First Lutheran CHURCH (ELCA)

200 East 5th Street, Morris MN 56267
320-589-3242
www.flcmorris.org

Chosen by Christ ~ Empowered to Serve

March 2017

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays: 9:30am Worship
9:30am Sunday school ***(check calendar for dates)***
10:30am Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Wednesdays: 6:30pm Worship
5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper

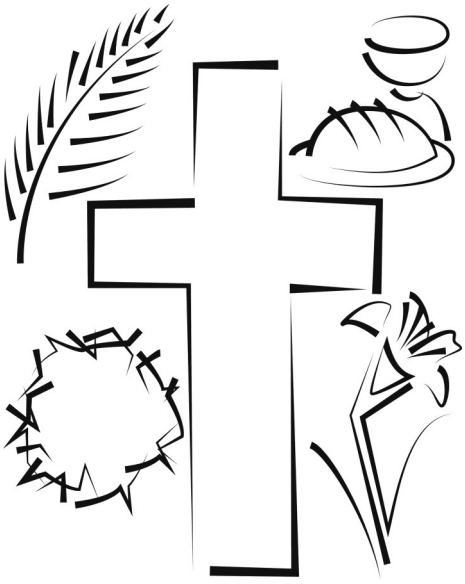
Ash Wednesday: *March 1st Worship Service at 6:30pm*

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesday Evening Worship at 6:30pm
on March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5
Soup Supper prior to worship from 5:30-6:15pm

SOUP SUPPER HELP NEEDED! *Please sign up in the Narthex if you can help out with the Soup Suppers during Lent.*

Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday—*April 9th at 9:30am*

Maundy Thursday—*April 13th at 6:30pm*

(First Communion for 5th Graders)

Good Friday—*April 14th at 7:30pm*

Community Tenebrae Service at Assumption Catholic Church

Easter Celebration—*Sunday, April 16th*

with worship at 8:30am & 10:30am
Easter Breakfast served from 9:30-10:15am

Message from the Pastor

In This Issue

2) Message from the Pastor
3) First Things & Etcetera
5) Parish Nurse News & Missionary for the Day
6) March Worship Servants
7) Council Minute Highlights
8) March Birthdays & Custodian Corner
9) March Calendar

First Lutheran Church
200 East 5th Street
Morris, MN 56267
Phone: 320-589-3242
website: www.flcmorris.org
email: office@flcmorris.org

Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:
9:30am Worship
9:30am Sunday school
(students will start with Worship and be dismissed to classes during the service; Grades Preschool-5th)
10:30am Fellowship/Coffee Hour

WEDNESDAYS:
6:30pm Worship
5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper

Televised Services:
3:00pm on Monday and Thursday on Channel 6 or 8

Things are beginning to move here at First Lutheran; I think the Holy Spirit is alive and well.

I just had an excellent meeting with the confirmation parents on Wednesday, February 22. Some things we are going to do to jump-start the program are: 1] write a mission statement for confirmation 2] adopt the same handbook as Faith Lutheran 3] have the same topic structure per grade as Faith Lutheran 4] joining Faith Lutheran for teaching confirmation is still to be determined 5] Join/work with Faith Lutheran on youth retreats 6] Pastor Gene will work especially with the 8th graders to see they have covered the necessary material to be confirmed.

The contemporary team will be leading worship with a livelier liturgy starting Sunday, March 5th. The best thing about this contemporary worship format is its flexibility. Doing this Liturgy 3 Sundays in a row should be enough to teach it to the congregation; you have some excellent musicians here at First Lutheran. I have found it strange how I have talked to Worship Committee about doing this and to the Council about doing this and yet there was darkness. People became upset as we were about to begin and they sent other people to tell me. When I said I needed 4 Sundays in a row to teach a new liturgy, I guess I stepped on a sacred cow. There were no negative discussions in December and January when I laid out my plan to revive contemporary worship. I would have preferred 4 Sundays in a row as that has been best, in my experience, for teaching a new liturgy. This may well not be what you want, but it is a starting point to get things going again. Please, no more behind the scenes protesting and sabotage, this was sabotage! Let us keep things in the light and have discussions both in the Worship committee and the Council.

