

The First Word

NOVEMBER 2019

www.flckenyon.org
floffice@frontier.com
(507) 789-5261

STAFF

- Pastor — Julie Rogness
- KAI Intern Pastor — Patty Bjorklund
- Admin.Asst— Annette Thunhorst
- Accountant — Julie Dyr Dahl
- Custodians — Dave & Betty Redfield
- Keyboard — Annette Thunhorst
- Organ —Tammy Hanson
- Youth/Family — Carmen Nesseth
- Missionaries — Stephen Deal,
Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke,
Karen Anderson
- Partner Cong — Ilongoero
Lutheran, Tanzania



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Kenyon MN



Thanksgiving for Heart of Gold and Compassion Filled with Gratitude

Recently I was visiting with one of our Confirmation students. I asked him what gifts he brings to the world. He thought for a moment and said, “My mom says I have a heart of gold.” Then he asked, “What is that?” I said, “I always think of compassion.” He smiled and agreed that was true.

We live in a world that is filled with so much advertisement. The ads tell us who we should be and what products will help us be that person. None of them are healthy for us or give us the abundant life Jesus gives.

I always marvel at the medications available for all our ailments. The advertisements end with a laundry list of the multiple possible side effects. I think I will keep my existing condition today and not exchange it for weight gain, insomnia, worsening foot cramping or nose bleeds.

In this month of giving thanks, I desire to be filled with gratitude. Jesus gives us a prescription for gratitude. It begins with compassion and continues with the fruits of the Holy Spirit. The Greek word “fruit” refers to the natural product of a living thing. Paul used “fruit” to help us understand the product of the Holy Spirit, who lives inside each of us. The fruit of the Spirit is produced by the Spirit as we live in Christ’s love for each other. The side effects are amazing. The characteristics of Christ are manifested in our lives and through our lives.

Today imagine and live into the fruits of the Spirit living in you: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, meekness, self-control. Take one a day from now until Thanksgiving – you will enjoy the heart of God, it is Golden.

Blessings! Pastor Julie



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.”

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting - October 23, 2019. 8:00 PM

Present: Bill Lewis, Pastor Julie, Amy Lee, Don Herrlich, Cindy Lewis, Chris Mallery, Brad Nesseth, Sue Wold, Harris Haugen

Welcome and Call to Order: Bill Lewis

Devotions: Amy Lee

Approval of Agenda: Moved discussion of the New Business topic (Insurance coverage renewal) to beginning of meeting. M/S Don/Amy, Approved

Secretary's Report: M/S Bill / Don, Approved

Treasurer's Report: M/S Sue / Brad, Approved

New Business: Harris Haugen discussed the three insurance plans he and Brad reviewed. The best overall valuation and coverage was from Church Mutual Companies. Insurance renewal comes due 11/23/19.

Pastor's Report: Worship Services on Sunday mornings - 5 (Pastor Chris Miller at one); Wednesday evenings - 3 (MEA no worship). Weekly planning for worship with Annette; Attended Committee meetings - Worship/Evangelism, Personnel, Stewardship, EdYou, Visits (hospital, communion and other) - 9. Funeral for Gary Skundberg on 9/28/19. Pre-marital work with two couples; TEEM Partnership with a seminary student - visit; Clergy coaching; Seminary Initial Interview with candidate. Conference meeting - Cannon River Conference at Spring Garden. Ministerium to plan Thanksgiving, Good Friday and Baccalaureate. Wedding for Pastor Sara Martin and Patrick Gorman. Confirmation Sunday preparation.

Looking Forward: Confirmation on 10/27/19. Baptism and Celebration of All Saints on Sunday, 11/03/19; Attending Fall Conference in New Ulm on 11/03/19 from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

Continuing Business: A discussion on a Part-time Visitation Pastor (8 hpw) was held. Possible job duties were discussed. Topic will be revisited. As of the end of September, the amount owed for the parking lot project was \$67,000.00. Continue to receive donations for the project. 2020 Budget discussion is continuing.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Evangelism: No report submitted

FLCW: Did not meet in October. The Thank Offering Service and Quarterly Meeting will be on Sunday, 11/17/19. The Sunday School shopping event will be on Sunday 12/08/19. John and Lois Estrem will coordinate Lefse making in November, date not yet selected. Will send reminders on the FLCW Bakeless Bake Sale fund drive.

