



The First Word

**First Lutheran Church
324 North Third Street
DeKalb, IL 60115
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www.FirstLutheranDeKalb.org

November 2010

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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 21, beginning at 5:30 PM. Turkey and ham will be provided. Those attending the dinner are asked to sign up to bring one or two other (depending on family size) food dishes to share.

We'll need lots of willing volunteers – those who will coordinate the meal, help with turkey preparation, help setting up, serving, and a clean-up crew that will stay until the last dish is put away. Please call the Church Office (815.758.0643) if you are willing to help — even with the tiniest of details.

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

Middle School Lock-In.....	November 12-13
Special Congregational Meeting	November 14
Peter Eide Concert.....	November 14
Chili Cook-Off	November 17
Feed My Starving Children	November 19
Thanksgiving Dinner	November 21

Dear Friends in Christ,

*“Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers’ arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.”*

ELW Hymn 839

This beautiful hymn of praise, “Now Thank We All Our God” reminds us what a blessed people we are. From birth to the grave, God blesses us on our way. It is our joy as Christians to respond to these blessings with our hearts, our hands, and our voices. I celebrate and give thanks to God each and every day for what we are able to do as individuals and as a congregation to further the mission of Jesus Christ in this world. This congregation has been a beacon of light and hope to many for over 150 years! More than anything, I want that to be able to continue. However, your support of what we do here is needed, and now more than ever.

The Church Council has set a Special Meeting of the congregation for Sunday, November 14, 10:10 AM, for the sole purpose of voting on whether to continue with the Associate Pastor position in 2011.

This vote of the congregation will greatly impact our ministry in the future. If the congregation votes not to fund this position beyond the end of this year, we will see a significant change in what we are able to accomplish here. Pastor Roy and I share responsibilities for certain areas of ministry at First Lutheran, including preaching, teaching, visiting the sick and shut-ins, and presiding at baptisms, weddings, and funerals. However, we each have our particular areas of responsibility as well. He serves as a member of the Church Council and also has oversight for the following ministry teams: Social Ministry, Evangelism, and Faith Formation (Christian Education for Tiny Tots – Sixth Grade). He also oversees the development of the church website and arranges for all adult education. He is scheduled to lead a mission trip again this January to Guatemala to assist with the building of the School of the Saints there. After the dismissal of Liz Botts for financial reasons, Pastor Roy has also taken over responsibility for Sr. High Youth Ministry.

One can also not overlook the fact that if Pastor Roy’s position is eliminated, we will also lose another valued employee, his wife Jean. Jean holds three positions at First Lutheran. She is the coordinator of our Wednesday evening programming for pre-schoolers through sixth graders. She recruits the staff, selects the curriculum, plans the meals, and leads the music for this program. Under Jean’s leadership, our Wednesday night programming has grown significantly and promises to be our best outreach ministry to the community. Jean also provides music leadership for our Sunday morning Cross Walk program. Earlier this year, we also readjusted some of Jean’s hours so she could serve as our Shared Ministry Coordinator. In that role, she is always actively helping people in our congregation discover and put to use their spiritual gifts. She enlisted members to plant, water, and harvest our “Giving Garden” this summer to help feed the hungry. She was instrumental in getting our linen ministry launched and in bringing the “Feed ‘Em

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Soup” program to First Lutheran. She has been working to develop a mutual relationship of sharing with the Clinton Rosette Middle School. In September, Jean met with a group of young adults from our congregation to help them “make connections” with each other. She also helped to promote the CROP hunger walk in our community in October. And, my list could go on and on.

The Nelson family was called to our congregation in July of 2007. They stepped right in and totally immersed themselves in the mission and ministry of this congregation. They still feel called to serve among and with us. My prayer is that we will step out in trust and faith and support their call to continue to serve here.

Can one pastor minister to this size congregation? Of course. In both of my previous calls to parish ministry, I served as a solo pastor. The difference is that I was a “maintenance pastor” in those settings. I preached the Word and administered the Sacraments, the prime responsibilities of my Letter of Call. I also visited people and took care of the administrative tasks of the congregation. Beyond that, I was not able to do much. There was no time.

We have an amazing staff here at First Lutheran and they are all working tirelessly to be the hands, feet, and voice of Christ in the work that they do. We have strong programming here. We are beginning to see the fruits of our increased outreach to the community. I am confident that we will begin to see some significant growth in the next 3-5 years if we continue to staff for mission and not for maintenance.

