Billy Ray Cyrus sings...

*Somebody said a prayer, somebody had some faith.*

*Somebody finally hit their knees and asked for help for heaven’s sake.*

*Somebody finally found someone who really cares.*

*Somebody said a prayer.*

I know who my somebody was. It was my Aunt Blanche. She was a hugging, loving, lefse-making giant in our family. The shadow of faith she cast is still felt years after her death.

When I was 18 years old I decided to go to college at the Lutheran Bible Institute of Seattle. After the decision was made I was visiting with my Aunt Blanche. She told me that she attended the Lutheran Bible Institute in the late 40s by correspondence. I asked her what classes she took. She told me that she took a class on PRAYER. She went on to tell me that they had learned to pray for family, even family that wasn’t born yet. I will never forget her words, “I was praying for you every day even before you were born.” I did the math. She was praying for me every day for 15 years before I was born. WOW!

So, I have always felt that my life has been bathed in prayer; some of those prayers have been mine. But most of them were others’. I am confident that my mom nearly wore her knees out praying for me when I was in high school.

Over the years of ministry I have seen the effect of prayer many times. I have seen prayerful miracles, even divine healing. But even with that I feel that I still have a lot to learn. Prayer is still mysterious and nearly incomprehensible. But I know that my day feels incomplete without it. I don’t know if through my prayers I have influenced God, but I know that through prayer God has changed the very nature of Corey Bjertness.

This fall we will spend 10 weeks studying prayer (see below). I hope you will engage in a small group, a large group Bible study and daily prayer. Come and join us and learn to be somebody’s prayer hero.

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**Too Busy Not To Pray**

Love this picture! Sitting in an Adirondack chair and enjoying the warmth, peace, and the slower-paced life that summer typically offers. Summer moves by so fast and it becomes increasingly important to take time and enjoy life.

Now, the smell of fall is in the air. Vacation has been used, kids are gearing up for school, fall activities are upon us, calendars are becoming full, and the pace of life is seemingly picking up. Life gets busy! Sometimes it is hard to keep up, and consequently, our life gets a bit unbalanced.

Beginning September 21, we will begin a 10-week sermon series entitled “Too Busy Not To Pray.” We want to slow things down a bit and reflect upon what it means to spend time with God. How do we pray? When do we pray? What does prayer look like for us? How do we teach our kids how to pray? Quite frankly, we don’t need more stuff in our life. We don’t need busier days. We don’t need fuller calendars. Rather, we need more God. We need quiet time. We need to practice slowing down and listening for God’s voice in the midst of a noisy world.

You are invited to pull up a chair and through the busyness of life... to pray!
On September 7, we return to our fall schedule and start Christian education classes.

Sunday FaithTalk classes begins Sunday, September 7. Wednesday FaithTalk, CrossTalk and LifeTalk classes begin Wednesday, September 10. (See pages 7 and 8 for more information.)

Whether you have been coming to church all summer, worshiped elsewhere this summer, or are new to First Lutheran, we want to say:

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!” -Psalm 100:4a

First Lutheran

9:00 a.m.
Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

11:00 a.m.
Outdoor Worship and outreach to our downtown neighbors

Followed by:

Music by the locally-famous Irish band, Poitin.

A pig roast with all the trimmings served in Celebration Hall.

A silent auction to benefit local missions.

NFL football game on the big screen in Celebration Hall.

Any individual, committee, group or business is invited to contribute a basket or gift card to the silent auction. Please contact Shirley Tietz if you are interested, stietz@flcfargo.org. All proceeds benefit local missions.

Involve your friends, your neighbors, your co-workers and family members!

Let’s rock the Kingdom with First Fest.

A Community Celebration
Sunday, September 28

Come Fall, Come All!

Featuring music by Poitin
Church is a place for connection but sometimes it is hard to see. You want to learn and discover more about the presence of Jesus in your life, but you wonder how? You want to find community and have honest conversation about the intersection of where faith and life come together. You want to be part of something that gives life, but where does one begin? You are hungry and thirsty for something, but you just don’t know what for.

A Life Group is an intentional group that consists of 6 to 8 people who meet together on a regular basis to explore a deeper relationship with Jesus, to nurture and care for one another, and to follow Jesus in daily life. Life Groups will meet at various times and in different locations throughout the F-M community. Each Life Group will focus on three different areas:

- **Shares with others** the joy, struggle, and triumphs of daily life. Sharing how God is active and lifting each other up in prayer. In other words, doing the Christian life together!
- **Studies** scripture or a particular book together. Listening for and encountering God in great conversation. Learning and growing!
- **Serves** one another and the wider community. Life Groups are encouraged to participate in service projects throughout the year.

If you are interested in a Life Group, connect with Pastor Marty, mtollefson@flcfargo.org, or Life Group coordinator Shirley Tietz, stietz@flcfargo.org.

Heaven is for Real LIVE event changes lives!

After six months of preparation, hundreds of hours of work, and many positive meetings, *Heaven is for Real LIVE* was a massive success. From community people to area churches, there were plenty of people pouring out positive support for this endeavor. On July 26, 3,954 people piled into the FARGODOME for an evening of shared story and music that contained a message of hope and grace to everyone.

