

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

FORGIVENESS

Finding peace through letting go.

AUGUST 12/13: THE DIVINE ANSWER
AUGUST 19/20: FOR BETTER FOR WORSE
AUGUST 26/27: SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN
SEPTEMBER 2/3: THE DREAM COAT

First Lutheran Church



Welcome

Visitors: Welcome to First Lutheran, we are glad you are here! We would appreciate you taking the time to fill out the blue Welcome Card located in each pew, and placing it in the offering plate, or turning it in at the Welcome Center. We also invite you to stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a *Welcome Gift Bag*. Thank you for worshipping with us and we look forward to seeing you again!

My Offering Pew Envelopes are located in each pew. Place your cash or check in the envelope, then place it in the offering plate during worship. If you would like your offering recorded on your member record, please include your name on the pew envelope.

Nursery: Our nursery is open during the 8:30am and 9:45am worship. The nursery is located on the preschool level of the building. Please note, it is not staffed during the summer.

Large Print Bulletin and Hearing Assists are available for worship. An usher can help you locate these items.

Check out the Children and Youth area in the back of the Sanctuary.

Busy Bags and Children's Bulletins are available for use during worship. An usher can assist you if necessary.

FLY Sermon Notes and KICK Worship Notes are available on the shelves for easy access.

Lost and Found items can be found in the box and coat rack near the elevator.

Radio: Every Sunday the 9:45 AM worship service of First Lutheran is broadcast on station [KXRA 1490 AM \(100.3 FM within 15 mile radius of Alex\)](http://www.KXRA.com), or go to www.KXRA.com for live streaming of the 9:45 AM worship service, in the upper **RIGHT** hand corner located just above the menu bar click on "Listen Live". For weather-related announcements—"LIKE" us on our Facebook page or sign up for text alerts at www.facebook.com/firstlutheranalexandria

E-news: If you have not yet signed up for our E-News but are interested in receiving it, please email kari.vanwakeren@firstlutheranalexandria.com so that you can be added to our E-News e-mail group. This is different from the Focus in that it offers just a snapshot of the upcoming week's activities.

Summer Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:30am & 9:45am

Lake Carlos State Park Worship: Sunday, 10:30am

City Park Worship: Sunday, 11:00am

**In the case of inclement weather, please listen to KXRA 1490 AM for any announcements.

All weekend bulletin announcements are due to Ruth Nelson, Administrative Assistant, by 12:00pm on Friday, one week prior to the bulletin, (8 days before the bulletin date). Please send to admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com

August 12-13, 2017

5:00pm, 8:30 & 9:45am Worship

***Mission Statement:** First Lutheran is a vibrant Christian community committed to connecting faith and life for people of all ages through worship, learning, and serving in Jesus' name.*

Congregation (☑) responses are shown in **BOLD** print...

When response is needed for specific services it will be indicated as 5=5:00, 8= 8:30, 9=9:45.

We ask that you please silence your cell phone during the worship service. Thank you.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Randy Morken

BELL

WELCOME AND GREETINGS

GATHERING SONG ELW #733

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P** In the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** At this time, we confess our sin and receive God's forgiveness.
- C** **I have fallen short and do wrong each day.**
- P** In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.
- C** **I ask for forgiveness for things I've done and things I've failed to do.**
- P** In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.
- C** **I ask for forgiveness for grudges I have held.**
- P** In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.
- C** **I ask for forgiveness as well as encouragement to do what's right.**
- P** In the name of Christ you are forgiven and encouraged! Amen.
- P** I have fallen short and do wrong each day.
- C** **In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.**
- P** I ask for forgiveness for things I've done and things I've failed to do.
- C** **In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.**
- P** I ask for forgiveness for grudges I have held.
- C** **In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.**
- P** I ask for forgiveness as well as encouragement to do what's right.
- C** **In the name of Christ you are forgiven and encouraged! Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☑ God, thank you for this day and your mercies that come to us anew each morning. Grow us in the fruits of your Spirit and help us to live in and out of your love, forgiving those who have wronged us and casting our cares on you. In Jesus' name, amen.

