

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

1200 4th Avenue

Worthington, MN 56187

(507) 376-6148

Fax: (507) 376-6149

Email: felcwgtn@frontiernet.net

Website: felcwgtn.org

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Monday through Friday

WORSHIP: 8:00 am and 10:00 am

COMMUNION: First and Third Sundays

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 am (Sept–May)

CONGREGATION OFFICERS

RICH LIAPIS, PRESIDENT –

(507) 727-6901

LONNIE MYROM, VICE PRESIDENT -

(507) 376-9039

DAREN BAUMAN, SECRETARY –

(507) 376-3612

CHURCH STAFF

RICHARD RICKER--Pastor

Natalie Zinnel--Administrative Secretary

Amy Loker--Youth & Family Director

David & Robin Stoyke--Custodians

Lola Geisendorfer--Parish Visitor

Pam Fleming--Worship Planner & Visual
Coordinator

Eric Parrish--Choir Director

Jacquie Frerichs--Organist/Choir
Accompanist

Lois Gruis--Bell Choir Director

Lori Nienkerk--Choir Accompanist/
Organist

Dennis Selberg--Treasurer

Deb Koob--Financial Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, WORTHINGTON, MN

God has called us, the baptized members of
First Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Worthington, Minnesota, to proclaim the
Gospel and make disciples of all people.

Living out our Mission

*In obedience, we commit ourselves to the Lord's ministry
rooted in a fertile agricultural prairie of God's creation.
Relying on the promise of the Holy Spirit, and through
Word and Sacraments, we will grow toward wholeness
through worship, learning, service, witness, support, and
fellowship. Adopted 5-31-87*

Reflections

We are now in the season of Lent; a
time of reflection and renewal. I
always look forward to this time of
year. I find it to be refreshing. I think
it is because the season helps me to
let go of countless distractions and
focus more on my relationship with
Jesus Christ. Like many people I
know, I tend to get busy with many
things. My busyness can be work
related, issues with family,
community responsibilities and a
number of other things. In the midst
of all that busyness, at times I
sacrifice time with Jesus. I pray less,
read the Bible less and take less time
to see God at work in the world. This
happens gradually and before I
realize it, I am missing time with
God. When that occurs my life
suffers. Lenten discipline helps me to
stop and take a look at my life right
now. I rediscover Jesus Christ and
his love for me.

I encourage you to use this time to
look at your life and our Lord's place
in it.

God's peace be with you in your
journey.

Pastor Richard

Lessons and Themes for the Sundays in April, 2011:

4/3/11: 4th Sunday in Lent

“Lead Us...Forgiving the Unforgivable”

Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

4/10/11: 5th Sunday in Lent

“Lead Us...Believing the Unbelievable”

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

4/17/11: Palm Sunday

“Lead Us...Bearing the Unbearable”

Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14-27, 66

4/21/11: Maundy Thursday

“Death Brings Life”

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
Exod 12:1-4, 11-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

4/22/11: Good Friday

“Death Brings Life”

Psalm 22
Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18:1-19:42

4/24/11: Easter Sunday

“He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!”

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Acts 10:34-43
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10



Praise the Lord

The following is the financial report for First Lutheran as of February, 2011:

General Fund:

Bal. 1/31/11:	(\$7,032.98)
Inc., February	\$18,667.81
Exp., February	\$24,066.65
Bal. 2/28/11:	(\$12,431.82)

Building Fund:

Bal. 1/31/11:	\$17,897.70
Inc., February	\$688.00
Exp., February	\$0.00
Bal. 2/28/11:	\$18,585.70

Sunday Servants

If for any reason you are unable to serve on the Sunday indicated, please trade with someone else on the list or find a replacement and contact the church office so that the names can be listed correctly in the church bulletin. **Please watch the mail for the post card. This is a temporary schedule for the month so it may change. Thank you.**

Van Driver:

4/3	Mark Broich
4/10	Doug Frisch
4/17	Doug Konold
4/24	Midg White

Coffee Servers (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

4/3	Keith & Brenda Stanton Gene Christensen
4/10	Roger & Marjorie Larson Ron & Winora Hallstrom
4/17	Dave & Marjorie Livingston Jim & Mary Kraft
4/24	Easter Breakfast

Synthesizer (Contact Person: Pam Fleming, 376-5429)

4/10	8 & 10	Cindy Swart
------	--------	-------------

Acolytes (Contact Person: Julia Berger, 376-6906)

4/3 8:00 Nathan Russell
Jon Faragher
10:00 Logan Rogers
Jonathan Raley
4/6 6:30PM Kourtney Bauman
4/10 8:00 Sarah Waldner
10:00 Brandon Kempema
4/13 6:30PM Jonathan Raley
4/17 8:00 Jon Faragher
Kourtney Bauman
10:00 Katie Randgaard
Brianna Kraft
4/21 6:30PM Nathan Russell
4/22 6:30PM Brandon Kempema
4/24 8:00 Sarah Waldner
Jon Faragher
10:00 Logan Rogers
Jonathan Raley