We had three excellent open forums to discuss calling our next pastor and doing more intentional reflection before we do the necessary paperwork. We came up with a Top Ten list you can find in this month's newsletter. Our plan of action is to have the call committee work on our profile papers as we continue to do the self study. How this might proceed - we will have opportunities during the coffee hours after worship to discuss 1] Identity 2] Future 3] History 4] Relationships and 5] Leadership Decision Making. I will give more details as those discussion days come up. Our discussions will lead us to a more accurate understanding of who we are as a congregation and what we want in our next pastor.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Gene

Zipporah Bible will meet on Thursday, March 16th at 2:00pm in the church Fellowship Hall; Evelyn Warnes is serving.

Women's Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, March 28th at 6:00pm in the First Lutheran Church Fireside Room. All are welcome!

Soap Drive—Lutheran World Relief Commercially wrapped soap needed! This soap is used over-seas for schools, hospitals, clinics, households and refugee camps. This is an ongoing drive, so please continue to donate. A collection basket is located on the table in the lower Narthex area.

Apartment for Rent West Central Christian Homes has a one bedroom apartment available for rent. Please contact Dan Johnson at 320.589.2821 for details.

Weather Cancellations Please listen to the KKOK/ KMRS Radio Station for any weather related cancellations of worship services at church. Confirmation classes and/ or youth activities will be cancelled if the Morris Area School cancels classes or releases early.

Celebrity Donkey Ball on Monday, March 13th at Morris Area Elementary Game Gym. Profits go to the Freddy Hanson's family to help with medical costs. Tickets are $10 at the door or $8 in advance. Advance tickets available at: Willie's SuperValu, Bremer Bank, Superior Industries, Morris Area Schools District Office.

Senior Event at Faith Lutheran Church on Tuesday, April 4th starting at 12:00pm. Join in the fellowship with lunch, followed by a program and the Bingo! Invite you friends!

Glacial Ridge Conference Women's Spring Gathering will be held on Monday, April 24 at Glenwood Lutheran Church. Registration at 4:30pm with a light meal at 5:P00pm. The theme will be "Christ Be Our Light". Cost is $8 to be paid at the door.

JR/SR HIGH YOUTH EVENT! Friday, March 24th from 6:30-11:00pm at Faith Lutheran Church with a Mock Lock-in! Build your own pizza....giant sundaes….fun for everyone! Invite your friends—all are welcome!

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are now being taken for our Music Scholarships and is open to all 9th through 12th graders. Applications can be downloaded from our website or picked up at the church. Deadline to apply is Sunday, March 12, 2017.

Prayer Group

Wednesdays
March 8th & 22nd
11:00am

Come and join us every other Wednesday at 11:00am in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran. We are a group of people specifically praying for the leadership of First Lutheran and all are welcome to join us! Our upcoming meeting dates are: March 8th & 22nd.

Thanks to the Faith Service Group for their upcoming help during the month of April as coffee hour servers, or any other special potluck.

Audrey Anderson
Shelly Beyer
Brenda Boever
Ray & Robi Bowman
Rich & Judy Buro
LeAnn Dean
Paul & Renee Ersted
Jenna Kettner
Steve & Jeanne Halbe
Charles Henrich, Jr.
Scott & Kellie Hentges
Jim & Jacqui Hills
Linda Holland
Kris & Josh Hutchings
Gary & Corrine Knochenmus
Michael & Holly Kolden
Dale & Liz Michealson
Allen & DiAnn Mithun
Dave Nelson
Mark Nemmers
Dale & Lois Peterson
Allyn & Hannah Plattner
Curt & MaryAnn Quisberg
Del & Carlene Sarlette
Charles & Marlene Seip
Chris & Bobbi Siegel
Greg & Julie Thymian
Cheryl Voorhees
Kevin & Lori Wevley
Hannah Zehinger

Your help is much appreciated. Please take a moment to sign up on the bulletin board near the church office. Others are always welcome to serve if they wish. Please extend an invitation to your friends and family!

