February 2019-The First Word

A Living and Vital Life of Faith

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your - Mark 12:30 strength.

We get regular doctor check-ups, we take our cars in for oil changes, we check our phones often, we worship as a faith community.....

When was the last time you pondered and checked up on your living a vital life of faith? I do devotions, read my Bible, read books about faith, I talk with friends about God, and I even go to worship on a regular basis.

Our presiding bishop asked some important questions recently using Mark's words as a way to gage our life of faith. She asks the questions this way:

Heart – When are the times you feel or sense God is present?



life or



Soul - What Scripture passages you an awareness of "living faith"?



Mind – What motivates you to continue growing in your

relationship with God?



Strengths - What Godgiven abilities, passions and skills have you

discovered in your life?

I encourage you during the month of February to weekly ask yourself these questions and do a living and vital life of faith check-in. Pastor Julie

Kenyon Wanamingo Choir Fundraiser Waffle Feed

All you can eat waffles, sausage, with coffee and orange juice. Cost: Adults \$9 Students \$6 Kids under 5 free

> Saturday, February 23 8 am - 11 am Held at First Lutheran

CONFERENCE ASSEMBLIES

FEBRUARY 10, 2019: Conference assemblies take place on February 10 at Urland Lutheran beginning at 2 pm. During these assemblies, voters from each congregation vote on the names that were previously submitted to the Committee on the Election of a Bishop. Each conference can bring up to three names forward from their Conference Assembly gatherings. If you are interested in attending, please contact Pastor Julie or Bill Lewis. This is a significant meeting as we prepare to elect a new Bishop May 31st - May 1st.

Did you know!!!!!

The globe offering for the young at heart



ended the year with \$300.00. Students in grades 3 and 4 decide \$150 would go to our local food shelf and \$150 would be given to the Christmas toy and

clothing drive.

Thank you for the global generosity of our youth.

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES 8:00 pm, January 16, 2019

<u>Council Members present:</u> Pat Schreiber, Bill Lewis, Jill Berg, Sue Wold, Jackie Mortenson, Amy Lee, Don Herrlich, Wayne Spidahl, Troy Estrem.

Welcome and Call to Order

Devotions: Pat

<u>Adopt Agenda:</u> Motion to adopt agenda with one addition. M/S. Don/Amy. Carried. Addition: A letter from Chief Sjolander was read. The letter was asking for our continuing support of the department's youth programs.

<u>Secretary's Report:</u> Motion to approve as printed. M/S Sue/Bill. Carried. Correspondence: Two 'thank you' letters were received from All Seasons Food Shelf for donations.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve as printed. M/S Bill/Jill. Approved.

Checking Account balance - 12/31/18 - \$4,508.38. Memorial Account balance: 12/31/18 - \$525.00.

<u>Pastor's. Report:</u> Sunday Worship Services - 4, Wednesday Worship Services - 3, Christmas Eve-1, Christmas Day - 1. Visits (hospital, communion and others) - 14.

Weekly planning with Annette, attended text study. Attended Worship/Evang., Nominating and Ed Youth Committee meetings. Supervision of Intern Sara Martin. Working with first call pastors. Held confirmation class on Service and Fellowship and the importance of volunteering. Tied three blankets and donated to Chief Sjolander to share. First Lutheran hosted the Cannon River Conference on 01/03019. 24 pastors attended. (Thanks to all who helped with the food and set-up). Conducted a behavioral interview for a Pastoral candidate who wants to do development work in a congregation. Had several days of vacation after Christmas. Looking Forward to:

- Continuing Ed Canoeing the Mountains author 01/24/19 to 01/25/19.
- KW Choir will be holding a Waffle Fundraiser at First Lutheran on 02/23/19.
- Ash Wednesday Worship Service 03/06/19 (similar to last year).
- Going to Norway on a vacation with Dan 04/22/19 to 05/05/19.

Continuing and New Business:

Nominating Committee was successful in filling most open committee positions.

- "A motion was made to change the number of members sitting on CC Committees from 6 to a range of 4 to 6 members per committee. This change will take place 02/01/19."
 M/S. Bill/Amy. Carried.
- The Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, 01/27/19, following the service.
- Council members voted to continue supporting Chief Sjolander's youth programs by donating \$75.00 to the police department.

Committee Attention Items/Action:

- Worship and Evangelism: No meeting in January.
- FLCW: See report in monthly newsletter.
- **Property and Management:** Getting bids for parking lot hard surfacing. Plan to get bids for new windows /air conditioners for new edition offices. Comparing insurance plans, getting estimates. The light in the parking lot will be adjusted.
- Stewardship: See Annual Report.
- Youth Rep: Not present.
- *Ed Youth:* Planning Intergenerational Valentine's Event on 02/10/19. First Communion Seder Meal on Palm Sunday, 04/14/19. Maundy Thursday service on 04/14/19.
- Kenyon/Nerstrand/Wanamingo Youth: No meeting in December.
- Kenyon Area Intern Committee: No meeting in December.
- Personnel Committee: No report.