However, I am equally as certain we will not grow if we continue to reduce our staff. Two years ago, we reduced our Christian Education budget significantly and now have two very part-time employees leading this programming. In August of this year, we further reduced the salary of three of our music staff, eliminated the Music Coordinator, the Children’s Choir Director, and the Youth Director positions.

At the current time, only 66% of our overall budget goes to support staff salaries. Many congregations would celebrate if they were at this percent. I worked for nine years on the bishop’s staff of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod. I worked with congregations of all sizes. If a congregation only spent 66% of its budget on salaries, it was considered healthy. If that figure rose to 85 – 90%, then we became concerned. By these standards, First Lutheran is not in a crisis. I believe that our current cash flow problem is not insurmountable. If just 200 people gave \$2.00 more each week, that would add up to \$20,800 a year ... more than enough to continue our strong ministries and mission.

This congregation is filled with many, many very generous givers. For all that you do, I am truly grateful. What I would ask today is that others of you might step forward, increase your giving for the year ahead as you able, and help to support the exciting ministry of this congregation, so that we truly **can** become the church that God wants us to be today and in the years ahead.

To God be the glory!

Pastor Marilyn

We welcomed to our Christian Fellowship **Caroline Ann Montgomery**, infant daughter of Barry and Sarah Montgomery, who received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on October 10.

Congratulations to **Jennifer Sanderson** and Andrew Clark who were married here at the church on September 24.

Our sympathy is extended to **Linda Smith** and her family at the death of her father, Robert Johnson, who passed away on October 2 and to **Lois Johnson** and **Lu Lothson** and their families at the death of their sister,

Doris Carlson, who passed away on October 5. May God comfort those who mourn.

Please remember the following people in your prayers: **Anna Diab, Heidi Hietanen, Lois Johnson, Marian Larson, Jessica Long, Dan and Hazel Metzger, Ruth Smith, John Tuecke** and **Amanda Bowman** (granddaughter of **Bob and Pam Bowman**).

Have You Turned in Your Pledge Card Yet?

Worshippers at the October 24 service carried their 2011 Commitment of Giving

cards forward to the altar in a processional offering. To date, we have received 82 pledges, totaling \$192,332 to the General Fund, 25 pledges totaling \$8,916 to the Special Fund, and 41 pledges totaling \$35,866 to the Building Fund. Thanks to all of you for responding to God's graciousness with continued generosity and for helping to make ministry happen here at First Lutheran.

If you haven't turned in your pledge card yet, please prayerfully consider how you will be able to support the mission of our congregation in the year ahead. Pledges may be submitted to the Church Office at any time.

Welcome New Members

On Sunday, October 24, we welcomed to our Christian Fellowship, four new members. They are **Duane and Lisa Cowley**, sponsored by Don and Pat Johnson, and **Barry and Sarah Montgomery**, sponsored by John and Sara Ann Feken. A reception in their honor was held in the Social Hall following the service.



Duane and Lisa Cowley



Barry and Sarah Montgomery with daughter, Caroline

Special Congregational Meeting November 14 at 10:10 AM

A special meeting of the congregation is scheduled for Sunday morning, November 14, 2010 at 10:10 AM. The sole purpose of this meeting is to vote on whether or not First Lutheran will continue to support the Associate Pastor position in 2011.

This meeting will be held in the church sanctuary and will begin as soon as worship is over and all voting members are properly registered. According to our Church Constitution, "Voting members are confirmed members, who, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation." (C8.02.c.) There are no absentee ballots. (C10.05. "Voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted.")

Voting members will be checked in, handed a printed ballot, and must cast their ballot during the time allotted at the meeting. A quorum of 60 voting members will be required for a vote to be taken.

Highlights of the Church Hall Meeting

On Sunday afternoon, October 24, approximately 125 members of First Lutheran met for a Church Hall meeting to discuss whether there is support to continue funding the Associate Pastor position in 2011. **Paul Letheby**, our congregational president, called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM and led us in an opening prayer. Three PowerPoint presentations were then made. Pastor Marilyn discussed our mission and ministry as a congregation and highlighted the work of our staff. **Bill Sanders**, our church treasurer, gave us a look at our current church finances and attendance patterns. **Gerry Aase**, an NIU professor and member of First Lutheran, then requested time to present a PowerPoint presentation he had prepared after reviewing treasurer's reports, annual reports, and minutes of council meetings. With his business analysis background, he was able to offer another perspective on the church financial situation.

