

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*Building Faith and
Transforming Lives
in Christ.*

www.firstlutheranofmandan.org
We're on the web!



Christmas Eve
SERVICE

ADDRESS LABEL

**Christmas Eve
Services**

2:00 P.M.

4:00 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

Merry Christmas!

First Lutheran Church December Newsletter

December 2017

First Lutheran Staff

Administrative Pastor
Rev. Lee Herberg
663-3594

Associate Pastor
Rev. Christina Martin
663-3594

**Administrative Assistant &
Coordinator of Lay
Ministries**
Jackie Schulz
663-3594 (o)
663-3082 (h)

Custodians
Ron & Mavis Watson

Financial Administration
Jennifer Scheet

**First Lutheran Is A Mission
Partner with Camp of the
Cross Ministries**

Revelation 21:1-7

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. ⁷Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. NSRV

Nancy Zieman, the longtime host of "Sewing with Nancy" on PBS, died on November 14, 2017 after a battle with two different types of cancer. Her funeral was held on Saturday, November 18th at Peace Lutheran Church in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Nancy recorded 910 episodes of her program over 36 seasons since its inception in 1982; her last episode was titled "I Sew for Fun" which featured her granddaughters, whom she was teaching to sew. I never really watched her show but my wife was a big fan. I thought about her this past week however, as she wrote her own 'goodbye' to her faithful followers. She wrote "It is not easy to say goodbye, especially since the terms were totally unexpected. I have learned during these past weeks to concentrate on my faith. You may not share my beliefs; I respect that, yet I would not be true to myself if I did not state the verse that I am focusing on during this last journey. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Lean not on your own understanding. Acknowledge Him in all you do and He will direct your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

Nancy knew her life was ending, but she also knew that death would not be the end. As she was saying goodbye to her followers, she was teaching her granddaughters how to sew. One life ending, other lives just beginning.

As I write this, we are almost at the end of the church year. Sunday, November 26th is Christ the King, the last Sunday of the church year. But that Sunday does not mark the end of the church; we will begin again with the cycle of Advent, the season of anticipation of new birth. We will go again to the manger and behold the Light of the world. In the book of Revelation, Jesus states "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end." In Christ, our ending is but a new beginning. As Nancy has been made new, so shall we and all who trust in the Lord with all our heart. As Nancy dedicated her life to making something new (all of those beautiful quilts) to keep us warm, may God wrap his warm grace around you this Advent!

Until next time,

Pastor Lee

**FOR TO US
A SON IS GIVEN**

Senior Christmas Gathering

Senior Service and Meal

December 12th, 2017

Service at 11:00 A.M.

Dinner at 12:00 P.M.

Roast Pork Dinner with Trimmings to follow.

RSVP the church office 663-3594 ASAP!!!

Come join us for Food, Fellowship, and Fun.



ANGEL TREE NAMES

Linda Anseth will be sitting in the narthex with angel tree names through December 13th. **The gifts have to be delivered to the church no later than December 17th, 2017.** Please stop by and pick up a name today. They are also wanting chapstick, hats, mittens, scarfs, & non-perishable food items (canned goods with "pop top" lids) by the tree to give to the children. If you have any questions please call Linda at 663-2933.



We have lefse & lutefisk available to buy. The cost for lefse is \$1.50 per sheet and lutefisk is \$4.95 a pound. Please stop in the office or call 663-3594. Thank you!

Attention First Lutheran Church Participants:

On Sunday, December 24th there will be NO WORSHIP SERVICES in the morning.

On Sunday, December 31st there will only be ONE SERVICE of Lessons & Carols at 9:30 A.M.

Church School Christmas Program

Sunday School Schedule

Practice - Sunday, December 3rd & 10th 9:30-10:30 A.M.

Program - Sunday, December 17th at 10:45 A.M.

Wednesday School Schedule

Practice - Wednesday, December 6th & 13th 7:00-7:30 P.M.

Program - Wednesday, December 20th at 6:00 P.M.

Caramel Roll Sale

The youth will be selling **homemade** caramel rolls on Sunday, January 7th for coffee hour and also to go!

We are taking pre-orders, starting December 3rd.

For **PRE-SELL** we will be selling a dozen for \$35.00.

We can only accept the first 70 dozen pre-orders so order fast!