Next Meeting Date: February 20th at 8:00 pm.

Devotions: Bill

Adjournment: MS. Don/Amy. Approved

Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Sue Wold

Church Council Secretary

Confirmation Mentors

Last year our confirmation students each had a mentor who walked with them through the seasons of Lent. Our confirmation students liked this experience so much they asked to do it again. So. they will be looking for an adult to be their mentor during Lent. The purpose is to form relationships within our congregation members and grow deeper in faith together. The expectations are to meet five times throughout Lent and have conversations that matter (Pastor Julie has outlined the conversations for you) pray for one another and have fun.

Receiving and Remembering New Members –

Sunday, January 27th we received these new members:

Carly Tousignant
Holly Lexvold with Dan Lexvold (who
is a child of the congregation)

Welcome, we are glad you are here. Please keep them in your prayers.

FLCW Minutes January 8th 2019

Meeting was called to order by Co-President Jackie Mortensen. Devotions given by Tammy Fletcher.

Secretary's report was read and approved and placed on file. Treasurer's report was read and approved and placed on file. Balance through December 31, 2018 was \$1215.15.

Correspondence: Thank you notes were read.

Secretary will send a Thank You note to Josh and Wendy Lerfald for the rosettes and lemon bars that they provided for the FLCW Quarterly Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Recap on Sunday School Christmas Shopping. A suggestion was made to have the older kids shop first next year. Tammy suggested that the word gets out as to who the kids are shopping for before the day of the event; suggested updated e-mails for doing this. \$126.00 was collected from shopping, it is yet to be decided as to where the money will go. Mitten Tree by the Justice Committee; it was suggested that the items collected be given to the local schools.

Pastors Conference: Jackie Mortensen, Marie Spidahl and Jill Berg served; \$140.00 was collected before expenses paid out. A thank you was read.

New BUSINESS:

After discussion on a meeting day best for all, it was decided to move meetings to the $1^{\rm st}$ Monday of the month at 6:15 pm.

FLCW Booklets: Jackie Mortensen, Cindy Lewis and Debbie Eggert are working on the new booklets; when they are ready they will ask for help to put them together.

Annual Meeting is January 27 @ 10:00 am.

Valentines Day: Suggestions for remembering our homebound members included candy, cookies, carnations; Sharon Rechtzigel and Marie Spidahl will take care of this. World Day of Prayer in March: Date is March 1st; we will discuss this more at the February meeting.

Next Quarterly Meeting: AED update mentioned as a possible program idea; Cindy Lewis, Karen Fountaine, Ellen Sackett possible leaders; also discussed the need for signs for the AED location.

Easter Breakfast: Easter is April 21; Discussion on planning the menu and who will work to be determined next month.

Next meeting: Monday February 4, 2019 at 6:15 pm. Jackie will give devotions.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted by Shari Quam, Secretary

Ladies Clubs & Bible Study News

*Morning Circle Bible Study
First Tuesday of the month in the
Joy Room at church.
Everyone is welcome!
Feb. 5th meet at 9:30 a.m.

January and February Bible Studies by Julie A. Kanarese are in the same magazine. Session one, Come and See: Seeking and Finding Faith; in the Gospel of John, we contemplate the mystery of God through Jesus. Session Two, By Night and By Day: Coming to Faith in Jesus; we ponder the mystery of God with Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, two people seeking healing and a hungry crowd.

The Monthly Bible Study is found in the "Gather" magazine.

To order this magazine through the order center at Cambey & West call 844-409-0576 (toll free)

or 845-267-3074

Gather Subscription Center PO Box 336 Congers, NY 10920–0336 gather@cambeywest.com

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*Christian Mission
Thurs., February , 1 p.m.
Thurs., February , 1 p.m.