The microphone was then turned over to **Randall Baker** who served as the moderator for the open discussion time that followed. Questions were asked and views expressed by approximately 30 members who attended the meeting. Prior to adjournment, **Sara Ann Feken** encouraged the council to schedule quarterly meetings in the year ahead so that the kind of open dialogue we had at this meeting could take place on a regular basis.

Paul Letheby then reminded those present that a meeting to vote on the Associate Pastor position will take place on Sunday, November 14, at 10:10 AM. Voting will be done by paper ballot. NO absentee ballots will be allowed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM. All joined hands and prayed the Lord's Prayer together.

Cross Walk Sunday Workshop Updates

Rotation 3 – The Beatitudes

On November 7, Rotation 3 will begin, focusing on the Beatitudes. During this rotation, the students will be cooking, doing an art project, and reading. In Cookin' with Jesus, the students will be making Beatitude pretzel rods. During Living Word, they will be reading a story about the Beatitudes. At Apostle's Art Studio, the classes will make Beatitude word posters/placements.

Rotation 4 – Advent

On December 5 and January 2 and 9, Rotation 4, Advent, will take place. Students will be going through Scripture Cinema, Solomon's Science Lab, and Peter's Theater. In Scripture Cinema, students will be viewing *The King Is Born*. During Solomon's Science lab, classes will be discussing stars, and how they impact the story of Advent. Peter's Theater will lead the students through a puppet show, where the classes will perform and view puppet skits that illustrate the importance of Advent to Christianity.



Help Needed! Workshop leaders are needed for the upcoming rotations. For Rotation 3, a leader is needed to teach the Bible story in Cookin' with Jesus. For Rotation 4, leaders are needed for

all three workshops, Scripture Cinema, Solomon's Science Lab, and Peter's Theater. If you can help lead our Cross Walk children through one of these workshops, please contact **Stephanie Corn**, 815-748-7409, or the Church Office 815-758-0643.

Thank You! A big thank you to our Rotation 1 and 2 workshop leaders: **Tarryn Thaden, Karen and Dick Sjolund, Dawn Gersic, Susan and Rob Kerschke, John Longeville, and Lori Johnson**. The children had wonderful experiences in each workshop as you helped teach them God's word.

Congratulations Bible Recipients!

On Sunday, October 24, the First and Third Graders received their Bibles during Worship. First Graders were given the Day by Day Bible and Third Graders received the Hands-On Bible. During Cross Walk, the students participated in an Introduction to the Bible class, led by **Carrie Engstrom**, where they explored their new Bibles and God's word.

Greeting Schedule — The PreK/Kindergarten class is scheduled to be greeters before the 9:00 AM worship service on Sunday, November 14.

Please Note:

All Cross Walk groups (preschool - high school) will NOT meet on Wednesday, November 24 or Sunday, November 28 because of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Cross Walk Wednesday



AMAZING THINGS ARE
HAPPENING ON WEDNESDAY
NIGHTS!

The Spirit moved me to invite some Love INC clients that I had delivered linens to, to the trial runs for Feed'Em Soup. Not only did they accept the invitation, but their kids have been participating in our Cross Walk Wednesday groups. And they keep coming back! The moms have also participated and mentioned that it would be nice to have a group for parents. Another mom and her three children, met through a request for a

wheelchair, have also been participating and bringing friends. Even more exciting is that Doris Anderson and Keangela Newell (both Linen Closet recipients) have already talked and are interested in helping with Kindness Klub this year. Can you see how God is at work in all of this?

A Kindness Klub leader is needed to plan and guide our children in simple service projects one or two Wednesdays per month. If you enjoy working with kids and have a heart for people in need, this may be a great way for you to use your gifts. Previous Kindness Klub projects have benefitted We Care Pregnancy Center, Elder Care Center, DeKalb Nursing Home, Hope Have, Prison Ministries, and Kishwaukee Hospital. Contact **Jean Nelson** to volunteer.

An Update on the Stubbs Family

Randy and Carol Stubbs, ELCA missionaries at Makumira University in Tanzania, Africa recently received word that their positions are being terminated, effective November 15, 2010. They are two of five ELCA mission personnel, along with 65 employees at the churchwide office in Chicago, that are being affected by a decrease in mission support from congregations. According to our presiding bishop, Rev. Mark Hanson, this action was precipitated "by a significant drop in mission support income – funds from ELCA congregations to the churchwide organization and shared by the church's 65 synods."

