

February Worship--Variety for the Seasons

David S. Wall, Interim Pastor

We have one extra day in February this leap year and that is a good thing to get in all of the things that will be taking place. We continue with the Epiphany Season in early February. Have you had your Epiphany yet? It is a time to be seeing "God in flesh made manifest." It is seeing Jesus of Nazareth as true God. It is a great time of year.

Scott Gottschalk will be preaching Feb. 18/19 at our Saturday evening and Sunday morning services. He will also speak during the education hour at about 9:45 to 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall. He is an author and will be bringing books along that we can purchase if we so choose. He has had 27 experiences of near death circumstances and speaks of how guardian angels have worked diligently to keep him alive. We look forward to welcoming him to First Lutheran.

We then move quickly to the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is February 22. On Ash Wednesday and throughout the season of Lent (until Holy Week), we will have our traditional 6:30 p.m. Lenten service and we will be using the liturgy of Holden Evening Prayer for that service. We are also continuing our 5:15 p.m. service during lent for anyone wishing to attend and especially invite those involved with the Wednesday TLC. This service will be adapted and abbreviated but we are excited to have this continuing through Lent. There are plans being made for videos and other kinds of special presentations for that 5:15 p.m. service.

We learn that Jesus of Nazareth is the Son of God and in the Lenten journey we travel with Christ to the Cross. I am going to be using the five areas of the Small Catechism for the five Wednesdays after Ash Wednesday. The themes for those services will be: 1. Feb. 29--Holy Baptism; 2. March 7--Holy Communion; 3. March 14--Apostles' Creed; 4. March 21--The Lord's Prayer; 5. March 28--Ten Commandments.

My hope and pray that you will have a blessed journey through these next months in worship and in all areas of spiritual growth. Best to you--go in Christ's peace--Pastor Dave

Church Council Update January 2012

Treasurer's Report: The year ended with contributions only \$2,096 short of the financial plan. The First Lutheran Foundation reimbursed the General Fund for youth staff position support, vehicle expenses and radio broadcasts.

Custodial Position: Randy Bahn has been serving as "interim" custodian while the council determines custodial needs. Applications are now being accepted for the "permanent" position, which will be 20 hours a week. Applications are due January 27th—contact the office for an application form.

February Council Retreat: This event is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21st beginning with a catered supper at 5:30 p.m. All council members are encouraged to attend so each committee can welcome the new members and set goals for the year ahead.

Call Committee Update: The committee will be conducting telephone interviews before incurring travel expenses to conduct in-person interviews.

Establishing a Fund for New Fellowship Tables: Marlene Nordby expressed interest in establishing a "Fellowship Tables Fund" and will seek donations to purchase new, light-weight tables for the Fellowship Hall. Shelly Maes will gather quotes using our Cooperative Purchasing Contract through the SW/WC Service Cooperative.

Synod Leadership Event: There is a Leadership Conference at Calvary Lutheran Church in Willmar on February 11th from 9am – 3pm. Council members are encouraged to attend.

Upcoming Bible Studies:

- Beth Moore Bible study on the life of Paul: Mondays beginning January 23rd from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. or on Thursdays, beginning January 26th from 11:00 – 12:30. Sign up sheets are out for this study. The cost is \$15.00.
- "Making Sense of the Cross" – Pastor Wall will be conducting this 5 – week Lenten study between worship services beginning on February 26th. The cost is \$13.00.
- "Texting Through Lent" will be a study for teens and families.

Education Committee: VBS is scheduled for May 21st – 25th. There will be one session each day.

Outreach Committee: The committee is making plans for Scott Gottschalk's visit on February 18 – 19. Scott Gottschalk will be preaching at all services that weekend and conducting an informal adult forum between services that Sunday morning. He has escaped death many times and has written a book about his experiences. He only asks for permission to sell his book with 10% of the sales to be given back to the church. Letters to potential new members will be going out soon.



