



JANUARY BELL



A Publication of First Lutheran Church



EPIPHANY 2024

Epiphany means “appearance” or “manifestation,” highlighting three significant signs marking the divinity of Jesus.

- Star led Maji- Matthew 2
- Water into Wine- John 2
- Baptism of our Lord- Mark 1

All of these narratives demonstrate the divinity of Jesus. We will begin this year with Baptism of our Lord Sunday. The other two Epiphany miracle texts will come in upcoming years as the scripture readings are on a 3-year rotation cycle.

Baptism of our Lord Sunday and Transfiguration of our Lord Sunday bookend the Epiphany Season. Both are “festival” or “high” Sundays on the liturgical landscape. Notice , there are 6 Sundays listed here. I have decided to divide seasonally rather than monthly this year, as Lent will arrive soon this year! Paradoxically, Ash Wednesday falls on Valentines Day this year!

January 7 th	Baptism of our Lord	Mark 1: 4-11
January 14 th	Jesus calls Phillip and Nathaniel	John 1: 43-51
January 21 st	Jesus calls the first disciples	Mark 1: 14-20
January 28 th	Jesus heals a man with unclean spirit	Mark 1: 21-28
February 4 th	Jesus heals many at Simon’s house	Mark 1: 29-39
February 11 th	Transfiguration of our Lord	Mark 9: 2-9

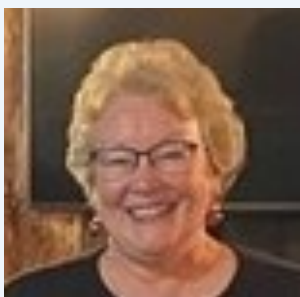
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This year gets off to a very exciting start as we will have the Baptism of Daisy Darlene Johnson on January 7th-Baptism of our Lord Sunday! I look forward to seeing you all in church throughout the Epiphany season. If you have been coming, keep on coming! If you haven't been a "regular," make it your resolution! Come! It is a new year and a new day.... For you and for all of us as we gather to worship our Lord Jesus this Epiphany!

See you in church!

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Pastor Hans



Welcome to NEW MEMBER Patty (Hopper) Sweeny! She has transferred from First Lutheran Church in Hinckley MN. Patty was confirmed and married in this church and has moved back to the area. We are happy to have her back!

FLCW Notes

All enjoyed the FLCW Advent Dinner. We will do it again next year!



Thank you to Holly Knutson and Annette Newton for the wonderful effort they put forth to coordinate the FLCW Cookie/Lefse Sale.
Thank you to all the cookie, candy and lefse makers.

42 quilts made by Dorcas Sewing Circle and 4 blankets were loaded onto a semi truck bound for Lutheran World Relief. Thank you to Denny Aleckson for leading the packing and delivery of the quilts/blankets to the pick up spot. Thank you to all whose hands made these quilts and to all those who donated to make the ministry happen.

FLCW Notes

In December **FLCW gave monetary Christmas gifts** to Good Samaritan Nursing Home, River's Edge, Pine River Group Home, First Lutheran Staff, Twin Port Ministry, Lutheran Social Services, Pine River Library, Voyageur's Lutheran Ministry and Concordia outreach.

From the sale of Rada cutlery, FLCW donated \$254.45 to the First Lutheran Youth Account.



The **FLCW Board Meeting** will be at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. We will review the FLCW budget and calendar for 2024. All are welcome!

January Circle Meetings

Dorcas Sewing Circle

Meetings 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.

January meeting dates are January *4th and 18th*

Naomi Circle

Will meet on Thursday, January 18 at 1:30 PM in the church Fellowship Hall. Denise Smith will be the hostess.

Kitchen Committee meeting will be Thursday, January 4 at 4 PM.



January 2024

Worship Volunteers

January 7, 2024

Baptism of Our Lord

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Chuck Brasel

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

January 14, 2024

2nd Sunday in Epiphany

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Sandy Gilbertson

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday of Epiphany

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Denice Smith

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

January 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Noisy Offering

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound: Val Johnson

Zoom: Cora Hohnstadt

Ushers: Paul Pearson & Paul Sasse

Counter: Irene Gearey

Altar Guild: Penny Siewert & Jan Brasel

FINANCIAL DATA
SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 - DECEMBER 26, 2023