Randy and Carol are exploring other possibilities for funding so that they might continue their work at Makumira. On Sunday, October 10, First Lutheran took a special offering to support the Stubbs family. Thanks to your generosity, we took in \$6,790.00 for their ministry. We have notified the Stubbs family that we will send this money directly to them after November 15 so that they will be able to continue their wonderful ministry to the students at Makumira University for an extended period of time.

Please keep Randy, Carol, Megan, Marissa and Nathan in your prayers during this challenging time in their lives.

Calling All Middle Schoolers ...

There are three BIG events coming up that you won't want to miss!

**Middle School Lock-In at Northern Illinois University – November 12-13
(7:00 PM Friday to 7:00 AM Saturday)**

This annual event is sponsored by Lutheran Campus Ministry and the Northern Illinois Synod Lutheran Youth Organization. Kids from all over northern Illinois will gather around the theme, "And the laughs shall be first!" The very talented improv group, 9PE Comedy, will provide a show, assist in worship and hang-out with kids through the hours of the lock-in. There will be time for all sorts of sport activities and movies at the NIU field house, electronic games and bowling at the Huskies Den, and mid-night pizza and morning breakfast at the Lutheran Campus Ministry Center. Total cost for the lock-in is \$30.00 per student. First Lutheran will cover \$15.00 of the cost for each student.



Registration forms are available in the Church Office and must be turned in no later than Wednesday, October 27.

Peter Eide Concert at Salem Lutheran Church, Sycamore – November 14

We've been invited to Salem Lutheran of Sycamore to enjoy a wonderful concert by Peter Eide (pronounced: I'd) on Sunday, November 14. This event is co-sponsored by Bethlehem Lutheran of DeKalb. Peter Eide has spent much of the last decade serving God and the church as a full-time singer, songwriter, and speaker. He ministers to over 100,000 students a year throughout all of North America at national youth gatherings, festivals, conferences, conventions, concerts, and churches. This will be another great event for youth (and their families). The concert starts at 6:30 PM. Middle Schoolers, if you'd like to attend with your youth group, please sign up on the youth bulletin board across from the Library. Chaperone and driver will be Pastor Marilyn Hanson. **Sign-up for rides is required no later than Wednesday, November 10.**

Dells Quake – March 4-6, 2011

This annual outing to the Wisconsin Dells is a weekend not to be missed! It is a great time to discover and grow in your Christian faith. All participants will hear nationally renowned Christian musicians, inspiring speakers and take part in an awesome service project. There will be large group celebrations and small groups designed for your specific age group. And, of course, there is the water park for fun during free time! The cost for First Lutheran youth is \$50.00 per student plus food, with the church picking up the additional tab of \$84.00 per student. T-shirts will also be available at a cost of \$15.00 per student. **Registration forms for this event are due in the Church Office no later than Wednesday, December 15, 2010.**



To Jonamac and back ...

On Sunday afternoon, October 3, seven middle schoolers and their chaperones, Stefanie Mecklenburg and Pastor Marilyn enjoyed a trip to Jonamac Orchard, rural Malta. We hiked our way through the corn maze, took a wagon ride to the pumpkin patch, and jumped and laughed and played in the barnyard. Apple cider and caramel apples were the favored treats of the day. Pictured above include: Kaity Siewierski, Ashlee Mecklenburg, Meghan Hanson, Linnea Kothrade, Rachel Hunter-Rosene, Calla Nelson, and Austin Reeves.




Confirmed in Faith

On Sunday, September 26, ten students made public affirmation of their baptism. This day followed a two-year program of instruction in the Christian faith, led by their pastors and a group of Confirmation guides. Pictured in front (from left) are **Ben Nelson, Alayna Gersic, Leah Scheri, Sarah Womack, and Kara Clanton.** Pictured in back (from left) are **Pastor Roy, Madeline Jouris, Jacob Young, Nicholas Aase, Isaac Hietanen, Madison Bauling, and Pastor Marilyn.** The confirmands were honored at a reception in the Social Hall following the morning worship service.