Top 10 Open Forum Discussion

January 2017

1. Pastor who will live in and establish connections with the community. A pastor who will also build relationships with church members.
2. Effectively preach by following the gospel in message and how it relates to everyday life. Provide meaningful worship services that connect with all age groups.
3. Strong authentic leader who will stay with our traditions; i.e. primarily traditional worship services with one contemporary worship service each month.
4. Effectively teach adult education through bible study and how it relates to everyday life.
5. Leader of youth programs and ministry.
6. Welcomes new members and people of all ages.
7. Supports the active music ministry with our church.
8. Used modern day technology to connect with members while also keeping with our traditions.
9. Supports our outreach ministry programs; i.e. Church Without Walls and welcoming UMM students.
10. Plans to stay a minimum of 5 years.

Valentine's Day Tea was a success!

All in attendance had an enjoyable afternoon of fellowship.

Committee members from left to right are: Evelyn Warnes, Marlene Seip, Vicki Maanum, Jo Solvie (seated) LaVonne Watson, Arlene Fellows and Carol Day (not pictured)

DEDICATION OF THE GATHERING ROOM

The power of a suggestion can make marvelous things happen!

Approximately a year ago an idea was placed in the suggestion box to create a space for families and friends to be able to gather for funerals or other events. The Fireside Room, which was being used for that purpose, was not handicap accessible and was sometimes too small. The space was found in the upper level classrooms which is on the same level as the Sanctuary. The Elementary Education Chairperson was contacted and it was determined that this space could be used for a new purpose.

The remodeling of the room started in the spring of 2016 with the addition of a much needed storage closet in this area. The next steps included painting the ceiling and walls and installation of new carpet. A decorating committee was organized to determine the type of furnishings desired. The final step was the addition of an alter to add a spiritual component to the room. The area has been named the "Gathering Room" and has already been used for multiple purposes.

A dedication service was held in the Gathering Room on Sunday, February 19th led by Pastor Gene Anderson.

A HUGE Thank You is extended to everyone that donated furnishings, gave monetary funds or provided the needed labor that brought this room to a reality.

The following were donations given to the Gathering Room:

- ceiling and wall paint
- carpet installation
- new sofa
- wall hangings
- coffee table and end tables
- misc décor including: mirror, clock, floral centerpieces, table runners, Madagascar palm plant, lamps, artificial plants, tree lights
- altar
- In-kind donations were given by the Property & Management Committee, Randy Staples, the Decorating Committee members and the church staff.

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) is different from other types of arthritis in that it can affect other parts of our bodies than just the joints.

Everyone has an immune system that fights off foreign invaders like the germs that cause colds and other kinds of infections. For some reason in RA the immune system does not work properly and attacks the lining of the joints causing inflammation, swelling, pain and loss of mobility. As the damage continues other areas of the body can also be affected such as the eyes, heart, lungs and other organs. This is why RA can cause occasional fever, being tired and a feeling of flu-like symptoms. Early diagnosis important because permanent joint damage can occur in the first two years of the disease.

SYMPTOMS

People with RA usually have stiffness lasting one hour, or longer, upon arising from sleep. Typically, swelling occurs in the same place on both sides of the body, such as the wrists or hands. RA can be aggravated by stress, extreme temperature changes or strenuous exercise. It is important for people with RA to stay as active as possible. Inactivity is the enemy of RA causing pain and stiffness that does not improve after beginning motion again.

TREATMENT

The goals of treatment are to reduce pain, control joint damage and decrease inflammation. Rest, activity and medication are equally important in the management of RA. When experiencing a flare up, rest is recommended to allow the inflammation to subside. During periods of relative wellness moderate exercise is important to maintain joint health. Intermittent periods of physical therapy may help strengthen muscles and promote mobility. A medication regime recommended by a physician is also necessary in the management of RA.

Yours in Christ's Healing,
Vicki Maanum, RN
Parish Nurse

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

Pastor Tessa Moon-Leiseth and her family are ELCA missionaries serving in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Through our support they are able to share the Word and support families and friends in West Africa! **Follow along with what the Leiseth family is doing by reading their blog at: leisethfamily.wordpress.com** (a link to their blog is on our website at www.flcmorris.org under the "Our Work" tab).

