



May Bell

A Publication of First Lutheran Church



The Lake: Come what May!

This year we have been exploring natural themes in the Bible.

January “The river”-Jordan River and the Baptism of our Lord

February “Light”- Epiphany themes illuminating Christ’s divinity.

March “Mountain & Valleys”- Transfiguration, then descending into valleys.

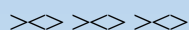
April “Garden”- of Gethsemane and Mount of Olives and Easter hope!

We will spend the month of **May** at “The Lake,” adventuring to Lake Gennesaret and Tiberius as found in John 6 & 21.

May 4	Grad. Recognition Day	“Catching a Net Load”	John 21: 1-8
May 11	New Member/Mother’s Day	“Breakfast on the Beach”	John 21: 9-13
May 18	Joyful Noise	“Fish sticks for 5,000!”	John 6: 1-13
May 25	Vision Sunday	“Water-walker”	John 6: 16-21

May is a very special month in the life of our congregation as we celebrate New Members, Mothers and our Graduating Seniors. May is a very special time in our faith Journey as well as we are in the season and spirit of Easter, learning about Jesus through John’s Gospel. May is a very special time for the Anderson family as we have our daughter graduating from Highschool. Come what May... I am excited for the green, the growth, and the gardening! I am excited for the blue, the blue water, and the blue skies. I am excited... come what May!

See you in church!



Pastor Hans

We will be having a new member potluck on May 11th following the service. Please bring a dish to share. Alicia, our directory photographer will be here to take pictures of our new members and will take pictures of any others who were missed with the original sitting.



Thank you to Art Schmidt, Ron Kiffmeyer, Desi Aleckson and Mark Lange for installing our new refrigerator.

After 15 faithful years, the **First Lutheran Church refrigerator** was beyond repair. A new refrigerator was purchased, which was \$2,846.61. A generous memorial donation for kitchen use covered \$1,522.90 of this cost. Additional donations have come in , which leaves a \$525.00 balance. Donations will allow budgeted benevolence giving of First Lutheran Women to continue. Donations should be to FLCW. Any questions, please contact Denice Smith, Kitchen Committee Chair. **THANK YOU!**

FLCW Notes

Thank you to everyone who gave bars of soap to the Lenten FLCW Mission Project. 333 bars of soap were received and shared with the Tiger Den Food Shelf at the Pine River School, First Lutheran's My Little Church and the Pine River Backus Area Food Shelf.

God's Work, Your Hands!

The May "Out to Lunch" is May 20th We will carpool from the church at 11:00 AM and head to Dunmire's on the lake.

The logo for Dunmire's On The Lakes features the name "DUNMIRE'S" in a large, stylized, serif font with a slight shadow effect. Below it, the words "ON THE LAKES" are written in a smaller, clean, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a dark blue rectangular background.

Kitchen

Committee

meeting
will be
Wednesday,
May 28th @
4:00 PM

Please note
the change
in date

May 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.

May gathering dates are the 1st and 15th

Naomi Circle

Will not be gathering in May. See you at the Retreat!

June 16 and 17 is the WOMEN OF THE ELCA NE MN Synod Summer Convention at Zion Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids. If you would like to go for the day, please contact Denice Smith @ 218-820-4522

FLCW Notes Continued

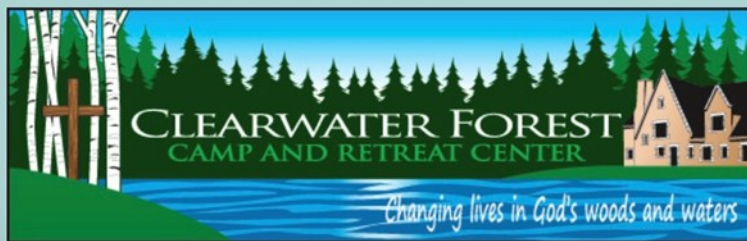
FLCW RETREAT AT CLEARWATER FOREST CAMP

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

Our day includes lunch, a bible study led by Pastor Hans, enjoyment of the camp grounds and a pontoon ride.

We will carpool from the church at 10:30 AM

COME ENJOY THE DAY



June, July and December are in need of someone to lead coffee and fellowship time. It would be a good opportunity to form a small group to serve or take on the opportunity yourself. If you are interested or have questions contact Colleen Moser @ 218-507-0218 or Denice Smith @ 218-820-4522. If no one volunteers there will be no fellowship for these months



FLCW Notes Continued

Each December FLCW sponsors “**Red Stocking Sunday**”. The offering in the red stockings go to the Pine River Backus Family Center to help local families in need. **The following thank you was received and tells how needed and important this donation is .**

Thank you so much for your donation to the Family Center Home Visiting program. This is was a thank you from one of the families you've helped.

Amy Gordon,
Family Support
Specialist

I want to say I really appreciate the help with getting a new battery for my vehicle as I was in, a very hard spot while trying to get my kids to and from school/daycare on top of finding a job and housing. It helped my family so much in a whole. It got us into a new place, school/daycare and a new job to be able to provide for my two boys became very emotional as I tried all my resources and you guys decided to help us out! I can not thank you enough for the help.

