



The First Word

**First Lutheran Church
324 North Third Street
DeKalb, IL 60115
815.758.0643**

www.FirstLutheranDeKalb.org

November 2011

In This Issue

Pastor's Page.....	Page 2
In the Family.....	Page 3
Mission Sunday.....	Page 3
Children's Ministry.....	Pages 4-5
Youth Ministry.....	Page 6
Harvest Fest.....	Page 7
Evangelism.....	Page 8
Council Highlights.....	Page 9
Calendar.....	Pages 10-11
Women's News.....	Page 12
Getting to Know You.....	Page 13
Social Ministry.....	Pages 14-17
November Birthdays.....	Page 18
Comptroller Report.....	Page 18
Staff and Council.....	Page 15

Enjoy a First Lutheran Thanksgiving

Each fall, on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, members and friends of First Lutheran gather for a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner in the Social Hall. It is a wonderful evening of good food, fine fellowship, and thanksgiving to God for our many blessings. This year's dinner will be held on Sunday, November 20, beginning at 5:00 PM. Turkey and ham will be provided. Those attending the dinner are asked to sign up to bring one or two other food dishes (depending on family size) to share.



Thanks to **Bill and Lee Todtz** who have volunteered to once again bake the turkeys. We'll need lots of other volunteers as well – to decorate the Social Hall, help set tables, serve the meal, and clean-up afterwards. Please call the Church Office (815.758.0643) if you are willing to help.

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER**

ARTICLES IS

November 20

Dates to Remember

All Saints Sunday.....	November 6
Family Movie Matinee.....	November 6
Feed My Starving Children.....	November 19
Thanksgiving Dinner.....	November 20

Dear Friends in Christ,

Some years ago I was given a poem by a church member – a simple poem that reminds me to take time to appreciate the simple joys of life. I'd like to share that with you here:



***“You’ve got to stop and smell the roses,
You’ve got to count your many blessings every day.
You will find the way to heaven is a rough and rocky road,
If you don’t stop to smell the roses along the way.”***

This poem came to mind this past week as I presided at the funeral of another saint of our congregation – Glenn Moody. Each springtime Glenn and his golfing buddy Dean, both members of the DeKalb Lion’s Club, would send me a beautiful bouquet of fresh roses when the club held its annual fund-raiser. It was a treasured gift to receive and of course, always brightened my day when I received them. It was a gentle reminder for me to take time to ***“stop and smell the roses ... and count my many blessings every day.”*** And I do ... and I pray that you do, too.

This is the month we observe a national day of Thanksgiving. What are you most thankful for this year? What special blessings are yours? Take some time to jot your thoughts down. For when you do, you will be amazed that there is no time for the “negatives” to overpower you and pull you down ... ***“when you stop to smell the roses along the way.”***

I continue to be thankful for my call to serve as your pastor here at First Lutheran Church. This is a great congregation that is Christ-centered and mission-minded. I have a wonderful staff to work with and some faithful, dedicated lay leaders in this congregation to embrace the work we strive to do together. We are able to offer some outstanding music and education programs for people of all ages. God has indeed blessed this congregation throughout its 153 year history and I’m confident will continue to bless it in the years ahead.

During the month of November, you will be invited to make a financial pledge of support to the ministry of First Lutheran Church for 2012. As you prayerfully consider what your commitment might be, I invite you to first ***“stop and smell the roses ... and count your many blessings.”*** Our giving is to be a thankful response to God’s amazing goodness and grace.

A blessed Thanksgiving season to you and yours,

Pastor Marilyn

Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of our member, **Glenn Moody**, who passed away on October 18; to **Gloria Durr** and her family at the death of her brother, Joe Bross, who passed away on October 18; to the family and friends of our member **Robert Carlson**; and to **Hwacha Kosobud** at the death of her great niece Ella Grace McCarthy who died on October 7. May God comfort those who mourn.

Congratulations to **Joe and Debbi Bockhold** on the birth of their son, Caleb Joseph, born on September 21; to **John and Cheryl Countryman** on the birth of a new granddaughter, Molly Mae, born on October 11 to their son Jeff and his wife Betsy; and to **Jason and Dana Hardenbergh** on the birth of a son William Wallace, born on September 24. His proud grandparents are **Steve and Carla Hardenbergh**.