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*Priscilla Club
Tues., February 12th
No hostess
Tues., February 26th, 1 p.m.
No hostess

From the Intern Sara Martin

A couple weeks ago I was asked to be on an internship panel. This panel was to be made up of former and current interns, of which, as you know, I fit the latter. I'm thinking the Contextual Learning Office at Luther Seminary wanted to pick my brain more than they have through our phone calls and check-ins, because even after 40 years, they don't understand what this unique internship is like. I happily agreed knowing it wasn't going to be a waste of time because I was given time to intentionally reflect on what I've learned so far. And that was exactly what it was. To share some of my experiences-from fleas and emergency rooms to being with families in some of the most intimate moments, and laughing with kids about all kinds of things, I realized that in five short months, I have experienced a lot. I have gotten a lot of practice being a pastor, and in the process I have been assured that I am definitely in the right place. One of the questions asked on the panel was which book do I open most often (not including the Bible). I couldn't help but make a joke about one of the many hymnals there are in this internship (since it seems each church uses a different one), or the fact that my planner is used several times a day. But, when I really thought about it, I realized I have read more books in the last five months than I did over the last two years. Some of that has to do with not having as many assigned texts, and some of that has to do with the lack of nightlife activities in Kenyon. Each of the books I've read over the last five months have taught me something, whether that's what they were intended to do or not. Each book has reminded me that it's okay to dream, it's okay to mess up, and it's okay to try new things, because even if I'm in an internship or not, that's what life is about. I encourage each of you to dream, make mistakes and try new things, because even though you may not be on a panel, or reading the same books I am, I have a feeling that's how we experience life to the full.

-KAI Pastor Sara

Education/Youth Committee is hosting an Intergenerational Sunday school hour on Sunday, February 10 at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will be treats, service project; cutting out "Sole Hope" patterns, games, crafts and devotions. All of God's Children are welcome no mater what your age! Please join us for fun, food and fellowship! See you

Kids Choir
(pre-k—4th grade)
To sing at 9 am worship on
February 3rd. They will be singing "This is the Day".
See you all there!

It's that time gain..."Souper Bowl" time! No, that is not a typo...I mean "Souper Bowl of



Caring Sunday". It happens each year on Super Bowl Sunday, the first Sunday in February. That is when we stop and take time to be mindful of those who go without food. A time to give

generously out of our abundance to make a difference in someone else's life...someone who is hungry and needs a helping hand. Please consider giving one, five or ten dollars to tackle hunger. Students will be stationed around church with their soup kettles to take your donations following worship on February 3rd. Thank You!!!

Lyn's Line or So.... Mangna Esther (Kayo) Kirchhoff 1934

My name: Not an easy one to answer. First name after an aunt, middle name after my mom. Nickname (Kayo) is from the comic strip Moon Mullins. I've had it longer than I can remember. It was given to me by my brother Eddie who was 10 years older than I.

Born: Sebeka, MN at our farm home. Large family of 8 kids.

Baptized/Confirmed: Finnish Apostolic Church. A very straight laced denomination that had no Pulpit or Organ. A 2 hour service by men, and wonderful acapella singing by men. Confirmation was 1 week in the summer all day.

Family: My dad had osteomyelitis as a 12 year old boy (1 leg shorter than the other). He had a variety of ways to make a living. Farming and a Ford car salesman. During WW2 he was a timber buyer and had lumber camps all over the area. Living on the farm we had cows, pigs, chickens and sold cream to the local Coop.

School: Country School through 8th grade, there were 4 in my class. High School in Sebeka had 62 graduates. I was a drummer in the band. We had a wonderful marching band and in the summer traveled to parades from Winnipeg to the Aquatennial.

4H: Was big through High School. Our extension agent encouraged me to go to the U of M and study Home Economics. To earn money for college our family raised cucumbers for the pickle factory in Sebeka. **Summer Jobs:** I took jobs where I got room and board and could save all my salary. Some of the places were Kamp Kamaji at Cass Lake, a resort on the White Fish chain in Brainerd and Interlachen Music Camp, Interlachen, Michigan.

College: U of M St. Paul Campus. 4 years flew by and I earned a B. S. degree. My first teaching job was in Appleton, MN.

Mel: I had met Mel as he was on the U of M campus for Vet Med. He had 6 years of college and I had 4. **Married:** We married at Christ Church Lutheran in Minneapolis (a beautiful Saarinen designed Finnish Church), the week after he took his Federal Boards in Chicago. He had to satisfy his Military obligations so he took a job testing cattle on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. Our official address was Mobridge, South Dakota. He would leave Monday morning to any area of the state and I would go off and teach for a week in McLaughlin, SD (across the Missouri River). Weekends we were back together.

Kenyon: Mel found the Kenyon job opening listed in the Vet Med Journal. He interviewed with Doc Bohan and took the job in March of 1958. I had to finish the school year and came in June of 1958. Mark was born in August. Our 3 boys were baptized by Burn Rogness at First Lutheran. We lived on Forest St and paid \$60.00 a month rent. Life was good!

Our boys: Mark and Beth live in Apple Valley with grandsons Andrew, aged 16 and Matthew aged 14. Michael is in Sartel, MN. Tom and Sara live in Fond Du Lac, Wisconson.

Granddaughters: Meg is in Minneapolis. She teaches ballet and yoga. Nel is currently a ski instructor in Telluride, Colorado while waiting for the perfect job as a Mechanical Engineer.

