

Crosswalk



Newsletter of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho

“May the fourth” be with you

If you have any Star Wars enthusiasts in your life (like I do), you’ll know there is a relatively new holiday to contend with in the month of May. Using the catch phrase from Star Wars of “May the Force be with you” they build a pun of “May the fourth” be with you. From there Star Wars fanatics spend the day celebrating all things Star Wars. And this is no small crowd since the Star Wars Empire has been garnering fans for nearly a half century of existence. (The original was released May 25, 1977.) While I personally don’t think “May the 4th” will ever rival Mother’s Day or Memorial Day for May’s spotlight, it’s still a fun, whimsical way to brighten up an otherwise “ordinary day.” May The Fourth Be With You!

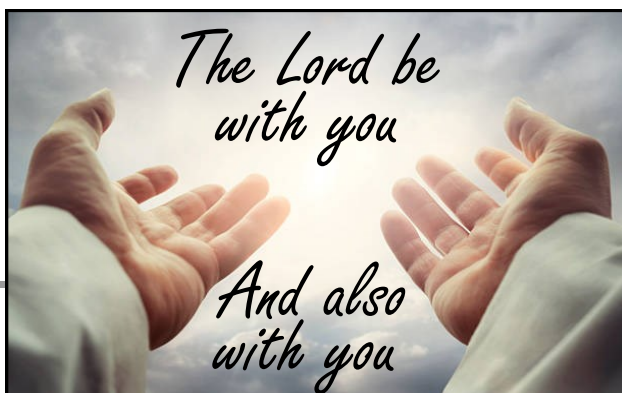
In actuality, George Lucas’ clever line about “May the Force Be With You” in Star Wars is nothing but a poorly-veiled reference to an ancient Christian greeting that is still used in many churches today. The greeting starts with one person saying; “The Lord be with you” and the other person responding saying “And also with you.” In fact, when I attended the “sneak preview” of Star Wars prior to its general release (yes, I was a very nerdy teen) the audience was apparently made up of died-in-the-wool liturgical Christians because when the first “May the Force Be With You” was uttered there was an audible “And also with you” from the crowd!! It had everyone giggling during a very serious moment. Since Star Wars has been around so long, folks no longer giggle about that line but look forward to it and long for its repetition in each subsequent episode.

When first century Christians began wishing “the Lord be with you” to their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, I’m sure some outsiders snickered a little or even questioned it a bit. Think of it, wishing someone well by reminding them of a crucified criminal just doesn’t seem right. The greeting only makes sense if you believe Jesus Christ is a Risen Lord, and more specifically your risen Lord. When you add that belief to this greeting then wishing someone the Risen Lord’s presence has tremendously positive connotations.

Jesus, the risen Lord and Savior, has been changing lives for the better for over two centuries. The message of his life, death, and resurrection has formed a forceful movement for a millennium now. The Risen Lord’s presence, while mostly unseen, can certainly be felt by his followers. The Risen Lord’s power, while mostly ignored and made fun of by unbelievers, gives hope and healing to his adherents. No wonder believers greet each other with the wish “The Lord be with you.”

I wonder if George Lucas was trying to tie his fantasy tale of good and evil into the historical reality of the Christian experience? If he was, I wonder if that isn’t a big part of why his series has been so successful. If so, “hats off to him” for being so clever. BUT, while I’ll tip my hat to him, I’ll never give my heart to him. That’s reserved for the true force of heaven, Jesus Christ, my risen Lord and Savior. So while others in May are fancifully wishing each other “May the Fourth be with you,” I’ll continue to faithfully greet my brothers and sisters in Christ with “May the Lord be with you.”

Christ is Risen, Pastor Mike



Volume 121— Issue 5
May 2022

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Announcements



Help Needed

Last year our Property Team removed all of the dead trees and bushes from the center island. On May 21st we will be renting a backhoe and removing about 4" of weeds and sand from the top. We will then cover it with new fabric and add new gravel with decorative rocks. That's where we need help! All the heavy work will done with the backhoe, but we need people to help lay the fabric and level the gravel.

Help Beautify our church gardens!

If you would like to contribute to refurbishing our church planters and flowerbeds, there are two flower pots in the narthex, or use a blue pew envelope and mark it "Church Gardens." Thank you so much!



