



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month we have the national holiday of Thanksgiving. More than turkey, the Macy's Day Parade, and football, this day leads many people to recognize and give thanks for the many blessings in their lives. As Christians we turn our thanks to God for house and home, food and clothing, friends and family, and so much more.

Here in Kenyon we celebrate this time of giving and giving thanks. We are reminded that all that we have been given comes as a generous gift from God. We worship a God who not only models generous living but also shapes our hearts for generosity and thanksgiving. Most of us struggle to really trust God to provide and therefore surrender our lives to God, but God's Word tells us that we've been set free to live generously, and in so doing we discover great joy and real freedom. With that in mind, how can we not give thanks to a generous God, to give ourselves away to one another, and to be instruments of generous giving in reflection of God's love?

All belongs to God – all that is, all that we have and all that we are. In addition, God is not only the source of all creation, but God also loves all creation, including us – just as we are. No matter what happens to us or around us, God's love is always there for us.

Knowing God's love, and knowing God loves us abundantly leads us to give thanks.

We take this opportunity to give thanks for all God has generously given us, and to give generously from what God has first given us. This is a spiritual journey for us, and a way for us to personally explore what God is calling us to do with the blessings we have received. This is a time to publicly proclaim in a way, our story of blessing. We are truly blessed to be a part of this church and by living out our faith we become a blessing to others.

Reflecting on all I have to be thankful for, along with being thankful for my family, my wife, and my children, I am also thankful for all of you. Thank you for your prayers and for the many ways you generously give of your time, talents, and treasures. From my family to yours, we wish you a very blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

In Grateful Service, Pastor Kris D. H. Ferkin and Family

CONFIRMED - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023

SETH ALLEN ALDORFER – OLIVER JOHN BAUER – LUKE CHRISTIAN CORDES

Sunday November 19 - After Worship

YOU ARE INVITED to fellowship, potluck meal and Intergenerational games. Bring a light lunch/brunch dish to share, beverages will be provided. ALL ARE WELCOME. Sponsored by Worship/Evangelism and Ed/You Committees.

COMMEMORATING THE SAINTS – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

During our worship, we will remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. Worshippers will have opportunity to light a candle in memory of loved ones. A candle will be lit in honor these who have died since All Saints Day 2022 — *Margaret Ann Ellingson, Everett John Fletcher, Mardell Helen Held, Ilene Remold Bergh, Rene Oris Thune, Vivian Alice Samlaska, Eileen “Sid” Strandemo, Helen Arline Aase, Marcelyn Kvittum* — the church bell will toll once when their name is read.

Mindfulness

With the Holiday season beginning this month, it is so easy to get swept up in all the holiday fervor. As believers in the saving grace of Jesus Christ, it is in response to the magnificent reconciling works of God that we can love our neighbors as ourselves. So, how much do we love our neighbor? Is that love only proportionate to how much we love ourselves? Can we love our neighbor when we, in fact, do not love ourselves? It's easy to fall into the trap of 'you are not enough' when you indeed are!

This month, I invite you on a journey of mindfulness. Mindfulness is a type of meditation focusing on being intensely aware of what you're sensing and feeling in the moment, without interpretation or judgment. It is easy to push aside our own feelings in times of rush, like cooking an enormous Thanksgiving meal for the entire family and then some.

However, by noticing how we are feeling, we take the time to get to know ourselves. The self that God made you to be. The self that God loves just as you are—no need to change or improve. God loves you for who you are, both simultaneous saint and sinner. So, jot those feelings down, pray about those feelings, and get to know the you that God already loves. Love yourself the way God loves you so in response, we can go out and love our neighbor. *Happy Thanksgiving to all, Intern Brittany Mailleue*

First Lutheran Church Women

Friday Nov 10 & Saturday Nov 11 - Lefse Making

We Need: Workers for Mixing Dough, Rolling, Baking, Packaging

Please call Cora Lee 612-756-4687 -or- Candy Herrlich 507-330-0640 Let us know:
#1. Want to help – no experience needed #2. Have equipment #3. Bringing friend
#4. Want to purchase [6 rounds ~ \$10.00]

Sunday Nov 12 – Thankoffering Service

Thankofferings will be received during morning worship. Women are already signed up to... Set up Communion, Greet, Worship Assist, Serve Communion and Serve Coffee.