November

First Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday Activities, Adult Forum	1 9:00 AM Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) 6:00 PM GED Classes 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	2 8:30 AM Project Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Ministry Team Meetings 8:00 PM Executive Committee	3 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 11:00 AM Clergy Text Study 5:30 PM Cross Walk Activities 5:30 PM Meal and a Message 6:00 PM Faith Trek 6:00 PM GED Classes	4 2:00 PM Naomi Circle 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	5	6
7 Food Pantry Donations 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday Activities	8 6:00 PM GED Classes 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	9 8:30 AM Project Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Congregation Council	10 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 11:00 AM Clergy Text Study 5:30 PM Cross Walk Activities 5:00 - 7:00 PM Feed My Soup 6:00 PM Faith Trek 6:00 PM GED Classes	11 9:00 AM Prelude - Women's Bible Study 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	12 7:00 PM Jr. High Lock-in at Lutheran Campus Ministry Center	13 Carson's Community Day -- coupon booklets available in the Church Office
14 9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 AM Coffee Hour to benefit Guatemala Mission Trip 10:10 AM Special Congregational Meeting 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday 6:30 PM Peter Eide Concert at Salem Lutheran, Sycamore	15 9:00 AM Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) 6:00 PM GED Classes 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	16 8:30 AM Project Group 9:30 AM Northeast Conference Pastor's Meeting	17 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:00 AM Clergy Text Study 5:00 - 6:00 PM Chili Cook-Off to benefit Guatemala Mission Trip 5:30 PM Cross Walk Activities 5:30 PM Meal and a Message 6:00 PM Faith Trek 6:00 PM GED Classes	18 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	19 6:00 - 8:00 PM Feed My Starving Children	20 Newsletter Deadline 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast at Lincoln Inn 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON Men's Ministry Service Project
21 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:20 AM Cross Walk Sunday Activities 5:30 PM Thanksgiving Dinner and Hymn Sing	22 6:00 PM GED Classes 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	23 8:30 AM Project Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting	24 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 11:00 AM Clergy Text Study 5:00 - 7:00 PM Feed My Soup No Cross Walk Activities	25 Happy Thanksgiving 	26 Church Offices closed for Holiday	27
28 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:20 AM NO Cross Walk Sunday Activities	29 9:00 AM Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) 6:00 PM GED Classes 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	30 8:30 AM Project Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting	1 6:45 AM Red-Eye Bible Study 11:00 AM Clergy Text Study 5:30 PM Cross Walk Activities 5:30 PM Meal and a Message 6:00 PM Faith Trek 6:00 PM GED Classes	2 6:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Adult Choir	3	4

Highlights of the October Council Meeting

- Continued our study of the book Ask, Thank, Tell
- Approved the minutes and financial reports for September
- Formally received the following new members into the fellowship of our congregation: **Duane and Lisa Cowley** and **Barry and Sarah Montgomery**
- Set the time of the Christmas Eve Candlelight service for 11:00 PM
- Discussed progress made on our 2010 mission goals
- Approved the revised Organizational Flow Chart as presented
- Set guidelines and procedures for the October 24 “church hall” meeting
- Met with **Gerry Sanderson** and **Barbara Baie**, members of our church Endowment Committee, as we begin a review of the established Endowment Fund documents over the coming months
- Heard that the Bridgebuilding final report is on hold at this time
- Discussed the audit of our church books and recommended that the audit of the 2009 books be completed prior to the 2010 Annual Meeting (which will be held in January, 2011)
- Approved fundraisers for those heading to Guatemala in January of 2011. Monies from the November 14 Coffee Hour and the November 17 Chili Supper will be used to help fund the Guatemala Mission Trip.



From ‘Trash to Treasure’

Help Support First Lutheran’s Ministry Around the World

Aluminum cans - This year our can money will support construction of the School of the Saints in Retalhuleu, Guatemala. Drop your rinsed out cans in the container in the Atrium.

Eye glasses - Your old (prescription or non) glasses may give someone in Guatemala a chance to see more clearly. Place them in the collection box in the Narthex.

Printer cartridges - Did you know that First Lutheran is collecting old, used, and empty printer cartridges and will receive up to \$4 for each cartridge? Bring them to the Church Office.

Naomi Circle to Meet



Naomi Circle will meet next on Thursday afternoon, November 4, at 2:00 PM. Melissa Payne-Wagner, Physical Therapist, will present the

program on "Improving Our Health and Staying Healthy." Charlotte Bross and Jeanne Smith will serve as hostesses for the afternoon and Sue Grafe will give the devotions. All women are welcome to attend.

PRELUDE ... there's room for more!

