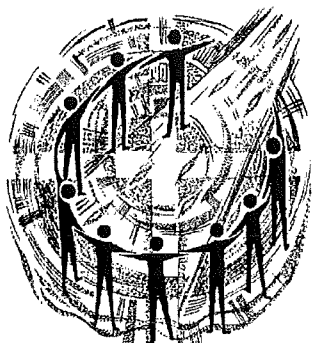


## March 2019-The First Word



**Spiritual  
Practices for  
Lent – We are  
Church  
Together  
Worship**

### **Ash Wednesday, March 6**

5:30 Soup Supper

6:15 Worship with Imposition of  
Ashes and Holy Communion

March 13 - **Gathered by the Holy Spirit**

March 20 - **Shaped by Word and  
Sacrament**

March 27 - **Diversity and Challenges**

April 3 - **Joys and Burdens**

April 19 - **We are Connected**

Soup Supper 5:30 and Worship from  
6:15 to 6:45 pm. All are welcome!

Soup, dessert and workers needed.  
Sign up at church.

**Thursday Morning Faith Group** (a new group, all are welcome) **will meet from 10:30-11:30 am** in the Joy Room on March 14, 21, 28, April 4 & 11). We will be reading *Wondrous Encounters: Scripture for Lent* by Richard Rohr, a daily Lenten meditation book. This study invites us to enter the wondrous divine dialogue with clarity, insight and holy desire. Contact Pastor Julie if you would like her to order the book for you (\$11.00).

More Spiritual Practices offered during  
Lenten Worship Service. *Pastor Julie*

### **CONFERENCE ASSEMBLIES**

March 10, 2019: Conference assemblies take place on March 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 31<sup>st</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **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 New Members –**

Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> we will welcome new members. Pastor Julie has heard from five people who would like to join, please let her know if you are interested too.

### **Fifth Grade First Communion**

This is an exciting time in your faith formation as we work together preparing for your First Holy Communion. Several others will join us in helping with the class.

On Sunday, March 24, 31, April 7 and 14 class will be at 10:00 am in a classroom just down the hall from the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School room. During our time together we will create a stole for your first communion and bake bread.

**Your First Communion will be on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup>** during Maundy Thursday worship. Following 6:30 pm worship the Education and Youth Committee will be hosting a cake and coffee reception in the Fellowship Hall.



**The Seder Meal will take place at 4 pm on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.**  
The Seder

Meal is a reenactment of Jesus' Last Supper. You are encouraged to invite your baptismal sponsors, grandparents, and others to share this experience with you.

Please RSVP the church office with the number of people who will be joining you for the Seder Meal.



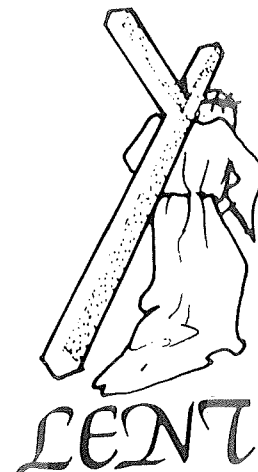
### **Resurrection Garden**

Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> during Education hour you will have the opportunity to create your own Resurrection Garden. Supplies provided except a spray bottle and water you will need at home. It's for everyone.

### **Adult Forum – The Holy Land: A Unique Perspective**

This month **Vang and Dennison** will welcome a special guest for an adult forum. Imad Nijim was born in Ramallah, Palestine, and moved to California as child. His father was a Lutheran Pastor in Ramallah. Imad is a St. Olaf graduate and current lives in Eagan working as an IT specialist. Using stories and his personal experiences, Imad speaks in churches about his unique perspective on the Holy Land as a Christian Palestinian American. All are invited to this special event.

Imad will join us on Sunday, March 10 following the 9:00 AM worship service at Vang. All are welcome.



The meeting of the FLCW board was called to order by co-president Cindy Lewis. Jackie gave devotions. The secretary and treasurer reports were read and approved. The balance in checking is \$1,605.15. The information for the audit will be given to Bev Nesseth and Kaia Lehman. Correspondence was shared from various organizations that had received money from the group.

#### **Old Business:**

The mitten tree items were delivered to the elementary school. World day of Prayer is Friday March 1 at the Vang church at 1:30. Cora Lee will attend the planning meeting on Feb. 12. We will need 1-3 people to participate. The meeting time was set at first Monday of the month at 6:15. Jackie attended the last council meeting and stated that there was discussion on fixing the parking lot. The church calendar needs to be checked before quarterly meeting are scheduled, so there is no conflict.

