 JBPHH, HI 96860-5102

Attendance for December

December	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday
2020	70	87
2021	115	96
	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday
2020	99	44
2021	102	

On-Line Views of Worship Video

Date	Contemporary & Traditional	Total
10/17/21		105
10/24/21		117
10/31/21		132
11/07/21		121

Income & Expenses through November, 2021

Month	Income	Expense	Total
January	*66,770	40,226	26,544
February	18,785	19,887	-1,102
March	23,295	24,553	-1,258
April	*57,791	14,919	42,872
May	14,209	25,246	-11,037
June	21,247	19,958	1,289
July	*52,548	17,288	35,260
August	13,288	24,522	-11,234
September	15,280	**97,326	-82,046
October	*52,307	26,137	26,170
November	17,119	16,486	633
December			
Total			
	352,639	326,548	26,091

*** 40,000 from Endowment**

****Money transferred to Memorial Fund to pay for Drive Thru Project**

Thank you to all who are mailing their offering!

Church Mailing Address

When mailing information to the church please use:
 120 Chandler Street, Jamestown, NY 14701.
 We are trying not to use the PO Box any more.



Baptismal Anniversaries

We celebrate with you!

*indicates birthday when baptism is not known

SCRIPTURE READINGS IN JANUARY

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 2nd

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:[1-9]10-18

Baptism of Our Lord

First Sunday after Epiphany

January 9th

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17,21-22

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 16th

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:510
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 23rd

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 30th

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-3

January Baptisms:

- 1/1 Chris Baglia
Candace Carlson
Marie Carlson
Tammy Donato
Sandy Kindberg
- 1/2 Glenn Utter
- 1/4 Rebecca Van Tassel
- *1/4 Karen Linn
- 1/5 Matthew Bloomquist
Diane Kling
- 1/6 Ashley Harshaw
- 1/7 Brenda L. Johnson
- 1/8 Reed Livengood
Erica Webster
- *1/8 Luke Lindman
- 1/11 Cheryl Harvey
- *1/12 Robert Kent
- 1/13 Laura Livengood
Karen Magnuson
Kathryn Teeters
Michael Magnuson
- *1/13 Brenda Johnson
- 1/17 Hannah Dearman
Aiden Dearman
- 1/22 Marcus Lindstrom
- 1/23 Ingrid Kraft
- *1/23 Nancy Ferguson
- 1/26 Robert Winterburn
- *1/26 James Bolles
- 1/27 Finley Holt
Grayson Holt
- 1/29 Sally Treadway
- 1/30 Jackson Grey
- *1/30 Lorie Johnson



Prayer Ventures January 2022

1 *New Year's Day* Ask God to ground our aspirational resolutions and ventures in the promise that, through Christ, we will live in grace and freedom, knowing we are not alone in our endeavors.

2 Give thanks that, through Jesus Christ, we perceive God's grace, truth, creative might and will for humankind.

3 *Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month* Throughout this month, pray for those victimized by human trafficking, which disproportionately affects women and girls. Pray for an end to this global tragedy, and pray that all who suffer its abuse, injustice and oppression will find freedom, healing, support and safety, especially in our communities of faith.

4 Ask God to bless the studies, service and travel of college and university students involved in "J-Term" experiences. Pray that they will grow in faith, wisdom, knowledge and understanding of the world, and that their experiences will inspire their vocational discernment.

5 Praise God for attending to the needs of humanity through us, utilizing our diverse gifts and generosity to serve our neighbors in need, everywhere.

6 Ask the Spirit to make us bright lights in our communities and world, sharing the good news of healing and hope in Jesus Christ and demonstrating God's unbiased love through our actions, words and influence.

7 Thank and praise God for restoring our relationships as children of God, so that we can live with faith, hope and freedom as new creations and siblings in Christ.

8 After a two-year pause during the COVID-19 pandemic, the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission program is getting ready to send volunteers out into the world again. Pray that the Spirit will guide the prayerful reflection of young adults as they discern how to respond to God's call to service and ministry with our global companions and churches.

9 Pray that everything we do during our baptismal journey in this world will point to God, who has redeemed us and redirected our lives through the birth, life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus — our Savior, teacher, guide and friend.

10 Continue to pray for healing and unity in our nation, and ask God to draw us closer to our neighbors, especially those we perceive as different or opposed to our perspectives, beliefs or values. Pray that we will grow in understanding and respect for one another and will work together for the well-being of our communities and neighbors in need.

11 Give thanks to God for our companions and partners in ministry, especially the Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, Lutheran Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations Network, and our full communion partners.

12 Give thanks for the daily, life-giving work of the Spirit, which creates, strengthens and sustains our devotion to Jesus Christ. Pray that the Spirit will renew us and empower us to live as people of faith, gathered and equipped to love and serve our neighbor, bear hope into the world and share the gospel with all people.

13 Join our global companion churches in prayers of thanksgiving and hope for the scholarship awardees of ELCA International Women Leaders, which supports the education of women around the world through seminars, south-to-south exchanges,

in-country study programs, and degree programs at ELCA colleges and universities.

14 Praise God, who is mighty and eternal, the creator of all that exists and the source of our blessings and strength.

15 Pray for our neighbors who are struggling with or recovering from COVID-19, discovering the long-term effects that will impact their lives or grieving the loss of friends or loved ones. Continue to pray for the well-being and renewal of health care workers dedicated to serving others in times of illness and vulnerability.