Feb 1 In memory of John Solvie on his birthday from his family
Feb 2 In memory of Harold M. Busse from Emilie Brustuen
Feb 10 In honor of the Call Committee from Cheryl Higgins
Feb 12 In memory of Nancy Watzke Dahlquist from Jo Solvie
Feb 13 In memory of LeRoy "Mac" McCarroll from Jo Solvie
Feb 14 In memory of Ollie Grossman from Jo Solvie
Feb 17 In loving memory of Lenore Anderson from Pat Smith
Feb 23 In loving memory of our son Bruce from Allan & Marvel Anderson
Feb 24 In memory of Helen Rose Olson

March Worship Servants

ASH WEDNESDAY: March 1, 2017 6:30pm Worship (no Soup Supper)

USHER: (H) Skip Maanum, Marty Ohren, Morgan Wevley
GREETERS: Katie & Kristin Ohren
ACOLYTE: Damien Warner & Gage Wevley
NURSERY: Vicki Dalager
COMMUNION PREP: (silver tray) Sharon Ehlers
COMM SERVERS: Doug Ehlers, Mick Rose, Ward Voorhees

Sunday, March 5, 2017 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 10:30am Coffee Hour

LECTOR: LeAnn Dean
USHER:(H) Al Harris, Paul Staples, Scott Staples, Jacob Hanson
GREETERS: Cathy Anderson & Gwyneth Hanson
ACOLYTE: Isabel & Lydia Fynboh
COMMUNION PREP: (silver tray) Elizabeth Harris
COMM SERVERS: Judy Buro
NURSERY: Robi & Ray Bowman
VIDEOGRAPHER: Bruce McCormack
COFFEE HOUR: Diane Nelson, Troy & Beth Minners

Mid-Week Lenten Worship Wednesday, March 8th 6:30pm Worship 5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper

USHER: (H) Dick Smith, Dennis Ketterling, Claire Reed
GREETERS: Hunter & Natalie Ketterling
ACOLYTE: Greta Hentges & Reid Ketterling
NURSERY: Mike Odello

Sunday, March 12, 2017 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 10:30am Coffee Hour

LECTOR: Bob Dalager
USHER: (H) Steve & Michelle Just and family
GREETERS: Kristi & Brady Krusemark
ACOLYTE: Christopher Just & Brock Krusemark
COMMUNION PREP: (silver tray) Vicki Dalager
COMM SERVERS: Linda Holland, Emilie Brustuen, Jane Johnson
NURSERY: Lindy Ekola
VIDEOGRAPHER: Steve Wagner & Solomon Johnson
COFFEE HOUR: Randy & Bobbi Jo Staples, Robert & Joanne Thompson

Mid-Week Lenten Worship Wednesday, March 15th 6:30pm Worship 5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper

USHER: (H) Steve Just, Ray & Ryan Bowman
GREETERS: Robi & Emma Bowman
ACOLYTE: Madelyn Grove & Grace Mortenson
NURSERY: Pam Wiese

Sunday, March 19, 2017 9:30am Worship & Sunday school 10:30am Coffee Hour

LECTOR: Karen Bolling
USHER: (H) Barry & Nancy Erdahl, Matt & Grace Mortenson
GREETERS: Deb Brunko & Anna Grove
ACOLYTE: Eli Grove & Jacob Ulrich
COMMUNION PREP: (pouring chalice) Sandy Grove
COMM SERVERS: Paul Grove, Tim Grove, Sharon Ehlers
NURSERY: Raelene Reimers
VIDEOGRAPHER: Marty Ohren
COFFEE HOUR: Mark & Mary Huebner, Pam Wiese

Mid-Week Lenten Worship Wednesday, March 22nd 6:30pm Worship 5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper

USHER: (H) Stan & Janet Staples, Ethan Lebrija
GREETERS: Olivia Lebrija & Emilie Brusten
ACOLYTE: Meyla Pappenfus & Aidan Lebrija
NURSERY: Jone Anderson

Sunday, March 26, 2017 9:30am Worship (No Sunday school) 10:30am Coffee Hour

LECTOR: Cheryl Higgins
USHER: (H) Bob Heck, Ryan & Lynn Watzke, Durgin Decker
GREETERS: Deb & Riley Decker
ACOLYTE: Hallie Watzke & Brienna Dybdahl
COMMUNION PREP: (pouring chalice) Randee Hokanson
COMM SERVERS: Skip & Vicki Maanum, Lauren Carlson
NURSERY: Brenna Monroe
VIDEOGRAPHER: Steve Hokanson
COFFEE HOUR: Sharon VanAlstine, Lindy Ekola, David Jungst