The day of January 7th, we will be selling a dozen for \$40.00, 2 for \$5.00 or 1 for \$3.00.

Starting Sunday December 3rd, there will be a sign up sheet in the narthex for the pre-sell. Please include your name, phone number & the amount you will want to buy.

(We will call you the morning of Saturday, January 6th to pick up your pre-orders)

Make sure to pick up some extra rolls and take them home to share with family and friends!

All proceeds will go to **youth mission trip** this summer!!



Mark Your Calendar...



6th: 7pm - Confirmation - Large Group

7th: LAF ~ Sandwiches

13th: 7pm - Confirmation - Large Group

14th: LAF ~ Nachos

20th: 7pm - Confirmation - Small Group

21th: LAF ~ Baked Potato

27th: No Confirmation

28th: No LAF

December Youth Page

Upcoming Events

I recently came across an article that I wanted to share:

"One youth group decided to "Pastor-nap" their pastor as a fundraising project. On a Friday afternoon, the MTT came in and kidnapped their pastor. They had a video team on hand and MTT taped the invasion leading to the ransom of the pastor for only \$2,000. "If you give us the money, you get him back. If you don't give us the money, you still get him back." On Sunday morning, the Pastor was still no place in sight. The service went on as planned with the teenagers leading the service. Then, a group of teens dressed in black quietly entered the service. The music stopped suddenly and the tape was shown. The leaders presented their own part of the video by being the News Telecasters. As the service ended, so did the pastor-nap. The "terrorists" stood at the doors with their bags to collect the \$2,000 ransom." (Source: *Youth for Christ/USA (Englewood, California)*)

Keep your eyes open on December 10th and 13th! I have heard the youth whispering, and we might just have a kidnapping ourselves.

Come and Experience Ruby's Runway Pageant ! (A Christmas Play)

You are invited to join us on December 17th at 10:45 AM or December 20th at 6:00 PM for a runway fashion show in the making that showcases nativity fashion.

Be prepared for a family friendly show with a few laughs.

Don't forget every child will receive a goodie bag as they leave. The cart will be found in the Narthex.

Peanut-free bags are available on request.



Pastoral Acts

Baptisms:

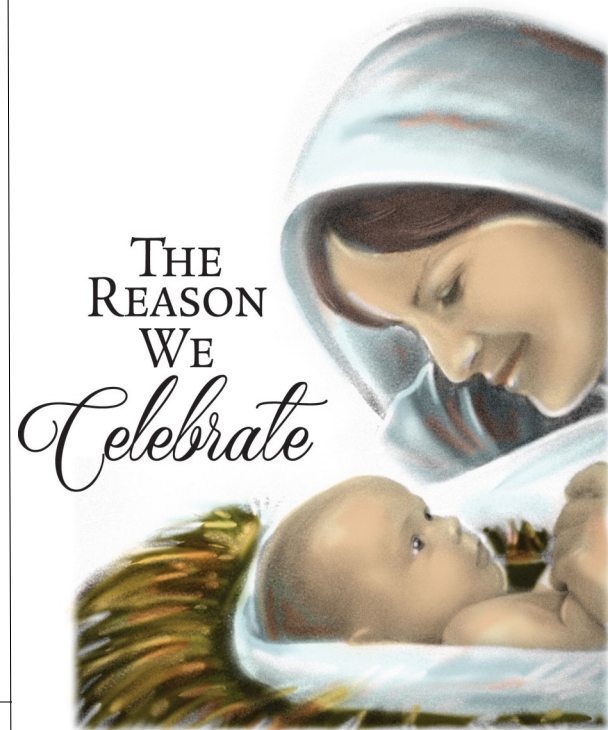
November 19 Cameron Armand Parada
November 26 Gavin James Keller

Weddings:

November 4 Brady & Melissa Wolf
(Renewal of Vows)
November 18 Milo Miller & Virginia Miller

Funerals:

November 4 Susan Berger
November 9 Lorraine Buehler



Deadline for articles for the January Newsletter will be December 18th.

Memorial Fund

In memory of Harry, Gerald, Sandy, Ruth & Herbert Renken given by Hilda Renken & family.

In memory of Steven Stack given by Rosalie Svihla, Cheryllyn Schmidt, donations from family & friends.

In memory of Shirley Steffenson given by Dave & Kathy MacIver.