The financial support we received from corporate and private sponsors was the greatest aspect of this event. Every expense was covered prior to the event so that all the money from ticket sales went straight to the community via Homeless & Hungry. Homeless & Hungry is a ministry supported through First Lutheran, so every single dollar, 100%, $74,940 is going directly to 15 social service agencies in the F-M Area. This positive event was successful both on a personal level through Colton’s story and on a community level through the huge donation we are going to make. Thank you to all who supported this effort in any way. You played a major role in bringing a positive impact to Fargo-Moorhead.

**Too Busy Not to Pray Large Group Studies**

| Tuesdays at noon in Fellowship Hall, Sept. 16-Nov. 18 | Tuesdays at 6:45 p.m. in Adult Education Room, Sept. 16-Nov. 18 |
| Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in Adult Education Room, Sept. 21-Nov. 23 | As Hitler and the Nazis seduced a nation, bullied a continent, and attempted to exterminate the Jews of Europe, a small number of dissidents worked to dismantle the Third Reich from the inside. One of these dissidents was a Lutheran pastor by the name of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Join Pastor Marty for a four-week study of the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. We will explore his historical background, get a glimpse of his developing theology, and read one of his timeless classics entitled *Life Together.* |

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Life Together**

Sundays at noon in the Luther Room, starts Sept. 21

Dr. Rich Melheim says, “If you are raising a child today you are sure to run into your own unique set of major-league challenges. Maybe these challenges haven’t hit you yet, but if you are a parent—or soon to be one—they are on their way!” Why not prepare and have tools that will help you face the challenges and celebrate the blessings?

Join Shelly Erickson for a five-week session where together we’ll invest in our kids and work out a plan for our families! Online registration is required. Nursery is provided. Contact Shelly at 235-7389 or serickson@flcfargo.org with any questions.

**Holding Your Family Together**

Sundays at noon in the Luther Room, starts Sept. 21

**Daniel: Lives of Integrity, Words of Prophecy**

**Women’s Study**

| Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. Crosstalk Café, Sept. 30-Oct. 21 | Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Adult Ed Room, Oct. 1-22 |
| Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in Adult Education Room, Sept. 21-Nov. 23 | Join Beth in a faith-building study of prophecy and learn how to live with integrity in today’s self-absorbed society. The prophet Daniel faced unbelievable pressures to compromise his faith, to live in a hostile culture, and to confront threats and fears. Today, believers in Jesus Christ face many of the same trials. We will do the first part (chapters 1-6) this fall and the second part (chapters 7-12) in the spring. Led by Pastor Laurie. |

**Men’s Book Study**

| Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the CrossTalk Café, starts Sept. 17 | Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the CrossTalk Café, starts Sept. 17 |
| Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. Crosstalk Café, Sept. 30-Oct. 21 | Join together with other men to read, study and discuss. The book title will be announced soon. Watch for more information. |

Reel Faith

Third Sunday each month at 4:00 p.m. in the BibleMax Theatre, starts Sept. 21

If you are a film lover, you’ll love “Reel Faith.” Each month we’ll show a movie, munch on a bowl of popcorn, and join in a good post-movie discussion.

**Faith**

**Community**

**Life Groups**

**First Lutheran Church**

www.flcfargo.org
Women’s Ministry

First Lutheran Church Women (FLCW)

FLCW is a community of women who come together for Bible study, programs, fellowship and mission. Monthly Circles follow this year’s study (see below). Circle meeting times and other information can be found on www.flcfargo.org or on the bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall.

FLCW Study: Transforming Life and Faith.

Circles’ meeting times and locations vary. Leader briefings the first Thursday of the month at noon in the Gathering Place.

We invite you to consider how our lives and our faith journeys are transformed by the events we experience and the people we meet. Read about people who have life-changing experiences, such as Paul, Moses, Lydia and more. Watch them turn to and with God as their minds, hearts, and daily lives are altered.

Judy Siegle to speak at FLCW Fall Festival

Thursday, September 4, 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

All women are invited to hear Judy Siegle, Women’s Ministry Director at Hope Lutheran, give her inspirational message entitled, “A Closer Walk with God.” Abigail Circle will provide refreshments.

Beth Moore study on Daniel

Tuesdays, October 7-November 18 at 6:30 p.m., Luther Room, $15

A faith-building study of prophecy and learning how to live with integrity in today’s self-absorbed society. Daniel faced unbelievable pressures to compromise his faith, to live in a hostile culture, and to confront temptations and threats. Today, believers in Jesus Christ face many of the same trials. Led by Pastor Laurie.

Cathedral Choir

Rehearse Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Celebration Station starting Sept. 3

The Cathedral Choir is one of the cornerstones of the music ministry at First, bringing glory to God through music that reflects our faith. This non-auditioned group sings most Sundays during the school year.

Celebration Band

Worship in Celebration Hall Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., rehearse one hour prior to worship

Love to sing? Do you feel God’s grace when you play piano, drums, bass, electric guitar or fiddle? Join us in our worship team. All ages welcome, no auditions are required.

