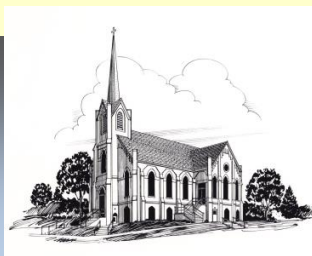


THE SPIRE



March 2019
Volume 7, Issue 3

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

As we enter the season of Lent, I am reminded that nothing really explains our world better than our faith.

We read in Scripture that when God created our world it was described as good, and we still see this goodness in the majesty of God's creation. Yet, we also read in Scripture that when sin entered our world it became broken, and we see this every time we watch the news.

We also read in Scripture that this brokenness or sin cuts through each one of us because we all sin.

This is where the wonder of what we believe enters in. For Scripture teaches that although made in the image of God, we are so broken with sin we cannot save or heal ourselves. We need someone to do it for us, and the one who would come to do this would be Jesus.

He would die on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and rise from the dead to defeat death, so that as a gift we might be forgiven and receive eternal life. This gift is then received by faith.

As we embrace this gift in faith it becomes God's salvation and healing work in our lives.

This salvation offered through the death and resurrection of Jesus is what we remember in Lent. This Lenten season may we delight in freshly claiming this saving and healing work in our lives as we trust in Jesus.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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March 2019 Special Days

- World Day of Prayer – March 1
- Transfiguration Sunday – March 3
- Ash Wednesday – March 6
- Daylight-Saving Time begins – March 10
- Scouts Sunday – March 12
- St. Patrick's Day – March 17
- First Day of Spring – March 20

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual Congregational Meeting of First Evangelical Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, January 27, 2019 following the worship service with 66 members present. There was a soup dinner following the meeting and Church Council met after the soup dinner. Thank you to last year's new council members for providing the soups and items for this meal!

Congratulations to the Oakland - Craig Girls Basketball team on their district championship!!

Come enjoy good food & fellowship - Corned Beef & Cabbage this Sunday, Mar. 3rd from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Swedish Heritage Center. Let's get our Irish on 🍀. Free will donation.

Please join us for Ash Wednesday Service March 6th - 7:00 PM (No meal Following) and Lenten Services starting March 13th @ 6:30 PM (a meal will be served afterwards.) During Lent, on Friday mornings, Men's Lenten Prayer Breakfasts are being held at the city auditorium from 6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. FELC Men will serve April 5th.

LENTEN SERVERS

March 13.....Lenten Service....Young Adults Serve

March 20.....Lenten Service.....Ruth Serves

March 27.....Lenten Service—Hannah Serves

April 3.....Lenten Services—Ruth Serves

April 10th.....Lenten Services—Hannah Serve

Don't forget the annual East Oaks Pancake Feed, Sunday March 24th at City Auditorium in Oakland. Pancakes and all the fixings will be available from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Free Will Donation. This is the 68th Anniversary of the East Oaks 4-H Club. Make plans to attend this fun 4-H food event!

If anyone would like to donate Thrivent dollars to First Ev. Lutheran Church, please notify Thrivent by the end of March.

The Women of the Word (WOW) will be holding a Winter Clothing Drive for the Open Door Mission. They especially need XL and larger winter clothing items.

BAPTISMS

We welcomed Joseph Alan Findlay, Jacob Tyler Findlay, Arista Marie Findlay and Isaiah William Findlay through holy baptism on Saturday, February 9th, 2019. Joseph was born on August 22, 2008. Joseph's sponsors are Amy and Jarvis Guill. Jacob was born on December 11, 2009. Jacob's sponsors are Matt and Sarah Garder. Arista was born on February 17, 2014. Arista's sponsors are Nikea and John Brady. Isaiah was born on May 29, 2016. Isaiah's sponsors are Kelsey and Terry Poland. Their parents are William and Kristine Findlay. Their Grandparents are Dennis and Karen Bidne and Gary and Mary Findlay. **WELCOME Joseph, Jacob, Arista and Isaiah!!!**

We would like to thank Rev. Mary Findlay for her assistance with the baptism.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our January Pay-it-Forward went to Don't Stress the Dress program for \$460. Our February Pay -It-Forward went to Tara Currier for \$650.

We will sing again on March 10, 2019. Stay warm everyone! Angie

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmands will meet for Ash Wednesday Service on March 6th at 7:00 P.M. (with the meal before at 6:30 p.m.) **Lenten Services will start March 13th @ 6:30 p.m.** (a meal will be served afterwards). Following the meal, Confirmation will meet 7:30-9:00 P.M.