#### **New Business:**

A thank you was received from the Sunset Home Auxiliary. They are dissolving the group. Donations can still be given to the KSL foundation. Valentines will be sent to the homebound and the group helped sign the cards. Nancy Schutte has offered to donate a large coffee pot. Jackie and Cora Lee will test the pots in the kitchen. The March quarterly meeting will be set later this week. Mike Aldorfer will review the AED usage. The signage for the location was discussed. The Internship fundraiser is April 7 at Gol. Rhana, Ellen and Sharon will make soup. Jackie will ask the congregation for 2 decorated cakes and 4 volunteers to work from 11 - 12. Easter breakfast is April 21. Carmen will help with the youth as workers. She needs help with the menu and plan. Tammy will get her the information and get groceries. Work day will be the Saturday before. The Cannon River Conference is April 27 at First English in Faribault. More information to come. Debbie Eggert will be retiring as church secretary April 1. The next meeting is March 4 at 6:15. Trista will do devotions. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Rhana Olson, Acting secretary

**\*First Lutheran Church has an AED, Automatic External Defibrillator. This is located by the kitchen door entrance across the hallway from the elevator. Please join us for a refresher on how to use it at the FLCW Quarterly meeting on March 24th in the Fellowship Hall, following worship.**

## Ladies Clubs & Bible Study News

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

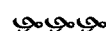
January and February Bible Studies by Julie A. Kanarese are in the same magazine. Session one, Come and See: Seeking and Finding Faith; in the Gospel of John, we contemplate the mystery of God through Jesus. Session Two, By Night and By Day: Coming to Faith in Jesus; we ponder the mystery of God with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



#### \*Christian Mission

Thurs., March 7th, 1 p.m.

Thurs., March 15th, 1 p.m.



#### \*Priscilla Club

Tues., March 12th, 1 p.m.

No hostess

Tues., March 26th, 1 p.m.

No hostess

**The Interview**  
**Jim Alynn Braaten**  
**1963**

**Born:** St. Mary's Rochester

**Baptized:** First Lutheran, Kenyon by Pastor Hanson

**Confirmation:** First Lutheran, Kenyon by Pastor Vinger

**High School:** 1981 Graduate of Kenyon High School

**Family:** Dad Joe was a farmer and worked at Union 76 (S.A.) in Kenyon. He delivered fuel and was a furnace repairman. Passed away at the young age of 52 in 1972. I was 10 years old. Mom Arvella passed away in 2012 at the age of 86. She never remarried. She was a Kenyon lunch lady and also cooked at the Sunset Home for many years. Brother Terry, my only sibling is 12 1/2 years older than I am. He is retired from Legget & Platt and now resides in Hastings, MN

**College:** Here's where things get interesting. 5 (broken) years at the U of M campus, getting my communications degree. I took a break and did many hours of EMT training for an ambulance service in the Faribault area for 12 years. The demand, stress and low pay brought me back to the U of M getting an Animal Science Degree. In 1996 more schooling at Inver Hills College for a 2 year program as a paralegal.

**Hobbies:** Turned into a profession, being a hunter and fisherman, I became an outdoor commentator writing for various publications. I also worked 5 summers at Nerstrand State Park. Three months turned into 3 years at Rust Consulting doing Agriculture Law. I've been a BBQ judge and my wife and I dabble in making meals for weddings and working on Genealogy.

**Business:** I'm self-employed. My company is Outside Connections LLC. It's a communications and marketing company. I mostly do advertising calendars, but much more from t-shirts to labeling. \*\*Jim is very tech savvy, (Lyn is NOT). Also note that Jim is very generous in giving back to the community.

**Sogn Valley Sky Warn:** I created an all civilian volunteer group to be an eye in the sky for observing weather conditions for the Western Goodhue Co. area.

**Wife:** Roberta is coming up to 33 years in the medical profession. Starting a Methodist Hospital in the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit to where she is now at Mayo working with Out-Patient Chemotherapy.

**Married:** March 5, 2005 in Las Vegas. (Happy Anniversary early)

**Kids:** Luke Votruba is following in he stepdads foot steps a the U of M taking communications. He is a senior. Elsie is a 5th grader at Kenyon Wanamingo. She loves turkey hunting with her dad and has the most beautiful auburn hair I have ever seen.

**Hunting/Fishing:** Not so much anymore because of other obligations. It has included deer, antelope and elk. Fishing is mostly walleye and muskies. I also trap. A trip to the Lake of the Woods is being planned with my brother and some other guys and also a family trip with the girls out West.

**Sports:** We are big sports fans and collect sports memorabilia. This will be our 19th year as season ticket holders for the Minnesota Wild Hockey.

**Why First Lutheran?:** Mom's Larson family went to Dale and Dad's family helped build Vang. I think First Lutheran was a happy medium.