First Lutheran Yard Sale is back and WE NEED YOUR UNWANTED STUFF!!

Donations can be dropped off from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday May 2nd thru Friday May 6th. **Wednesday only, donations can be dropped off till 7:30 PM.**

Please volunteer whatever time you can muster.

Contact Geri Magnuson

at 1-208-315-3520 with any questions.

**We will also need help during the Sale on
Saturday May 7th 8:00 am - 2:00 pm.**



MUSIC CELEBRATION SUNDAY

Singing Praises to God

May 15th 10:15 am

A celebration of God's hand in our Music Ministry this past season. All the groups are going to be represented: For His Glory Ringers, King's Men, and Grace Note Choir. The service will be Scripture and the Message will be in song.

Pentecost people needed for Sunday June 5th Pastor Mike would like to spice up our Day of Pentecost celebration with folks reading John 3:16 in a foreign language. If we can have several different languages represented, we can somewhat experience what it might have been like on that first Pentecost when the Holy Spirit inspired the timid disciples to boldly proclaim the gospel in foreign tongues. Pastor has a Gideon Bible that has John 3:16 written in over 100 different languages, so if you can pronounce the words on the script - that's good enough; there won't be any language teachers giving out grades. Talk to Pastor Mike or Heide if you can help out.



MAY BOOK REVIEW FROM YOUR CHURCH LIBRARY MOUSE

"Surprised By Joy" by C.S. Lewis. This book is an intensely intimate and sincere autobiography of a man who thought his way to God. C.S. Lewis recounts his search for joy, a spiritual journey that led him from a traditional Christian childhood in Belfast to a youthful atheism and, finally, back to a confident Christianity. Lewis candidly and sensitively describes his early schooldays, his experiences in the trenches during World War 1, and his undergraduate life at Oxford, where he reasoned his way back to God. It is perhaps the common sense aspect of his conversion to Christianity that makes Lewis's story so compelling and meaningful, especially to readers who are believers and nonbelievers alike.



God's Word - a book for all ages

Announcements continued

HELP WANTED

LUTHER HEIGHTS DAY CAMP

June 20-24, 2022

DAY CAMP IS BACK!! After the "Covid Pause," Luther Heights is returning to FELC with their amazing Day Camp program! Camp counselors will lead our children through a creative week of praise and worship through music, devotions, games, arts and crafts, and fellowship. And teaching God's children how they are called by Him to be loved, grateful, faithful and called to share. What a blessing our Luther Heights Day Camp is to everyone involved!

Without the generous gifts of time, talent, and money from our congregation, our day camp would not be the enormous success it is each and every year! A special "Thank you" to all of you who help support our Day Camp, whether it be in prayers and/or gifts.

Please prayerfully consider where you may be of help in the following areas:

Counselor Hosts: This one's the biggie!!

"Bed & Breakfasts" The counselors need a place to sleep & breakfast to fuel their day with our kiddos. We are able to do this in several places, so if you have room for 2, that will be great!

Lunch: Again, fuel for the counselors. All you have to do is pick a day, prepare a lunch for 4 counselors & bring it to the church.

Dinners: This is an opportunity for anyone to spend time with and get to know the counselors. They also come in the next day with great stories. You can do this however you'd like - at your house, out for pizza, etc.

Miscellaneous activities: They LOVE Reed's Dairy ice cream, so if you'd like to treat a day, I'm sure they'd be appreciative! Or maybe a boat ride - or a hike - the possibilities are endless.

Counselor Helpers (7th grade and up) - Extra hands for the counselors are always needed - sometimes it's helping younger campers come inside to use the restroom, or helping with crafts, or helping prepare/serve/clean up the snacks.

On-Site Volunteers: Moms, Dads, Grandmas, Grandpas, or caring adults to lend a hand where needed and prepare the morning and/or afternoon snacks.

Providing or preparing or serving snacks - morning or afternoon. We bring the campers inside every morning & afternoon for a light snack, some water and shade. This is my favorite part of the day - I just keep pouring water and chat with the kids. (Then, of course, there are a few dishes to run through the dishwasher)

And of course we need **your** help in spreading the word about our extraordinary Day Camp to your friends, relatives, neighbors, acquaintances; anyone you know with children entering into first grade (Fall of 2022) through the sixth grade.