Men’s Choir

Rehearses 6:00 p.m. in Celebration Hall on Wednesday prior to Sunday singing

The Men’s Choir, directed by David Ferreira, is a group of guys who love to give glory to the Lord in song. They sing several times during the year.

Women’s Choir

Rehearses 6:00 p.m. in Sanctuary on Wednesday prior to Sunday singing

The Women’s Choir, under the direction of Kathy Ferreira, is a choral group for women who love to sing and praise the Lord. They sing several times during the year.

Heavenly Bells

Rehearse Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. starting Sept. 4

If you’ve wanted to be part of a musical organization here at the church, but don’t think that you can sing, you might want to consider joining the handbell choir. Reading music is helpful, but not necessary. Directed by Michael Olson.

FLC Orchestra

Rehearse Saturday prior to playing at Sunday worship, starting Sept. 20

The beauty of strings enhances worship and is a great addition to the musical variety at First Lutheran Church. Directed by Mary Weisser.

Quilters

Mondays, 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

The Quilters create beautiful quilts that are given away to Lutheran World Relief, FLC Mission Trips, and local charities. All women welcome!

Learn to Knit and Crochet

Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the Gathering Place

Whether you already know how or would like to learn, you’re welcome to join in this time of fellowship and creativity.

Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)

Wednesdays, 9:10-11:00 a.m., September-May

First Lutheran is excited to partner with interdenominational Bible Study Fellowship (BSF). This year’s focus is the life of Moses. Personal study along with small group discussion teach how Scripture can be applied to daily life. A children’s program is offered concurrently for infants to age 6. For information, contact Oline Kane at 701-237-5822. To find out more about BSF, go to www.bsffinternational.org.

For a full musical schedule, go to www.flcfargo.org.
BeFriender Ministry

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve your church and also grow personally and spiritually? BeFriender Ministry may be just that opportunity. BeFriender Ministry is a lay pastoral program designed to teach people tools to be a good listener and empower them as ministers of that listening presence.

Read what Dave Rogness, a BeFriender Minister since 2011, has to say about this ministry:

“As a BeFriender volunteer I’m not always aware of the impacts made after my visits. It is easy however to know what impact my participation makes on me. The BeFriender program has allowed me to grow in my faith, to enrich my life’s experience, to learn to be a good listener and support others as they may be experiencing a difficult time in their life. BeFrienders also has allowed me to become part of a small group of believers who share the same faith desire to be part of a listening ministry to others. The listening skills learned through the training program have also strengthened other relationships.

After each of my visits I feel personally enriched and keenly aware of the benefits of the program: not only for the person I’m visiting, but for me as well.

If you would like to learn more about BeFriender Ministry, please contact Katie Gross, Parish Nurse at 235-7389 or Katie.Gross@flcfargo.org.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Goes to North Dakota Veterans Home

On May 8, six members of the prayer shawl ministry ventured out to Lisbon to attend a program at the North Dakota Veterans Home. Approximately 20 prayer shawls were presented to residents and another ten were given to the facility to give to residents. During their time together, they sang hymns, tested their knowledge in Bible trivia and shared some tasty treats. God certainly blessed their time together.

The residents were so grateful, not only for the prayer shawls they received, but for the time spent with them. One resident said, “Thank you so much for your kindness, I love it.” A member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry said, “This was great, we should do it every year.”

If you are interested in learning more about the prayer shawl ministry contact Katie Gross, Parish Nurse at 235-7389 or Katie.Gross@flcfargo.org.

Advanced Care Planning Assistance

Most of us have heard of Advanced Directives or Living Wills, but the key question is: Do you have one? In a recent survey, 82% of people said it was important to have your healthcare wishes in writing, but only 23% have completed a written directive. Some may say, “My family knows what I want.” The real question to you is, “Do they?” Ninety percent of people say it’s important to have “the conversation” but only 30% have actually had it.

Initiating such a conversation can be difficult and uncomfortable. Relying on family makes decisions on your behalf can be a burden. Katie Gross, Parish Nurse Coordinator, strongly encourages you to initiate a conversation, even if you do have a written directive. Written directives are very important, but can be vague and offer little insight into what a person’s wishes really are in different scenarios.

If you are having difficulty starting the conversation or would like help making a written directive, Katie would be happy to walk you through the process. Just give her a call at 235-7389.

Baby Blanket Ministry

At our February Prayer Shawl Meeting, Pastor Marty shared a story of the bedtime routine at his house and how important his daughter’s blankets are in that routine. This sparked some great discussion in our group, and as a result, the prayer shawl ministry decided to make baby blankets to be given as a gift for baptisms. Along with the blanket, a tag is attached that gives parents tools to build faith starting as early as infancy.

A special “thank you” to all the ladies who have shared their time and talents in this ministry.

Caregiving Community Event and Brunch

Saturday, November 15, 10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. in Celebration Hall Health Care Ministries is excited to sponsor an event on caregiving. Caregiving experts of the community will give presentations on topics such as the importance of self-care, caregiving concerns specific to loved ones with dementia, and sharing the vast resources our community has to offer. Brunch provided for a free will offering. Respite services provided by AllHealth for care recipients. Please register online at www.flcfargo.org.