16 By turning water into wine during the wedding at Cana, Jesus taught us how deeply God is engaged in every aspect of our human life — our joys, worries, celebrations, problems and sorrows. Praise God for knowing us so well!

17 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day* Remember in prayer the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his bold work, ministry, vision and sacrifice, which revealed all people to be children of God deserving respect, opportunity, equality and freedom from unjust laws. Ask God's help in righting the injustices that continue in our nation and throughout the world; pray for the wisdom, humility, courage and persistence needed to welcome all people into our church, society and institutions.

18 *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* Throughout this week, pray with our siblings in Christ from diverse cultures, traditions and confessions around the world for the unity of the church, so that, together, we will shine a bright light of hope, healing and good news on our troubled world.

19 Give thanks for the variety of gifts manifest among our siblings in Christ and for the unity we have in Jesus, which enables us to accomplish together much more than we could on our own.

20 Thank God for our special relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1997. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find new strength and resources for the work of

sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these challenging times.

21 “How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings” (Psalm 36:7). Thank God for surrounding us with love and mercy on which we can rely.

22 Pray that the Spirit will inspire and lead people to respond to God's call to service through ELCA Global Mission as it seeks missionaries, volunteers and interns to walk alongside our global companions.

23 Give thanks that Jesus is our true Savior, light and hope — the Son of God, who lived among us and continues to dwell with us through the Spirit.

24 January is when outdoor ministry leaders begin recruiting staff for our summer camps. Pray that the Spirit will inspire young adults to respond to the call to serve in our outdoor ministries across the country and to share their faith and enthusiasm with campers of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

25 Ask God to help us understand that force, vengeance, wealth disparity and dominance over others are inconsistent with God's justice and power, and that these are revealed to us through Jesus' life and teaching, which exemplify humility, compassion, generosity, service, love without prejudice and advocacy for neighbors in need.

26 Rejoice and give thanks to God for uniting us in the body of Christ, which welcomes our diverse gifts, experiences, questions, complexities, ethnicities and cultures.

27 Pray for victims of violence and their families, that God will ease their pain, suffering and grief; pray for those who commit murder or other acts of violence, that God's grace will transform their hearts and lives.

28 Pray for our leaders and congregations, which create opportunities for us to study Scripture, share our questions and thoughts in conversation, and affirm one another's gifts for living the gospel, serving our neighbor and growing the church.

29 Pray for the ministry and impact of Lutheran Services in America, a nationwide network of 300 Lutheran social ministry organizations that serve 6 million people each year, using the gifts and skills of 250,000 paid staff and 150,000 volunteers.

30 Pray that our faith and confidence in Christ will embolden us to be public bearers of good news, hope and wholeness for all people, even in the face of intimidating challenges, criticism or skepticism.

31 Pray that the Spirit will help us understand and practice the qualities of love that God has shown us and that the apostle Paul commends to members of the church in Corinth: “Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth” (1 Corinthians 13:4-6).

Outreach Mission

The former Outreach Store is being converted into an Outreach Mission. We welcome anyone who is willing to help sort and arrange donations. We will be meeting in early January to develop a plan of operation. You are welcome to join us. For more info, please call Janet Wahlberg at 716-567-4064

Currently we are accepting a few donations of items that are clean and in good repair. **No Electronics.** Donations may be left in the Education Building entryway Monday thru Friday.



Sunday School News

We have had a great start to our Sunday School year. Thank you to all the kids and parents for your continued support. A new Sunday School calendar will be coming out in early January.

PARISH RECORD

Funeral Service:

Thomas J. Neelen – Memorial Service at First Lutheran on December 11, 2021 (Date of Death 11/03/2021)

Confirmation Class Schedule for January via Zoom

Sunday, January 9th
Sunday, January 23rd

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

**9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service
Contemporary Worship Center**

**11:00 am Traditional Worship Service
Main Sanctuary**

- If you are ill, we ask that you remain at home out of concern for the health and wellbeing of others
- Beginning August 22nd masks will be required at First Lutheran for both of those who are fully vaccinated and those who are not vaccinated. Thank You!
- Hand sanitizer stations will be in place at entrances to the church and worship areas
- Everyone will be asked to fill out attendance cards
 - These cards will be used to contact individuals if someone tests positive for COVID19 at a later date
 - Please place the cards on the chair/pew where you are seated
- Social distancing will be practiced
 - Chairs will be spaced six feet apart
 - Pews in the Nave will no longer be blocked, but please continue to practice social distancing
- Offerings will be placed in a box at the entrance to the worship area
- The congregation may continue to sing liturgy and hymns while wearing a mask
- Holy Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday of the month with personal communion cups
- We will video record both worship services and post the recordings online through: Vimeo, YouTube, Facebook and the First Lutheran website: flcjny.org
- Worship services will be approximately 30 minutes in length

We will adjust our practices as health concerns evolve.

We will celebrate Jesus Christ, risen from the grave!

We understand that some of our church family will refrain from attending worship due to health concerns. This is a personal choice and we support all our family in this decision-making process.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 Chandler Street
Jamestown, NY 14701

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

If you would like your name removed from our mailing list, please contact the church office at 664-4601 or by e-mailing us at:
firstlutheran@flcjny.org

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Jamestown NY
Permit #427



First Edition

Living the Good News at First Lutheran Church