Prelude, the ongoing Thursday morning Bible study for women, is open to all ages and is always eager to welcome newcomers. Please



BIBLE
Study for Women

consider joining this group that begins the day by studying God's Word together. We normally meet at 9:00 AM on the second and fourth Thursday mornings of each month. However, with Thanksgiving this month, we will meet only on Thursday, November 11, which also happens to be Veteran's Day. Our study for 2010-2011 is "The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity," with the November session focusing on the stewardship theme, "Entrusted with Much," based on I Corinthians 4:2.

Our Bible study each month is included in *The Lutheran Woman Today* magazine, a publication of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in

America. If you don't subscribe to the magazine, a copy of the study will be provided for you. For information on ordering the magazine, just stop by the Church Office and ask.

Hope to see a good number of you on the 11th of November as we gather to wrestle with how God's word intersects with our daily lives.

Lutheran World Relief Update

Mike and Sharon Wadle took over the last of the Lutheran World Relief items to the Elgin office on Monday, October 18. There were some extra boxes left from the NIS Women participants at Convention. ALSO there were additional kits from First Lutheran. The First Lutheran totals for 2010 are: 10 quilts, 24 layettes, 190 Health Kits (thanks to **Jean Nelson's** call for supporting Haiti!), and 192 School Kits.

The latter two numbers are an all time high! Thanks be to God as the need is great! We will continue watching sales to fill health kits and layettes during the winter. The list of contents is on the display board in the Social Hall. Items may be put into the basket in the Narthex or on the shelves in the Social Hall.

Many thanks to **Denise Rode** for taking the AIDS/HOSPICE kits to Global Health Ministries in Minneapolis in September. Dr. Stephen Friberg, an ELCA missionary in the Ketumbeine area of Tanzania, had requested 2000 AIDS kits when visiting GHM last year.

First Lutheran Hunger Stompers Help CROP Stop Hunger!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the CROP Walk as a walker or as a sponsor. Because of your support, the First Lutheran Hunger Stompers raised \$1,617.00 and enjoyed a beautiful day walking along the Kishwaukee River with friends from other area churches and service organizations.



Before the walk, we shared in a brief time of worship and thanksgiving where we were particularly moved by an original

song that the women's chorus Bread and Roses composed for the event. After the walk, we were greeted with beverages, apples, and cookies at Westminster Presbyterian. We drove home pleased with what we had accomplished and thinking about our goal for next year: Twice as many walkers and twice as much fellowship!

If you would like to know more about the CROP Walk, please talk with one of the First Lutheran Hunger Stompers: Susan Callahan; Jack Cress; Cliff Golden; Peter Hastings; Meghan Hanson; Dawn and Jessica Marx; Pastor Roy, Jean and Calla Nelson; and Tarryn Thaden.



Food-Packing Session
Friday, November 19
6:00 – 8:00 PM
Cornerstone Christian Academy

Help us pack meals!

Come and make a real difference in the lives of starving children by packing meals at the Feed My Starving Children event at Cornerstone Christian Academy on Friday November 19, from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. We have reserved 30 spots for meal packers.

- Every day, 18,000 children die from starvation. Help make a difference for these children by volunteering at this event. We have 30 spots reserved for the evening. 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 more info, go to <http://makeadifference2k10.shutterstock.com> or contact Pastor Roy or Jean Nelson

'for I was hungry and you gave me food...,’ Matthew 25:35

World Hunger Month

During the month of November, the congregation focuses on people who suffer from hunger locally and globally. Throughout the month, special offerings are received each Sunday for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

In addition, November is our month to deliver Meals on Wheels to the area shut-ins and the congregation is again participating in the Salvation Army's drive to provide Thanksgiving Baskets to needy families. You are encouraged to share your time and wealth to support these programs.

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.

Calling All Men (and trucks and vans) for our NEW Moving Ministry!

Join us on **November 20** to deliver furniture to people in need for Love INC, from 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON. We'll meet for breakfast at the Lincoln Inn at 8:00 AM and then head over to the Love INC storage building on Harvestore Drive.

We need at least six guys and at least one vehicle that can tow the Love INC trailer. Additional pickups and vans are always appreciated. I would like to see this become our monthly Men's Ministry service project on the third Saturday of every month. So let's start out strong on November 20 with a good crew! Please let Pastor Roy know if you can make it and what type of vehicle you can provide to haul furniture.