Respite Care/Adult Day Services Starting at FLC

Open House: Sunday, September 7 10:00 a.m.-noon in Fellowship Hall “The Gathering” is a new concept in Adult Day Services. In partnership with First Lutheran Church, AllHealth, a licensed quality service provider, will be offering a respite care program for caregivers while providing an enriching experience for their loved ones. A Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (C.T.R.S.) creates programs that include physical, cognitive, social, emotional and spiritual functioning in order to facilitate full participation in life. The program is enhanced by the involvement of a Registered Nurse, the Faith Community Nurse and other experts in the health field.

Along with providing a wonderful adult day program, we will also be nurturing the caregivers. Caregivers are invited to gather for social interaction and support, discuss challenges in caregiving, listening to experts in regards to dementia care, and be encouraged to nurture their spirituality through devotions and small group Bible studies.

Respite care will be offered Tuesdays from noon to 5:00 p.m. starting Sept. 16 in the How Great Thou Art Studio, lower level of First Lutheran Church.

The open house will be a time to meet the caregiver team as well as register your loved one for care. If you have any questions, contact Katie Gross.
Pre-Marriage Seminar
Saturday, October 18 from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Marriage is a blessed event and a big step in life. We want to help you and your fiancé navigate all the ins and outs of saying, “I do!” Get off on the right foot by attending a Pre-Marriage Seminar at FLC. We think it is so important that it is a requirement for all couples wishing to get married at First Lutheran Church. We offer two seminars per year.
Please contact Becki Tollefson at btollefson@flcfargo.org or 235-7389 to register, or if you have any questions. This seminar is led by Pastor Bill Ahlfeldt, Marriage and Family Life Coach.

Zumba
Mondays, 5:00 p.m. in the FLC Gym starting Sept. 15, $5
Zumba Fitness combines traditional Latin dance styles, including salsa, cha-cha, cumbia and merengue, as well as hip-hop, with traditional fitness moves to create a fun-filled and calorie burning aerobic workout! Catch the fantastic energy and enthusiasm from our certified Zumba instructor, Marissa Johnson. In addition to the physical exercising, each evening will include a short devotion and quiet time. Open to all women and men high school aged and above.

F.I.T. Academy - Tae Kwon Do
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. in the FLC Gym starting Sept. 9, $55/month per person or $50/month if paid 3 months at a time
The philosophy of Tae Kwon Do (TKD) is to build a more peaceful world. To accomplish this goal, TKD strives to develop the positive aspects of an individual’s personality: respect, courtesy, goodness, trustworthiness, loyalty, humility, courage, patience, integrity, perseverance, self-control, an indomitable spirit and a sense of responsibility to help and respect all forms of life.

Classes are offered two nights a week in the hope that one of those nights will work for you. Everyone is welcome to come both nights if they like. For ages 5 and up. Questions? Call Beth at 701-369-0440.

Center Your Core and More!
Mondays at 6:15 p.m. in the FLC Gym starting Sept. 15, $5 per session
Instructor Shelley Krosbakken will help you redefine yourself with this class. Grow longer and stronger with this invigorating 60-minute mind-body workout. This class incorporates yoga and Pilates fundamentals with athletic training for balance, mobility, flexibility and the core. Fun music is an essential part of this low-impact workout. Bring a yoga mat and water bottle to class.

P90X®
Monday-Friday, 5:45 a.m. in the FLC Gym
P90X® is a fitness system designed to get you in the best shape of your life. The program includes intense workouts that use resistance and body-weight training, cardio, plyometrics, ab work, martial arts and yoga.

Fibromyalgia Support Group
Third Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m. in FLC Fireside Library
A support group for individuals and families who live with this disorder.

At the top of the incline on the lower level of FLC, there awaits a treasure to be explored! Open Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings.

Financial Peace University
Tuesdays, September 2-October 28 at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, $93
Financial Peace University (FPU) is the most important step to changing your financial future. It is your Total Money Makeover Program. It takes the knowledge from God and turns it into real action in our lives through a step-by-step process taught by best-selling author and financial counselor Dave Ramsey. The course includes practical lessons on eliminating debt, building wealth, giving like never before, and much more. Register at www.daveramsey.com.

Fireside Library
Family Life Ministry

For kids age 0 to five.
Sundays, 8:30 a.m. - Noon
Wednesdays, 5:30-8:00 p.m.
Other times upon request

The purpose of the nursery is to provide a safe, loving, fun and comfortable environment for both you and your child. To accomplish this, our workers will walk, rock, read, feed, and play with the children to ensure that they are well cared for. Do you have a lap that can rock a baby? Please consider volunteering as volunteers are needed and always welcome!

Nursery Coordinator: Samantha Miller, email: MillerSam07@gmail.com, 651-335-7687.

For moms of preschoolers
9:00-11:00 a.m.; 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month
in the Adult Ed Room
Childcare provided so moms can talk!