Property and Management: Have met a number of times to work on projects. Soffit and trim work around ed-wing completed. New grass attended to, looking good; grounds sprayed for weed control. Boilers fired up for cold weather. Phone wire upgraded, old wire removed. Closed off vehicle access to south end of church property. Assisted Harris Haugen in the insurance evaluation process.

Stewardship: Fall Brunch Potluck and Dessert Auction will be on 11/10/19 after church. Please bring your favorite brunch item. For the dessert auction, please donate a dessert item, homemade or purchased. Kids creations are WELCOME and encouraged. Will be a Silent Auction.

Youth and Education: 10 kids with parents came to Nerstrand Woods Fun Day on 10/06/19. The Christmas Program is scheduled for Sunday 12/22/19 at 9:00 am. Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child information was shared with all the SS classrooms. Boxes are due back 11/17/19.

Future activities: Looking at Feed My Starting Children event on 01/11/20 or 02/01/20. Planning a sledding event at the golf course, date TBD. Food and hot chocolate at church after sledding. Intergenerational Sunday School for Valentines Day. Ditch cleaning planned in 2020.

Next Meeting: November 20, 2019 at 7:30 pm. NOTE TIME CHANGE.

Devotions: Cindy Lewis

Adjournment: M/S. Don / Chris Approved. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

✠ Celebrating Baptismal Life ✠

*"I'm going on a journey, and I'm starting today. My head is wet, and I'm on my way.
Christ's mark is on me; it's on you too; it says he loves me, and he loves you, too!"*

Confirmed: October 27, 2019 ~

Gr.10: Leah Berg, Corrie Born, Julie Dahl, Stella Rechtzigel

Gr. 9: Reganne Androli, Nick Cusey, Alexander Lee, Emma Paulson, Josi Quam, Ashley Rechtzigel

Baptized: November 3, 2019 ~ Ruby Marie Eggert



**Community Thanksgiving Service
Tuesday, November 26 – 7:00 PM
HOLDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH**



KENYON AREA PASTOR INTERN – PATTY BJORKLUND

*This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice
and be glad in it! (Psalm 118: 24 NRSV)*

This is a Psalm verse that I have found myself often proclaiming (if not singing!) as I make my way down to the Kenyon area as your pastor intern. Of course, I am easily drawn to rejoicing at the beautiful vistas that lay before me as I drive, especially as the trees turn to their vibrant colors in the sunny, crisp autumn air. But I am also keenly aware that I must enjoy them today because those colorful leaves may not be there tomorrow. I'm feeling the same way about my time here in the Kenyon area. I will pass this way but for one year and each day holds its own treasure to cherish. This past month, I so enjoyed my time with the Hegre folks as we rolled, cooked and served meatballs for their annual dinner. Equally so with the Vang folks as I popped in throughout the day for kitchen and clean-up duty for their Lutfisk extravaganza. Both were joyful celebrations of hospitality, good humor and tradition; rich with stories and family histories all of which are evidence of the deep faith tradition of the congregations. I led two Bible Studies (at Gol and Trinity) and am grateful for the folks who bring their faith to life in conversation with Scripture. (I look forward to launching a third Bible Study with the Vang folks in the very near future- Stay Tuned!) Pastor Heather entrusted me to lead the Holden- Dale confirmation group this past week and I am happy to report that with their help, we experienced the story of Joseph (of the OT) in a new way--New to me, too! We all did great! Add into the mix all of the individual conversations I've had with you all, and I am brought to rejoicing once again.

Thank you for sharing your gift of joyful faith.
Your light is a beacon to a weary world. Shine on!

Peace and Joy,
Patty Bjorklund

P.S. As the online shopping season nears and you're wondering what to do with all that packaging that comes with your purchases (boxes, packing peanuts, bubble wrap) I have a way to re-use/recycle all those materials. If you'd like to pass them on to me, feel free to leave them at my office door at First in Kenyon or contact me @ pbjorklund001@luthersem.edu to arrange for me to pick up. Thanks!