Please remember the following people in your prayers: **Wenke Hansen, Amy Harris, Pat Dahlberg, Lois Johnson, Jane Manning, LaVonne McDowell, Dan and Hazel Metzger, and Paul Yamber.**

First Lutheran Welcomed Home the Stubbs family



It was our joy to welcome back Randy, Carol, Megan, Marissa and Nathan to our congregation on Sunday, October 23. The Stubbs family has been serving as ELCA missionaries to Tanzania, Africa since 2006 and now has spent the past two months on furlough, traveling across the country and sharing the story of their work in Africa to supporting congregations.

During the morning worship service, Randy proclaimed God's Word and throughout the rest of the service, the whole family shared the Gospel message through word and song. Each played a different musical instrument. During the Educational Hour, the Stubbs family showed pictures and shared stories of their life and work at Makumira University. A barbecue luncheon, hosted by the Church Council, provided opportunity for some wonderful conversation afterward. Special thanks to all who provided food for the barbecue lunch and to **Randall Baker** who grilled the meat.

A special offering that totaled \$5,316.00 was taken in that day to support the work of the Stubbs family as they return to Africa this week. Thanks to all who generously offered their support!

Cross Walk Sunday News



Workshop Updates –

Rotation 3 – Parable of the Talents, November 6-20

During the Rotation 3, students will learn about the importance of stewardship and sharing with Jesus' Parable of the Talents. In Cornerstone Computer Lab, students will learn more about the parable and play games using the computer program, Amazing Bible Stories. During Cookin' with Jesus, students will learn how sharing can be heroic by baking bread and making hero sandwiches out of it. Finally in Peter's Theater students will put on a play about the parable.



Tiny Tots **Luke Oland, Logan Corn, and Lilly Baker** eat their whales swimming in the ocean (gummy fish in blue jello) while **George Jaros** reads them the story of Jonah in Rotation 1.

Greeting Schedule — The third Sunday of each month is designated for our Cross Walk children to be greeters before the 9:00 AM worship service. Please note when your child's class is scheduled to greet. The class will meet approximately 20 minutes before the start of the service. Thank you! The Pre-K/ Kindergarten Class is scheduled to be greeters on Sunday, November 20.

Make sure to pick up your offering envelopes! To help combat the illness which causes death to millions of people, most of whom are children, this year's Cross Walk Offering will be given to ELCA's Foundation to Fight Malaria in Africa. Donations will be used to purchase mosquito nets and medicine for those in need. If you haven't received your offering envelopes, please see **Stephanie Corn**.

Middle School News

Amazing Middle School Students! First Lutheran Middle School students are awesome! It has been a pleasure to get to know this group. Pastor Marilyn and I have a well-balanced approach to our Christian curriculum for this age group because we understand that they want to learn by doing. With that in mind, our calendar of activities reflects our desire to have fun together and also serve together. One activity per month is dedicated to offering middle youth opportunities to serve our church and community.

(Continued from page 4)

Last weekend, we participated in the CROP Walk for Hunger, but here is the amazing part ... they did fundraising together as a group. Students like **Max Lange, JC Longville, Travis DeOliveira, Cameron Taylor, and Ashlee Mecklenburg** put on costumes after church service on Sundays to raise funds. The water bucket was filled with money each Sunday. That is a powerful lesson that as a group, we can accomplish much more!

One of my goals for this Middle School group is to learn how to speak and listen in a group open forum discussion. In our rapidly changing global economy one of the skills that our youth will need is how to discuss and communicate ideas in a group. Within the safe and accepting atmosphere of church, students at this age can give voice to their ideas and thoughts about how God's Word relates to their life, their school, their world.

Nerf Wars! Put on your camouflage and load your Nerf Guns! Middle School students are hosting a Nerf War at the church on Saturday, November 26 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM. All ages are welcome. Bring a friend. Bring any extra Nerf Guns and wear eye protection. As a fundraiser for VBS 2012 at Walcamp, Middle School students will be selling chips, pop and bottled water.



