



April Bell



A Publication of First Lutheran Church



April: In the Garden!

Throughout the month of April, we find ourselves in the garden, hopefully in your yard, but most definitely in the Bible! The Garden of Gethsemane was an olive tree plantation where Jesus went to pray to his Father God. While the Garden at Gethsemane meant betrayal and the arrest of Jesus, the Garden symbolizes new life and resurrection as well. I hope that gardening happens for you this month, in your yard and here and at church!

See you in church! Pastor Hans

Wednesdays

- April 2 (pg. 12) “We are One in Christ.” Galatians 3:27-28, Acts 16: 25-34
- April 9 (pg.14) “Jesus is with you.” Matthew 28:18-20

Sundays

- April 6 5 Lent “Valley of shadows.” John 12:1-8
- April 27 2 Easter “Garden of Peace Lillies.” John 20:19-31

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Holy Week

April 13	Palm Sunday	9:00 a.m.	“Garden of Sacrifice.”	Luke 22:14-23
April 17	Maundy Thursday	6:00 p.m.	“Garden of Love.”	John 13:31-35
April 18	Good Friday	6:00 p.m.	“Garden of the Cross.”	John 18:1-19:42
April 20	Easter Sunday	9:00 a.m.	“Garden of Easter Lillies!!!”	John 20: 1-18

If you have an interest in joining our church family here at First Lutheran, we will be having new member classes on Sundays after services on April 27th, May 4th and New Member Sunday on May 11th! It looks like another large new member group! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and ask me any questions you may have!

I look forward to seeing you all in church!

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Pastor Hans

WOW



FLCW Notes

Saturday, April 5, 2025 The Heartland Conference Spring Gathering will be held at Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa MN. More information will be posted on the FLCW bulletin board when received.

Thank you to the Wednesday Soup Supper and **Sunday Fellowship Coffee volunteers** who faithfully launder the kitchen linen and return them clean and fresh to the church kitchen drawer.

**Kitchen
Committee**
meeting
will be
Monday,
April 28 at
4 PM.



April Circle Meetings

Dorcas Sewing Circle

Gatherings are 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.

April meeting dates are the *3rd and 17th*

Naomi Circle

Will gather on Thursday, April 17 at the church, with Patty Sweeny and Ethel Hopper as hostesses.



The March "Out to Lunch Bunch" at The North Star in Breezy Point.

In April we will be going to the Lake's Tavern in Pequot Lakes on
April 22, at 11:00 AM

FLCW Notes cont'd

Please join us to celebrate

Tracy Johnson, bride of Sanchez Guerrero

Saturday, April 26, 2025 at 10:30 am

First Lutheran Church

Hosted by Naomi Circle

Tracy is registered at Target



A Lenten Stewardship Project

First Lutheran Church Women will be collecting donations of bars 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.



April 2025

Worship Volunteers

April 6, 2025

5th Sunday in Lent

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Val Johnson

Zoom:

April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Tyler Hoplin

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

April 20, 2025

Easter Sunday

Reader: Val Johnson

Communion Assistants: Val Johnson

Sound: Tyler Hoplin

Zoom:

April 27, 2025

2nd Sunday of Easter

Reader:

Noisy Offering

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Denice Smith

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

Ushers: Paul Pearson

Counter: Irene Gearey

Altar Guild: Annette Newton & Gloria Johnson

Fellowship: Annette Newton

FINANCIAL DATA
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 - March 18, 2025

Budgeted Income (all areas)	\$92,269.44
Actual Income (all areas)	<u>91,531.16</u>
Difference (BELOW BUDGET)	(\$ 738.28)

Budgeted Expenses	\$92,213.77
Actual Expenses	<u>83,533.69</u>
Difference (BELOW BUDGET)	(\$ 8,680.08)

Actual Income (all areas)	\$91,531.16
Actual Expenses	<u>83,533.69</u>
Difference	\$ 7,997.47

ACTUAL PREVIOUS MONTH CHECKING:

Feb. 28 Ending Balance	\$50,965.06
Feb. 1 Beginning Balance	<u>51,570.47</u>
Difference (loss)	(\$ -605.41)

Feb. Income	\$12,034.00
Feb. Expenditures	<u>12,639.41</u>
Difference (loss)	(\$ -605.41)

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.

April's Noisy Offering will be going to the Lutheran Disaster Response. Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives are disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

Thank you for continuing to support our Noisy Offering ministry.

First Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
3/16/2025

Members Present:

Anne Holm, Jan Brasel, Pastor Hans Anderson, Penny Siewert, Art Schmidt, Val Johnson, Cora Hohnstadt, Barb Richards, Gloria Johnson, Camden Zinda, Kayci Finley

Members Absent:

Melanie Lindquist, Denice Smith

Call to Order:

Val Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:08 am. Val Johnson led devotions.

Pastor's Report:

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

Approval of Minutes:

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

Treasurer's Report :

Motion by Kayci Finley to approve treasurer's report. Seconded by Art Schmidt. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Vanco discussion continued. Motion by Barb Richards, seconded by Kayci Finley to approve going forward with this option. Motion carried.