**Lyn's Closing thoughts:** I spent a sunny winter morning with the Braaten's reminiscing. We could write a book. I know you will find this hard to believe, but we got "off subject" many times. Jim graduated with my brother Dean who has already been gone for 10 years, so there was lots of catching up to do. What most impressed me was the proudness of the family farm built in 1856. They've remodeled the house beautifully. Jim is one of the first who had a mother-in-law apartment. Arvella was there with the family for almost 8 years, until she received Hospice Care at the Sunset Home. That impressed me too, who does that anymore? I'd like to close with one of my favorite Bible verses. "Do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

**See You in Church,**  
**Lyn Cole Clarke**

*From the Intern Sara Martin*

With all the snow days that we've had over the last month, and the copious amounts of snow that is sitting outside my living room window, I can't help but reflect on what it is about winter that is so magical. Maybe it's the fact that Christmas is something we look forward to every winter. Or maybe it's the reality of all the winter activities that are possible with some of the white fluffy stuff on the ground. Maybe it's having grown up in a place where snow never fell, but watching the snowflakes fall so delicately from the sky brings a sense of wonder and excitement. But maybe, it's the anticipation that comes with waiting for spring to come. We've had glimpses of it a few days over the last month with the sunshine, birds chirping in the morning, and actually being able to see the pavement on the road. As we look forward to what the month of March brings, with Ash Wednesday, Lent, and likely more snow, we wait in anticipation for the good news we will hear on Easter morning. The good news that Jesus is risen, that death has been defeated, and that the likelihood of snow in the forecast is slim! (Maybe that last part is my own hope!) But until we get to Easter morning, let us sit in this season of Lent, waiting, reflecting, and looking inward as we know what lies ahead.

KAI Pastor Sara

+++++

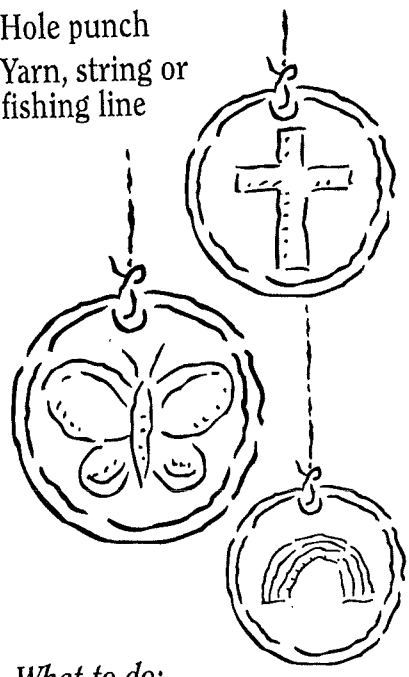


**Kenyon Area Internship Committee is having their annual fundraiser at Gol Church on April 7. Soup will be served from 11-1 with a cake auction at noon. We are in need of volunteers. We need to donate from our church 2 baked items for the auction and 4 workers from 11-12 and 1 at 1:30 for clean up. If you are willing to donate a baked item like a cake, pie or special cookies or willing to work please contact Jim Fountaine or Cindy Lewis 507-330-1644.**

Let the **sun** shine through these special Christian symbols.



**You will need:**  
 Colorful permanent markers  
 Clear plastic lids from food containers, like butter tubs  
 Hole punch  
 Yarn, string or fishing line



**What to do:**  
 Draw a Christian symbol on the lid. Color it with markers.  
 Punch a hole in the top.  
 Tie the string through the hole.  
*Hang in a sunny window!*



**Special Signs**

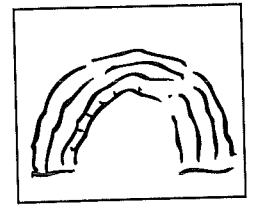
There are signs along the road to point us on our way. If you saw the signs below, would you know what they mean?

Use the code to find the answers.

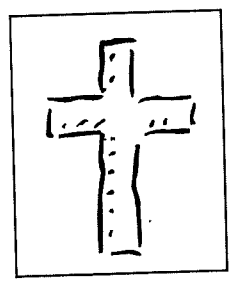
A	E	H	L	O	R	T	W
1	2	2	3	3	4	4	4
C	F	I	N	P	S	U	Y



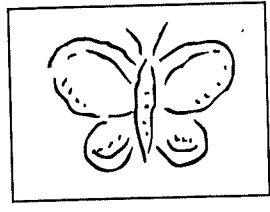
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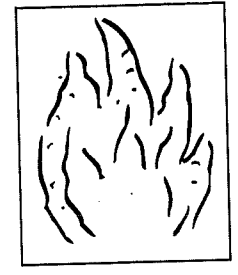
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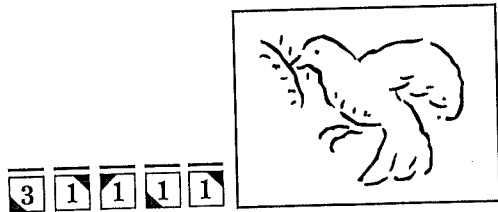
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Christian, Hope, Peace, Holy Spirit, New Life, Resurrection