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22

Worship Opportunities:

Soup & Sermon presented by the Marshall Area Ministerial Association
At Holy Redeemer Catholic Church – 11:45 Soup is Served; 12:05 Lenten Message

Wednesdays at First Lutheran beginning February 22

Worship at 5:15pm

Worship/Holden Evening Service 6:30pm

Saturday worship 5:30pm

Sunday worship 8:30 & 10:45am

*We are believers seeking to invite
all into the caring, sharing ways
of Christ.*

New Member Orientation

Please let Kitsi, Pastor Wall, or the church office know of anyone interested in becoming a member at First Lutheran Church. We will be holding New Member Orientations on Sunday, February 5 & Sunday, February 12 at 9:45 in rooms 4, 6, 8 in the education wing. New Members will be accepted on Sunday, February 19 at both the 8:30 & 10:45 A.M. services.

Making Sense of the Cross...

Beginning Sunday, February 26th there will be a 5 week Lenten Bible Study titled “Making Sense of the Cross” by David J. Lose who holds The Marbury E. Anderson Chair in Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary. Grab your coffee & donut holes and meet Pastor Wall in the Fire Side Room at 9:45 a.m. Each week there will be a video presentation followed by a time to open the Participant Book and join in discussion. The cost of the Participant Book is \$13.00 and is available in the church office. Complete the registration form below and mail it or bring it to the church office by February 22nd.

Making Sense of the Cross

Name: _____ Phone: _____

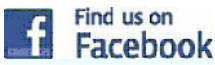
Address: _____

Email: _____

Pd. For Participant Book _____

Check # _____





Hey everyone! First Lutheran is excited to not only have our "First Lutheran Church" page, but we now have "First Lutheran Youth, Marshall MN" and First Lutheran Education" pages. Search for us on Facebook and "like" us... The Links available from www.1stlutheran.org.

Check out the First Lutheran Web Site www.1stlutheran.org

You can also find links to the SW Mn Synod, the ELCA, Daily Bible

Readings, Shetek Lutheran Ministries, Women of the ELCA The Weekly Church Bulletin....monthly newsletter and more!!



**Scott D.
Gottschalk**

"Nine Lives to Eternity Guided by Angels"

Nine Lives To Eternity, Guided By Angels is one man's true chronicle of cheating death a miraculous twenty-seven times. This inspirational and faith-driven human triumph details the aftermath of Scott's many harrowing experiences and mishaps, any of which should have resulted in certain death, yet somehow he was incessantly saved by *Guardian Angels*. The numerous near-death experiences for Scott required an amazing ten major medical surgeries. In all, his death-defying circumstances have accounted for twenty-six fractured bones and rendered him unconscious on five separate occasions, yet he somehow lived to tell his compelling story. After listening to Scott's inspirational and motivational account, one's view of life, one's apprehension of death and one's belief in angels will never be the same again.

Come & hear Scott's message! He will be presenting guest sermons at First Lutheran on Saturday, February 18 at 5:30 P.M. & Sunday, February 19 at 8:30 & 10:45 A.M. with an adult forum 9:45-10:30 A.M.



First Lutheran "Chat & Chew" Sunday, February 19 at Noon

The First Lutheran Women along with the First Lutheran Outreach Committee will be hosting a congregational a "Chew & Chat" event. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at noon on Sunday, February 19. The main course and beverages will be provided; and we are asking everyone to bring a salad or a dessert to share. This will be a time to gather in fellowship & enjoy great food. We will also be welcoming and learning more about the newest members of First Lutheran during our time together.

It's Senior Class Pictures Time again!!

If you have gotten your class of 2012 senior pictures taken or are going to be taking them soon....please remember to bring in a wallet size picture for our Class composite. Thanks!



RADA Cutlery Sold the month of February by New Orleans Youth!

RADA Cutlery is visually recognized by many people for over 60 years....and have a reputation for quality and value. Products include kitchen knives and utensils, quick mixes, stoneware, gift sets, recipe books and soy wax candles. AND it's affordable! Sales will take place Feb 15-Feb 29. And will be here by March 7th! Just ask Tonya or one of the youth to order!

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING SPONSORED SPRING FUNDRAISER...SILENT AUCTION AND MEAL!

The month of March promises to put the FUN in FUNdraiser! We will have a Silent Auction filled with various items and services for you to bid on. Anyone is welcome to put something on the auction to help out the youth! Bidding will start on Saturday March 18th from 5:30-7pm. We will finish up on Sunday April 1st for brunch and run until 11am to celebrate the close of the bidding and announce whose bids were the top. Auction items will be publicized soon as well as the meal and prices.

