



# March Bell



A Publication of First Lutheran Church



## March-ing on our Lenten Journey

This season of Lent calls us to “March” in a new way...to the rhythm of penitance and repentance, to the taste of soup and bread, to the sound of Holden Evening Prayer, and to the highs and lows of the **Mountains & Valleys** of the lectionary and of our lives! All the while on Wednesdays, experiencing God’s unconditional, radical love for all as we journey through “**A place for you,**” a Holy Communion handbook created by Daniel Erlander. The scriptures will guide us through our sermon series and small group discussions will ensue after worship on Wednesday Nights!

See you in church!

Pastor Hans

### Sundays

#### “Mountains & Valleys”

March 2	Transfiguration of our Lord	“Descending Mont Blanc”	Luke 9:28-36
March 9	Lent 1	“Valley of Temptation”	Luke 4: 1-13
March 16	Lent 2	“Valley of Lament”	Luke 13: 31-35
March 23	Lent 3	“Valley of Death”	Luke 13: 1-9
March 30	Lent 4	“Valley of Loss”	Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

## Wednesdays

### “A Place For You!”

March 5	Ash Wednesday	“God’s love for all!”(pg. 1)	Matthew 5: 43-48
March 12		“Lost & Found!”(pg. 2)	Luke 15: 1-20
March 19		“Salvation has come!” (pg. 5)	Luke 19: 1-10
March 26		“Given for you!”(pg. 8)	Luke 22: 19-20

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Thanks to Jim Riess for the following test:

### **Names of the Apostles**

What first names of the two people listed is the name of an apostle? (E.g., Priest & Prada, answer: Judas)

#### FRESHMAN LEVEL

1. Bolivar & Cowell
2. Dean & Madison
3. Lennon & Wayne

#### GRADUATE LEVEL

4. Carnegie & Gibb
5. Monroe & Joyce
6. O’Toole & Ustinov

#### PH.D. Level

7. McConaughey & Broderick
8. Glass & Roth
9. Edison & Paine



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## First Lutheran Church 2024 Attendance

4328 total, average is 83 per week!

# FLCW NOTES

Looking ahead, the Heartland Spring Gathering will be Saturday, April 5, 2025 at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa

March is Minnesota Food Share Month. FLCW will make a \$300 donation to the Pine River Area Food Shelf.

## A Lenten Stewardship Project

First Lutheran Church Women will be collecting donations of bars or pump bottles of soap.

The collection box will be in the church narthex. Donations can be given anytime the church is open. The bars of soap collected will be given to the My Little Church, the Tiger's Den Food Shelf and the Pine River Backus Food Shelf.



February Out to Lunch Bunch  
at The Lodge on Leech Lake.  
Minus TEN degrees (at 11 AM)  
did not spoil the day!

# FLCW NOTES

## OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

We will be going to The North Star ( Old Billy's) March 18, 2025. We will carpool from the church at 11:00 AM



### March Circle Gatherings

#### *Dorcas Sewing Circle*

Gathers the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:00 a.m. in the lower-level Quilting Room in the church.

Dorcas is quilting and fellowship; no Bible study.

March 6th and 20th

#### *Naomi Circle*

Will gather on Thursday, March 20 at 1:30, in the church Fellowship Hall. Rhonda Wippler is the Hostess. Cleone Hoplin will lead the lesson.

The Kitchen Committee will gather on Monday, March 31, 2025 at 4:00 pm

#### An Irish Blessing

May your troubles be less,  
And your blessings be more,  
And nothing but happiness  
Come through your door.



First Lutheran Church  
Council Minutes  
2/16/2025

**Members Present:**

Anne Holm, Jan Brasel, Pastor Hans Anderson, Denice Smith, Penny Siewert, Art Schmidt, Val Johnson, Cora Hohnstadt, Barb Richards, Guest: Ayla Richards

**Members Absent:**

Gloria Johnson, Camden Zinda, Kayci Finley, Melanie Lindquist

**Call to Order:**

Denice Smith called the meeting to order at 10:18 am. Anne Holm led devotions.

**Pastor's Report:**

Anne Holm motioned to approve the Pastor's report, seconded by Art Schmidt. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion by Anne Holm to approve the minutes, seconded by Art Schmidt. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report :**

Motion by Penny Siewert to approve treasurer's report. Seconded by Barb Richards. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

- Reminder that all information for Bell needs to be submitted by the 20th of each month.

Lenten services will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. Meal begins at 5:00 pm with service to follow at 6:00 pm. Soup Group sign ups are in the Narthex.