To Jonamac and Back ... On Sunday afternoon, October 2, middle schoolers and their chaperones enjoyed a trip to Jonamac Orchard in rural Malta. They hiked their way through the corn maze and enjoyed spending the afternoon together. The pictures below are of some of the goofy guys and gorgeous girls who attended.



A Friendly Face ... First Lutheran is a church full of friendly faces! Please bring your warm smile and welcoming handshake to the front door on Wednesday nights and be a door greeter. All volunteers may eat the meal from 5:30 to 6:15 for free. Alternating weeks and flexible half hours available. You can even use the walkie-talkie! Door greeters for our Wednesday Cross Walk Activities will help new families feel comfortable and cared for. Many groups use our church on these evenings and we want some friendly faces who will represent our congregation at the door giving everyone a warm welcome. Sign-up sheets for November are in the Atrium at the dinner table.

Ann Oduber, Christian Education Coordinator

Confirmed in Faith



On Sunday, September 25, nine students made public affirmation of their baptism. This day followed a two-year program of instruction in the Christian faith, led by their pastor and a group of Confirmation guides. Pictured in front (from left) are **Will Todtz, Ryan Scheri, Evan Taylor, Jenna Scheri, and Leanza Burright**. Pictured in back (from left) are **Pastor Marilyn, Jace Kitchen, Trevor Freeland, Mike Lange, and Riley Bauling**. The confirmands were honored at a reception in the Social Hall following the morning worship service.



Operation Christmas Child

Join us as we prepare shoe boxes full of gifts that will be sent to needy children around the world. Here's how you can participate:

1. Decide whether your box will be for a girl or boy. You may fill more than one box.
2. Choose an age category — ages 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14.
3. Pray for the child who will receive your box.
4. Take a shoe box and fill it with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, clothing, etc. (Boxes and gift list guides available at the display in the Atrium.)
5. Wrap the box; the lid must be wrapped separately so the box can be opened.
6. Please **enclose a check for \$7** in your box, **payable to Samaritan's Purse**, to help cover shipping and other costs. **Note on the memo line that the gift is for Operation Christmas Child.** Place the check on top of the gift items in your box so it is clearly visible.
7. Close the box and put a rubber band around the box and lid.
8. Return your box to church by **Sunday, November 13.**

If you are unable to fill a box, please consider making a donation to Samaritan's Purse, or donating small items that others can put in their boxes. Check the gift list guide at the display. Bring your donations to the Church Office, marked Operation Christmas Child.

Harvest Fest – a BIG Success!



Christine Myroth, David Kuhn, and Linda Sanderson

We had a wonderful Harvest Fest at Gerry and Linda Sanderson’s country setting on Sunday, October 2. Close to one hundred people, both young and old, attended the day of outdoor fun. With autumn-like weather, it was a perfect day for hayrides, fishing, games, making s’mores, painting pumpkins, and just sitting, relaxing, and eating some delicious grilled brats and hotdogs. Thanks to

Scott and Bridget Meier who donated and served the brats and hot dogs during the afternoon festivities and thanks to all who attended and made the day such fun!



Tavis Parker, Maxwell and Elliot Lange and friend

Special thanks to all who donated food, beverages, and firewood and those who stayed to help clean-up afterwards.



Bob Schmidt and Scott Meier

The offering for the Harvest Fest brought in \$450.00 which was sent to Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Oregon, IL.

Finally, a great big THANK YOU to Gerry and Linda Sanderson for hosting the event for us all once again!

Departed Saints

As part of our All Saints Service on Sunday, November 6, we will light a candle and have a prayer of remembrance for the following members and friends of First Lutheran Church who passed away during the past year: **Bette Beyer, Robert Carlson, Corinne Johnson, Stan Lindahl, Barbara Lindus, Bradley Manning, and Glenn Moody.**

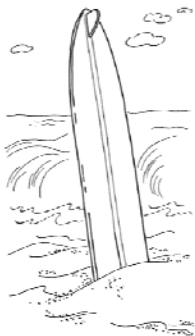


Volunteers Needed

The Hope Haven chart for volunteers is posted on the bulletin board outside the Library. Volunteers are asked to help provide a portion of the meal (main dish; vegetable or salad; or dessert). First Lutheran is responsible for the second Wednesday of each month. New volunteers are always needed. If you are interested, please contact **Carrie Engstrom** at 758-2588 or sign up today!