OPEN HOUSE: Tuesday, September 2, 9:00 a.m. in the Gathering Place.
Wanted: Moms of young children! Come and join us for some “MomTalk!” (formally known as MOPS). At our meetings we enjoy fellowship and food with each other, listen to fabulous community speakers, or work on a community service project. Please contact Billie Carlson at 701-367-6872 for more information.

For kids three-years-old to 4th grade.
Sundays or Wednesdays
September 7/10 - May 10/13
10:05 a.m. Sundays or 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays

Traditionally called “Sunday School,” FaithTalk kids can come and talk with caring adults about the stories of the Christian faith. Using the rotational model of learning, kids participate in and are exposed to Bible stories through art, video, drama and music. Parents and teachers have seen the impact FaithTalk has had on kids. Says one teacher, “Count me in for next year. I had a great experience!”

If you were in FaithTalk last year, you are automatically registered. For more information and to register a new child, go to www.flcfargo.org.

WEDNESDAYS: Family Supper is available in the Gathering Place Wednesdays from 5:00-5:45 p.m. Cost is $5 a meal or a 10-meal ticket for $45.

Children’s Choir
For kids 1st-5th grade
Rehearse Wednesdays 5:30-6:00 p.m. in the Celebration Station
Directed by Kathy Ferreira
katrinkadl@aol.com

First Lutheran Church celebrates the angelic voices of children with the Children’s Choir and Joyful Noise! Singing shapes a child’s spiritual life and they learn scripture because they sing it. No audition required and it is never too late to join.

Joyful Noise
For middle school kids
Rehearse Wednesdays 5:30-6:00 p.m. in the Chapel
Directed by Katie Damico
kdamico@dfk12.mn.us

Milestone Ministries
Milestone Ministries recognize the presence and importance of God in every step of life. They are our way of saying, “This is something important and God is in the midst of it.” We are pleased to celebrate this biblically-based spiritual practice.

1st Grade: Welcome to Worship CD
Sunday January 25, 11:00 a.m. in Celebration Hall worship
The kids receive a CD that contains our favorite hymns recorded in a way that captures a child’s attention and heart.

2nd Grade: Sanctuary Crawl
Wednesday, November 19, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Helps kids and parents understand the meaning and purpose of the symbols found in our worship spaces.

3rd Grade: Bibles
Wednesday, September 24 class at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
When our kids are baptized, we promise to place scripture into their hands. Children are given this scripture and taught how to use it for life-long learning.

4th Grade: Guardian Angels
Sunday, October 12, 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel
Kids learn about baptism and become Guardian Angels to a baby baptized at FLC. They receive a handmade stole, hold the baptismal candle, and promise to pray for the baby on his/her baptism birthday.

5th Grade: First Communion
Class Sunday, March 29; Meal and First Communion Worship, Thursday, April 2, 6:00 p.m.
This important milestone helps kids understand and appreciate Christ’s presence in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

9th Grade: Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)
Family Worship Wednesday, October 22, 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary; Confirmation Sunday, October 26, 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

12th Grade: Graduating Senior Blankets
Sunday, May 17, 11:00 in Celebration Worship
We let graduating seniors know that God is a part of their future and their faith community holds them in prayer.

Thank you, FLC, for supporting this camp opportunity for our kids. I was overwhelmed with pride and joy watching the final worship with the counselors and campers singing and praising. I was very impressed with the grounds, cabins, and positive high energy counselors our kids got to spend their week with. I really appreciated that help with the fee and the coach bus was a comfy ride. My kids can’t wait to go again next year!

-A grateful parent, Laura Sokolofsky

Celebrate Smiles at Luther Crest Bible Camp this Summer!

Thank you everyone who made it possible for me to go to camp! I had an awesome time and I grew closer to God. I really hope I can come back next year!!

Emily, 8th Grader

www.flcfargo.org
Fun for Everyone!

Wednesday, October 29
Fun & Games from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
First Lutheran Gym

FAITH TALK: For Sunday and Wednesday kids and their friends!
Play carnival games and test run your Halloween costumes (nothing scary please)

CROSSTALK: Party in the CrossTalk Cafe with a movie and snacks.

LIFE TALK: Run the carnival games for the FaithTalk kids.

Carnival games include:
• Wedding at Cana
• Cupcake Walk
• Fishers of Men fishing booth
• Jonah Bean Bag Toss
• Knockin’ Down the Walls of Jericho
• Zacchaeus’ Lollipop Tree
and more!

5th and 6th Grade CrossTalk Lock-in
Friday-Saturday, November 14-15
Check-in 6:00 p.m. Friday; Pick-up 7:00 a.m. Saturday
$15; camperships available
Registration is required and can be found online at www.flcfargo.org

Are you ready for 13 hours of FUN?! We’ll stay overnight at church, play games in the gym, EAT, laugh, watch movies and just hang out together.

Contact Shelly Erickson at serickson@flcfargo.org or 701-235-7389 with any questions.