Ushers (Contact Person: Julia Berger)

4/3 8:00 Nathan Faragher
10:00 Nathan Patten
4/6 6:30PM Nick Demuth
4/10 8:00 Miles Veen
10:00 Zachary Kempema
4/13 6:30PM Troy Feller
4/17 8:00 Tyler Faragher
10:00 Trevor Wietzema
4/21 6:30PM Nathan Patten
4/22 6:30PM Nick Demuth
4/24 8:00 Colton Poppema
10:00 Rebecca Christensen

Lectors (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

4/3 8:00 Lisa Waldner
10:00 Ryan McGaughey
4/10 8:00 Jeff McNickle
10:00 Nancy Myrom
4/17 8:00 Travis Frazee
10:00 Mary Larson
4/21 6:30PM Rich Liapis
4/22 6:30PM Matt Widboom
4/24 8:00 John Widboom
10:00 Robert Bents

Greeters (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

4/3 8:00 Dou & Julie Christensen
10:00 Merle & Pat Elsing
4/6 6:30PM Al & Doris Selberg
4/10 8:00 Bob & Jean Dieter
10:00 Roger & Linda Nelson
4/13 6:30PM Jim & Paula Laffrenzen
4/17 8:00 Ray & Karen Buchman
10:00 Keith & Mary Larson
4/21 6:30PM Ryan & Rebecca
McGaughey Family
4/22 6:30PM John & Vona Mae Vihlen
4/24 8:00 Jeff & Amber McNickle
10:00 Kim & Nancy Hellstrom

Busy Bags (Contact Person: Sara Barber, 360-1368)

April – Bonnie Bents
May – Linda Neugebauer
June – Mary Larson
July – Julie Christensen
August – Teresa Widboom
September – Lynette Demuth
October – Dana White
November – Pam Fleming

Nursery Attendants (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

4/3 8:00 Diana & Dana White
10:00 Marilyn Frisch
Lola Geisendorfer
4/10 8:00 Debbie Koob/Jane Benson
10:00 Nancy Berg
Charlene Wachter
4/17 8:00 Winora Hallstrom
Paula Laffrenzen
10:00 Doris Selberg
Adeline Larson
4/24 8:00 Lynnea Faragher Family
10:00 Merle & Pat Elsing

Contemp. Liturgist (Contact Person: Pam Fleming, 376-5429)

4/10 8:00 John Vihlen
10:00 Lisa Waldner

**Liturgist (Contact Person: Pam Fleming,
376-5429)**

4/3 8:00 Leroy Merkel
10:00 Jacob Holck
4/6 6:30PM Leroy Merkel
4/13 6:30PM Ryan McGaughey
4/17 8:00 Rich Liapis
10:00 Ryan McGaughey
4/21 6:30PM Matt Russell
4/24 8:00 Matt Russell
10:00 Jacob Holck

April Birthdays

1 Alan Olhausen
2 Janice Berger
2 Florence Hinsch
2 Mike Johnson
3 Pearl Aaker
3 Patricia Kaskie
3 Josephine McNickle
4 Sydney Burns
4 Deb Koob
4 Norma Woodbury
5 Catherine Hurley
7 Jon Faragher
7 Theresa Rotert
7 Jim Russell
8 Edna Marsh
9 Emily Anderson
9 Lindsey Potts
9 Aldyne Robinson
10 Sarah Price
11 Bob Burmeister
12 Arlene Zeiner
14 Allan De Roo
14 Eric Milbrath
15 Robert Schreiber
16 Jason Johnson
17 Gregory Amundson
17 Kendra Frodermann
18 Stephanie Bauman
18 Paul Severance
20 Adam Gavin
20 Jill Hansen
20 Jonathan Raley

21 Laura Frerichs
21 Beth Heikkila
21 Barbara Olson
22 Daren Christensen
22 Jean Dieter
22 Mary Johannsen
22 Sandra Jones
22 Norman Larson
22 Shawna Rogers
22 John Vihlen
23 Dustin Hurlbut
23 Rebecca McGaughey
24 Sarah Frerichs
24 Alan Seivert
25 Julie Christensen
26 Shelby Faragher
26 Kevin Lowe
27 Katie Fleming
28 Richard Ricker
29 Lance Hellstrom
29 Joshua Wasmund
30 Christopher Black

First Lutheran Benefits from your Grocery Purchases. When you buy groceries at Hy-Vee, with the Hy-Vee Gift Card, First Lutheran receives 5% from the sale of the gift card. Get yours today! The cards are available in the church office and between services on Sunday. We have \$10, \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift cards to sell. You pay the full price for the card and the church receives 5%. As of February 28, 2011, a total of **\$20,870.58** has been put into the general fund.