You're invited to a
Book Study on
New York Times Bestseller-

**“Inspired:
Slaying Giants,
Walking on Water,
and Loving the Bible Again”**

By Rachel Held Evans

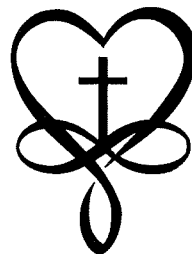
“With Scripture, we’ve not been invited into an academic fraternity; we’ve been invited to a wrestling match. We’ve been invited to a dynamic, centuries-long conversation with God and God’s people that has been unfolding since creation, one story at a time.” (Rachel Held Evans)

Thursdays: 7 pm
Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12
Vang Lutheran Church

Please contact Intern Pastor Patty Bjorklund
to register and to arrange for securing a book for you at
pbjorklund001@luthersem.edu

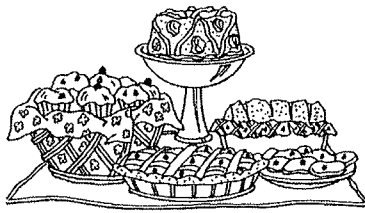
(Please read first chapter to prepare for first session)

All are welcome!



*For the joy of the Lord
is your
Strength*

NEHEMIAH 8:10



**POTLUCK BRUNCH
& Dessert Auction
Sunday November 10
After Worship**



Bring your favorite brunch item, whether an egg bake, baked item, fruit or your specialty, homemade or purchased. Bring hot items to the kitchen and they will be kept warm during the service. We will provide beverages.

We will have a dessert auction following brunch. Please bring any type of dessert item, homemade or purchased, Also welcome: holiday goodies, gift baskets, and Kid's creations, ☺ We will "auction" them off to the highest bidder by silent auction .

PROCEEDS WILL HELP WITH PARKING LOT COSTS AND REPAIR FUND.



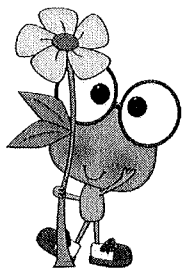
**Samaritan's Purse
'Operation Christmas Child'**

Sunday school students and members of First are invited to pack a Shoebox for "Operation Christmas Child" with a toy, stuffed animal, school supplies, hygiene items and include a \$9 donation to cover shipping and other project costs. Checks can be made out to: "First Lutheran Youth". Please drop off at church by Sunday, November 17. Preprinted boxes are available for you to use.

Ed-Youth Committee

**PARKING LOT FUNDRAISING
See Progress Board in the Narthex**

Your continued support for this fundraising effort is greatly appreciated. Your donations continue to be welcome and can be designated as "Repair Fund" on your offering envelopes.



*Presentation & Discussion About
Change, Agriculture & Strategies for a Better Future
from a Christian and Biblical Perspective
Speaker: Pastor Howard White**

**Monday, Nov. 18 – 7 P.M. to 8 P.M.
at Gol Lutheran Church**

*(*Retired ELCA pastor & volunteer lobbyist with Northfield Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby)*

FLCW UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 4, 6:30 pm. Board Meeting.
- Nov. 17, 9 am. Thankoffering Service.
- Nov. 17, 10 am. Quarterly Meeting.
- Nov. 21/22, 9 am. to 1 pm. Lefse Making.

>>>All are welcome to help. Bring any equipment you may have or let us know if you would need some. Sign up sheets to purchase lefse will be located around the church and fellowship hall or call Jackie 507-838-5216 and Cindy Lewis 507-330-1644.

- Dec. 8. Sunday School Christmas Shopping.

>>>We are now Collecting Gifts that students in Grades PreK—6 may select as gifts for mom, dad, grandparents, siblings or special friends. Please consider donating new/never-used/gently-used items, especially men's gift items. Look for donation bins inside the SS wing door and back of the church. No clothes please except for gloves/mittens/caps and KW Knights apparel. Additionally we need: Christmas gift bags, tissue paper, & stick on labels.

CHRISTIAN MISSION SOCIETY LOVE DAY

Thurs., Nov. 7, 1 PM

Thurs., Nov. 21, 1 PM

PRISCILLA CLUB

Tues., Nov. 12, 1 PM

Tues., Nov. 26, 1 PM

MORNING CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

**First Tuesday Monthly
at 9:30 – Joy Room**

*Poetry of the Old Testament
By Anna Madsen*

Our current 3-session study (Sept/Oct/Nov) explores selections of Old Testament poetry from Job, Psalms, and Lamentations. Drawing from the experiences of these ancient writers, we will learn to look for God in times of deep emotions, such as joy, anger, celebration, depression, misunderstanding and contentment – finding hope and grace along the way.