In memory of James E. Schlender given by Jean Schlender.

December ~ Mission of the Month

No Mission of the Month this month due to the giving for the Christmas Angel Tree!

Special Thanks

Thank you to all the greeters, ushers, communion servers, readers, communion set-up, coffee hour workers, and to all who have supplied goodies for the last month. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Worship Schedule

Sunday ~

8:30 am ~ Traditional
10:45 am ~ Contemporary
9:30 am ~ Coffee
9:30 am ~ Church School

Wednesday ~

6:00 pm ~ Transitional
6:00 pm ~ Church School
7:00 pm ~ Confirmation



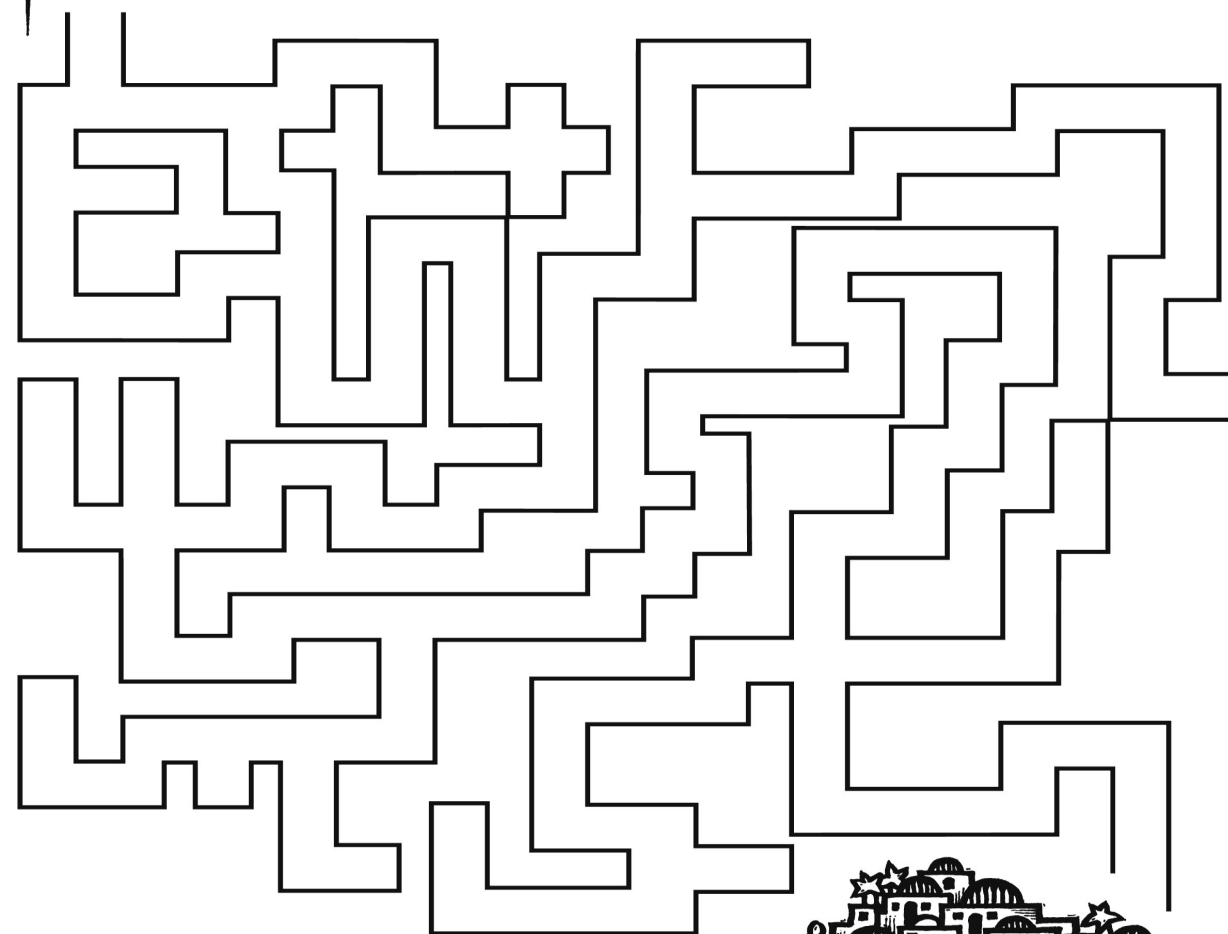
JOURNEY TO **BETHLEHEM**

In the Christmas story in Luke 2, an angel tells some shepherds to go see baby Jesus in Bethlehem.