Hold Your Family Together Study
Sunday, September 21, Noon in the Luther Room. Five-week course
Dr. Rich Melheim says, “If you are raising a child today you are sure to run into your own unique set of major-league challenges. Maybe these challenges haven’t hit you yet, but if you are a parent - or soon to be one - they are on their way!” Why not prepare and have tools that will help you face the challenges and celebrate the blessings?
Join Shelly Erickson and invest in our kids and work out a plan for our families! Online registration is required. Nursery is provided. Contact Shelly at 235-7389 or serickson@flcfargo.org with any questions.

10th Grade Retreat
Friday, October 10, 6:00 p.m.-Saturday, October 11, 4:00 p.m. in the FLC youth area
This retreat will focus on the confirmation experience, discussions about faith, and last minute preparation for your confirmation. Join us for this fun lock-in experience and learn more about your Affirmation of Baptism.

Affirmation of Baptism
Sunday, October 26 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary
The date for Affirmation of Baptism has been moved to Reformation Sunday. This is a celebration of our confirmands publically professing their faith and affirming their membership of the congregation, the church, and the family of Christ. Join us for an important service in the lives of these young people and please keep them in your prayers.
The Gift of Clean Water!

Thanks to funds donated by FLC members, water wells were bore in villages in South India so that entire communities could benefit from the availability of clean water. The sign in front of the new well acknowledges First Lutheran’s generosity along with Christ’s words from the Gospel of John: “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink.”

Our trip to the Standing Rock Indian Reservation was an amazing, eye-opening experience for our group. We spent four days in Cannonball, a town on the reservation that was riddled with poverty and bad luck. In the morning we did projects, built two swing sets at the Community Center, put up a basketball hoop in the parking lot, and gave hundreds of books to the school library. In the afternoon we tied fleece blankets with the kids, played games, read books, and built relationships with kids who just needed some love and support. In the evenings we’d cook a huge meal and serve the entire community, feeding many hungry families.

The most amazing part of this trip was that Cannonball was only four hours away but with the amount of poverty we saw, it felt more like rural Mexico. I know that with our contacts there we will be able to have a sustaining mission site in the community and return for many summers.

- Graham Sibley, Student Life Coach

STANDING ROCK MISSION TRIP

A delegation of First Lutheran folks traveled to the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota in mid-June. Their main focus was to build relationships with the kids in the community. It was a trip that had an impact on those who were served, and those who did the serving.

Saturday and Sunday, October 4-5, 2014
Noon Saturday to 1:00 p.m. Sunday
Local churches are host sites; large group activities are at the Fargo Civic Center

NOTE: This is a required event for all kids in 7th through 9th grade.

Wednesday Fellowship

Every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in the Chapel
Join with other seniors as they gather for devotionals and hymns, followed by a luncheon served by FLC volunteers. Come early to enjoy a 30-minute organ recital by Michael Olson, Minister of Music.

First Club

The 3rd Thursday of each month at 2:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
First Club is a group of people that meet in the afternoon in the Fellowship Hall for fellowship, dessert and a short program. While most of the members are seniors, all ages are welcome.
Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner

“Lutefisk: The piece of cod that passeth all understanding.”

Friday, October 24 from 4:30-7:00 p.m. in the Celebration Hall, $15

Part of First Lutheran’s tradition is to host a Lutefisk and meatball dinner every fall. Besides great lutefisk, you have the opportunity to enjoy meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, dessert, and beverages. A great time and a great meal!

And don’t forget to buy home-made goodies from the FLCW’s bake sale!

Mission Soup Sunday

Third Sunday, October through March, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

On the third Sunday of each month, different choices of homemade soup are served at Mission Soup Sunday. The free-will offering supports the missions at First Lutheran Church. Take outs are available.

Ring Bells for Salvation Army!

Saturday, December 6, two-hour shifts between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at various locations available (see below)

The FLC congregation started supporting the Salvation Army in 2012 by committing one day to ringing bells during Christmastime. Many signed up to ring bells as a family, some with a friend, some with a co-worker.

We are committed to ringing bells again this year on Saturday, December 6. Sign up at www.flcfargo.org if you are interested in joining this fun and important mission work.

Locations:
• JC Penny fountain entrance
• Hornbacher’s Osgood
• Hornbacher’s Moorhead
• Gander Mountain
• Knist Fargo

Travel Ministry

Nashville/Memphis Get-away

Saturday-Friday, November 15-21, 2014
Saturday - Friday (7 days/6 nights)
Rates per person ($200 deposit required): $1280 Double; $1260 Triple; $1240 Quad; $1635 Single

Music will be the theme of this tour. You’ll travel to Nashville, considered the Country Music Capital, where you will enjoy their unbelievable entertainment. Reservations taken through Judy’s Leisure Tours, not at the church. See the brochure at the Information Booth for more information or call Judy’s Leisure Tours at 701-232-3441 or 800-598-0851. Hosted by Craig and Julie Johnson.

Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner

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Are you or someone you know interested in joining First Lutheran Church?

Jesus says, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Matthew 18:20

It is wonderful to be part of a community of faith! We are not wired to do life alone. We need others to share our joy, shoulder our burdens, hold us in prayer, rejoice in moments of celebration, and to stand fast in the face of challenge. This is, in part, what it means to be church.