First Family Movie Matinee

-Luau Style-



The Evangelism Ministry Team would like to invite people of all ages to watch the movie: *“Soul Surfer”* (rated PG) on Sunday, November 6, beginning at 2:30 PM. For younger children, we will show Disney’s *“Lilo and Stitch”* (rated G) and make our own surf boards. We will have popcorn during the movie and pizza after the film.

Bring a beach blanket! Wear your Hawaiian flowered shirts and have your picture taken in front of First Lutheran’s beach scene!

The movie *“Soul Surfer”* starring, Anna Sophia Robb, Carrie Underwood, Helen Hunt, and Dennis Quaid is a true story of teen Bethany Hamilton, who lost her arm in a shark attack and courageously overcame all odds to become a champion again, through her determination and unwavering faith.

This is an excellent opportunity to invite someone you know without a church home to come and experience the fun-loving congregation here at First Lutheran! Invitation cards will be available for you to give to friends and neighbors.

*Catch the wave ... invite a friend
and come see the movie - SOUL SURFER!*

Are You an Average Lutheran?

I have heard more than once that “The average Lutheran invites someone to church once every 23 years.” I have a feeling most of us have done better than that. Martin Luther believed “all Christians have the authority, the command, and the obligation to preach...”(Luther’s Works, vol.30 by H.C. Oswald and H.T. Lehmann).

A few weeks ago, Pastor Marilyn challenged each of us to invite three people to church this next year. Do you have someone in mind to invite to church? **PRAY ABOUT WHO YOU MIGHT INVITE.** Is it a neighbor, friend, co-worker, or family? Pray some more. When you invite someone it usually takes several invites before they accepts the invitation.

The Evangelism Team
Sue Grafe, chair

October Church Council Highlights

- Heard plans regarding the Fall Stewardship Emphasis, which will conclude with Commitment Sunday on Christ the King Sunday, November 20.
- Were informed that both the boiler and the roof have been repaired, a contract for snow removal has been signed, and the root cause of the water leak in the Atrium has been investigated.
- Discussed the process for conducting background checks on volunteers who work with children in our church.
- Heard that Mark Mackeben has said “yes” to leading the children’s music during the Cross Walk closing event on Sunday mornings.
- Talked about the proposed library expansion and the upcoming Planning and Zoning Hearing on October 26 which will be open to the public
- Referred the request to have a youth member serve on the Church Council to the Youth Ministry Team.
- Voted to request the Northern Illinois Synod of the ELCA to begin the consultation process with its current pastor.

Special Thanks

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support for the Alzheimer’s Association Walk on Sunday, September 25, in Naperville. Team “MAMA Gomez” raised over \$1200.00! We had six walkers – well, seven if you count the puppy Simon! Thank you so much!! We all felt great after the walk – that we had walked for a good cause and so many wonderful people in our lives supported us! It was a great tribute to my mother and for that there aren’t really words to express my feelings!

Special thanks to **Mike and Sharon Wadle, Karen and Dick Sjolund, Jim and Colleen Johnson, John and Cheryl Countryman, Linda and Gerry Sanderson, Paula and Jim Bryner, and Lynn and Bob Schmidt.**

I so appreciate your kindness!

Diane Gomez

Dear People of First Lutheran, DeKalb,


Thank you so much for providing your support for Pastor Seth OleSululu and giving us the opportunity to assist in that support. Please find enclosed a check from Bethany Lutheran Church, Crystal Lake, and also one from my wife Pat and me. We know, as Pastor Seth might say "Mungu ni Pendo" ("God is Love") and, therefore, we must share that love.