All Thankofferings go to WOMEN OF THE ELCA.

For more information, go to: welca.org/thankofferings

Help with Christmas Decorating for the Sanctuary

Looking for families /or/ groups, /or/ a committee to decorate the sanctuary prior to Dec. 3.

We have all the decorations; we just need your time and creative energy.

Call Cora Lee or Candy with date & time.

FIRST EV LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES — OCTOBER 18, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

Welcome and Call to Order: President Chris Cordes

Present: Chris Cordes, Erica Aronson, Tammy Fletcher, Carmen Nesseth, Cora Lee Monroe, Candy Herrlich, Ross Aldorfer, Tanya Short, Brad Nesseth, and Interim Pastor Kris Ferkin

Devotions: Erica-Psalm 16:11: look for displays of God's presence in your life, there is never-ending joy and pleasures with God in our lives.

Approve Agenda: M/S, Cora Lee/Erica/P

Secretary's Report: Thank you from Kris Kincaid for the bracelet and all the support she received as an intern. Thank you from Carol Lozon for the flowers/appreciation coffee, kind words & hugs.

Approved as printed M/S, Tammy/Erica/P

Treasurer's Report: Giving has dropped off by 50%. In order to pay our bills \$15,000 had to be taken out of our Budget Reserve. We cannot afford to continue this trend with expenses being more than donations. Please give generously. Checking Bal \$14,022.46. Memorial Checking Balance \$525.

M/S, Carm/Tanya/P

Pastor's Report: 3 Sunday worship, 4 Wed.night, Five Counseling/Bereavement, 1 assisted living call. 3 Children's Message, 1 confirmation class. 1 Council meeting, 1 Interim Ministry Colleague Meeting, 1 KAIC, 1 FLCW, 3 Staff Secretary 4 Text Study mtgs, 1 Lutheran Campus Ministry mtg, 1 Worship Committee mtg, visit with Farmers Market vendors and customers. In Sept. a Wed. outdoor worship around the fire circle. Rally Day services, with Cradle Roll, blessing of the backpacks, teacher installation, Bibles to 3rd graders. Nominations for transition team have been submitted. Please be observant about how the interim ministry is going, any feedback is helpful. Pay Pastor K.Ferkin for 153 mileage, M/S Brad/Erica, P.

President's Report: Chris informed the council that Ruby's Pantry will not be starting in November as previously stated. Reminder to the council that at the end of the year Jim Braaten is resigning as volunteer working with our website and livestream. Need a volunteer for this position. Please let council know if you, or you know of someone interested in doing this.

Continuing and New Business:

Call Process: Accept Mary Danielson-Gates, Jackie Mortensen, John Lee, Harris Haugen, and Tammy Fletcher (council rep) as Transition Team members, M/S, Carmen/Erica/P. Still seeking a youth or young adult. Please keep these members and our church in your prayers.

Youth Director: Bryana Lothert has volunteered to take on this position. M/S, Erica/Tammy to accept Bryana as Youth Director, P. Thank you Bryana!

Committee Job Descriptions: Committees are asked to review the old descriptions to compare with what they are doing now. Need to check with the constitution bylaws for what must be included with each committee description.

Committee Reports:

Youth Co-Reps -Ross reported that the Football doing well, section playoff is Tues., Oct. 24.

Volleyball section playoffs are Thurs., October 26. Pheasant opener was last weekend. Ross is in honors band. Middle school Band and Choir concert is Nov. 9.

FLCW-will meet on Sunday, Oct., 22 to discuss the following; Lefse Making, November 10 & 11th family, friends, novices, Thank Offering Service November 12th. Kris Kincaid's Ordination on November 19th at 3:00. Sole Hope Donation, Goodhue County Christmas Project, Christmas Shopping with Sunday School students, Dec. 10th, Need volunteers for decorating the sanctuary for Christmas, family or group event? Date?