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP meets every Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8:30 pm. A meal is provided. It is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community. There is a sign-up sheet in the multipurpose room for anyone who wishes help serve or donate treats.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

First Lutheran Church Scholarship Program

Since our scholarship program is still relatively new, we would like to provide additional opportunities for high school youth to be engaged through service. Therefore, we are adding an additional service component for our high school youth, especially seniors, who have not had many opportunities to be engaged in church activities this year. Our goal is to award this scholarship to every high school senior in our congregation who have given of their time and talents to our church.

If you have not recorded any activities in the activity log at church, we would suggest participating in 8 hours of service projects to be eligible for the scholarship this year. We will be setting up multiple projects in two-hour increments. We will have a sign-up sheet at church, or you can sign up by texting Tess Johnson (402)380-5660 or Rachel Wise (402)-380-3031

Proposed service dates and times:

- Between 9-5 on the Saturdays of March 16, 23, 30, and April 6.
- Between 1-5 on the Sundays of March 17, 24, 31, and April 7.
- Between 4-6 on the Wednesdays of March 20, 27, and April 3, and 10.

First Lutheran is excited to show our appreciation for the service of our high school seniors with this award and to be a part of the journey of faith for our high school students.

If you have a service project you would like the youth to do, please call church. There is also a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.



JACQUE ELDAL and JULIE EASTON



SEWING MEETINGS EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY MORNINGS
8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.



Dorcas Society - March 27th @ 2:00 p.m.@ Oakland Heights



-MARCH-

March 1- World Day of Prayer - Ev. Free Church
 March 3 - Devotions at O.H. @ 2:30 p.m..... Ruth Group
 March 6 - Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 AMHannah Group
 Ash Wednesday Services @ 7:00 p.m.
 March 11 - Executive Meeting 9:00AM
 March 13 - Group Meetings 9:00AM & 5:00PM
 6:30 p.m. Lenten ServicesYoung Adults Serves
 March 20 - 6:30 p.m. Lenten ServicesRuth Group Serves
 March 27 - 6:30 p.m. Lenten ServicesHannah Group Serves
 Clean Kitchen Hannah

PRAYERS OF CONCERN



IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

Judy Groene, Dan Tanksley, Marilyn Peterson, Leonard Canarsky, Ewald Dahlquist, Suzanne Johnson, Phil Hall, Elfie Nelson, Rojane Linder, Duke Wagner, Paul Ueding, Betty Rogers, Don Binkley (Angela Bittner's father) Marlene Anderson, Krissa Schonert, Bill Johnson, Gary Elsasser, Denise (Hall) Salzbrenner, Chloe Coates, Deloris Nielsen, Candace Johnson, Tony Kochel, Mel Swenson, Stacy Long, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Andy Kruse, Landon Johnson, the families of Stephanie Benjamin and Betty Hadley, our service men and women, and all those deployed to foreign countries, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting
January 27, 2019**

The annual meeting of the congregation of First Evangelical Lutheran Church was held January 27, 2019. President Nathan Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:51 a.m. noting that a quorum was met with 66 members in attendance. Pastor Eldal then gave the devotions.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and a motion was made by Dan Tanksley to approve them. Motion seconded by Patty Miller and carried.

The report of the nominating committee was given by Darrell Denker who reported that three candidates have agreed to be on the ballot for church council to fill three vacancies. Candidates are Kathy Pearson, Brad Bousquet and Clendon Rost. Outgoing members are Sandy Husar, Carole Johnson, Jim Pelan and Karl Lundquist. The Outreach Committee has two members with terms expiring, Melinda Johnson and Clare Wiltse. Two candidates have agreed to run, returning member Melinda Johnson and Dr. James Unwin. There were no nominations from the floor for either the church council or the Outreach Committee. Jon Seagren called for a motion to cease nominations. Motion seconded by Darrell Denker and the motion carried. Vote was taken and all nominated candidates were unanimously elected.

The report of the auditing committee was given by Jim Pelan who reported that all was found to be in good order. A motion was made by Sam Schmidt and seconded by Cheryl Denker to approve this report. Motion carried.

For the committee reports, Nathan made an opening comment that all reports were provided in the annual report and could be reviewed therein.

Reports addressed in session:

1. The Outreach Committee report was given by Clare Wiltse. He noted that 2 categories had been eliminated and two added. Categories eliminated were LCMC Seminarian and Debt Relief and Wednesday Night Youth Program. Categories added were Pay It Forward and First Evangelical Lutheran Scholarship Fund. Category percentages for dispersion are listed in the annual report.
2. The Financial Secretary and Treasurer's Report was given by Audrey Unwin who reviewed both reports as printed in the annual report. There were no questions on either report.
3. The Property Committee report was addressed by Jim Pelan who made verbal additions to his printed report. Jim noted that the lights in the parking lot were upgraded to LED lights, an additional return air vent was added to the basement AC unit to provide adequate return air and a safety railing was installed in the basement for the access ramp to the elevator. Jim offered thanks to Nathan Anderson for his coordination work and to Anderson & Sons and Bill Ahrens for their work on the project.