First Lutheran Benefits from your Grocery Purchases. When you buy groceries at Fareway, with the Fareway Gift Card, First Lutheran receives 3% from the sale of the gift card. Get yours today! The cards are available in the church office and between services on Sunday. We have \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift cards to sell. You pay the full price for the card and the church receives 3%. As of February 28, 2011, a total of **\$258.00** has been put into the general fund.

Seasoned Citizens: We will meet on Thursday, April 28th at 2:00 pm in Centennial Hall. Watch the bulletin for more information.

LENTEN SUPPERS @ FIRST
April 6th – Men’s Group
Evangelism Team
April 13th – Worship & Music Team
The meal will be served from 5:00 to 6:15 pm.



Thursday Lenten Luncheon for 2011

April 7th at Westminster Presbyterian
Service will begin at 12:05 pm and end at 12:30 pm with lunch from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. Each service will feature a different pastor. These services are ecumenical in nature. Please come and bring a friend!

Dear First Lutheran Church,
Thank you for the scholarship that I received last month. It was greatly appreciated, and the money was put towards the cost of my tuition. It helped out very much as I further my education at Minnesota State University, Mankato.
God Bless, Josh Koob

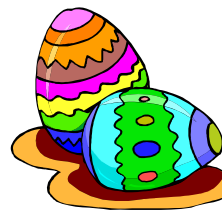
Dear Scholarship Committee,

I would like to thank you and the church for the generous donation from the First Lutheran Church Scholarship Fund. The money is greatly appreciated and will be put towards my education. Furthermore, the support and love from my church family is also appreciated. Thanks again.

In Christ, Angela Lowe



EASTER LILIES will be used at our Easter service on April 24th. If you would like to order one in memory or in honor of loved ones, contact the church office. Please indicate if you will be picking them up after the 10:00 am service or if you will leave them here. **The cost for an Easter Lily will be \$10.** The deadline to have your order in is April 8th. There will be **NO** orders taken after this date, so get your order in early.



The office will be closed on Friday, April 22nd & Monday, April 25th for the Easter holiday.

New Life, New Love

Spring and the promise of Easter fill us with hope and new possibilities. Your marriage will experience the same renewal when you attend a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend. Engaging presentations by both lay and clergy leaders give you tools and information. Exercises and conversations with your spouse in the privacy of your hotel room deepen your understanding, communication and compassion.

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are April 8-10 in Duluth, October 14-16 in Duluth and November 18-20 in Brooklyn Center. Please register several weeks in advance. For more information, contact Dick & Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105, Pete & Phyllis McMahon at 763-561-1575 or visit www.godlovesmarriage.org.

“Love INC”

“We have hired an Executive Director and opened a Clearinghouse,” said a local pastor to his congregation on a recent Sunday morning. That pastor was exactly right; his church, along with 16 other partner churches have created the ministry of Love In the Name of Christ of Worthington to mobilize themselves to better reach their community.

Currently, Love INC is in the first stage of accomplishing that task. The clearinghouse (phone center) has been taking requests from local individuals and families in need since November 30th and connecting them with the best resources available to them in Worthington. Often times those resources are the very churches running this clearinghouse. In the month of January alone, there were 21 acts of service from church volunteers that were connected with opportunities to help through Love INC. That is the beauty of Love In the Name of Christ. It not only connects people experiencing times of need with resources to help, but it also connects Christians who want to love “in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:18) with opportunities to do so.

If you are experiencing difficulties and looking for resources to assist you, please call the Love INC Clearinghouse at 727-7291 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 pm. If you would like to become more involved in helping you community or to learn about the ministry of Love INC, call the office at 727-7290.

Love in the Name of Christ
“Helping Churches Help People”

Pray for Children

We pray for children who put chocolate fingers everywhere, who like to be tickled, who stomp in puddles and ruin their new pants, who sneak popsicles before supper, who erase holes in math workbooks, who can never find their shoes.

And we pray for children who stare at photographs from behind barbed wire, who can't bound down the street in a new pair of sneakers, who never “counted potatoes”, who are born in places we wouldn't be caught dead, who never go to the circus, who live in an X-rated place.

We pray for children who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of dandelions, who sleep with the dog and bury goldfish, who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money, who cover themselves with Band-Aids and sing off key, who squeeze toothpaste all over the sink, who slurp their soup.

And we pray for children who never get dessert, who have no safety blanket to drag behind them, who watch their parents watch them die, who can't find any bread to steal, who don't have any rooms to clean up, whose pictures aren't on anybody's dresser, whose monsters are real.