Retirement: Mel keeps busy wood working (Santa's), lawn work, Soduko and sports watching. I belong to Morning Circle at church and also quilt with Priscilla and tie quilts with Love Day. I've has many offices in the FLCW, served on Church Council, Summer Bible school more than Sunday School. Answering the phone while Mel was "on call" was part of the Vet wife's duty before cell phones. It didn't allow me to volunteer much. I've also been a driver for seniors for many years in Goodhue county.. I made wonderful friendships with our older citizens. People were good to my mother when I couldn't be there so it was my way of paying it forward.

Travel: We have been blessed to visit many places. Some of our favorites are Finland (twice); Rome, Italy; Canary Islands and a Mexico cruise.

Closing Thoughts: Kenyon has been good to us for over 60 years. Kayo is very proud of her Finnish Heritage. Jumulan Terve, (translation God's Peace.)

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|---|-----|---|
| | 90 | Fel | brua | ry | 1 | 2 9:00 Women's Retreat @ Holder |
| | | 2 | 2019 | | | |
| 3 "Souper" Bowl of Caring 9:00 Worship Kids Choir sings 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA Meeting | 4 6:15 FLCW Board | 5 9:30 Morning Circle Bible study 6:00 Ed Youth Committee | 6 1:30 Merry Makers 6:00 Worship 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Senior Choir | 7 1:00 Christian Mission Society Love Day 7:00 AA Meeting Cannon River Conference @ Our Saviors Faribault | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Intergenerational Sunday School 9:00 Worship 10:00 Intergenera- tional Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 2:00 Cannon River Conference @ Urland 7:00 AA Meeting | 11 1:30 Literary Guild | 12 1:00 Priscilla Club 5:30 Worship/ Evangelism | 13 6:00 Worship 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Senior Choir | 14 11:30 Internship Round Table 6:30 Scouts 7:00 AA Meeting Happy Valentine's Day! | 15 | 16 |
| 17 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA Meeting | 18 Newsletter Information Deadline | 19 | 20 6:00 Worship 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Senior Choir 8:00 Church Council | 9:30 KW Community Cares 1:00 Christian Mission Society Love Day 6:30 Scouts 7:00 AA Meeting | 22 | 23 Sleigh & Cutter Day Waffle Feed KW Choir Fundraiser 8am-11am He |
| 24 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA Meeting | 25 10:00 Hiawathaland Stockettes | 26 1:00 Priscilla Club 7:00 Internship Committee @ First | 27 6:00 Worship 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Senior Choir | 28 6:30 Scouts 7:00 AA Meeting | | |

The First Word

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Intern Sara Martin
Secretary Debbie Eggert
Accountant Julie Dyrdahl
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Keyboardists Annette Thunhorst,

Tammy Hanson

Choir Director Bell Choir Director Missionaries Carol Lozon Tanya Short Stephen Deal, Patrick &

Jacqueline Bencke Karen Anderson

Mission Statement of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Through God we are creating a vibrant, welcoming faith community, embracing all, providing harmony among generations, while lending compassion locally and globally."

Volunteers for February -Ushers

Jim Fountaine, chr. Jim Malloy, chr. Jerry Barrett

Ben Greseth

Doug Henke Darvin Laue

Larry Lehman

Don Peterson
Jerry Peterson
Paul Peterson

Ron Peterson

Michael Short

Scott Smith

<u>Altar Care</u> Heidi Haugen

Cora Lee Monroe Marie Spidahl

Communion Set-up

Feb. 10: Ruby Hagberg

Jan Ashland

Feb. 17: Larry Walker's

Feb. 24: Paul Rechtzigel's Lynn Cole Clarke

Communion Helpers, Acolytes, Coffee Servers:

February 3:

Reader-David Rapp

Greeter-Scott & Lisa Androli Com-Scott & Lisa Androli, David

Rapp

Coffee Dean & Nancy Schutte

Acolyte– Ben Short, Mason Torgerson

February 10:

Reader-

Greeters-3rd & 4th grad

Com.-Michael & Tanya Short, Dan

Rogness

Coffee-Rich & Jan Ellingsberg Acolyte-Dakota Temple, Nora

Rechtzigel February 17:

Feb. 3: Wayne & Marie Spidahl Reader-Cindy Trapp

Greeters—Les & Angie Eggert Com-Les & Angie Eggert, Carol Lozon

Coffee-Wayne & Marie Spidahl Acolyte–William Van Epps, Jakob Kirchmann

February 27:

Reader-Lorrie Walker

Greeters– Aaron & Anna Bauer

Com.-Lorrie & Kathleen Walker,

Anna Bauer

Coffee-Anna & Aaron Bauer, Jackie

Mortensen Acolyte-Alex Lee