START

Directions: Follow the maze to arrive in Bethlehem.



BETHLEHEM



October	Oct-17	YTD	2017	Percentage
FINANCIAL GIFTS	2017	2017	ANNUAL	2017
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	%
Total Receipts	55,508.94	388,931.47	535,591.68	72.62%
Total Disbursements	42,651.35	411,263.70	535,591.68	76.79%
Receipts Over or (Under)				
Disbursement	12,857.59	(22,332.23)		
BUDGET 2017				
ACTUAL INCOME vs. BUDGET				
	Received	Weekly	Difference	
October 1, 2017	12,465.07	10,298.00	2,167.07	
October 8, 2017	11,423.85	10,298.00	1,125.85	
October 15, 2017	6,552.76	10,298.00	(3,745.24)	
October 22, 2017	19,472.83	10,298.00	9,174.83	
October 29, 2017	5,570.95	10,298.00	(4,727.05)	
Interest Earned on Checking	\$ 23.48			
	55,508.94	51,490.00	4,018.94	
BUDGET 2017				
DEBT RETIREMENT				
BUILDING FUND	Received	Weekly	Difference	
October 1, 2017	929.00	923.00	6.00	
October 8, 2017	941.00	923.00	18.00	
October 15, 2017	568.00	923.00	(355.00)	
October 22, 2017	1,218.00	923.00	295.00	
October 29, 2017	1,118.00	924.00	194.00	
	4,774.00	4,616.00	158.00	
ATTENDANCE FOR OCTOBER 2017		ATTENDANCE FOR OCTOBER 2016		
October 1, 2017	254	October 2, 2016	286	
October 4, 2017	106	October 5, 2016	94	
October 8, 2017	350	October 9, 2016	252	
October 11, 2017	93	October 12, 2016	116	
October 15, 2017	301	October 16, 2016	290	
October 18, 2017	45	October 19, 2016	54	
October 22, 2017	262	October 23, 2016	249	
October 25, 2017	82	October 26, 2016	100	
10/29/2017 (Reformation 500 Service at Event Center)		October 30, 2016	298	
Total Attendance for Month	1,493		1,739	

First Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Date: 10-19-2017

Members present:

Pastor Lee Herberg, , President Jessie Hilfer, Vice President DJ Campbell, Secretary Andrea Bonness, Wayne Friesz, Ron Webb, Tim Faller, Kevin Fishbeck and Jill Miller.

Members absent: Pastor Christina Martin

Devotions were presented by Pastor Lee Herberg

Approval of Agenda:

Moved by: Jill Miller

Seconded by: DJ Campbell

Motion Passed

Secretary's Report and Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Kevin Fishbeck

Seconded by: Wayne Friesz

Motion passed

Financial Report/Review

Income for September: \$33,370.18 Expenses \$36,621.20

Extra expenses included \$647.05 for the boiler treatment, piano & organ tuning \$452.00, and the quarterly insurance payment. The building fund giving was up \$800.00 for the month.

Unfinished Business

Topic: Reformation Sunday

Service set up will start at 8:00 am on Oct 28. This will include decorations, banners and communion supplies. There will be 52 ushers and 52 communion servers. Service is at 11am on Oct 29 at the Bismarck Event Center.

Topic: Special Meeting

The application and financial documents are complete and will be submitted early, before the Nov 1 deadline.

Topic: Additional Cameras

We are still waiting to hear back from the company on additional costs.

New Business

> Benefits for Support Staff

Handouts were given from Portico Benefits to review as a possible option for support staff. Pastor Lee will check with Jackie to see if she would be interested in this and more if so more information will be sought.

>Team Budgets

Guidelines and actual expense reports were handed out to the committees as a guide to set next year's budgets. These will be due at next month's meeting.

>Stewardship Sunday

Stewardship Sunday will be Sunday November 12 & Wednesday November 15.

Pledge cards will handed out for the 2018 budget.

> Christmas Services

Services will be Dec 24 at 2pm, 4pm & 7pm.