Cost of attending this week-long day camp is \$55. Thanks to successful fundraising in the past, we are able to bring the fee down to \$15!! There will be sign-up sheets available in the Narthex for Youth Helpers, On-Site Volunteers, Counselor Hosts, and to provide snacks. Please consider helping out where you are able.

Please contact our Day Camp Coordinator, Michelle Hanson, with any questions regarding Day Camp, becoming a Counselor Host, On-Site Volunteers or a Youth Helper, at 208-542-6256 or mgmhanson@mac.com. We are looking forward to another fun and successful ministry with the Luther Heights Bible Day Camp!

Mark your calendars!



LUTHER HEIGHTS
BIBLE CAMP

Day Camp
(for children entering 1st-6th grade)
is returning to FELC

JUNE 20-24

For more info contact Michelle Hanson
(208)542-6256 or mgmhanson@mac.com

Announcements continued

“MEET-N-GREETS” with Pastor Mike & Deborah! Hosts Needed!

Do you like to host a party, BBQ or picnic? We need volunteers to host small groups of 10-15 persons for “Meet-N-Greet” socials with Pastor Mike and Deborah as guests. This is an opportunity for Pastor and Deborah to get to know FELC members in a small group setting. We plan to schedule monthly “Meet-N-Greets” through summer. As host, you will organize one social in which Pastor and Deborah can attend and invite others. You can host a backyard setting or maybe a picnic at Tauphaus Park or on the Greenbelt. Choose any theme you wish such as July 4th, a wine tasting, backyard games such as corn hole etc. It's up to you; have fun!

April and May have already been planned. A host is needed for each month of June, July and August. Contact Martha Wentzel to volunteer at 208-520-3674 or email wentzelm.88@gmail.com.



Women's Ministry Monthly

Luncheon: May 7th luncheon will be at Dixie's Diner at 11:30 am. ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!! We will start with a small devotional and prayer, followed by great food and company. Please R.S.V.P. to Elizabeth Miner at 208-201-3623.

Sunday Morning Drivers Needed!

The Transportation ministry is in need of drivers willing to drive people to and from church. Many of those who are no longer able to drive themselves still desire to worship in person.

If you are not able to commit to serving in this way every Sunday, there is always a need for substitutes to fill in when the regular driver is ill or out of town. If you can help, or if you would like further information, please contact Richard and Geri Magnuson at 208-315-3520 or mag1410.qm@gmail.com.



Sunday School and Youth

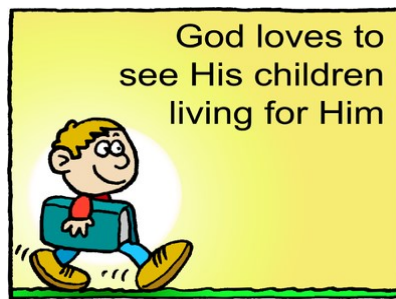
God helps us ... and sees our hearts

This month's lessons are about King David.

We live in a culture obsessed with appearance. From our fitness level to our clothes and hairstyle choices, it seems we are constantly under the microscope, with our value being determined by whether we look good enough on the outside.

But that's not how God determines value. When it became time to select a new king, God helped Samuel find the right person. God didn't choose the person who looked the strongest, most attractive, or was the “kingliest”. God preferred the shepherd boy whose heart was focused on God. Our lessons will teach us to look beyond outward appearances and see what's really important to God... our hearts!

Ever wonder what a pool noodle and God have in common? Come to Sunday School and find out!



Better Together Youth Ministry at FELC

With the recent resignation of our wonderful volunteer youth director Rebecca DeVore, our youth program has a real void. Pastor Mike would like to have a planning meeting of folks interested in designing our youth program for a sustainable future.

Pastor Mike is willing to “take the lead” for a while but not without a “supporting cast” because that doesn't provide a sustainable youth program. Young adults, parents, or grandparents willing to help in small or big ways with our youth group are invited to an information/input meeting Sunday Night May 15 at 6:30 pm.

