

First Lutheran CHURCH (ELCA)

200 East 5th Street, Morris MN 56267

320-589-3242

www.flcmorris.org



Chosen by Christ ~ Empowered to Serve

December 2021

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 9:30am

in-person worship and
broadcasted live on Facebook;
also available on our website
and YouTube channel

Midweek Advent Worship

Wednesdays: December 1, 8, 15

Holden Evening Prayer
Service at 5:15pm



Sunday School Christmas Program
Sunday, December 19 at 9:30am

Christmas Eve



Friday, December 24

Candlelight Worship at 4:00pm and 9:00pm

Holy Communion served at both services.

4:00pm service to be live-streamed on our Facebook page

Jesus: Refugee, Carpenter, Healer, Wonderful Counselor, Savior, Prince of Peace

Jesus was just a baby when his family fled from Bethlehem in the cover of darkness to escape from the mad King Herod. The family fled to Egypt, as recorded in Matthew chapter 2. King Herod the Great was known to be a cunning, but paranoid leader, who did not trust anyone. So it fits with other historical accounts, that he easily could do what is described in Matthew 2. This leads us to recognize Jesus' family, Mary and Joseph as refugees. And, further, Jesus' birth was in pretty humble surroundings. Probably a cattle feed trough at a relative's home is where he was laid to sleep. They travelled by foot or donkey.

As much as we love singing the serene carols of Christmas, including Silent Night, Holy Night, the truth is that the world Jesus was born into was harsh in many ways. We know that the Roman Empire was not kind to those seen to dissent against them.

It's been a harsh past year for us; COVID-19 pandemic hit America hard. I am thankful our own church has not had any fatalities from COVID. Meanwhile, a number of us have had COVID. Our lives have been challenged and transformed by this pandemic. I'm glad this year is behind us.

Still, the Good News is perhaps even more to be cherished. Christ, our Savior, has come. He will come again, to establish God's New Heaven and Earth. Most important, he is with us now, *Immanuel* ("God with us"), through the trials, grief, and joys of this life! The haunting hymn by some anonymous Appalachian folk musician speaks to the mystery and wonder of Christmas:

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die
For poor, ordinary people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

I have wondered often about what the Savior's life and death means. May the wonder of Christ's birth on earth, his family's refugee experience, his life of blessing, and the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, fill us with awe, and joy, and peace, as you and I travel through the days of Advent, Christmas and the New Year.

In the words of the prophet, Isaiah:

*"For a child has been born for us,
A son given to us;
Authority rests upon his shoulders
And he is named Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9: 6-7)*

Blessings, in this Season of wonder, and in the New Year,
Pastor Dan Belgium



Advent World Hunger Offering

During the weeks of Advent, we invite you to collect your coins in a jar, sock, or other container, and bring them to our Sunday School Christmas Program on December 19th at 9:30am when the children will collect a "Noisy Offering." We want to make this offering terrifically, fantastically noisy! You may also give cash, or write checks to First Lutheran, indicating in memo: *ELCA World Hunger*. Our goal is to raise \$1200 to bless hungry people, homeless people and, refugee people, in this season of giving. Our gifts are used for domestic and global hunger and homeless alleviation. Each week, we'll hear a story about how these financial gifts are blessing people. We will remember God's compassion for people who are hungry, homeless, or otherwise struggling. Jesus himself was "born in a cattle stall" and later his family became refugees in Egypt (*Flight to Egypt, from King Herod, Matthew ch. 2*).

Support Missionary For A Day and honor a loved one ~ \$15.00/day

- Oct 9 In loving memory of Candace Altonen on her 70th birthday from mom
Nov 1 In memory of Ward Voorhees' brother from Carol Day
Nov 2 In memory of Marvel Anderson from Mary Ann Mayhem
Nov 3 In memory of Verree Fox from Emilie Brustuen
Nov 4 Thank you to the workers who made the fall dinner a success!
Nov 11 In honor of our deployed military and their families
Nov 16 In loving memory of Brian VanHorn from his mother, LaVonne Watson
Nov 16 In memory of Randy Syverson from Myron & Marilyn Syverson
Nov 23 In memory of Dewey Solvie from the Solive & Schultz families
Nov 25 In memory of Dale Crow's birthday from his family
Nov 26 In honor of Isaac Nelson's birthday from grandma and Grandpa Ehlers
- Nov 21 ELCA Lutheran Worship Hour radio broadcast (KMRS) given in memory of Terry Thraen
Dec 24 ELCA Lutheran Worship Hour radio broadcast (KMRS) given in memory of Candace Altonen