As children come forward, we sing "Jesus Loves Me"...

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Ben

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

(8/9) Roger and Barb Riley

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.



FIRST READING: Psalm 32:1-5

- ☐ ¹Happy are those
whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
- ²Happy are those
to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- ³While I kept silence,
my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
- ⁴For day and night
your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up
as by the heat of summer.
- ⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave
the guilt of my sin.

- ☐ Word of God. Word of Life.
☑ Thanks be to God.

SERMON SONG ELW #608

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”

No flash photography during the service please. An opportunity for photos will be available after the service...

(8) BAPTISM with Profession of Faith on page 229...

pages 227- 231

CONFESSION OF FAITH

- I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An option we now provide is to give by text: 320.500.6014



OFFERING RESPONSE

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

OFFERING PRAYER

- God, we offer you our love, our devotion, and these gifts today. Use them for your good, and open our eyes to your holy presence among us, now and always. In Jesus' name, amen.

(5) WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

- ☒ Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

The table is prepared. All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. As a follower of Jesus Christ, this meal is for you. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available at your request...

(5) COMMUNION

(5) COMMUNION BLESSING

- ☐ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- ☒ Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.



BLESSING

- ☐ You are a child of God, forgiven and freed, in Jesus' name. Go into the world with gladness and share the good news. The Lord bless you and keep you, now and forever.
- ☒ Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- P** And all God's Children said,
- C** Amen!

SENDING SONG ELW #543

“Go My Children, With My Blessing”

POSTLUDE

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LIVING OUT LOVE RIGHT HERE



Connecting church and home through praying, blessing, sharing, talking, and reading



Connecting people of all ages to do service projects for the community



Connecting with God through prayer both personally and collectively

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS: August 12-13, 2017

MINISTRY OF PRAYER AND CELEBRATION...

HOSPITAL VISITS: Hospital policy prevents the pastors and parish nurse from knowing you are a patient unless at the time of admittance you indicate you are a member of First Lutheran and want to be visited. OR call the church office (320.762.2196) to notify us you are/or will be a patient, or have had a child. Your cooperation in this way helps us greatly. Thank you, Greg, Kari, Ben and Val.

Prayers for those with health concerns: Palmer Bergner, Dave Bennett, Ardis Botner, Arlene Carlson, LaVerne Dyrstad, Eleanor Hagstrom, Bob Hocum, Don Kanten, Steve Knutson, Chuck Knutson, Irene Larson, Kathy Lind, Ted Lohrman, Keith Lundsetter, Evelyn Myrin, Glenda Nelson, Mary Norlien, Harold Olson, Tom Riley, Kathleen Rittenour, Russ Schultz, Rick Swenson, Judy Williams, Lori Zeman, Hayden (Kay Stricker's grandson)

Prayers for the FLC sponsored missionary: Rev. Chandran Paul Martin

Prayers for those recently baptized: Corbin Farrow and Mia Farrow, son and daughter of Sean and Mary Beth Farrow, are brought to the Lord in Holy Baptism at the 8:30am service. Their sponsors are William Hanlon and Kimberly Werlinger. Lillian Belle Brede, daughter of Travis and Nicole Brede, is brought to the Lord in Holy Baptism at the 11:00am service. Her sponsors are Lucas Brede and Miranda Zimmerman.

Prayers for those who mourn: We express sympathy and God's love to:

❖ The family and friends of Arlene Bosek.

Flowers on the Altar are given by Jeff Carlson in memory of Arnice Carlson on the 1st Anniversary of her death.

Church Events:

- **New Sermon Series-Forgiveness:** Finding peace through letting go. Join us in worship as we look at the importance of forgiveness in our lives. Without it, no marriage can survive, no family can stay together, and no society can be sustained.
 - Week One: August 12-13, The Divine Answer
 - Week Two: August 19-20, For Better For Worse
 - Week Three: August 26-27, Seventy Times Seven
 - Week Four: September 2-3, The Dream Coat.
- **Children's & Youth Registration:** Just a reminder that Children's and Youth Registration forms can be found at the Welcome Center. Please return them to the Church Office or to Randi Rach and Kim Taylor. Thank you!
- **Congregational Forum:** Join us on Monday, August 21 at 10:00am and 6:30pm for a congregational forum to discuss thoughts and questions concerning the Communion conversation discussed in the August Pastor's Pen.
- **United Way Food Drop:** The next upcoming United Way food drops are scheduled for Thursday, August 31 and September 28 at 11:00am at the New Life Christian Church on Country Road 82 SE. Anyone who lives in Douglas County is able to go there to receive food. Just bring your own boxes. Volunteers are needed to help with distribution; please call the United Way at 320.834.7800 to sign up.
- **SpiritFest Golf Scramble (September 10):** Sign up now at the Welcome Center! The day's events will begin at 1:00pm with registration, a shotgun start at 2:00pm, followed by dinner and silent auction at 6:30pm. Four person teams needed. Cost is \$100 per person with \$75 of the registration fee going to the Building Fund. A generous donor will match up to \$10,000 in registration fees.
- **The Shelf at Discovery Middle School:** For those who would like to participate, there are yellow shopping bags available at the Welcome Center to fill with requested items for The Shelf at DMS. Our goal is to stock the shelves so they are ready for when school begins this fall. There is a list of requested items included in each bag. Thank you for your support!
- **Stuff the Bus:** The United Way is collecting donations of school supplies and backpacks in their annual Stuff the Bus drive, to be distributed to registered families. Members of our congregation can help in the collection by purchasing backpacks, spiral notebooks, crayons (24 pack), colored pencils, composition notebooks, washable markers, pens (red, black, and blue), pencils, glue sticks, and loose leaf paper. Drop off at the collection box by the Welcome Center. Backpacks will be filled with supplies and will be available on Wednesday, August 23, from 9:00am-6:00pm and on Thursday, August 24 from 8:00am-5:00pm at the United Way office (503 Hawthorne Street). If you would like to register your child(ren) to receive a backpack, please call the United Way office at 320.834.7800. The final registration date is Friday, August 11. If you have any questions, please call Jen Jabas at 320.834.7800.

Area Events

- **Habitat for Humanity:** Celebrate with us as we dedicate two homes to Wendy's family and Alicia's family on Tuesday, August 22. Wendy's dedication will be at 3:30pm at 1643 Castle Lane and Alicia's will be at 5:00pm at 3608 Pawnee Dr. SE. A light meal will be provided celebrating both families at 5:30pm at Pawnee Drive.
- **Hope for Recovery Class:** Obtain information about mental illnesses, treatments, crisis management, suicide prevention, the mental health system and local resources along with practical strategies for helping a love on or a friend on Saturday, August 19 from 9:00am-3:00pm at Life Church (901 County Highway 116) in Fergus Falls. Register at eventbrite.com and search for Hope for Recovery-Fergus Falls.
- **Caregiver Support Workshop:** Save the date! This workshop is on Thursday, September 21 from 9:00am to 3:30pm at Ecumen Bethany Chapel. The day will include educational sessions to help and support caregivers and lunch. In addition, care for loved ones will be provided by Adult Day Services free of charge for the day.

COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL



**REGISTRATION IN PROGRESS
FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR**



**LEARN MORE @
WWW.COMMUNITYPRESCHOOLALEXANDRIA.COM
CONTACT MELISA SCHUELER:
CONTACT@COMMUNITYPRESCHOOLALEXANDRIA.COM
320.763.5293**

BEER & HYMNS

Tuesday, August 15

5:00 - 8:00pm

Copper Trail Brewing Co.

**First Lutheran
CHURCH**



Feel free to come for all or part of the evening!



The Giving Tree

**TAKE A "LEAF" FROM THE TREE, BUY
ONE OR MULTIPLE OF THAT ITEM,
AND RETURN THEM TO THE BOX IN
THE WEST NARTHEX.**

*Our goal is to fill 50 school bags
for Lutheran World Relief.*

Coffee & Conversations

WEDNESDAYS @ 10:00 AM

**SUMMER TAKES US ALL SORTS OF PLACES. LET'S CATCH UP!
DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, YOU ARE INVITED FOR A
COFFEE HOUR HOSTED BY ONE OF THE PASTORS. COME ENJOY
FELLOWSHIP AND CONVERSATION OVER A CUP OF JOE. COFFEE
AND CONVERSATIONS BEGINS SEPTEMBER 6 AT 10:00AM IN
THE FAMILY ROOM AND WILL CONTINUE EACH WEDNESDAY IN
SEPTEMBER. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

Thank You to Those Who Served With Us Today!