**New Business:**

- New member classes will take place on 4/27/25 and 5/4/2025. New member Sunday will be on 5/11/2025 with a potluck to follow.
  - Camp Sunday is February 23rd. Two staff members from VLM will be here.
  - Senior recognition will be on May 4th. Ayla Richards, Kaya Anderson, Camden Zinda, and Kelsey Bergem
- Barb Richards will present a Temple Talk on March 2nd. Topic will be Mission Trust Fund.

Next council meeting will be Sunday, March 16th @ 10:00 am in person. Devotions will be provided by Val Johnson.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Brasel, Secretary

# March 2025

## Worship Volunteers

### March 2, 2025

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Denice Smith

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

### March 9, 2025

Readers: Penny Siewert

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Val Johnson

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

### March 16, 2025

Reader: Rene Frigaard

Communion Assistants: Val Johnson

Sound: Rene Frigaard

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

### March 23, 2025

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Rene Frigaard

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

### March 30, 2025

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Val Johnson

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

Ushers: Paul Pearson & Jace & Vince Norman

Counter: Brenda Anderson

Altar Guild: Jodi Perry & Val Johnson

Coffee: Hoplin Families

# FINANCIAL DATA

## SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 – FEBRUARY 18, 2025

Budgeted Income (all areas)	\$79,120.42
Actual Income (all areas)	<u>77,800.95</u>
Difference (BELOW BUDGET)	(\$ 1,319.47)

Budgeted Expenses	\$78,969.84
Actual Expenses	<u>71,343.63</u>
Difference (BELOW BUDGET)	(\$ 7,626.21)

Actual Income (all areas)	\$77,800.95
Actual Expenses	<u>71,343.63</u>
Difference	\$6,547.32

### ACTUAL PREVIOUS MONTH CHECKING:

Jan. 31 Ending Balance	\$51,631.94
Jan. 1 Beginning Balance	<u>57,429.37</u>
Difference (loss)	(\$ 5,797.43)

Jan. Income	\$10,652.00
Jan. Expenditures	<u>16,449.43</u>
Difference (loss)	(\$ 5,797.43)

Because there are some changes in income and expenses after this report is written, you will see the bottom portion of the report giving the actual previous month's numbers.

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March is Minnesota FoodShare Month, when people, businesses, and organizations come together to help food shelves across the state. The campaign is the largest grassroots food drive in Minnesota. First Lutheran Church's Noisy Offering will be going to the local food shelf.



**February 23, 2025 Bible Presentation**

*At the time of your baptism, your parents and sponsors promised faithfully to bring you to the services of God's house, to teach you the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, to place in your hands, the Holy Scriptures, and to provide for your instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of your baptism and in communion with the Church, you may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.*



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**Thank you for the very happy birthday celebration.. I appreciated all the thoughtful cards and the birthday cake was great!**  
**Pastor Hans**



# MARCH

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee	2	3	4	5 10:00 AM Bible Study 3:30 PM WOW 5:00 PM Soup Supper 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	6 9:00 AM Dorcas Circle	7 World Day of Prayer
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee	9	10	11	12 10:00 AM Bible Study 3:30 PM WOW 5:00 PM Soup Supper 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	13	14
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee 10:00 AM Church Council	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 11:00 AM Out to lunch Bunch	19 10:00 AM Bible Study 5:00 PM Soup Supper 6:00 PM Ash Wed. Service	20 9:00 AM Dorcas Circle 10:00 AM Operation Sandwich 1:30 PM Noami Circle	21
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee	23	24	25	26 10:00 AM Bible Study 3:30 PM WOW 5:00 PM Soup Supper 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	27	28
9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee	30 4:00 PM Kitchen Committee	31				29

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# Lenten Soup Suppers

Soup groups are needed!!!

Soup suppers for 2025 will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5 and continue through April 9. The sign up sheet for volunteers and food donations is posted in the narthex.

Please come every Wednesday for a warm meal and the Lenten Church Service. Food for your body and soul—begins at 5:00 pm and done by 7:00 pm



# First Lutheran Church Welcomes you!



Thank you to  
Babies N  
Bibles and  
Club 45 for  
this precious  
addition to  
the table  
decoration.

ANSWERS: 1. Simon, 2. James, 3. John,  
4. Andrew, 5. James, 6. Peter, 7. Matthew,  
8. Philip, 9. Thomas

## Sunday Worship & Study:

Worship & Communion 9:00 AM.

Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 AM

**Pastor: Hans Anderson**

**Church Office: 218-587-2316**

**[www.1stluth.org](http://www.1stluth.org)**