The third Sunday of each month, we offer an introduction to First Lutheran called BELoNG. Here, new folks are introduced to the many ways they can belong within our congregation and what it looks like to be an active disciple. We are excited about the coming fall as new people are connected to the good work that God is doing in and through First Lutheran.

We will receive new members on the following dates:
September 21, October 19, and November 16.

For more information, please contact Pastor Marty at mtollefson@flcfargo.org or 701-235-7389.

The Foundation provided needed help for FLC Key Partners and assisted with many priority projects of First Lutheran Church throughout the year. Your gifts and earnings growth have allowed the Foundation to increase the grant support towards the important mission of First Lutheran Church. For the 2013-2014 fiscal year, $92,800 had been gifted. The largest amount ever gifted by the Foundation! Gifts of $33,924 have been presented to several Key Partners, including:

• Homeless and Hungry
• YWCA
• Family Health Care
• Girl and Boys Clubs of RRV
• Luther Crest Bible Camp
• Lost and Found Ministry
• New Life Center

The balance has been granted for funding new AED Equipment for the Parish Nurse, Slovakia Mission Trip, Mexico Mission Trip, Haiti Medical Mission Trip, the Youth Canoe Project, the 6th Annual Youth Summit, the Remedy Worship Group, Youthworld International Teams, Helping Hands of FLC and various property projects of FLC.

Please contact John Holmen, FLC Giving Consultant, if you would like to learn more about the Foundation and the way it supports the mission of First Lutheran Church. We THANK YOU for your continued support!
Special Events

**Belong - New Member Orientation**
Sundays, September 21, October 19, November 16
9:00 a.m., CrossTalk Café
Pr. Marty Tollefson, mtollefson@flcfargo.org

**Blood Drive**
Sunday, September 21
7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Katie Gross, katie.gross@flcfargo.org

**First Fest**
Sunday, September 28, noon
Pr. Laurie Neill, innell@flcfargo.org

**Pre-Marriage Seminar**
Saturday, October 18
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Adult Education Room
Becki Tollefson, btollefson@flcfargo.org

**Latefish and Meatball Dinner**
Friday, October 24
4:30-7:00 p.m., Celebration Hall

**Harvest Carnival**
Wednesday, October 29, 6:00 p.m., gym
Pastor Laurie Neill, lneill@flcfargo.org

**Pacem in Terris Silent Retreat**
Thursday, November 20-Saturday, November 22
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Adult Education Room
Becki Tollefson, btollefson@flcfargo.org

**Women's Ministry**

**FLCW Fall Festival**
Thursday, September 4, 1:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

**Beth Moore "Daniel" Study**
Tuesdays, October 7-November 18
6:30-8:00 p.m., Luther Room
Pr. Laurie Neill, lneill@flcfargo.org

**Quilters**
Mondays, 9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Dorothy Nelson, 701-232-6493

**Learn to Knit and Crochet**
Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m., the Gathering Place

**Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)**
Wednesdays, starting September 10
9:10-11:00 a.m.
Kolene Kane, 701-235-7382

**FCW Circle Meetings**
FCW has five circles that meet each month
Meeting times and dates are available at www.flcfargo.org
President: Wini Christensen, 701-280-0697

**Support & Resources**

**Prayer Partners**
Mondays, 9:00 a.m., Heritage Room
Pr. Jim Hulberg, 701-235-7389

**Men's Ministry**

**Book TBD**
Wednesdays beginning September 17
7:00 p.m., CrossTalk Café
Rolle Johnson, rjohnson@flcfargo.org

**Helping Hands**
Thursdays, 8:30 a.m., Celebration Hall
Dalen Netton, 701-235-7389

**Senior Ministry**

**Wednesday Fellowship**
Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m., Chapel

**First Club**
Third Thursday of the month
2:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

**Travel Ministry - Nashville/Memphis Get-away**
November 15-21, 2014
Judy's Leisure Tours, 701-232-3441 or 800-598-0851

**Children/Family**

**"Holding Your Family Together" Book Study**
Sundays starting September 21
Noon, Luther Room
Shelby Erickson, ser Erickson@flcfargo.org

**Financial Peace University (FPU)**
Tuesdays, September 9-October 28
7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

**REEL Faith**
Third Sunday of the month
4:00 p.m., Biblemax Theater

**Baptism Training Session**
First Sunday of the month
10:15 a.m., Chapel
Becki Tollefson, btollefson@flcfargo.org

**MomTalk**
1st and 3rd Tuesday, 9:00-11:00 a.m., Adult Ed Room

**Christian Education**

**FaithTalk - 3 years old to 4th grade**
Sundays, 10:05 a.m. or Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.
Begins September 7
Leader training, Wednesday, September 3
6:00 p.m., Adult Ed Room
Shelby Erickson, ser Erickson@flcfargo.org

**CrossTalk - 5th and 6th grades**
Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m, CrossTalk Café
Begins Wednesday, September 10
Leader training, Wednesday, September 3
7:00 p.m., Adult Ed Room
Shelby Erickson, ser Erickson@flcfargo.org