Bev Dokken, Jim & Kristie Stratton, Connie Fields, Virginia & Stephen Polman, Carol Radil, Helen Johnsrud, John Strand, Mitch Odland, Minton Larson, Art Berg, Barb Riley, Darrel Holverson, Mike Loken, Jim Ostenson, Bill Davis, Paul & Sue Freng, Sally Baumann, Greg Tvrdik, Rita Ellenberger

Interested in serving with us next week? The following volunteer positions are available:

Saturday 5:00pm – Greeter (2), Scripture Reader, Usher (3), Welcome Center Host, Coffee Host

Sunday 8:30am – Greeter (2), Usher (3), Welcome Center Host, Coffee Host

Sunday 9:45am – Greeter (2), Scripture Reader, Usher (3), Communion Assistant (2),
Welcome Center Host, Coffee Host

Sunday 11:00am City Park – Usher (2), Communion Assistant, Coffee Host

Sign up for an available spot in our new Service Opportunities Binder at the Welcome Center; call Steve Heseltine, Shared Ministry Coordinator, at 320-762-2196; or online through the Sign Up Genius.

Attendance Numbers for Worship August 5-6:

(5) 87 (8) 92 (9) 168 (10-Carlos) 32 (11) 111 – Total Last Week = 490

Financial Snap Shot



Did You Know?

\$5 per week buys communion for one of our weekend services. Make giving a habit! Sign up for automated giving by filling out the Simply Giving form in your pew. EVERY DONATION COUNTS!

Budgeted Weekly Need: \$22,995

Income last week: \$30,558

Expense last week: \$48,049

WEEK AHEAD

August 13 - August 20, 2017

Day/Date	Time	Activity	Room/Location
Sunday (Aug. 13)	8:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	9:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:30 am	Outdoor Worship	@Lake Carlos State Park
	11:00 am	Outdoor Worship w/Communion	@City Park
Monday (Aug. 14)	8:30 am	Offering Team (LDM)	Meeting Place
	10:00 am	Adult Ministry Board	Ark
	5:30 pm	Germany Trip Info Meeting	Family Room
Tuesday (Aug. 15)	8:00 am	Mission Quilters	Fellowship Hall
	9:00 am	Library Committee	Library
	10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Meeting Place
	12:00 pm	Music Worship Team	Fellowship Hall
	2:30 pm	Gospel 4+	Sanctuary
	5:00 pm	Beer & Hymns	Copper Trail Brewing Co.
	5:30 pm	Youth Board Meeting	Commons
Wednesday (Aug. 16)	8:30 am	Program Staff Meeting	Meeting Place
	9:30 am	Parents Share	Family Room
	10:00 am	Staff Coffee	Meeting Place
	11:00 am	Women on Wednesday	Common Grounds Coffee
	1:00 pm	Financial Audit	Meeting Place
Thursday (Aug. 17)	7:00 am	Women's Bible Study	Family Room
	8:00am -5:00 pm	Berg Architects Meetings	Family Room
	1:30 pm	Care Team Meeting	Meeting Place
	6:00 pm	Vision Team Meeting	Family Room
Friday (Aug. 18)	7:00 am	Men's Study	The Depot
	12:00 pm	Bulletin Announcements Due	Church Office
Saturday (Aug. 19)	5:00 pm	Worship	Sanctuary
Sunday (Aug. 20)	8:30 am	Worship w/Communion	Sanctuary
	9:45 am	Worship w/Communion	Sanctuary
	10:30 am	Outdoor Worship	@Lake Carlos State Park
	11:00 am	Outdoor Worship w/Communion/Baptism	@City Park

WEEK AHEAD

August 13 - August 20, 2017