

Living Connected... TO GOD & EACH OTHER

November—January 2026

Christmas at First!—2024

INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR'S
COLUMN

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Sunday Worship

(All Age Worship)

Hours:

8:30 Chapel

10 AM Sanctuary

10 AM Online

(Facebook, YouTube,
FLCCH.ORG)

Pastoral Staff:

Susan Debner
Senior Pastor

The Caller Newsletter is

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Editor: Joyce Weaver,
joycew@flcch.org

Dear Friends in Christ,

It's my deep honor to write this Pastor's page as one of my final interim acts. I'm emphasizing the theme that is the 2025 Fall Stewardship Focus time - "Connected Giving." I'm also expressing my departing thoughts and sharing my deep hopes and dreams - as I've now ended my time with you and... as you're already in the process of incorporating a new senior pastor in your midst: The Rev. Susan Debner. Thanks be to God!!

At First Lutheran you continue to find yourselves to be a community of Christ that's busy, busy, busy - with holy work! This is true in *pastoral transitions*, and in the current *Stewardship Campaign* (focusing on next year's ministry "support plan,"). So... What actions and attitudes do the people of God get to choose as they adjust to new leadership, contemplate how they'll ensure the ongoing work of this congregation in 2026, and anticipate the coming of Christ in many ways? I'll suggest four ways that connect with traditional Advent themes.

At First Lutheran Church, first off: you're readying yourselves. Looking at the *present* with a new pastoral leader on board and looking to the *future* - both in how you'll support your 2026 ministry work through solid stewardship and as you prepare for the holiday season - you'll be "on guard," you'll stay awake, and you'll prepare for all three of the elements noted in this article. What a great opportunity awaits you in these "preparation seasons" of new staff beginnings, making financial intention statements, and watching for God's blessings to come in Advent and Christmas!

The second, which fits all 3 of these elements before us, involves repentance. This emphasizes the importance of *being open to a clear call for changes* - in a hopeful anticipation of God's

coming. A pastoral transition time, a key stewardship commitment time, and the Advent season is when God's people straighten up, clear the way, and adjust in ways of thinking, speaking and acting - as the Holy Spirit empowers God's people to do. How can each of us be more humble in our heart and mind in new and faithful ways? What do you need to leave behind (including relationships with former pastors) in order to forge ahead? How can we trust God in our joyfully-connected giving and living?

Thirdly, a theme that fits well with the calling of a new pastor, the faith promises you make to keep the congregation's ministry momentum going in 2026, and seeing God act in Advent and at Christmas - is the posture I'll encourage us all to take: receiving. All of us can *welcome God's blessings* that will arrive in a new year of doing (and funding) exciting ministry, in getting a new pastor, and in receiving the coming of Christ in the holiday season. It's about open arms, hearts, and minds. God asks us to embrace the surprising ways that God works in God's world. In receiving, we'll stop resisting grace and mercy and we'll declare to God: "Come!" So... are you ready to receive a special gift from God in the holiday seasons? Having received gifts (including a new pastor, finances and energy enough to share) - are YOU ready to allow OTHERS to receive, as well - as you live/give in a way that connects you and all people to all God's blessings?

Finally, as I go forth to retirement, and as we think of all that God's up to in God's world - especially in and through this congregation: we rejoice. Think about all the amazing things God has done - sometimes in spite of us!?! He took on flesh to be one of us and to be lovingly with us for eternity. In bringing you great gifts - like

Pastor's Column continues pg. 2

Pastor Scott's article continued

a new leader - and the time and energy and active community, you can leverage all that for the sake of others being recipients of grace, too. It's time to *celebrate!* I celebrate that I got to be with you for a year and a half as your interim ministry. I celebrate Pastor Susan's arrival. She's going to do a great job here and I strongly encourage you to warmly welcome her. I celebrate God's love that is even hard to describe in words - and we get to share it with the world! That's the work before us - joyful feelings, hopeful attitudes, faithful actions.

Blessings to you!

Pastor Scott Jakel - former Interim Senior Pastor at First Lutheran Church

ADVENT PODCAST
The Christmas Story



Advent begins Sunday, November 30, the season of preparing our hearts for receiving God's great gift to us in the birth of Jesus. We are continuing our tradition of producing an Advent Podcast to help keep that miracle at the center of all the hustle and bustle of the season.