Worship/Evangelism – Reviewed 1999 Worship/ Evangelism committee job duties. Decided to revise #2 of the worship committee to read: Keep open lines of communication and coordinate special events to enhance worship service. Acknowledged that worship and evangelism are both important to the church and should be separate committees as it is too labor intensive for 1 committee. Tanya has designed a google document to assist with monthly duties and planning with all members having access. Sundays & Seasons book is available for committee members to utilize as needed. Discussion on tempo of service, the possibly utilizing more familiar hymns to improve the singing and pace, possibility of utilizing a leader. All Saints Sunday- sending out letter to those who have lost a loved one in the past year inviting them to the service, naming those during the service followed by ringing a bell, and lighting of votive candles for any loved ones no longer with us. Committee to assist FLCW as needed in the Thankoffering worship on Nov. 12. We will assist EDYOU on Nov.19 Intergenerational Sunday school by providing the beverages with assistance from coffee servers, and a light lunch/brunch potluck. Annette to put in the Nov. newsletter. Christ the King 11/26. First Sunday of Advent 12/3. Sunday school shopping 12/10, Christmas Sunday school nativity 12/17. Worship committee requests a new microphone to enhance bell choir and online listening of hymns during worship.

Property and Management -did not meet. Church office was informed that the next maintenance on the lift will require new batteries.

Stewardship - no report. Still need 2 more people on committee. Prayerfully consider this.

Youth and Education – Ditch cleaning for kids currently in grades 7 through 12. Sunday 10/29 10:00 am Weather permitting. Sunday School Teachers-Ed You members continue to reach out to members. Sunday school Lessons discussed. Intergenerational Jeopardy in November. Sunday school Christmas Shopping- Sunday December 10th. Christmas pageant/live nativity during church- Sunday December 17th

KAIC-Intern Brittany has been here since August. She has been worship leader 2 times at First. Not scheduled to preach at First until 2024. Her ministry focus at First is Visitation/Pastoral Care. Much discussion on the rotation schedule and ministers focus, who decides this? Al Aakre's Ordination will be on Nov. 11 at Holden. Kris Kincaid's ordination will be 3 pm on Nov. 19 at First Lutheran. April 7, 2024 suggested date for the Soup Cook-off, Cake/Pie Auction. KAIC will meet Tuesday 10-24, 7pm at First. First Lutheran needs a volunteer for this committee.

Endowment/Long Range Planning/-Personnel Committee-no report.

Next Meeting: November 15, 2023 at 8:00 p.m.

Devotions: Tanya


Adjournment: M/S Carmen/Tammy, P Time: 8:05

Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Carmen Nesselth, Secretary

November 2023



			1 6 Wed Worship 6:30 Confirmation	2 7 AA	3	4
Time After Pentecost						
5 ALL SAINTS 9 Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee 7 AA	6	7	8 6 Wed Worship 6:30 Confirmation	9 1 LOVE DAY 7 AA	10 LEFSE MAKING	11
12 WOMEN OF THE ELCA THANKOFFERING 9 Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee 7 AA	13 1:30 Literary Guild	14	15 6 Wed Worship 6:30 Confirmation 8:00 COUNCIL	16 5:30 – 9 Sons of Norway 7 AA	17	18
19 INTERGENERATION Sun-School Day 9 Worship 10 Potluck & Games 3 Kris Hertsgaard- Kincaid Ordination 7 AA	20	21	22	23 	24	25
26 CHRIST THE KING 9 Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee 7 AA	27	28	29 6 Wed Worship 6:30 Confirmation	30 7 AA		

★ LOOKING AHEAD ★

12-3 Advent Begins 12-10 Sun Sch Chr.Shopping 12-17 Sun Sch Nativity 12-24 Chr Eve 4 pm

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NOVEMBER

Newsletter



Give Thanks
to the Lord
FOR HE IS GOOD
PSALM 107:1