**LifeTalk - Grades 7th through 9th grade**
Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m., Celebration Hall
Parent/Child meetings, September 10
7:00 p.m., Celebration Hall
Leader training, Wednesday, September 10
7:45 p.m., Celebration Hall
Graham Sibley, gbibley@flcfargo.org

**Family Supper**
Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m., the Gathering Place

**10th Grade Retreat**
October 10/11
8:00 p.m., Youth Area
Graham Sibley, gbibley@flcfargo.org

**Turkey Trot**
Wednesday, November 12
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Graham Sibley, gbibley@flcfargo.org

**5th and 6th Grade Lock-in**
Friday-Saturday, November 14-15
6:00 p.m. Friday to 7:00 a.m Saturday
Shelby Erickson, ser Erickson@flcfargo.org

**Adult Bible Study**

**"Too BUSY NOT to Prayer" Large Group Study**
Tuesdays, starting September 16
Noon, Fellowship Hall
Pr. Marty Tollefson, mtollefson@flcfargo.org

**Dieterich Bonhoeffer: Life Together**
Tuesdays, September 3, October 7, 14, 21
10:00 a.m., CrossTalk Café
Wednesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22
7:00 p.m., Adult Education Room
Pr. Marty Tollefson, mtollefson@flcfargo.org

**Mission/Outreach**

**Homeless & Hungry 2014**
Saturday and Sunday, October 4/5
Host sites and Fargo Civic Center
Graham Sibley, gbibley@flcfargo.org

**Habitat Build Day**
Thursday, October 9, 8:00-4:00 p.m.
Terry Yoney, tyoney@flcfargo.org

**Mission Soup Sunday**
3rd Sunday of each month, October through March
10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

**Music**

**Children's Choir**
Wednesdays, beginning September 3
5:30 p.m., Celebration Station
Kathy Ferreire, 701-261-2673

**Joyful Noise Choir - Middle School Youth**
Wednesdays, beginning September 10
5:30 p.m., Chapel
Katie Demics, kdamico@dgf.k12.nm.us

**Cathedral Choir**
Wednesdays, beginning September 3
7:00 p.m., Celebration Station
David Ferreire, ferreiradc@mac.com

**Heavenly Bells**
Thursdays, beginning September 4
7:00 p.m., the Gathering Place
Michael Olson, molson@flcfargo.org

**First Lutheran Chamber Orchestra**
First rehearsal, Saturday, September 20
1:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Mary Weisser, 701-232-6180

**Men's Choir**
First rehearsal, Wednesday, September 24
6:00 p.m., Sanctuary
David Ferreire, ferreiradc@mac.com

**Women's Choir**
First rehearsal, Wednesday, October 15
6:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Kathy Ferreire, 701-261-2673

**Wednesday Organ Recital**
Wednesdays, starting September 3
12:45 - 1:15 p.m., Sanctuary
Michael Olson, molson@flcfargo.org

**Health**

**Fibromyalgia Support Group**
3rd Sunday of the month, starting September 21
3:00 p.m., Library
Sue Pedersen

**Caregiving Community Event and Brunch**
Saturday, November 15
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Celebration Hall
Katie Gross, Katie.Gross@flcfargo.org

**Respite Care - Adult Day Services**
Tuesdays, starting September 16
Noon-5:00 p.m., How Great Thou Art Studio
House, Sunday, September 7
10:00 a.m.-Noon, Fellowship Hall
Katie Gross, Katie.Gross@flcfargo.org

**FM Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Group**
2nd Thursday of the month
7:00 p.m., Adult Education Room
Pancreatic Cancer Walk
Thursday, November 13, 6:30 p.m.
Angela Boese, 701-866-7374

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**
4th Thursday of the month
2:30 p.m., Heritage Room
Katie Gross, Katie.Gross@flcfargo.org

**Zumba**
Mondays, starting September 15
5:00 p.m., gym
Rolle Johnson, rjohnson@flcfargo.org

**Center Your Core Class**
Mondays, starting September 15
6:15 p.m., gym
Instructor: Shelley Krosbakken
Rolle Johnson, rjohnson@flcfargo.org

**Tae Kwon Do**
Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting September 9
6:00 p.m., gym
Rolle Johnson, rjohnson@flcfargo.org

**Joyful Noise**
Every Monday-Friday
5:45 a.m., gym
Dalen Netton, 701-235-7390

Although we try to be as accurate as possible, all events are subject to change. For an updated and complete listing of all events and for more detailed information, please go to www.flcfargo.org
Welcome to the September/October/November 2014 issue of First Lutheran Church...

Inside you will find:
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- FirstFest ..... 2
- Life Group & study opportunities ..... 3
- Women’s/Music Ministries ..... 4
- Congregational Care ..... 5
- Caring for Family/Body/Soul ..... 6
- Nursery/MomTalk/FaithTalk ..... 7
- CrossTalk/LifeTalk/Harvest Carnival ..... 8
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- Calendar of events ..... 11

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.”
-Psalm 100:4a

On Sunday, September 7, and Wednesday, September 10, we return to our fall schedule and start our Christian education classes.

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