- The Audit Committee will meet March 21.

The Executive Committee presented an oral report with suggested changes to present in September at our Annual Meeting. (more to come in May)

New Business:

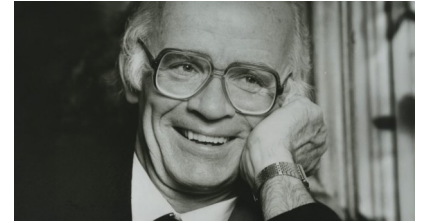
- Anne Holm made a motion to donate \$100.00 to the Pine River Easter Egg Hunt, seconded by Kayci Finley. Monies from the pass-thru, misc. Fund. Motion carried.

Easter flowers have been ordered. Order forms will be available.

Next council meeting will be Sunday, May 18th @ 10:00 am in person. Devotions will be provided by Penny Siewert.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Brasel, Secretary

In memoriam: Martin E. Marty



Martin E. Marty, a distinguished church historian and scholar of American religion, a devoted teacher, and a friend and mentor to many, died Feb. 25 in Minneapolis. He was 97.

Considered to be one of the most influential interpreters of American religion, Marty is known for the study of public theology, a term he coined in 1974 to describe the critical engagement of religious and cultural issues that can foster the common good. His study and interpretation of Protestantism and fundamentalism continue to shape and influence the view of modern American religion.

“Martin Marty has been called a giant in North American Lutheranism, a man of towering intellect,” said Elizabeth Eaton, [ELCA](#) presiding bishop. “That is true, but no one would call him physically imposing. In person he was whimsical and self-deprecating. And that was his strength. Whether lecturing in great academic institutions or marching in Selma for civil rights, this was the Martin Marty who showed up.”

Ordained in 1952, Marty received his Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. He was granted a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary in Maywood, Ill., in 1954, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Chicago in 1956.

He served as a pastor of Grace Lutheran Church and School in River Forest, Ill. (1952-1956), and as pastor of Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, which he founded in Elk Grove Village, Ill. (1956-1963). He then taught church history and modern Christianity in the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, eventually holding an endowed chair, the Fairfax M. Cone Distinguished Service professorship.

At the divinity school, Marty founded the Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion in 1979. The center explores topics such as threats to American religious freedom, the ethics of the death penalty, and the history of Black Protestantism in the United States. When Marty retired from the divinity school in 1998, the institute was renamed the [Martin Marty Center](#).

Marty was the author of 60 books, including *Righteous Empire: The Protestant Experience in America*, which won the 1972 National Book Award in Philosophy and Religion, and *Modern American Religion*, a three-volume study of the development of American religious life from the late 19th century. In addition to hundreds of scholarly articles and essays, he was a columnist and editor at the *Christian Century* for 50 years and authored the biweekly newsletter *Context* for 41 years. He also wrote a weekly column for *Sightings*, a digital magazine distributed by the Martin Marty Center.

In addition to his other achievements, he became the founding president and later scholar-in-residence of the Park Ridge Center for the Study of Health, Faith, and Ethics; co-directed the Fundamentalism Project, an American Academy of Arts and Sciences-sponsored survey of world fundamentalism that resulted in five encyclopedic volumes on the subject (1987-1995); and directed the Public Religion Project, a program underwritten by the Pew Charitable Trust to delineate the importance of faith in a pluralistic society.

Marty received numerous awards and honors, including the Medal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1995) and the National Medal for the Humanities (1997). He served on two presidential commissions, as president of multiple scholarly societies and on numerous boards, including as a regent, board chair and interim president of [St. Olaf College](#), Northfield, Minn.

But it was teaching that was at the heart of his distinguished career. Speaking to *the University of Chicago Magazine* in 1998 about how he'd like to be remembered, Marty said: “That I was a good teacher. That’s been my great joy, where I’ve always gotten the most pleasure. ... I take more pleasure in the fact that there are more than 100 people I was thesis adviser to, more pleasure in a new book by [former students] than one of my own.”

A memorial service will be held March 29 at Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, with a livestream available at [centralmpls.o](#)

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	2025
		1	2	3	4	5	
			WOW 3:30 PM Soup Supper 5:00 PM Service 6:00 PM	Dorcas Circle 9:00 AM			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Worship 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:00 AM			Soup Supper 5:00 PM Service 6:00 PM				
	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Palm Sunday				Maundy Thursday	Good Friday		
Worship 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:00 AM				Dorcas Circle 9:00 Naomi Circle 1:30 Service 6:00 PM	Service 6:00 PM		
	21	22	23	24	25	26	
Easter Sunday		Out to Lunch Bunch 11:00 AM	WOW 3:30 PM Meal 5:00 PM Video 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM			Bridal Shower for Tracy Johnson 10:30 AM	
Worship 9:00 AM Easter Breakfast 10:00AM							
	28	29	30				
Worship 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:00 AM New Member Class 10:00AM	Kitchen Committee 4:00 PM		WOW 3:30 PM Meal 5:00 PM Video 6:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM				



Sunday Worship

Worship & Communion 9:00 AM.

Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 AM

Pastor: Hans Anderson

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