Ron Henning

November



First Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday Activities 10:20 AM Adult Forum	31 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	1 8:30 AM Project Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Ministry Team Meetings 8:00 PM Executive Comm. Meeting	2 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 10:45 AM Clergy Text Study 5:30 PM Cross Walk Wednesday Activities 6:00 PM Faith Trek 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class	3 2:00 PM Naomi Circle 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	4	5
6 Food Pantry Donations 8:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Blood Pressure Screenings 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday Activities 10:20 AM Adult Forum 2:30 PM Family Movie Matinee	7 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	8 8:30 AM Project Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Congregation Council	9 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 10:45 AM Clergy Text Study 5:30 PM Cross Walk Wednesday Activities 6:00 PM Faith Trek 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class	10 9:00 AM Prelude - Women's Bible Study 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 - 9:00 PM Thrivent Chapter Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir	11 7:00 PM Friday—7:00 AM Saturday Middle School Lock-In at NIU	
13 8:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Worship/Bible Sunday 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday Activities 10:20 AM Adult Forum	14 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	15 8:30 AM Project Group 9:30 AM Pastor's Conference Meeting at Grace, Woodstock 7:00 PM Altar Guild	16 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:45 AM Clergy Text Study 5:30 PM Cross Walk Wednesday Activities 6:00 PM Faith Trek 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class	17 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	18	19 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Service Project 6:00 - 8:00 PM Feed My Starving Children
20 8:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion/Commitment Sunday 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Blood Pressure Screenings 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday Activities 10:20 AM Adult Forum 5:00 PM Thanksgiving Dinner	21 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	22 8:30 AM Project Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting	23 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 10:45 AM Clergy Text Study 6:30 PM FPU Class No Cross Walk Activities	24 Happy Thanksgiving 	25 Church Offices closed for Holiday	26 5:00 - 7:30 PM Nerf War (sponsored by Middle School Youth)
27 8:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday Activities 10:20 AM Adult Forum	28 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class 7:00 PM Boy Scout Court of Honor	29 8:30 AM Project Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Women's Night Out	30 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 10:45 AM Clergy Text Study 5:30 PM Cross Walk Wednesday Activities 6:00 PM Faith Trek 6:00 PM GED Classes 6:30 PM FPU Class	1 2:00 PM Naomi Circle 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	2	3

“Prelude” A Morning Bible Study for Women

Prelude, the ongoing Thursday morning Bible study group for women, will meet next on Thursday, November 10 from 9:00-10:30 AM in Classroom A. We will meet only once during November because Thanksgiving Day falls on our normally scheduled gathering day. The theme for the November study is **“Power and Authority: Words Matter,”** based on the theme verse from Mark 4:40, **“Jesus said to them, ‘Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?’”**

The Prelude Bible Study group welcomes newcomers at any time. We begin our day with a good cup of coffee, tasty treat and a lively conversation. Then we wrestle with how God’s Word connects to our everyday life. Pastor Marilyn serves as the facilitator of the group. Please join us next on November 10 — which happens to be Martin Luther’s birthday!

Altar Guild News

Our next Altar Guild meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall. We will be looking at our calendars and getting ready for Advent. Members, please mark your calendars, and those that are not yet members, please join us — we would love for you to join our group.



The month of November will covered by Altar Guild members; **Jean Pumfrey** and **Joyce Lothson**. **Mary Letheby** will

assist for full table communion on November 6.

Naomi Circle to Meet

Naomi Circle will meet next on Thursday afternoon, December 1, at 2:00 PM. **Judy O’Connor** will present the program on “Carols of Christmas.” **Vivian Courtney, Wenke Hansen, Joyce Nelson, and Jeanne Smith** will serve as hostesses for the afternoon and **Cathy Foelske** will give the devotions. All women are welcome to attend.

Women’s Christmas Luncheon

Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 10, at 11:30 AM for the Women’s Christmas Luncheon. This is a wonderful time of the year to join other women of First Lutheran Church as we prepare for the holiday season. A special program is being planned. More information will follow in next month’s newsletter.

Those attending are asked to bring a dish or two to share with the group. If you are interested in decorating a table for the dinner, please contact the Church Office.

Mark the date on your calendars now and plan to attend and bring a friend! We hope to see many of you for a time of fun, fellowship, and great food.

Chrismon Workers Needed!

If you are interested in working on the Chrismons, please contact Anna Marie Diab at 815.758.5096.

Getting to Know Our Members

Ann Oduber is our new Christian Education Coordinator and member of the First Lutheran family you should get to know. Ann's family is very precious to her. Her sons Jacob, age 10, and Aaron, age 9, are an answer to prayer because she always wanted to be a mother of boys. She is related to her two best friends, Bob and Dianne Matecki. They are her parents. Her sister Clara and her husband Israel just welcomed Alex, another adventurous baby boy, to their family.