Old Business: No old business discussed.

New Business: Mission/Benevolence - It was reported that the church council has recommended that \$12,000 be equally divided between the LCMC, Oakland Ministerial Association, Oakland Food Bank, Dr. Stuart Embury and Lutheran Family Services. A motion was made by Darrel Denker, seconded by Jon Seagren to distribute the money as recommended by the board. Motion carried.

The 2019 budget was reviewed and explained that adjustments were made based off the prior year's expenses. After discussion, a motion was made by Jim Pelan, seconded by Dan Tanksley to approve the budget. Motion carried.

Nathan stated that a committee would be formed to review the constitution and make recommendations for revisions that would update the constitution.

New business was concluded followed by an offering taken to support the ministry of Dr. Stuart Embury.

Prior to concluding the meeting, Nathan thanked the outgoing members of the council and Outreach committee for their service.

Nathan called for any final comments from the floor. Jill Johnson addressed the deteriorating condition of the church marque. Nathan thanked Jill for her work with the marque and tabled discussion pending action by the church council.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Rick Mulder to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Joh Seagren and carried.

There will be an organizational meeting of the new council following lunch. The meeting adjourned at 11:24 with all saying the Lord's Prayer and Pastor giving the table blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Blanc

February Attendance

2 & 3 215
9 & 10 145
16 & 17 99
23 & 24. (BLIZZARD). 0

February Finances

Regular	\$9,062.52
Designated	
Ash Wed	\$ 530.00
Sunday School	\$ 11.00
Wed. Nite	\$ 855.00
Supplies	\$ 110.00
Memorial	\$ 3,265.00
Misc.	\$ 272.00
TOTAL	\$14,105.52



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Teresa Egbers, Cynthia Johnson,
Eric Miller, Mollie Kate Blanc
- 2 - Nancy Wonka
- 3 - Ruth Wallerstedt
- 4 - Clendon Rost
- 5 - Ron Brudigam, Dr. Charles Seagren
- 7 - James Unwin
- 8 - Spencer Bromm
- 9 - Heath Anderson
- 10 - Connie Anderson, Julie Jones
- 11 - Teigan Case, Rylee Stevenson,
Landon Johnson
- 13 - Alexis VonEssen
- 14 - Russell Peterson, Laura Schnoor,
Garrison Dodge, Shirley Lowe
- 15 - Scott Krutilek
- 16 - Scott Lindstrom, Earl Miller, Susie Nelson
- 17 - Lee Peterson
- 18 - Jeff Nelson
- 19 - Baker Blanc, Hayden Johanson
- 20 - Marlene Lindstrom, Linda VonEssen
- 21 - Mike Denton, Dan Kahlandt
- 22 - Vern Jensen
- 25 - Dexter VonEssen, Don Wallace
- 26 - Connor Guill, Kent Johnson, Richard Strom, Henry Unwin
- 27 - JoAnna (Lierman)Going
- 28 - Mary Alice Pearson
- 29 - William Akingbade, Cheryl Denker, Don Wolf
- 30 - LeighAnn (Blomenkamp)McCartney, Richard Mulder,
Eric Easton, Mallory (Blanc) Rybak
- 31 - Judy Troupe



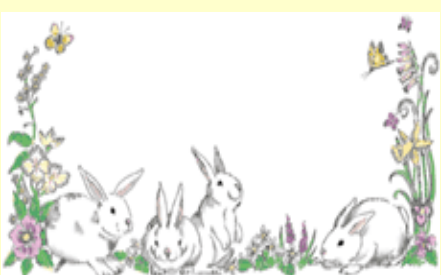


MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 - Jay & Diane Lindstrom
- 12 - Richard & Marcee Tomasek
- 15 - Kaleb & Luryn Andersen
- 17 - Gary & Joann Powell
- 18 - Merle & Karen Karstens
Mike and Karen Blanc
- 24 - Andrew and Stephanie Brudigam
- 27 - Mike & Janna Kloth