Thanksgiving Baskets

The Sr. High Youth Group is packing Thanksgiving baskets for the Salvation Army! Please look for the 'turkey' in the Atrium and take some 'feathers' with needed items printed on them. Please drop off your food donations by the turkey or in the back of the Social Hall on or before Sunday, November 14! Items needed are:

- \$10 meat certificates
- Bisquick mix
- canned vegetables
- pancake syrup
- canned yams
- powdered milk
- plastic laundry baskets
- flour
- sugar
- 5-lb. bag of potatoes
- stuffing mix
- pumpkin pie or dessert mix
- bags of apples or oranges
- canned cranberry sauce



Thank you for sharing your abundance and for helping our youth help feed the needy in our community.

Journeys of Hope Guatemala Mission Trip

Pastor Diane Dardon from Lutheran Campus Ministry and Pastor Roy are leading a group to Retalhuleu, Guatemala on January 7-17, 2011 to serve the poorest of the poor by continuing to build the School of the Saints and working in a medical clinic. Joining Pastor Roy on the trip are **Michael Billips, Jack and Scott Cress, Katie Mooney, Ben Nelson, and Linda Smith.** Several events to raise money for this mission trip will be held:

Carson's Community Day Sale — Purchase a Carson's coupon booklet for only \$5. You will receive one \$10 off coupon, six 20% off coupons and one 30% early bird coupon (good from 6:00 - 10:00 AM). The day to shop is Saturday, November 13 at our local Carson's store. Where can you get these fabulous coupon booklets? Here at church in the Church Office, or from Jack Cress, Diane Gomez, Ben Nelson, Denise Rode or Pastor Roy and Jean Nelson.

Take an envelope of booklets and sell them to your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. One hundred percent of the profit will go towards the mission trip.

Our goal is to sell 200 booklets and raise \$1000! If 40 people sell five booklets each, we'll reach that goal. How wonderful it would be for the entire congregation to participate in this event. For as we invite others to purchase a coupon booklet, we are bearing witness to God's work in the world. Praise God!

Coffee Hour — On Sunday, November 14, the young people going on the trip (Scott, Michael, Katie and Ben) are hosting the Social Hour after the worship service. All donations received will go toward the mission trip.

Chili Cook-Off — Come to the Chili Cook-Off on Wednesday, November 17 from 5:00 - 6:00 PM. Try a variety of favorite chili recipes, from 'five alarm hot' to 'meek and mild' and everything in between and then vote for the one you like best. Please let Pastor Roy know if you are entering your chili recipe in the Cook-Off and bring enough for twenty people. We'll take any extra over to Lutheran Campus Ministry. All proceeds go to support the young adults and teens going on the January 2011 Guatemala Mission Trip to help build the School of the Saints and serve in a medical clinic for the poor.

Kids Toy Sale to Benefit Mission Trip

A Toy Sale benefiting the January 2011 Mission Trip to Guatemala will be held on Sunday, November 14, at 11:20 AM and Wednesday, November 17, from 5:00 - 6:00 PM.

Do you have toys, books, games, puzzles, etc. that your kids have outgrown or no longer play with? We are accepting donations of new or gently used items. Please bring your items to the Church Office by November 10. Money raised from the sale will help support our young people going on the mission trip in January.

Getting to Know Our Members

Jim Luebke is a First Lutheran member you should get to know. Jim was born in Dubuque, Iowa and grew up in Galena, Illinois. He joined the U.S. Navy right out of high school and was assigned to the U.S.S. Arkansas, home-ported out of Norfolk, Virginia. Before discharge he also served in Alameda, California. After leaving the Navy he returned to Galena where he married a childhood friend, afterwards moving to Sycamore where they had a daughter, Kate, who is now 26 years old and living in Seattle. Jim was divorced in 1995, and he moved to DeKalb at that time.



Jim is a manager with a small manufacturer in Sycamore and serves as a DeKalb Township Trustee. He earned a B.A. in history and teacher certification at NIU.

The Democratic candidate for DeKalb County Clerk and Recorder, Jim describes his leisure time as “knocking on doors, talking with people, and shaking hands at fairs and festivals.” He enjoys reading and walking and has recently taken up bicycling.

Jim became a member of First Lutheran in 1996, joining, he said, because: “It felt like home. The liturgy, music, and people reminded me of St. Matthews Lutheran in Galena where I grew up.” He was quickly recruited to serve on the Multi-Cultural Ministry Committee, which continues today as the Social Ministry Team. Jim has also served on the Church Council, including one year as secretary, and as a lector and usher.