Ann, Jacob, and Aaron Oduber

Ann was born in Evergreen Park near her father's Polish side of the family. She grew up in Wheaton and spent summers with her grandparents, Donna and Larry Elliott, in Malta.

After attending Central Bible College in Missouri, Ann's heart was into foreign missions, but God provided a different route into the mission field when she became a flight attendant for United Airlines. She was based first in New York City, then later in London and Hong Kong. She later transferred to Chicago where she had her two sons and worked as a domestic purser.

In 2008, Ann began the Master's in Education program at Aurora University and completed her student teaching experience at North Grove Elementary in Sycamore. When the Christian Education Coordinator position became available here at First Lutheran, she felt that her education was a perfect mix for such an opportunity.

Ann's favorite Bible verse is from I Corinthians 2:9 — "No eye has seen, nor ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him." When you love the Lord, you will be astounded at the places He takes you!

Ann's leisure time is spent reading and listening to jazz and opera. She also loves to eat with her family and play a card game called 13.

"I am new to First Lutheran and enjoy the pipe organ, choir, and piano. The talent in this church is amazing!" Her heart is for our children and youth ministry. Ann says, "It is critical for children to have a real relationship with Christ and their peers so that their faith can survive through the ups and downs of high school, college, and into adulthood."

When asked, what does your faith mean to you, Ann's reply, "It is everything to me."

Meals on Wheels

Drivers are needed for the month of November when members of First Lutheran Church assume the responsibility for delivering Meals on Wheels to shut-ins in and around DeKalb. The meals need to be picked up at 11:00 AM. A chart for drivers to sign-up is in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. You may also call the Church Office to volunteer. Thank you in advance for helping with this very worthwhile community project.

World Hunger Offering

Throughout the month of November, special offerings will be received each Sunday for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. This year’s goal, set at our Annual Meeting, is \$3,300.00. If you would like to help feed the hungry throughout the world, please use the offering envelope provided in this newsletter.

Meals for NIU Students



Grace Place (formerly Lutheran Campus Ministry) holds weekly Wednesday evening worship services for NIU students. Prior to worship, students meet for fellowship and to share a meal at 8:00 PM. First Lutheran Church is scheduled to serve on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Our next scheduled evening will be January 25. We are looking for individuals willing to make the meal. Ideas would include sloppy joes, chips, fruit, and dessert; a cheese and cracker tray and veggies and dip; or a \$30 donation to order pizza, etc. Please contact **Teresa Lange**, 815-758-0855 if you can serve our students with food donations. A chart may be found on the bulletin board outside the Library. Sign up today!

Thanksgiving Baskets

Our Middle School students will be packing Thanksgiving baskets for the Salvation Army! If you would like to help feed the hungry locally this Thanksgiving, please look for the ‘turkey’ in the Atrium and take some ‘feathers’ with needed items printed on them. You may drop off your food donations by the turkey or in the back of the Social Hall on or before Sunday, November 13! The items will be packed on Wednesday evening, November 16, by our confirmation students and delivered to the Salvation Army on Saturday, November 19. Items needed are:



Thanksgiving Food Baskets

- \$10 meat certificates
- pancake syrup
- 2 reusable grocery bags
- 5-lb. bag of potatoes
- Bisquick mix
- canned yams
- canned cranberry sauce
- stuffing mix
- canned vegetables
- sugar or flour
- apples or oranges
- boxed dessert mix

Thank you for sharing your abundance and for assisting our youth in feeding the hungry in our community.

First Lutheran Hunger Stompers Help CROP Stop Hunger!

Sunday, October 23 was a perfect day to end hunger, one step at a time. The golden fall leaves shifted and swirled around the feet of First Lutheran Church walkers on the golden mile path. Weeks prior, participants started fundraising to support the World Church Global Hunger Relief Program and our local DeKalb Food Pantry.



Middle school students at First Lutheran raised funds collectively by wearing costumes similar to tribal cultures in Sudan and

Ethiopia where people are experiencing wide spread famine. Gracious church members participated by making donations into the student's clay water buckets.