Mid-Week Lenten Worship Wednesday, March 29th 6:30pm Worship 5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper

USHER: (H) Yvonne & David Evenson, Karli Siegel
GREETERS: Madelyn Siegel & Ann Erdahl
ACOLYTE: Kellen & Corrie Erdahl
NURSERY: Kristin Grove

First Lutheran Church Council
Board Meeting February 19, 2017

The February meeting of First Lutheran's Church Council was called to order by Vice President Kellie Hentges on Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 10:40am. Present: Doug Ehlers, Laurie Feuchtenberger, Jill Van Kempen, Ryan Watzke, Natasha Mortenson, Kellie Hentges, Kevin Williamson, Skip Maanum, Kristin Ohren, and Barry Erdahl. Absent was Tom Schneider. Staff present: Pastor Eugene Anderson.

Election of Officers:
Nominations are officers were:

President: Natasha Mortenson
Vice President: Kellie Hentges
Treasurer: Doug Ehlers and Kristin Ohren
Secretary: Laurie Feuchtenberger

It was moved by Barry and seconded by Jill that nominations cease. Motion carried. It was moved by Skip to cast a unanimous ballot, with Doug and Kristin co-sharing the Treasurer's position. Motion carried. Committee assignments will be done at the next meeting.

Doug reported that Babe has looked further into the designated funds and has found them to be interest earnings from our endowment fund.

Babe is looking at starting up a group similar to that of New Wine.

It was moved by Jill and seconded by Laurie to have our monthly council meetings on the 3rd Sunday, following our church service. Motion carried. Our first meeting will be on March 19. Doug will provide lunch and a planning retreat will follow.

It was moved by Kellie and seconded by Jill to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Feuchtenberger, Secretary

2017 Chuch Council

2017 Church Council Members

Natasha Mortenson, President
Kelly Hentges, Vice President
Doug Ehlers & Kristin Ohren, Treasurer
Laurie Feuchtenberger, Secretary
Barry Erdahl
Skip Maanum
Tom Schneider
Jill VanKempen
Ryan Watzke
Kevin Williamson

Those newly elected to serve on a committee or as delegates are:

Audit Committee: Kristin Ohren
***Endowment Committee*:**
Deb Brunko & Julie Monroe
West Central Christian Homes Delegates:
Lauren Carlson & Bob Heck
Glacial Ridge Conference Delegates:
Vicki & Bob Dalager, Emilie Brustuen, Brad Miller, Vicki & Skip Maanum
Synod Assembly Delegates:
Emilie Brustuen, Wanda Dagen, Doug Moe
Gustavus Adolophus Delegates:
Greg & Naomi Fynboh
Luther Crest Bible Camp Delegates:
Linda Holland, Sharon Ehlers, Sharon VanAlstine
Common Cup Board Member:
3 yr term—Suzanne Smith
Lutheran Campus Ministry:
3 yr term—Lauren Carlson

8 March Birthdays

1) Amy Stallman
2) Ashford Swenson, Darren VanHorn
3) Terry Dybdahl, Stanley Staples, Harriet Stevenson
5) Jeremy Heck, Robert Staples, Jamie Thorstad
6) Audre Ross, Janis Waller
7) Denise Odello, Lauren Peterson, Ellen Reed, Nicholas Rosen, Ruby Swenson
8) Bob Dalager
9) Thomas Schneider
10) Angie Anderson
11) Tony Schultz
12) Kevin Moses, Dana Pappenfus, Gerald Thorstad
13) Ryan Lair, Diane Nelson
14) Dani Schultz
15) Paul Ersted, Deb Mahoney, Babe Taylor
16) Cowan Mortenson
17) Jay Hanson, Allan Harris, Dale Peterson,
18) Gwen Rudney
19) Quinn Brustuen, Lauren Carlson, Michael Lair, Jean Schultz
20) David Day
21) Michael Nemmers, Colby Schultz, Maela Suess
22) Travis Beyer
23) Barry Erdahl
24) Shane Decker, Lucas Miller, April Taylor
25) Marleen Nelson, Boe Staples
26) Samantha Buro, Jaxon Hilbrands, Kyler Smith
27) Bailee Barsness
28) Blake Amundson, Mark Huebner, Nathan Smith
29) Dennis Feuchtenberger, Krystal Heily
30) Charlotte Seibel
31) Philip Rosen