This year we will explore the Christmas story with readings from both Matthew's gospel and Luke's. Listen each day to hear different members of our First Lutheran community share their thoughts on this old, old story that is new every year. You can access them at flch.org or wherever you listen to podcasts.



Christmas Eve Services
Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2 & 4 PM

The 2 PM will be geared towards families with children and include several family friendly elements. Both services will feature wonderful Christmas decorations, songs, and a candlelight singing of Silent Night.



ADVENT 1 Nov. 30: <i>Wakes to Justice</i>	ADVENT 2 Dec 7: <i>Feasts in plenty</i>	ADVENT 3 Dec. 14: <i>Breaks forth with singing</i>	ADVENT 4 Dec. 21: <i>Grows Love</i>
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Senior Pastor, Susan Debner

Beloveds,

Thank you for the invitation to join you in God's work at First! The authenticity of your welcome and the kindness of your introductions is humbling. I am excited to be here--already I am learning so many wonderful things about you, this congregation and your love for the surrounding community. I haven't yet learned where all the light switches are, or which key matches which door.

I am eager to get to know you! In the coming months (and years) I hope to spend time hearing the stories of your days, joining the prayers of your hearts, and dreaming together about all God is doing and inviting us to join.

Please invite me to join you for a walk, a phone call, a meal, a break, or whatever kind of connection works for you. I can be reached via phone or text on my mobile phone at (612) 239-8968; via email at PastorSusan@flch.org or drop by my office any time we're both around the church.

Thank you, again, for opening your hearts to me, my family, and all that God is preparing for us as we launch this new adventure!

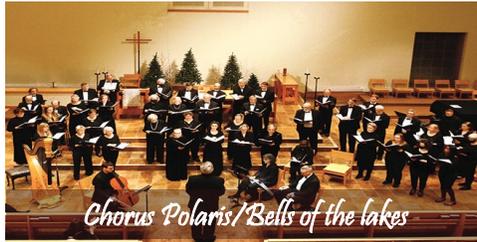
Pastor Susan Debner



CONCERTS & MUSIC AT FIRST



Join Jeffrey Patry in an organ and piano recital entitled *For All the Saints* on **Wednesday, Nov. 5, 12 PM** at **The Church of St. Bartholomew**. The church is located at 630 Wayzata Boulevard, Wayzata, MN 55391. Composers include: Daniel Pinkham, Gerald Near, James Biery & Jules Massenet. Music will celebrate the different saints of the church. I hope to see you there!



Chorus Polaris and Bells of the Lakes present *Glad Tidings!* on **Saturday, Dec. 6, 3 PM**. Chorus Polaris is a premier community choral ensemble based in the Twin Cities. The choir presents music spanning nearly a thousand years – from the Renaissance to jazz, to classic and modern choral masterworks. The Bells of the Lakes, also directed by William Mathis, is a Twin Cities based Handbell Ensemble presenting several concerts per year. Visit www.choruspolaris.org



Join the musicians of First Lutheran in their annual **Christmas at First** concert on **Friday, Dec. 19, 7 PM**. Come and be dazzled with music by instrumentalists, soloists, small ensembles, the Sanctuary Choir, and the Campanile Handbell Ensemble. Join us for an evening of spectacular music to get you into the Christmas spirit!



Join the **Northern Lights Chorale** in a free concert entitled *Light in the In-Between* on **Sunday, Nov. 9, 3 PM**. The Northern Lights Chorale directed by Tonya Barnes, is a chorale that performs music from a variety of genres to inspire and evoke feelings of joy, love, peace and heartache. Join this free concert! Visit www.northernlightschorale.com



We welcome back the **Lake Wobegon Brass Band** in their Holiday Concert on **Saturday, Dec. 6, 7:30 PM**. The Band, conducted by Dr. Don Krubsack, was originated by three founding members at the Anoka Coffee Shop in early 1992. Join us for this spectacular concert of holiday music! \$10 Tickets at the door, students are free. Visit www.lwbb.org



Join **Magnum Chorum** and conductor Dr. Dwight Jilek as they present their Christmas Concert *Gloria* on **Saturday, Dec. 20, 7:30 PM**. This concert will feature Rutter's *Gloria* as well as music by MacMillan and Gabrielli. Magnum Chorum has been recognized for expressive singing and inspired programs. Founded in the choral tradition of St. Olaf College in 1991, the 55-voice choir presents colorful concerts, commissions and premiers new sacred works. Join us for an exciting evening of music! Visit www.magnumchorum.org for tickets.