We pray for children who spend all their allowance before Tuesday, who throw tantrums in the grocery store and pick at their food, who like ghost stories, who shove dirty clothes under the bed and never rinse out the tub, who get visits from the tooth fairy, who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool, who squirm in church and scream in the phone, whose tears we sometimes laugh at and whose smiles make us cry.

And we pray for children whose nightmares comes in the daytime, who will eat anything, who have never seen a dentist, who aren't spoiled by anybody, who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep, who live and move but have no being.

We pray for those children who want to be carried and for those who must, for those we never give up on and those who don't get a second change. For those we smother..and those who will grab the hand of anybody kind enough to offer it.

Ina J. Hughs

**Bible Readings
For
April, 2011**

1	Judges	7-9
2	Judges	10-12
3	Judges	13-15
4	Judges	16-18
5	Judges	19-21
6	Ruth	1-4
7	John	1-2
8	John	3-4
9	John	5-6
10	John	7-8
11	John	9-10
12	John	11-12
13	John	13-14
14	John	15-16
15	John	17-18
16	John	19-20
17	John	21
18	I Corinthians	1-3
19	I Corinthians	4-6
20	I Corinthians	7-9
21	I Corinthians	10-12
22	I Corinthians	13-14
23	I Corinthians	15-16
24	II Corinthians	1-3
25	II Corinthians	4-6
26	II Corinthians	7-9
27	II Corinthians	10-11
28	II Corinthians	12-13
29	Galatians	1-2
30	Galatians	3-4

This month we finish the story of the conquest of Canaan in Judges and move on to John and Paul. They tell the story of God's conquest of sin through Jesus Christ.

**Psalms
For
April, 2011**

1	PSALM	41
2	PSALM	41
3	PSALMS 42 & 43	
4	PSALMS 42 & 43	
5	PSALM	44
6	PSALM	44
7	PSALM	45
8	PSALM	45
9	PSALM	46
10	PSALM	46
11	PSALM	47
12	PSALM	47
13	PSALM	48
14	PSALM	48
15	PSALM	49
16	PSALM	49
17	PSALM	50
18	PSALM	50
19	PSALM	51
20	PSALM	51
21	PSALM	52
22	PSALM	52
23	PSALMS 53 & 54	
24	PSALMS 53 & 54	
25	PSALM	55
26	PSALM	55
27	PSALM	56
28	PSALM	56
29	PSALM	57
30	PSALM	57

Remember to read the Psalms 'prayerfully.'
It is God praying with us in these words.

YOUTH NEWS

No, it can't really be that time of year yet! Oh but it is. Spring is here! With summer looming just around the corner things are busy here at FLC, especially for our youth. Our Wednesday nights will be coming to a close for the summer break this month. We will be having a night dedicated to our senior students on the 20th. Families of these youth are invited to join us as we lift up our seniors in prayer and celebration. Seniors will also get to put their hands and verse on the walls of the youth room at that time. Then the next week we will be having our annual youth and family party at my house on the 27th. We will be starting the festivities at 6:00 pm and will be wrapping up around 9:00 pm. Come enjoy good food, fun games, and great fellowship.

Also, something coming up that I am really excited about is our community garden that our Middle School Youth dreamed of on their Adventure Trip last year as a way to fight oppression here in Worthington. Well, the fight is on and we have up to 2 acres we can use for this garden that has been generously offered to us by the Viking Terrace Apartments. Other churches are joining us in our efforts as we plant tomatoes, cucumbers, squash and other vegetables to donate to the food pantries here in town. We will be digging in with the other churches at our kick off on May 7th where we will till the ground, start planting, and when we let our community know about what our youth are doing. And we will need some help. We have the ground, the many youth willing to work, and the zoning approved for a shed but we are in need of many things. Can you help us help others? We really could use a

small shed to put on the property where we could store some gardening equipment. We also could use gloves, watering cans, hand trowels, rakes, hoes, tomato cages, and buckets.

God's Peace,
Amy Loker

Youth Updates:

* The Lock-in for our youth grades 6-12 is on April 1st starting at 7:00 pm and ending at 8:00 am on the 2nd. Youth who are interested should sign up outside of Amy's office. Parents and Youth Team members are needed at different times throughout the lock-in to help.



* Our Elementary Easter Egg Hunt will be at American Lutheran Church on the 16th from 1:00-3:00 pm this year. Youth grades Pre-K-5th are welcome to join us as we celebrate the death and

resurrection of Christ with our egg hunt and other activities. A couple older youth are needed to help out. Talk to Amy if you are interested.

*Easter Breakfast is on the 24th from 8:30-11:30 am. The youth will be serving eggs, sausage, and caramel rolls. Families, be sure to have your items in no later than 5:30 pm on the evening of the 22nd. I will have to buy any items not brought in on the 23rd.