Custodian Corner

by Babe Taylor

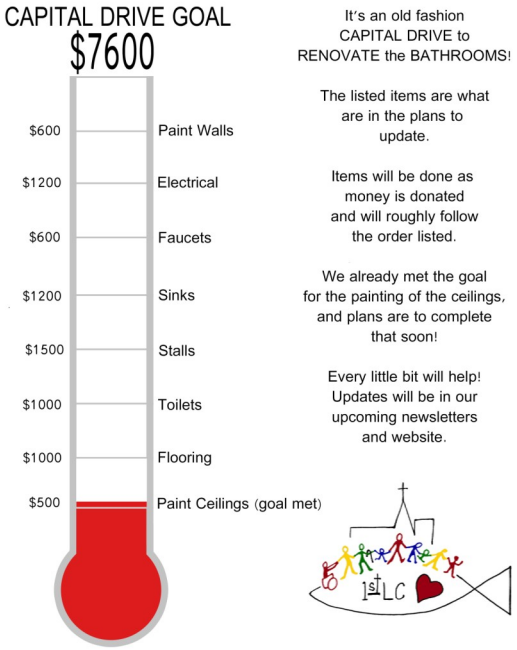
The property has made it through the winter pretty well. Other than replacing a motor bearing on the boiler and updating the the upper and lower hallway receptacles, no major costs were accumulated. With that being said, the Property Committee is off to a great start. We have finalized a couple of projects and have forwarded them onto Council for approval. We are excited for the chance to address certain areas of the property. If you are interested in the process or want to learn more, I encourage you attend the Property Committee meetings. They are scheduled every third Tuesday of the month in the Gathering Room and start at 6:30 pm. Your committee members are:

Steve Wagner - Chairman
Bob Heck - Secretary
Steve Van Kempen
Robert Thompson
Barry Erdahl
Skip Maanum - Council Rep
Babe Taylor - Co-Chair

These projects could not be possible without your contributions and our number one goal is that we effectively put your gifts to work insuring the continuing use of our place of worship.

As always, God Bless-

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS



MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm Care Core 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship	2	3	4
5 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion 9:30am Sunday school 10:30am Fellowship/Coffee Hour 1:00pm Glacial Ridge Assembly Meeting (Donnelly MN) 6:00pm Boy Scouts	6 6:00pm Girl Scouts	7 7am Common Cup Meeting	8 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Prayer Group 5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship	9 8:30am Share & Care *(quilting group)* 3:00pm Pastor at West Wind Village (worship)	10	11
12 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion 9:30am Sunday school 10:30am Fellowship/Coffee Hour 6:00pm Boy Scouts	13 6:00pm Cub Scouts	14 2:00pm Pastor at West Central Christian Homes (worship)	15 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship	16 2:00pm Zipporah Bible Study in fellowship hall	17	18
19 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion 9:30am Sunday school 10:30am Fellowship/Coffee Hour 10:40am Council Meeting 6:00pm Boy Scouts	20 6:00pm Girl Scouts	21 6:30pm Property Committee Meeting	22 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am Prayer Group 2:00pm Pastor at Skyview (worship) 5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship	23 8:30am Share & Care *(quilting group)*	24 12:00pm Newsletter Articles Due	25
26 8:30am Choir Practice 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion No Sunday school 10:30am Fellowship/Coffee Hour 6:00pm Boy Scouts	27	28 6:00pm Women's Bible Study in Fireside Room	29 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:30-6:15pm Soup Supper 6:30pm Worship	30	31	

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Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Empowered to Serve

Eugene Anderson—Pastor revgeneander@yahoo.com
Rita Bye—Office Manager office@flcmorris.org
Babe Taylor—Custodian babetaylor@flcmorris.org
Babe Taylor—Financial Secretary finsec@flcmorris.org
Pastor Tessa Moon Leiseth & family—Missionaries leisethfamily@gmail.com
Gunnar Molstad—Choir Director
Deb Mahoney—Organist