Thanks for supporting the youth!! We definitely need you all!

Growing Up Resilient—Fostering a Spirit of Confidence in our Children

Wednesday, February 1st from 7 – 9 p.m. at the Marshall High School Theater.

Presented by Ed Yerka, PhD, Avera Marshall Psychiatry Associates

There is no charge to attend. **Target Audience: 5th – 12th grade students; all parents** (*This program is a collaboration between the Marshall School District, the Marshall Ministerial Association and Avera Marshall Regional Medical Center.*) Promises to be an evening full of information to help our kids in this culture of bullying, etc. Parents, don't miss out!



Attention Potential Singers! The Chancel Choir of First Lutheran is cordially in inviting men and women of the congregation to consider joining our men's and women's choirs.

Singers are welcome for the Chancel Choir as well (rehearsals Wed. evenings, 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary....under the direction of Dr. Stephen Kingsbury.

The odd months will be for the men's group (March, and May) and the even months for the women (February, April and possibly early June). During their assigned month each group will rehearse at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings and prepare two selections.

. The women will sing February 26th at both services.

We would love to have you join us! Arrive at 7:55, and we'll be sure to have a place for you!

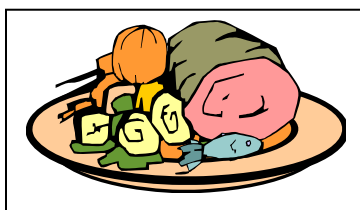
First Lutheran Church offers **transportation** to and from Worship each Sunday for those who do not have transportation available. Rides are available for the second service on Sunday mornings. If you need a ride or know of someone else in need of a ride, please pass this service on. Call Dan Marks at 537-3558 by 5:00 pm Friday to schedule your pickup.



Annual Youth Sponsored Lenten Suppers are Scheduled again!!

Help support Youth and Family Ministry at First Lutheran! Enjoy a nice warm meal together as a family. Invite your friends to join you too. Meals are served from 5:00 -6:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall on Feb 22 (Ash Wednesday), Feb 29, March 7, 14, 21, and 28. **These meals are made and served by the youth as a fundraiser for their programming costs. This is why the price is higher than our "light meals on Wednesdays".**

ADULTS (12–UP) \$6.00
YOUTH (5–11) \$4.00
CHILD (4–UNDER) \$2.00
Family Cap of \$20.00



**THANKS FOR SUPPORTING THE
YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY!!**

We encourage the WHOLE CONGREGATION to starting saving items for a **Spring Rummage Sale on April 21st** sponsored by the New Orleans youth.



HyVee Cards available for Purchase!

The New Orleans youth will be selling HyVee gift cards throughout the year as a part of their fundraisers. We have \$50 cards and \$100 cards. Everyone needs groceries....and its money you would spend anyway, if not all at one time, eventually. By using the gift cards, part of the money will go to the youth! Thanks!



Burger Bucks are available also for Burger King through the New Orleans youth and the church office! ☺ These bucks are \$1 each. I know of many people who eat at Burger King! And the BK senior high group meets there every Friday morning! ☺

First Lutheran Women



WANTED: We will be cleaning the church kitchen on **Saturday, February 18th** beginning at 10 am. Women, men and children welcome. Remember, the more hands involved the lighter the task. See you there!

Ongoing activities:

Quilting - February 6th 1-4 (with general meeting at 2:30) **Join us for some good fellowship, laughs and of course good coffee.... And also on February 20th 1-4**



Prayer Shawl Gathering – February 2nd 7pm (open to men and women)

If you want to knit or crochet prayers shawls and can't join us on the 2nd you are welcome to make them to donate to this ministry. Call Dawn Planting for further information (432-1465)



Rejoice Bible Study on Wednesday am's at 9:30 in the fellowship hall. (not on the 2nd Wednesday of the month as this is Circle Bible study) Call Jan Mann for more information (532-5617)





**Calling ALL Women, Infants – 99+!
BOLD Women’s Weekend is coming March 3 & 4, 2012**

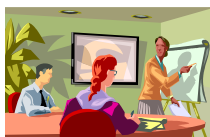
BOLD Women’s Weekend at First Lutheran will highlight the involvement of women and girls in the Church. All interested girls and women of First Lutheran are invited to participate in one of the 3 worship services March 3 & 4.