Budgeted Income (all areas)	\$52,204.81
Actual Income (all areas)	<u>48,236.97</u>
Difference (BELOW BUDGET)	(\$ 3,967.84)
Budgeted Expenses	\$52,204.29
Actual Expenses	<u>38,010.28</u>
Difference (BELOW BUDGET)	(\$14,194.01)
Actual Income (all areas)	\$48,236.97
Actual Expenses	<u>38,010.28</u>
Difference	\$10,226.69
ACTUAL PREVIOUS MONTH CHECKING:	
Nov. 30 Ending Balance	\$38,478.90
Nov. 1 Beginning Balance	<u>38,588.91</u>
Difference (negative)	(\$ 110.01)
November Income	\$12,194.29
November Expenditures	<u>12,304.30</u>
Difference (negative)	(\$ 110.01)

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 numbers.

January's Noisy Offering will be going to the Freedom Ranch in Brainerd. Freedom Ranch provides housing where girls rescued from the enslavement of human trafficking can begin healing with the help of counselors, educators, and health care professionals in a safe environment.

Thank you for continuing to support our Noisy Offering ministry.

Sunday School News



Our Sunday School students worked hard during the month of December to prepare our Christmas program that they presented on December 17th. The kids did a wonderful job telling us the story of Jesus' birth! Sunday School will resume on January 7th. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

2024 First Lutheran Church Council

President:	Denice Smith
Vice President:	Val Johnson
Secretary:	Jan Brasel
Adult Education:	Penny Siewert
Children's Ministry:	Melanie Lindquist
Finance:	Gloria Johnson
Mission:	Camden Zinda
Property:	Art Schmidt
Stewardship:	Barb Richards
Worship & Music :	Anne Holm
Youth:	Kayci Finley

Thank you to all for your willingness to serve!

Member's Reflections

What is one of your favorite vacations?



Erik Lindquist

In September of 2004 I traveled to New York City with my dad (Kevin) and brother (Halsey). This was the only time the three of us did a big trip together and we had such a great time.

We packed a lot into our relatively short visit.

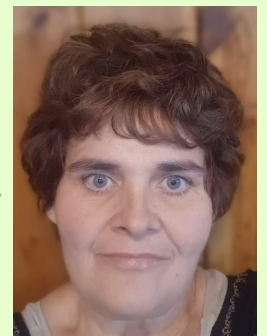
Our hotel was just a block off the SW corner of Central Park and so much of Manhattan was within walking distance for us to explore. The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History were two highlights for me. Along with spending quality time wandering Times Square, we found a few cool places to eat. At the top of that list was an historic establishment: McSorley's Old Ale House....I recommend the liverwurst sandwich.

The timing of the trip was directly tied to a regular season baseball series between the MN Twins and NY Yankees. Initially we had purchased tickets to a single game. However, as fate would have it, the game from the night before was rained out so our tickets to one game now allowed us admission into a double header at the old Yankee stadium!! A full day of hot dog eating, perfect weather and friendly back and forth banter with nearby Yankee fans was more than the three Lindquist men from MN could have hoped for. I still have a batting practice foul ball that I grabbed before the first game; a fun souvenir to remember the day by.

All in all, a great trip with two of the most important men in my life. It's probably time for us to do it again!!

Christy Goodpasture

As a child we never went anywhere outside of my hometown of Atchison, Kansas. We did however go to a place called State Lake and camp in the summer with Grandpa and Grandma, Aunts, Uncles, and cousins. Grandpa would take us to the bait and tackle shop. We always got a Chico stick. The adults would catch enough frogs to have frog legs and fish for dinner. We played baseball, swam, fished and loved being around each other, a perfect summer vacation.





January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Church Office Closed	2	3	4 9:00 AM Dorcas 4:00 PM Kitchen Committee	5	6
7 9:00 AM Service 10:00 Coffee 10:15 Sunday School	8	9	10 6:00 PM Confirmation	11	12	13
14 9:00 AM Service 10:00 Coffee 10:15 Sunday School	15	16 5:00 PM FLCW Board Meeting	17 6:00 PM Confirmation	18 9:00 AM Dorcas 1:30 PM Naomi Circle	19	20
21 9:00 AM Service 10:00 Coffee 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Church Council	22	23	24 6:00 PM Confirmation	25	26	27
28 9:00 AM Service 10:00 Coffee 10:15 Sunday School	29	30	31			



Sunday Worship

Worship & Communion	9:00 AM.
Coffee & Fellowship	10:00 AM
Sunday School	10:15 AM

Pastor: Hans Anderson

Church Office: 218-587-2316

www.1stluth.org