March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER @ EV. FREE CHURCH	2 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE
3 8:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP& SUNDAY SCHOOL	4 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS	5 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	6 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 7:00PM ASH WED. SERVICES 6:30PM -9:00 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	7 6:30 P.M. BOY SCOUTS MEET	8 6:00 - 7:30 A.M. MEN'S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST @ City Auditorium	9 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
10 9:30AM YOUTH SERVICE -SS Sings 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP& SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME BEGINS	11 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 9AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING	12 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	13 9AM & 5PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM LENTEN SERVICES 7:30 PM -9:00 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION	14	15 6:00 - 7:30 A.M. MEN'S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST @ City Auditorium	16 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE ST. PATRICK'S DAY
17 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP& SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE	18 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	19 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	20 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM LENTEN SERVICES 7:30 PM -9:00 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION FIRST DAY OF SPRING	21 6:30 P.M. BOY SCOUTS MEET	22 6:00 - 7:30 A.M. MEN'S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST @ City Auditorium	23 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
24 8:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP& SUNDAY SCHOOL	25 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	26 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	27 2:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY MEETING @ O.H. 6:30PM LENTEN SERVICES 7:30 PM -9:00 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION	28	29 6:00 - 7:30 A.M. MEN'S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST @ City Auditorium	30 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
31 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP& SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE	  					

Mar 2019 Ushers and Greeters

Ushers:

3rd - Sam Schmidt, Roger Moderow, Gary Case and Colton Thomsen

10th - Larry Johnson, Carson Thomsen and Jonathon Dixon

17th - Dr. Charlie Seagren, Mitch Case and Derick Bittner

24th - Clare Wiltse, Darrell Denker and Wyatt Seagren

31st - Dr. Charlie Seagren, Jarvis Guill and Connor Guill

Ushers for Lenten Services

6th - Brayden Selk and Grant Seagren

13th - Carter Bousquet and Connor Guill

20th - Aiden Jorgenson and Ayden Lierman

27th - Carson Thomsen and Jonathon Dixon



Greeters:

3rd - Tammy Case and Jacque Eldal

10th - Hannah Deemer and Mia Linder

17th - Janice Case and Angela, Adrianna, Clare and Alivia Mae Bittner

24th - Cheryl Denker and Jamie Johnson

31st - Amy, Corbin and Victor Guill and Rosa Sanchez



ACOLYTE

March 3 - Anisten Rennerfeldt

(Ash Wed) 6 - Carson Vecera

10 - Hannah Deemer

(Lent) 13 - Kara Peterson

17 - Johnna Peterson

(Lent) 20 - Carter Bousquet

24 - Grant Seagren

(Lent) 27 - Brayden Selk

31 - Gabi Linder

(Lent) 3 - Daniel Bedrnicek

April 7 - Samantha Canarsky

(Lent) 10 - Kyler Case



VIDEO

March 3 - Lillian Ehlers

(Ash Wed) 6 - Anisten Rennerfeldt

10 - Carson Vecera

(Lent) 13 - Johnna Peterson

17 - Kara Peterson

(Lent) 20 - Hannah Deemer

24 - Carter Bousquet

(Lent) 27 - Grant Seagren

31 - Brayden Selk

(Lent) 3 - Gabi Linder

April 7 - Daniel Bedrnicek

(Lent) 10 - Samantha Canarsky



COFFEE SERVERS

Sandra Johnson and

Laureen Canarsky and LeAnn Jorgensen

Heather Klausen and Connie Larson

Julie Jones and Tess Johnson

Elisabeth Linder and Pamela Linder

Diane Lindstrom and Valerie Lindstrom

Roxanne Lundquist and Brenda Andersen

Joan Magnusson and Annie Magnusson (Easter)

Mona Tanksley and Phyllis Meyer

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Sunday, March 10, 2019

Sunday, March 17, 2019

Sunday, March 24, 2019

Sunday, March 31, 2019

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Sunday, April 14, 2019

Sunday, April 21, 2019

Sunday, April 28, 2019



3 - Bryan Bohn

10 - Billye Pearson

17 - Ruth Wallerstedt

24 - Bryan Bohn

31 - Billye Pearson

6, 13, 20, 27 - Bryan Bohn



3 - Dan Tanksley

10 - Tess Johnson

17 - Jim/Dan Tanksley

24 - Dan Tanksley

31 - Tess Johnson

6, 13, 22, 27, - Tess Johnson

Thank you for your help in these important areas!
If you can't be here, please find someone to take your place.

CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



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We are committed to providing
spiritual enrichment to ALL who
seek the Lord.

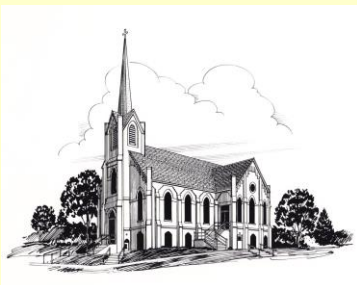
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Visit us at:

www.firstlutheran-oakland.com

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68045

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



March 6 - 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Services
March 13, 20, 27- 6:30 PM - Lenten Services