Worship participants will serve as greeters; ushers; liturgists; readers of announcements, lessons or prayers; confession leaders; children’s message presenters; music providers; communion assistants; etc. All aspects of the worship will be written or suggested for your use.

If you wish to be part of this exciting event, please call the church office @ 532-2429 or e-mail: firstluth@iw.net. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact a member of the First Lutheran Women’s Board – Shirley Anderson-Porisch , Kim Christianson, Bonnie Dretsch, Diane Halgerson, Karen Murphy, Marlene Nordby, Audrey Norris, Helen Pedersen, or Dawn Planting.

2012 Church Council Installation and Retreat

All Church Council Members are encouraged to attend worship on the Weekend on Feb. 4/5 – Saturday, 5:30 p.m. or Sunday, 8:30 or 10:45 a.m.
for a Service of Installation.



Council Retreat

The 2012 Church Council will meet for their Annual Retreat On Tuesday, February 21st beginning at 5:30p.m. with a catered supper.



FIRST LUTHERAN AND SHETEK LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

Check out what Shetek Lutheran Ministries and what the Bible Camp has to offer youth, families, grandparents...all people!

Shetek has worked hard to continue to provide excellent faith building opportunities for our families. And there are some new and exciting camps being created and some old favorites being “tweaked” for the summer. Demands continue to rise for families and their children as the times in our world change. Summer Bible Camp is the greatest way to keep our young people and families grounded and focused on their faith journey and their love in Christ. It doesn’t mean that the demands are not going to be there—but it does promise to remind us that there is a loving God who is with us during all of the changes. And allows us to have some fun in our faith for a half week or a full week! ☺

Help us keep bible camp a priority. Scholarships are provided for all members of First Lutheran. Although the price of camp does rise, we are trying to look into this and how our scholarship amounts can reflect this. HOWEVER, money is NEVER a reason to NOT go to camp. Special scholarships are provided and remain confidential. Just contact Tonya at 532-2429 or 532-6628.

**Shetek Lutheran Ministries
Sugarbush Boil-off Pancake Dinner
Sunday March 25th 2012
10:30-1:30
Maple tapping Demo
11:00-12:30**

Try your hand at the Tomahawk toss

**Mother – Daughter
SCRAPBOOKING RETREAT
February 24, 25, & 26
Relax, Recharge & SCRAP**

**Come enjoy a weekend away. To enjoy scrapping, great company, delicious food & to rest in God’s presence. For more information call -
507-763-3567**

Mark Your Calendar

- *Valentines supper – Feb. 12th 2012
- *Service in the cities – Feb. 17-19th (grades 7-9)
- *Mother/Daughter Scrapbooking Retreat – Feb. 24-25-26
- *Pre-marriage workshop – March 17th 2012
- *Confirmation Retreat – March 23-24, 2012
- *Sugar bush Pancake dinner & tapping tree demo –
March 25th dinner 10:30am – 1:30 /demo 11:00am – 1:30
- *Pelican Banquet – April 15th 5:30pm @ SLM dining hall
- *Confirmation Retreat – April 20-21, 2012
- *Waiting for Wings (Create a butterfly house) April 28th
- *Pre-marriage workshop – May 5th 2012
- *26th Annual Quilt Auction – June 23rd 2012

Any questions call (507) 763-3567 or check out our website at www.shetek.org



Thrivent Choice Dollars – Thrivent Financial has provided millions of dollars to help congregations, communities and nonprofit organizations. Giving back makes an important impact in people’s lives. Members who own Thrivent Financial products help make this support possible. Thrivent Choice lets you help choose where some of Thrivent Financials charitable outreach funds go by directing Choice Dollars SM and by participating in Voting Events. As an eligible Thrivent member, **you could consider making the choice for Choice Dollars for First Lutheran.** You can do this on-line, or via the 1-800 number. You do need to set up an account to do this on-line. If you would send their Choice Dollars to First Lutheran, the church should acquire quite a few free dollars. 2011 Choice Dollars expires March 31, 2012. Policy holders, designate where you want yours to go. Further questions?