There will be only 1 service on Dec 31 at 9:30 am.

> Staff Evaluations

These will be completed by President Jessie Hilfer & DJ Campbell by Nov 30.

Reports:**Pastor Lee:**

4 Baptisms, 1 Funeral, 2 Weddings, 0 Committals

Attended the annual meeting at Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center.

Officiated at September communion services at Sunset and Miller Pointe Prospera communities and Library Square II.

Continues to meet with Bill Dodd who will be ordained on Dec 3 in Almont. Pastor Lee will be the guest preacher there that day.

Pastor Chris:

6 Baptisms, 1 Funeral, 2 Weddings, 0 Committals

Attended the annual meeting at Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center.

Continues to serve on the board at AID, Inc. They just had their Oct meeting.

She was asked by Synod staff to be the Internship Supervisor for a TEEM candidate. There will be training involved but the costs are covered. It involves 2 meetings a month, 1 with the candidate and 1 with the internship committee.

Will be attending Synod Day Training Nov 2- Nov 4 in Houston, TX.

Will be on vacation Nov 15-Nov 24.

Special Events:

> Lutfisk feed on Oct 21

> Trunk or Treat will be Oct 31, from 5pm-7:30pm. 24 trunks have been registered. Hotdogs, chips & drinks will be served in the church basement by the Outreach and Evangelism Team.

> 2nd graders will receive bibles on Nov 8 & 12.

Stewardship:

No Report

Worship:

No Report

Parish Education/Youth:

> Oct 6 & 7 Camp of the Cross youth bash; 17 attended and this counts as a confirmation retreat.

> Oct 19-21 LYO in Minot with 6 attendees; also provided transportation for youth and a chaperone from Good Shepherd in Bismarck.

> Oct 29 at 3:00 pm 18 students will be confirmed.

> Emails will be sent out to the church school families to invite them to attend Trunk or Treat.

> Nov 2-4 Pastor Chris will be in Houston TX for Synod Day training for the National Youth Gathering.

> 2nd grade bibles will be given on Nov 8 & 12. Sponsors for the bibles are Tom & Linda Anseth.

Evangelism and Outreach:

> LAF attendees for Oct 5 were around 375 (sponsored by Dakota Community Bank)

Oct 12 attendance was 325, no LAF on Oct 19 due to teacher's convention.

> Puzzle distribution donations and distributions continue to senior housing facilities.

Property and Management:

Roof replacement and sky light project is complete

Correspondence:

A thank you memo was received from Golden Age for donations in the amount of \$86.12 for September for the home delivered meal program. A thank you memo received from Missouri Slope for donations received in the amount of \$145.33 for September.

Motion to Adjourn/Lord's Prayer

Motion by: Jill Miller **Seconded by:** DJ Campbell

Meeting was adjourned by President Jessie Hilfer. The next Council meeting will be at 7:00 on November 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes Submitted by: Andrea Bonness, Secretary**Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center's M-Club Announces 2017 M-Club Gifts**

In 2017, the M-Club was able to award nearly \$45,000 in funding for enhancements at Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center and Valley View Heights. In September three projects were funded including additional lift chairs for resident lounges, support for fresh flowers in resident dining rooms, and additional craft supplies for the activities department.

The M-Club was organized in 1968 to assist MSLCC in attaining its mission. Funds contributed to the M-Club are for equipment or projects which enhance the lives of our resident and tenants. Joining the M-Club is easy! For more information contact our Foundation Director, Jessica Gilbertson at 701-221-9349 or jgilbertson@mslcc.com. Thank you to our generous congregations and donors for making the work of the M-Club possible.

Beer and Hymns - December 4, 2017

Come and join us and have a great time singing and drinking the beverage of your choice. This is for anyone age 21 and up. Every month they have taken an offering, which has been given to good causes near and far. This is held at the Harvest Brazilian Grill on the first Monday of the month. You can check out their Facebook page at Beer and Hymns - North Dakota. We hope to see you there. (December's Beer and Hymns will be all Christmas music). The singing starts at 7:00 P.M. and if you would like to eat first they have their buffet set up at 6:00 P.M.

German English Advent Service at Faith Lutheran Church, 1402 E. Ave. C, Bismarck, from 2:30-3:30 P.M on December 3rd. There will be goodies & coffee after the event. Please join us!