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <h1 style="font-size: 48px; margin: 0;">March 2019</h1>					<b>1</b> <i>1:30 World Day of Prayer @ Vang</i>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA Meeting	<b>4</b> 6:15 FLCW Board	<b>5</b> 9:30 Morning Circle Bible study	<b>6</b> <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 5:30 Soup Supper 6:15 Worship 6:45 Mentor Meeting 7:00 Senior Choir	<b>7</b> 1:00 Christian Mission Society Love Day 7:00 AA Meeting	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 2:00 Conference Assembly @ Urland 7:00 AA Meeting	<b>11</b> 1:30 Literary Guild	<b>12</b> 1:00 Priscilla Club 6:30 Worship/ Evangelism Com	<b>13</b> 5:30 Soup Supper 6:15 Worship 7:00 Senior Choir	<b>14</b> 10:30 Faith Group 6:30 Scouts 7:00 AA Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:00 Making Resurrection Gardens 7:00 AA Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 5:30 Soup Supper 6:15 Worship 8:00 Church Council 7:00 Senior Choir	<b>21</b> 10:30 Faith Group 11:30 Round Table with Intern 1:00 Christian Mission Society Love Day 6:30 Scouts 7:00 AA Meeting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <i>New Member Sunday</i> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 5th Grade First Communion 10:00 Coffee 10:00 FLCW Quarterly Meeting 7:00 AA Meeting	<b>25</b> 10:00 Hiawathaland Stockettes	<b>26</b> 1:00 Priscilla Club 7:00 Internship Com	<b>27</b> 5:30 Soup Supper 6:15 Worship 7:00 Senior Choir	<b>28</b> 10:30 Faith Group 6:00 Sons of Norway 6:30 Scouts 7:00 AA Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00 Sogn Valley Storm Watchers
<b>31</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 5th grade First Communion Making stoles 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA Meeting				<i>*Faith Group Reading Wondrous Encounters</i>		

## The First Word

floffice@frontier.com  
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Kenyon, MN 55946  
(507)789-5261

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### First Evangelical Lutheran Staff

Pastor	Julie Rogness
Intern	Sara Martin
Secretary	Debbie Eggert
Accountant	Julie Dyrdaahl
Custodians	Dave & Betty Redfield
Keyboardists	Annette Thunhorst, Tammy Hanson
Choir Director	Carol Lozon
Bell Choir Director	Tanya Short
Missionaries	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 March -Ushers

Randy Eggert, chr.  
Larry Walker, chr.  
Bob Ersland  
Jim Braaten  
Harris Haugen  
Kirk Hiner  
Josh Lerfald  
Doug Noah  
Frank Peterson  
Mike Aldorfer  
Dave Sathrum

#### Altar Care

Heidi Haugen  
Cora Lee Monroe  
Marie Spidahll

#### Communion Set-up

Mar. 3: Don & Candy Herrlich  
Mar. 6: Ash Wednesday  
Carmen Nesseth

Mar. 10: Tammy Fletcher

Pat Schreiber

Mar. 17: Linda Cordes

Mar. 24: Linda Barsness

Mar. 31: Cindy Lewis

#### Communion Helpers, Acolytes, Coffee Servers:

March 3:

Reader-Dan Rogness  
Greeter-Brad & Carmen Nesseth  
Com-Brad & Carmen Nesseth, Rhana  
Olson

Coffee-Les & Angie Eggert

Acolyte-Ashley Rechtzigel, Josi Quam

March 10:

Reader-Sue Fogelson  
Greeters-Sue Fogelson  
Com.-Bill & Cindy Lewis, Sue  
Fogelson

Coffee-Bill & Cindy Lewis

Acolyte-Emma Paulson, Reganne  
Androli

March 17:

Reader-

Greeters-Dan & Shari Quam  
Com-Dan & Shari Quam, Josh  
Lerfald

Coffee-Josh & Wendy Lerfald

Acolyte-Corrie Born, Leah Berg

March 24:

Reader-Larry Lehman

Greeters-Mel & Kayo Kirchhoff  
Com.- Larry & Kaia Lehman, Dan  
Rogness

Coffee- Harris & Heidi Haugen

Acolyte-Julia Dahl, Stella

Rechtzigel

March 31:

Reader-Steve Alger

Greeter-Glenn & Carol Ronning

Com.-Doehling Family

Coffee-Doehling Family

Acolyte: Dakota Temple, Norah

Rechtzigel