Happy Stitchers

The Happy Stitchers made lap quilts for residents of the Idaho Veterans home in Pocatello March 29. An invitation was made to local veterans' groups to attend the event which was sponsored by Thrivent. Fourteen veterans came and participated in the activities. Some helped to design and tied quilts. Some had some refreshments. A drawing was held and a quilt was given away to one of the veterans. Seeing their appreciation was most gratifying. The Happy Stitchers finished six complete lap quilts, partially completed six lap quilts and one full-size quilt and designed fourteen lap quilts on that day. In all, 26 quilts were made or started and will be donated to the veteran's home. On April 19th 9 quilts were delivered to the Veterans home.



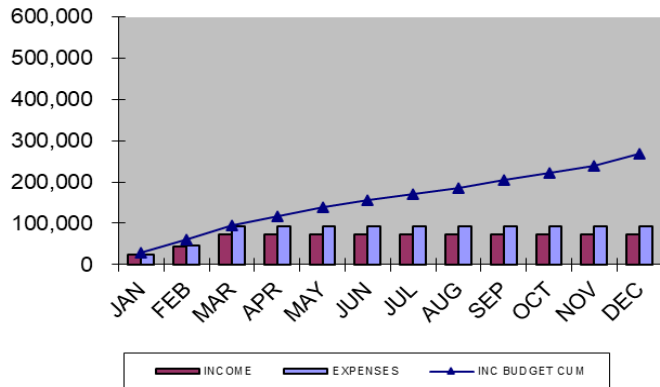
On April 5 the Happy Stitchers had their annual presentation to the FELC preschool. The most memorable part of the preschool quilting program is seeing the joy on each child's face as they receive their quilt. Two months prior to the presentation, the Happy Stitchers, with the pre-school teachers, determine a child's likes and favorite colors to make their special quilt. This year some of the popular colors were pastel pinks and greens for the girls and red and blue for the boys. Popular quilt themes were Barbies, cars, Legos, ponies, and puppies. The Stitchers custom-designed every quilt to reflect a child's likes. Included in the quilt is a Bible verse, cross or the stitchers' motto, "Wrapped in the Love of Jesus". The was the twelfth year the Happy Stitchers gave quilts to the preschoolers. Before receiving their quilts, the children got a close-up look at how the quilts were made from cutting fabric, designing quilts, sewing and tying quilts. Design stations were set up on the floor so the kids could design a quilt as part of the program.



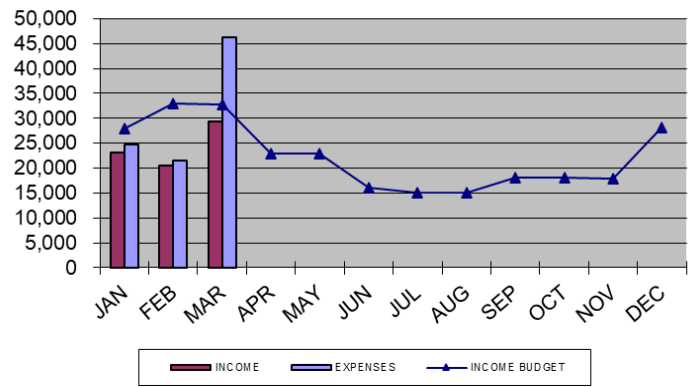
Quilt designed by the preschool children

Finance

General Fund Cumulative Summary - 2022



General Fund Monthly Summary - 2022



Current Month:	March		
Current Month Income			29,321.00
Current Month Expenses			46,331.57
Difference			(17,010.57)

Year to Date Income			73,013.30
*Year to Date Expenses			92,537.18
Difference			(19,523.88)

Budget Comparison 2022			
Year to Date Income			73,013.30
Year to Date Budget			93,860.00
Difference			(20,846.70)

*In March, FELC paid for the move for Pastor Mike. This one-time expense is \$23,080 and is was approved by the congregation separately at the time of Pastor Mike's call.

Missions



A HUGE thank you to the Congregation, and that includes Penny Power as well. What a wonderful response to help the Ukraine Refugees thru Lutheran World Relief! Combining our budgeted amount of \$1000 to the donated funds gives us a total of \$5,096.

May Penny Power funds will be given to Camp Magical Moments - a (free) camp for kids with cancer in Swan Valley in June. Depending on the amount we can provide: \$140 - one day of camp for 1 child; We have \$200 in our mission budget already, so let's see how many days you kids can add to this.