Coffee Hour is served in the fellowship hall following the worship service on Sunday mornings. The **Grace Service Group** is on the schedule to serve coffee hours during the month of December. Please sign up on the church bulletin board across from the office. Those in the Grace Service Group are:

Justin & Lori Anderson	Ryan & Summer Anderson	Ray & Robi Bowman
Judy Buro	Matt & Cari Burnett	LeAnn Dean
Kellie Hentges	Linda Holland	Craig & Katie Knochenmus
Gary & Corrine Knochenmus	Matt & Natasha Mortenson	Allyn & Hannah Plattner
Marlene Seip	Chris & Bobbi Siegel	

Advent Devotional booklets and calendars are available in the Narthex, and are free to take.

Newsletter Deadline for the January newsletter is noon on Thursday, December 16th.

Thank You! to everyone that helped make our Fall Dinner & Silent Auction a big success! We truly appreciate all of the donations; whether it was items for the Silent Auction, food for the dinner, or your time in help preparing or packaging food. Also a big **Thank You** to all that helped make our Stewardship Sunday, when we celebrated God's abundance and grace towards us and how we can celebrate and share!

Burgers, Beverages & Blessings is currently not meeting.

Gatherings for Widows and Widowers will meet for lunch at noon (12:00pm) on Sunday, December 5 Common Cup. Order lunch off the menu and enjoy an opportunity to visit with old friends and meet new ones who are also experiencing life as a widow/widower. No need to RSVP. For questions call Pedersen Funeral Home 320-589-3220.

Holiday Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday, December 5th at 2:00pm at Pedersen Funeral Home.

Lunch Bunch meets on Wednesday, December 1st at 11:30am at Stone's Throw Café. Join us...all are welcome!

Stevens County Food Shelf supplies a 5-day emergency or supplemental food package to residents of Stevens County. There is no fee for this service, but clients must provide proof of residency. The food shelf welcomes people's donations of food to support our community. Monetary donations are also very helpful in purchasing food supplies. The Food Shelf is located on the corner of 7th Street and Iowa Ave and their hours are: Mondays: 2:30-3:30pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 10:30-11:30am, Thursdays: 5:30-6:30pm. You can reach the food shelf at 320.589.7436.

First Lutheran Church Council Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

The November meeting of First Lutheran's Church Council met on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 and was called to order by President Eugene Anderson at 7:03pm. Present: Eugene Anderson, John Dosedall, Jackie Huebner, Tony Feuchtenberger & Peg Jergenson. Absent: Jason Reed & Allyn Plattner. Staff present: Pastor Dan Belgum and Rita Bye (by Zoom). A devotion and opening prayer was given by Pastor Dan.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the October council meeting were reviewed by each council member. No corrections or additions. Minutes accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports were emailed to each member. Peg moved to accept the financial reports, Jackie seconded.

Pastor's Report: A written report was given to each council member.

Committee Reports:

- Stewardship Committee is busy planning the "Stewards of God's Infinite Grace" Sunday on November 21 at the fairgrounds. A meal will be served following worship. Special music is being planned.
- Education Committee: the Sunday school program will be held on Sunday, December 19th at 9:30am.

Old Business

- Stewardship: discussed how to encourage people to increase their giving.
- Church Office Hours: Pastor Dan and Rita will work out a schedule for church office hours.
- Tony gave a quote to the council for replacing the pew pads; tabled until next meeting
- Tony gave a quote for updating the Theatre Room equipment; tabled until next meeting.



New Business

- Memorial money received from Marvel Anderson's family. John made a motion to put these funds in the Generous Gifts account, seconded by Peg. Motion carried.
- Employee reviews for Pastor Dan and Rita will take place on Wed., November 10.
- Discussed attendance at church council meetings.
- Recruiting for new council members will need to be done. Eugene, John & Allyn's terms are up. The remaining 4 council members have terms expiring the following year. Briefly discussed extending some terms so only 2, and some years 3, terms expire.
- Fusion's yearly monetary commitment briefly discussed. Rita will send monies that have collected so far this year.
- Budget committee will need to be formed.
- Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 7th at 7:00pm.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Bye, Recording Secretary