In response to the question, “what does your Christian Faith mean to you?” Jim said: “I have always appreciated and related to the idea of Christ as a humble working man, a compassionate man who simply and graciously did what needed to be done. I have enjoyed participating in a congregation that approaches tasks in much the same way. We simply roll up our sleeves and humbly work for the people in our community and around the world, and through that work spread the message of Christ’s love for all the people of the world.”

Jim’s favorite Bible reading is Psalm 121 and his favorite hymn is “I Love to Tell the Story.”

Psalm 121

*I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come?
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.*



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|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2. Peggy Carroll | 10. Dale Benson | Anna Baker |
| 5. John Countryman | Eric Dienst | Debra Hopkins |
| Jackson Sullivan | 11. Edythe Larsen | 21. Judith Bryant |
| 6. Carolyn Dienst | 12. Joseph Carroll | Debra Burgin |
| Shelby Smith | Harriet Royalty | 22. Roberta Anderson |
| Fred Wehmeyer | Pat Tuecke | Dean Burgemeister |
| 7. Isaac Hietanen | 13. Bailey Sanderson | 23. Christine Gommel |
| Randy Stubbs | Chad Wiltberger | Haley Salazar |
| Terry Vonderheide | 14. Mitchell Aase | 24. Susan Chaplin |
| 8. Trevor Engstrom | Jacqueline Hansen | Heather Tuestad |
| Michele Gray | Nathan Stubbs | 27. Sarah Baker |
| Brian Lange | 15. Allyn Ritzman | Tavis Parker |
| 9. John Tuecke | 16. Jacob Jouris | Tyler Scarbrough |
| | Chad Nelson | 28. Janice Womack |
| | 17. Barbara Lindus | 29. Trevor Freeland |
| | 18. Nicole Baker | Calla Nelson |
| | Elijah Holder | 30. Lesley Feyerherm |
| | Gage Holder | Justin Letheby |
| | Madeline Jouris | Gerry Sanderson |
| | Audrey Kothrade | |
| | 19. Barbara Baie | |

Comptroller Report for September 2010

	October Actual	Year-to-Date Actual	Remaining Budget
Income	\$30,222.49	\$296,225.74	
Expenses	\$39,549.74	\$344,562.08	\$137,195.92
Ahead/(Behind)	(-\$9,327.25)	(-\$48,336.34)	

Capital Building Fund Loan Balance - \$354,294.12

One day's interest on mortgage - \$56.38

Attendance Figures for September 2010

	9:00 Sunday	
September 5	181	
September 12	218	
September 19	205	Harvest Fest 78
September 26	262	

First Staff

Senior Pastor

Marilyn G. Hanson
Pastor@FirstLutheranDeKalb.org

Associate Pastor

Roy Nelson
RevRoy@FirstLutheranDeKalb.org

Administrative Assistant

Financial Secretary

Lynn Schmidt
Office@FirstLutheranDeKalb.org

Comptroller

Matt Morfoot
Support@FirstLutheranDeKalb.org

Cross Walk Sunday Coordinator

Stephanie Corn
Education@FirstLutheranDeKalb.org

Cross Walk Wednesday Coordinator

Children's Music Director

Shared Ministry Coordinator
MaryJean Nelson
Music@FirstLutheranDeKalb.org

Organist

Mark Mackeben
mark.mackeben@gmail.com

Adult Choir Director

John Feken

Bell Choir Director

Judy Neumann

Nursery Attendant

Cindy Hammil

Custodian

Bill Colvin

Security

Howard Jacobson

Congregation Council

Paul Letheby, President
Bob Snow, Vice-President
Cathy Foelske, Secretary
Bill Sanders, Treasurer

Randall Baker
Joyce Davidson
Barbara Henson
Keith Kish
Trent Lange
Stan Lindahl
Barbara Schrader
Tarryn Thaden

Ministry Team Chairpersons

Endowment

Arlyn Strike

Evangelism

Mary Colvin & Sue Grafe

Finance

Dorothy Thorsen

Personnel

Jim Womack

Property

Keith Setchell & Jan Womack

Social Ministry

Jack Cress & Harold Grafe

Stewardship

John Longeville

Faith Formation

Worship/Music/Fine Arts

Youth Ministry