Worship Assistant Schedule

DATE	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS & LITURGISTS	GREETERS	USHERS & COORDINATORS # = Coordinator	COUNTERS	ALTAR GUILD
May 1 10:15 am	Diane Sheldon, Debra Hogg Sheryl Schaffer (Liturgist)	Diane Sheldon Michelle Cleverly	Dave Sheldon# Lisa Swenson, Dick Mitchell	Lisa Swenson Janice McBride	Diane Sheldon, Jan Galbraith
May 8 10:15 am	Debra Holst, Carole Mason Steve Galbraith (Liturgist)	Anne Mitchell Jan Galbraith	Gary Holst# Phil Forbord, Ryan Dixon	Phil & Tessa Forbord	Diane Sheldon, Jan Galbraith
May 15 10:15 am	Linda Lerum, DiAnn Brown Brad Kirkwood (Reader)	Mary Pilkington	Greg Dornfeld# Greg Stultz, Cal Miller	Paul Bayless Andy Wentzel	Diane Sheldon, Jan Galbraith
May 22 10:15 am	Judy Sahr, Bev Thomas Marda Kirkwood (Reader)	Lewis and Diana Murphy	Jim Sahr# Paul Worth, Scott Berger	Greg & Kathy Katainen	Diane Sheldon, Jan Galbraith
May 29 10:15 am	Diane Sheldon, Bev Thomas Bill Lockman (Reader)	Michelle Cleverly	Gary Holst# Phil Forbord, Greg Stultz	Phil & Tessa Forbord	Diane Sheldon, Jan Galbraith

Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Yard Sale Set-up following worship/ Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM New Member Class/Library 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Children's Sunday School (PreK-6th grade) 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour/Fellowship Hall 	2 Yard Sale set-up/ Fellowship Hall 10:00 AM Staff Meeting/Lounge 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Girls softball/Green space 7:00 PM Executive Council meeting/ Lounge	3 Yard Sale set-up/ Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Preschool 6:00 PM Bell Practice	4 Yard Sale set-up/ Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Women in Prayer/Lounge 2:00 PM Women's Bible Storying/ Lounge	5 Yard Sale set-up/ Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Preschool 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Team Meeting	6 Yard Sale set-up/ Fellowship Hall	7 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM Yard Sale  11:30 AM Women's Ministry Luncheon 
8  Senior Quilts 9:00 AM New Member Class/Library 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Children's Sunday School (PreK-6th grade) 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour/Fellowship Hall 11:30 AM King's Men Rehearsal	10:00 AM Staff Meeting/Lounge 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Girls softball/Green space 6:30 PM Property Team Meeting 7:00 PM Council Meeting/Fellowship Hall	10 9:00 AM Happy Stitches 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Care & Concern Meeting 6:00 PM Bell Practice	11 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Women in Prayer/Lounge 2:00 PM Women's Bible Storying/ Lounge 3:30 PM Finance Meeting/Lounge	12 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 10:50 AM - 11:30 AM Preschool/ Fellowship Hall 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group 	13 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Friends in Stitches/ Fellowship Hall 	14
15  Music Sunday 9:00 AM New Member Class/Library 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Children's Sunday School (PreK-6th grade) 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour/Fellowship Hall 11:30 AM King's Men Rehearsal 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Shofar Team Meeting/ Lounge	16 Officer Appreciation Day 10:00 AM Staff Meeting/Lounge 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Girls softball/Green space	17 9:00 AM Happy Stitches 9:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Happy Stitches' Bible Study	18 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Women in Prayer/Lounge 2:00 PM Women's Bible Storying/ Lounge	19 9:00 AM Preschool 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Team Meeting	20 NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE (12 Noon) 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Friends in Stitches/ Fellowship Hall 	21 11:30 AM Re-do center island in parking lot 
22 9:00 AM New Member Class/Library 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour/Fellowship Hall 11:30 AM Worship & Music Team Meeting/Lounge	23 10:00 AM Staff Meeting/Lounge 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Girls softball/Green space	24 9:00 AM Happy Stitches 9:00 AM Preschool	25 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Women in Prayer/Lounge 2:00 PM Women's Bible Storying/ Lounge	26 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM Preschool Program Fellowship Hall 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group	27 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Friends in Stitches/ Fellowship Hall 	28
29 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour/Fellowship Hall	30 Office Closed 	31 9:00 AM Happy Stitches	For the most up-to-date events please refer to our webpage @ www.firstlc.com			



Thanks & Prayers



Thank you to our Property Team for keeping the lights on!