Monthly Bible Study found in
"Gather" magazine.

To order 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

Let our lives be full of



**THANKS
and
GIVING**



WOMEN of the ELCA Triennial Gathering 2020

Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, Arizona




Business Sessions: July 14-16

Workshops, Worship, Bible Study & More: July 16-19

Registration opened September 30. Early-bird registration thru January 6, 2020 is \$325. After that registration is \$375. Day registration is \$200. Register at welco.org or email women.elca@elca.org for a registration form.

November

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 All Saints  9:00 Worship 10:00 SSch 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA	4 6:30 FLCW Board Fall Theological Conference	5 9:30 Morn.Circ. Bible Stdy	6 6:00 Worship 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Sr. Choir	7 9:00 Cannon RvrConf. 1:00 LOVE Day 7:00 AA	8	9
10 9:00 Worship 10:00 SSch 10:00 Potluck Brunch & Dessert Auction 7:00 AA	11 1:30 Literary Guild <i>Property & Management</i>	12 1:00 Priscilla 7:00 EdYou	13 6:00 Worship 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Sr. Choir	14 7:00 AA	15	16
17 Women's Thankoffering 9:00 Worship 10:00 SSch 10:00 FLCW Qrtly Meeting 7:00 AA	18	19	20 6:00 Worship 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Sr. Choir 8:00 Council	21 9-1 Lefse Mkg 11:00 Rnd Table 1:00 LOVE Day 6:00 Sons of Norway 7:00 AA	22 9-1 Lefse Mkg	23
24 Christ the King Sunday 9:00 Worship 10:00 SSch 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA	25	26 Court Services 1:00 Priscilla 7:00 Commun. Thnks @ Holden	27 NO WED WORSHIP NO CONFIRMATION	28 Thanksgiving Blessings! 	29	30 11 AM ELEANOR TRAUIG CELEBR. OF LIFE

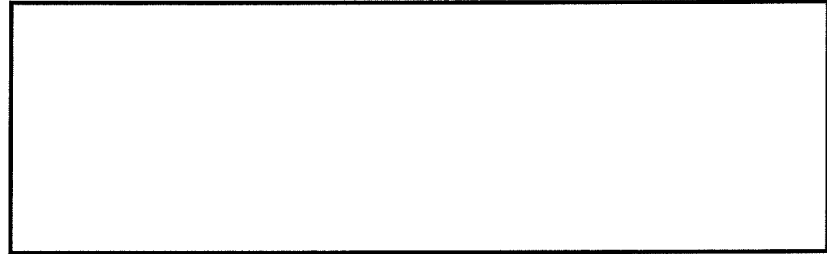
The First Word

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 Forest Street
Kenyon, MN 55946
(507) 789-5261

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**Change service requested*

*Happy
Thanksgiving!*



~ ~ **Thank You, November Volunteers!** ~ ~

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COFFEE, ACOLYTES

NOV USHERS

Dean Schutte, Chr
Ed Fletcher
Richard Overby
David Rapp
Kevin Mallery
Paul Rechtzigel

ALTAR CARE

John & Debbie Maki
Linda Barsness
Marcie Gaasedelen
Carolyn Walker

COMMUNION SET-UP

11/3: Jan Ashland
11/10: Carolyn & Larry Walker
11/17: Tammy Fletcher,
Pat Schreiber
11/24: Linda Cordes

NOV 3

GREET Les & Angie Eggert
READ ---
COMM Les & Angie Eggert,
Barbara Groth
COFF Tim & Ellen Sackett
ACOL Mason Torgeson,
Ross Aldorfer

NOV 10

GREET 8th Grade
READ 8th Grade
COMM Doug Henke,
Rhana Olson

COFF Paul & Sharon Rechtzigel
ACOL Jakob Kirchmann,
Devon Kreisler

NOV 17

GREET Dennis & Cora Lee
Monroe
READ Dan Rogness
COMM Dan Rogness
Sharon Homeier
Cora Lee Monroe
COFF FLCW
ACOL Ben Short,
Jamison Hoffman

NOV 24

GREET Tanya Short & family
READ Ben Short
COMM Tanya Short,
Mike Short,
Ben Short
COFF John & Lois Estrem
ACOL Will VanEpps,
Hayden Baka