Darlene

May 2025

Worship Volunteers

May 4, 2025

3rd Sunday of Easter

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound:

Val Johnson

Zoom:

Cora Hohnstadt

May 11, 2025

4th Sunday of Easter

Reader:

Kaye Schroeder

Communion Assistants:

Sound:

Denice Smith

Zoom:

Cora Hohnstadt

May 18, 2025

5th Sunday of Easter

Reader:

Val Johnson

Communion Assistants:

Val Johnson

Sound:

Val Johnson

Zoom:

Cora Hohnstadt

May 25, 2025

6th Sunday of Easter

Noisy Offering

Reader:

Communion Assistants:

Sound:

Denice Smith

Zoom:

Cora Hohnstadt

Ushers: Paul Pearson & Jim Riess

Counter: Denice Smith

Altar Guild: Penny Siewert & JoAnn Nelson & Irene Gearey

Coffee Jody Perry

FINANCIAL DATA
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 - April 18, 2025

Budgeted Income (all areas)	\$106,562.15
Actual Income (all areas)	<u>104,488.60</u>
Difference (BELOW BUDGET)	(\$ 2,073.55)

Budgeted Expenses	\$106,532.86
Actual Expenses	<u>99,358.18</u>
Difference (BELOW BUDGET)	(\$ 7,174.68)

Actual Income (all areas)	\$104,488.60
Actual Expenses	<u>99,358.18</u>
Difference	\$ 5,130.42

ACTUAL PREVIOUS MONTH CHECKING:

Mar. 31 Ending Balance	\$50,813.76
Mar. 1 Beginning Balance	<u>50,971.57</u>
Difference (loss)	(\$ -157.81)

Mar. Income	\$14,961.26
Mar. Expenditures	<u>15,119.07</u>
Difference (loss)	(\$ -157.81)

Because there are some changes in income and expenses after this 106,562.15555report is written, you will see the bottom portion of the report giving the actual previous month's numbers.



May's Noisy Offering will be going to the Community Meals. The Community Meal is served on Mondays at the Riverview Church in Pine River. The meal is served on Wednesday in Backus at the Senior Center. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause.

First Lutheran Church
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

***Congratulations to eight members of First Lutheran Church
who will be receiving scholarships for college.***

Kaya Anderson will receive a \$1,000 First Lutheran Church Scholarship. She will be attending California Lutheran University studying Christian leadership, Social Work and Spanish.

Kelsey Bergem will receive a \$1,000 First Lutheran Church Scholarship. She will be attending Concordia College Moorhead studying for a BS degree in Nursing (BSN).

Hudson Juel will receive a \$1,000 First Lutheran Church Scholarship. He will be attending Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, majoring in Exercise Science.

Ayla Richards will receive a \$1,000 First Lutheran Church Scholarship. She will be attending Bemidji State University majoring in Accounting with a minor in Music

Also receiving a \$500 renewal scholarship from First Lutheran Church:

Ashley Shamp will be continuing at Bethany Luther College, Mankato majoring in Special Education

Madelyn Knapp will be continuing at Wisconsin Luther College, majoring in Sports & Exercise Science

Anneka Lindquist will be attending Bemidji State University, majoring in Social Studies Education and Psychology.

Olivia Anderson also received a \$500 renewal from the John Gearey Scholarship Fund. She continues her studies for a AA Degree at Central Lakes in Brainerd.

Congratulations to Kaya, Kelsey, Hudson, Ayla, Olivia, Madelyn, Anneka, and Ashley.



WOW

We had a fantastic year with WOW. Thank you to the many volunteers that helped with this new program.



SPORTS CAMP 2025

PRESENTED BY

First Lutheran Church, New Life,
Mildred Bible Chapel, and Riverview Church

Sports Offered:

6-12 year olds: Basketball,
Soccer, Girl's Cheerleading

4-5 year olds: Team 45



Date: July 7-11

Time: 9:00 am-12:15 pm

OR 5:00-8:15 pm

Place: Riverview Church 310 Norway Ave Pine River

A light lunch will be served during the morning camp.

A family meal will be served at 4:30 pm

FREE

Contact: Kim Norman

kim.riverviewchurch@gmail.com

218.587.2021

Registration Link:

riverviewchurchpr.org

www.uwsportsministry.org



Register Here!



2025
2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sunday Worship 9:00 AM Coffee 10:00 AM				1 Dorcas 9:00 AM	2 Synod Assembly	3 Synod Assembly
4 Senior Recognition New Member Class 10:00 AM	5	6	7	8	9	10 Cunningham/DeGrote Wedding
11 New Member Service Potluck 10:00 AM	12	13	14	15 Dorcas 9:00 AM	16	17
18 Joyful Noise Church Council 10:00 AM	19	20 Out to Lunch 11:00 AM FLCW Board 5:00 PM	21	22	23	24
25 Vision Sunday	26 Church office Closed Memorial Day	27 RETREAT Clearwater Camp 10:30 AM	28 Kitchen Committee 4:00 PM	29	30	31

Dear members of our church community,

We want to start by expressing gratitude for your unwavering support and generosity towards our church. Your contributions have been essential to our ability to continue carrying out our mission and serving the needs of our community.

We also want to take this opportunity to introduce our new e-giving platform, Vanco. This platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online, and we are confident that it will make giving more convenient for many members of our congregation.

Whether you choose to give online or in person, your support is vital to the continued success of our church community. We are so grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission.

Thank you again for all that you do.



First Lutheran Church



Sunday Worship

Worship & Communion 9:00 AM.

Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 AM

Pastor: Hans Anderson

Church Office: 218-587-2316

www.1stluth.org

1stluthpr@gmail.com