Thank you so much for all of the cards, prayers, kind words, and especially all of the hugs I received following the passing of my husband Mark.

Kathy Reisenburg and family



Many thanks to all the people that helped with the church clean-up outside. Everything looked so nice for Easter Sunday.



REACHING OUT WITH OUR PRAYERS AND CONCERN FOR...

Those who mourn the loss of loved ones: For Family and Friends of Mark Reisenburg on his passing.

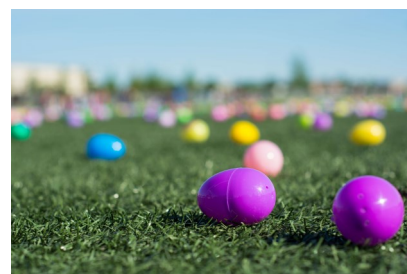
Those who are ill:

- Emily D'Amico (Kim Bermensolo's daughter)
- Ron Mitchell (Dick Mitchell's cousin)
- Keith Hancock (Anne Mitchell's brother)
- Stephen Scott (Anne & Dick Mitchell's cousin)
- Kelley Thorn (Cathy Abreu's cousin)
- Crystal Duncan (Trisha Storer's niece)
- Brent Thyssen (Ellie Lerum's dad)
- Greg Davis (Jim Sahr's nephew)
- Dorothy Sowa (Bev Novak's mom)
- Steve (Julie Sundberg's brother)
- Debbie Brown (DiAnn Brown's sister-in-law)
- Bobby Jo Stiener (Elaine Harris's cousin)
- Laura Hundley (Dave and Diane Sheldon's daughter)
- David Douglas (Bev Novak's brother)
- Mickey Kunnary (Elaine Harris's niece)
- Dan Lance (Cal Miller's brother-in-law)
- Debbie Horton
- Carla Benson
- Mike Bean
- Kathleen Keyes
- Wendy Cudmore
- Judy Sahr
- Marie Cleverly
- Annette Hendrickson
- DeVore/Brooks Family
- Dieter Tretzen
- Jean Lysfjord
- Debbie Holden



Friends and family serving in the military: Andrew Mitchell, Marc Schoonmaker, Tyler Donnelly, Adam Craig, Keith Evans, Mike Stultz, Skylar Hudman, TJ Litteer, Garrett Marchington, Kyle Skeen, Thomas Butler, Jorden Butler, Alton Helm, Eric Gratzke, Mike Monroe, Jody Townsend, Breanna Townsend, Craig Bukowski, Michael Smith, Jack Hogan.

We would like to send a big thank you to Atticus Austin, Parker and Wesley DeVore for setting up and helping with the Easter Egg Hunt and scavenger hunt! We would also like to thank our fantastic clean-up crew, Paul and Abby Lerum, and Dylan and Logan Arnold. And of course, we send a huge thank you to Carole Mason for supplying the cookies and coffee! We appreciated all of your help, and would not have had such a great time without your support.



Crosswalk is a publication of
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
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 Website: www.firstlc.com



lcmc
 Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ



NALC
 North American Lutheran Church



Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 am Adult Bible Study

10:15 am In-Church Worship & Church Live @firstlc.com

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Friday Closed

Pastor	Mike Knauff
Church Administrator	Heide Larsen
Bookkeeper	Greg Stultz
Financial Secretary	Wendy Schoonmaker
Director of Christian Preschool	Barbara Carlson

**Put news items for the *Crosswalk* in the
 "Newsletter" box at the church office OR e-mail
 items to: office@firstlc.com**

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE LESSONS		First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel	Festival
	May 1	Acts 3:12-19		1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24: 36b - 48	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>
	May 8	Proverbs 31:8-12, 28-31	Psalm 91:1-11		John 21:1-17	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>
	May 15	Acts 10:1-30			John 14:23-29	<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>
	May 22	Acts 9:36-43		Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-29	<i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>
	May 29	Acts 11:1-18		Revelation 21:1-8	John 13:31-35	<i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>