Additional thanks to those who supported **Jim Luebke**, **Peter Hastings** and leader **Susan Callahan**...the total raised was \$1,418.00!



Food-Packing Session
Saturday, November 19
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Help us pack meals!

Every day, 18,000 children die from starvation. Come and make a real difference in the lives of starving children by volunteering to pack meals at the Feed My Starving Children event at Suter's in Sycamore on Saturday, November 19, from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. We have reserved 30 spots for meal packers. Sign up in the Atrium, or call the Church Office at 815-758-0643.

Can't help that evening? Consider making a donation. A \$20 donation will feed a family of four for one month. Make your checks payable to First Lutheran and write FMSC on the memo line.

“for I was hungry and you gave me food...,” Matthew 25:35

Help Us Restock The Linen Closet!

We've helped so many people recently that cash (for new pillows and mattress pads), towels, blankets and sheets are in short supply.

Why are the shelves so bare? Perhaps a list of the items donated to needy Love INC clients during just the first two weeks of October will explain. A total of 13 sets of sheets, eight comforters, 11 blankets, six mattress pads, 17 pillows, 27 bath towel sets, 33 dish towels, as well as shower curtains, bath rugs, hot pads, and other assorted linen items have helped many lives in only 14 days.

The need is great as we go into the cold season. Sometimes we are giving blankets and pillows to people who don't even have a bed. Please, if you have things to share, do it now. God will bless you – God has blessed you!

What's New at Love INC?

- October's gap ministry focus is on the lamp ministry. Here's how you can really let the light of Christ's love shine—donate a lamp! You can drop them off at First Church of the Nazarene, the Love INC office, or the Church Office. Remember that garage sales are good sources of gently used contributions to Love INC.
- An easy and tasty way to donate to Love INC on Sunday, October 30, is by enjoying some Chinese food from Panda Express. The restaurant will donate 20% of your purchases. Use their special Love INC coupon, available in the Church Office and at the Love INC clearinghouse.
- Are you able to serve one morning a week as an intake volunteer? If you would like to serve those in need by answering their phone calls to the Love INC office, call 815-217-0082 and find out more about the training.
- If you can volunteer some time to help make minor home repairs, please e-mail Nathan at loveincdk@gmail.com or call 815-217-0082. He is trying to organize a new gap ministry focusing on home repairs.



Men's Moving Ministry Delivers!

Men, come and help deliver furniture to people in need for Love INC on the third Saturday of each month. We meet at the Lincoln Inn for breakfast at 8:00 AM and then deliver furniture from 9:00 AM – NOON. All men of the congregation are invited to join the group next on Saturday, November 19. More help is always welcome — especially some of you younger guys! This is a great service opportunity right in our own immediate area. Please join us! Contact **Jim Womack** with questions or to volunteer.

Pastor Seth Update

Please consider supporting Pastor Seth's Education: Not long ago, a First Lutheran member asked if we had recently seen or heard from Pastor Seth. We smiled, because Pastor Seth had returned 2 months before, *but has been very busy*. He started the second year of his NIU Masters Degree in Music on August 22, taking **12** credit hours; he is working late each night on his classes and the research for his thesis. He has just finished mid-semester quizzes/tests, and is already preparing for semester exams on December 5 - 9. Pastor Seth is singing in both the NIU Chamber and Concert Choirs and is teaching and conducting the NIU University Choir — you can see him with all three choirs on December 4th!! He has also contributed to First's Sunday music with voice and trumpet and has preached at St. John's in Somonauk, St. John's in Elizabeth, and Trinity in Galesburg, and on November 13 he will preach at Salem in Sycamore. And, he will welcome, from a very long distance away, his second child in February.

Thanks to your generosity last year, through the Goat Feast, Rummage Sale, and personal donations, Pastor Seth's 2010-11 education expenses were met, with enough remaining for 2011-12 flights and first semester fees and books. Thanks to a generous member, costs of additional technical equipment and software needed for Pastor Seth to complete his research and masters thesis have been covered. A number of others are providing transportation.