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>5 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion 10:00-11:00am Sunday school 10:30am Coffee Hour 3:00-4:00pm Cub Scouts 12:00pm Gatherings for Widows & Widowers at Common Cup 6:30-8:00pm Sr. Fusion at FIRST</p>			<p>1 11:30am Lunch Bunch at Stone's Throw Cafe 5:15pm Midweek Advent Worship 6:00-7:30pm Element at FIRST 7:30pm Video slide training for 6-8th grade</p>	<p>2 3:00pm Pastor at West Wind Village Worship 7:00-9:30pm ESL Event (UMM-private event) in fellowship hall</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 8:00am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran</p>
<p>6 6:00pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>7 11:00am Pastor's Text Study 7:00pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>8 5:15pm Midweek Advent Worship 6:00-7:30pm Element at FIRST</p>	<p>9 8:30am Share & Care (quilting group) 10:00am Pastor at Skyview Court Worship 10:45am Pastor at Skyview Plaza Worship</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 8:00am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran</p>	
<p>12 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour 6:30-8:00pm Sr. Fusion at FIRST</p>	<p>13 11:00am Pastor's Text Study</p>	<p>14 11:00am Pastor's Text Study</p>	<p>15 5:15pm Midweek Advent Worship 6:00-7:30pm Element at FIRST</p>	<p>16 12:00pm Newsletter Articles Due 2:00pm Zipporah Bible Study in fellowship hall</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 8:00am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran</p>
<p>19 9:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 10:30am Coffee Hour 3:00-4:00pm Cub Scouts Sr. Fusion Christmas Party! (details to be announced)</p>	<p>20 6:00pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>21 11:00am Pastor's Text Study</p>	<p>22 No Element Classes</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00pm Worship 9:00pm Worship 10:00pm Radio Broadcast on KMRS</p>	<p>25 CHRISTMAS DAY Church office closed</p> 
<p>26 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour No Sr. Fusion</p>	<p>29 church office closed</p>	<p>30 11:00am Pastor's Text Study</p>	<p>31 No Element Classes</p>	<h1>December</h1>		

DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVANTS

Midweek Advent, Wed., Dec 1 5:15pm Worship

Ushers: Bob Heck, Tim & Kristin Grove family

Acolytes: Madelyn & Ian Grove

Nursery: Kristin Grove

Video: Mike Odello

Sunday, Dec 5 9:30am Worship/10am Sunday school

Ushers: Dick Smith, Tom & Heather Schneider family

Lector: Lindy Ekola

Acolyte: Hannah & Tyler Schneider

Communion: Cheryl Higgins

Nursery: Pam Wiese

Video: Dave Jungst **TV slides:** Steve Wagner

Midweek Advent, Wed., Dec 8 5:15pm Worship

Ushers: Al Harris, Greg & Naomi Fynboh family

Acolytes: Sawyer Fynboh & Arora Nemmers

Nursery: Lindy Ekola

Video: Dave Jungst

Sunday, December 12: 9:30am Worship

Ushers: Al Harris, Doug & Sharon Ehlers

Lector: Bob Dalager

Acolyte: Charli Erdahl & Kye Suess

Nursery: Vicki Dalager

Video: Steve Wagner **TV slides:** Chance Buro

Midweek Advent, Wed., Dec 15 5:15pm Worship

Ushers: Dick Smith, Dorwin & Millie Tschetter

Acolytes: Connor Siegel & Taylor Anderson

Nursery: Sandy Grove

Video: Tony Feuchtenberger

Sunday, Dec 19: 9:30am S.S. Christmas Program

Ushers: Steve Just, Dennis & Laurie Feuchtenberger

Acolyte: Brenna Jergenson & Jennie Odello

Nursery: Robi Bowman

Video: Mike Odello

TV slides: Jennie Odello

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 4:00pm Worship

Ushers: Steve Just family, Steve & Jill Van Kempen

Lector: Jim Krosch

Acolyte: Chance Buro & Giana Feuchtenberger

Communion: Judy Buro

Nursery: Michelle Just

Video: Tony Feuchtenberger **TV slides:** Ward Voorhees

Christmas Eve, Dec, 24 9:00pm Worship

Ushers: Bob & Nadine Heck family

Lector: Cathy Anderson

Acolyte: Tyson & Ian Grove

Communion: Linda Holland

Nursery: Kristin Grove

Sunday, Dec 26: 9:30am Worship

Ushers: Al Harris, Jon & Shana Ulrich family

Lector: Karen Bolling

Acolyte: Micah Ulrich & Ellen Reed

Nursery: Jone Anderson

Video: Steve Wagner

TV slides: Kye Suess

Dec 18: Arnie Sharstrom

Dec 19: Doyle Anderson, Jeri Anderson, Zona Jacobson

Dec 21: Ameer Gibson, Beth (Holland) Erickson,
Sherry Wagner

Dec 23: Giana Feuchtenberger

Dec 24: Anita Nelson

Dec 25: Austin Hills

Dec 27: Sarah Dougerty, Mick Rose

Dec 28: Muriel Lindback, Randy Lussenden, Mike Odello,
Joan Smith

Dec 30: Millie Tschetter

Dec 31: Mark Mattheis

Happy Anniversary

Dec 2: Justin & Lori Anderson

Dec 27: Allen & Julie Monroe

Dec 28: Paul & Sandy Grove



Dec 1: Erin (Harris) Holmes

Dec 2: Mary Jo McCormack

Dec 3: Jared House

Dec 4: Britney House, Steve Wagner

Dec 5: Noreen Grunig, Becky Tullos

Dec 6: Gordon Lea, Robert Waller

Dec 7: Emilie Brustuen, Jon Wiese

Dec 8: Jackson Boever

Dec 14: Owen Hentges, John Schultz, Gavin Stallman

Dec 15: Adam Lair

Dec 16: Pastor Dan Belgum, Tayton Flower

Dec 17: Ryan Lussenden, Peter Boever



We would love to provide a Bible Study for the parents of Sr. High Fusion and Element to be held on Wednesday nights. We would need 2 people who would be interested in leading that Bible Study with the parents who are interested. Contact Heather for

GIVE THE GIFT OF FAITH



Consider a financial gift to Fusion this holiday season and watch the money DOUBLE!

To Donate:

Mail or drop off a check to the church office and add "Fusion 2:1" in memo line.



WE HAVE A 2:1 MATCH!

The money that you give is used to directly build the ministry for the youth of Morris, Cyrus, Hancock, Donnelly and the surrounding area!

Sr. High Fusion Youth: Youth in 9th-12th Grade


- Sunday, Dec 5: Sr. High Fusion 6:30-8pm @First Lutheran
- Sunday, Dec 12: Sr. High Fusion 6:30-8pm @First Lutheran
- Saturday, Dec 18: Live Nativity from 5:00-7:00pm at the fairgrounds! Students and adults will sign up to the actors. Come and see us!
- Sunday, Dec 19: Christmas Party! Details coming soon!



Element Schedule: Youth in 6th-8th Grade

- Wed. Dec 1: 6-7:30pm: Element at FIRST Lutheran
- Wed. Dec 8: 6-7:30pm: Element at First Lutheran Church
- Wed. Dec 15: 6-7:30pm: Element Christmas Party! at First Lutheran Church
- Sat. Dec 18: 5:00-7:00pm: Live Nativity at the fairgrounds. Students and adults will sign up as actors. Come and see us!

Please Check out Fusion's updated website for more information. www.fusion-ministry.com
Join us on social media Facebook@fusion56267 and Instagram@fusion56267



2021-22 Sunday School Schedule

Classes meet from 10:00am to 11:00am

- December 5 & 19: (Christmas Program)
- January 9 & 16
- February 6 & 20
- March 6 & 20
- April 3 & 10
- May 1 & 15 (Last Day of Sunday School)

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200 East 5th St
Morris, MN 56267
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Morris, MN

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website: www.flcmorris.org
email: office@flcmorris.org

Worship Schedule

Sundays: 9:30am
broadcasted via Facebook Live;
also available on our website
and YouTube channel

Televised Services:

Tuesdays at 2:00pm
Federated: Channel 6
MediaCom: Channel 117

STAFF

Rev. Daniel Belgum, Pastor danbelgumblad@gmail.com
Heather Black, Youth Ministry Director heather.kill14@gmail.com
Rita Bye, Office Manager office@flcmorris.org
Wyatt Vavra, Custodian
Deb Mahoney, Organist/Pianist
Pastor Alex LaChapelle, Missionary

CHURCH COUNCIL

Eugene Anderson President
Tony Feuchtenberger Vice-President
Allyn Plattner Treasurer
Jason Reed Secretary
Peggy Jergenson
John Dosedall
Jackie Huebner