Pastor Seth is sending his NIU Assistantship stipend (for University Choir) to Tanzania to support his family. Along with a small scholarship he receives through Makumira University and his wife Fadhila's teaching salary, these income sources will need to be supplemented (approximately \$700) for his family to meet basic needs for food and housing.

Our best estimate is that Pastor Seth's education funds will be depleted by the end of this first semester. For him to complete his Masters Degree in May 2012, funds are needed for NIU second semester and graduation fees (\$1,800) and textbooks and materials (\$600). These three figures total approximately \$3,100.

The Social Ministry Team especially encourages you to contribute to and participate in their January Chili Cook-Off, from which all profits will go toward Pastor Seth's education fund. You may also contribute to Pastor Seth's education at any time by cash or a check (to: First Lutheran; Memo: Pastor Seth Education) in the offering basket or to Lynn Schmidt in the Church Office.

God Bless,
Mike and Sharon Wadle



- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 2. Peggy Carroll | 10. Dale Benson | 21. Judith Bryant |
| 5. John Countryman | Eric Dienst | Debra Burgin |
| Jackson Sullivan | 11. Edythe Larsen | 22. Roberta Anderson |
| 6. Carolyn Dienst | 12. Joseph Carroll | Dean Burgemeister |
| Aaron Oduber | Harriet Royalty | 23. Christine Gommel |
| Shelby Smith | Pat Tuecke | Haley Salazar |
| Fred Wehmeyer | 13. Bailey Sanderson | 24. Susan Chaplin |
| 7. Isaac Hietanen | Chad Wiltberger | Heather Tuestad |
| Randy Stubbs | 14. Jacqueline Hansen | 27. Sarah Baker |
| Terry Vonderheide | Nathan Stubbs | Tavis Parker |
| 8. Trevor Engstrom | 15. Allyn Ritzman | Tyler Scarbrough |
| Michele Gray | 16. Jacob Jouris | 28. Janice Womack |
| Brian Lange | Chad Nelson | 29. Trevor Freeland |
| 9. John Tuecke | 18. Nicole Baker | 30. Lesley Feyerherm |
| | Elijah Holder | Justin Letheby |
| | Gage Holder | Gerry Sanderson |
| | Madeline Jouris | |
| | Audrey Kothrade | |
| | 19. Barbara Baie | |
| | Anna Baker | |
| | Debra Hopkins | |

Comptroller Report for September 2011

	September Actual	Year-to-Date Actual	Remaining Budget
Income	\$29,348.22	\$272,512.95	\$205,887.05
Expenses	\$39,143.38	\$281,231.73	\$199,470.27
Ahead/(Behind)	(\$9,795.16)	(\$8,718.78)	

Capital Building Fund Loan Balance - \$287,413.93

One day's interest on mortgage - \$45.84

Attendance Figures for September 2011

	9:00 AM
September 4	144
September 11	230
September 18	200
September 25	210

First Staff

Senior Pastor

Marilyn G. Hanson
pastor@firstlutherandekalb.org

Administrative Assistant

Financial Secretary

Lynn Schmidt
office@firstlutherandekalb.org

Christian Education Coordinator

Ann Oduber
aoduber@firstlutherandekalb.org

Cross Walk Sunday Coordinator

Stephanie Corn
education@firstlutherandekalb.org

Sr. High Youth Directors

Trent and Teresa Lange
ttmelange@comcast.net

Comptroller

Ken Hermach
khermach@firstlutherandekalb.org

Organist

Mark Mackeben
mark.mackeben@gmail.com

Adult Choir Director

John Feken

Bell Choir Director

Judy Neumann

Custodian

Bill Colvin

Security

Kyle and Jennifer Guymon

Congregation Council

President

Paul Letheby

Vice-President

Barbara Henson

Secretary

Nancy Dashner

Treasurer

Bob Snow

Randall Baker

Lisa Cowley

John Countryman

Joyce Davidson

Cathy Foelske

Bill Sanders

Barbara Schrader

Ministry Teams

Children & Youth Ministry

Endowment

Evangelism

Finance

Personnel

Property

Social Ministry

Stewardship

Worship/Music/Fine Arts

*First Lutheran Church ...
... hearing, living, and
sharing God's Word
together.*