Join **Singers in Accord** on **Saturday, Nov. 15 and Sunday, Nov. 16, 4 PM** for a powerful afternoon of music that explores the emotional landscapes of darkness and light, embracing the quiet beauty of winter's mystery and the hope that rises from it. This concert features conductor David Cherwien and composers Leland Sateren, Ola Gjeilo, Moses Hogan and Taylor Davis. Ticket information can be found at www.singersinaccord.org



The **Mississippi Valley Orchestra** conducted by Kornel Thomas presents *Winter Cheer!* on **Sunday, Dec. 7, 3 PM**. Come and experience the seasons in this exciting program filled with winter cheer! Violinist Sarah Grimes will be the featured soloist in Vivaldi's iconic *Four Seasons* while the orchestra dazzles with Dukas' *Sorcerer's Apprentice* and Anderson's *Sleigh Ride*. Visit: www.mississippivalleyorchestra.com for more information on this free concert.



Caritas Vocal Ensemble (originally *Sacred Voice*) came together as a response to 9/11/2001. Their mission is to spread love and kindness through song, human connection, and raising funds and awareness for local organizations. Join the Caritas Vocal Ensemble, under the direction of Paolo Debuque, for a free concert on **Sunday, Jan. 18, 3 PM**. Visit www.caritasvocalensemble.org for more information.

MINISTRY NEWS

Stories from our Neighborhood: “Animal Rescue” - Jan. 21, 6:30 PM

Come hear stories of people who are helping our animal neighbors. We will hear inspiring stories from people who rehome, foster, and support our furry community members. If you love helping animals...this is a great way to learn how to get more involved!

Community Meal Continues Sundays, 11 AM - 12:30 PM

Come for a delicious home-cooked meal, a nutritious salad bar, and our signature pink lemonade! We serve over 100 people each week. We also serve delicious coffee and cookies after the 10 AM service. Thank you to our amazing volunteers and people who give financial help to make this weekly meal possible!

Thank you to cooks *Rock & Kari Hauser and Kevin & Jill Kaliher* and to food servers *Wendy Ramirez, Judie Opheim, Janet Meyen, Chris Dansby, Paul Babekuhl, Bruce Shellito, Pam Hartel, Jenn Shull, Jolene Dittbenner, Jaime Alvarez, Larry and Jane Bugbee.*



Buy Nothing Events bring big

crowds! In October we held our Fall Buy Nothing event, like a garage sale but everything is free! We had around 300 people attend and 40 people give away their stuff. It was a fantastic event, and we hope you will attend our upcoming events. Start collecting your stuff to give away or come ready to find new treasures. These events help people re-home things to families that really need them!

Upcoming Buy Nothing Events:

⇒ Sat. Feb. 21, 10 - Noon

⇒ Sat. April 18, 10 - Noon shopping

Windows Repair!

You may have seen Paul Eddy and Jody Chandler outside this fall. Paul has painted almost every window around the exterior of the building, while Jody repaired six 40-year old, rotting window frames. We appreciate this important work!



After School: Tues. & Thurs. 4 - 6 PM

For 14 years, First Lutheran has provided hundreds of at risk kids mentorship and nutritious meals. This program has helped new kids and struggling students learn the social and emotional skills they need to be successful in school and future jobs. This fall, we have a fantastic group of students ages 5 - 16 years old; most of which are Latino. Please pray for our students.

Many of them are feeling anxious as they hear about recent ICE Deportation raids in the area. Thank you for supporting this ministry, a highlight of these children's week! *A special thanks to our After School team Alexis Lueth, Hazel Bendix, Shiloh, Karen Peterson, Karen Mattison, Tom Charboneau, Paul B., Angela Gallo, Rachel James, and Larry & Jane Bugbee.*

After School Holiday Meals.

Holidays can be a challenging time for struggling families. We serve a home cooked Thanksgiving dinner for our students & families. We also invite Santa Kevin to hand out gifts and ham at our Christmas dinner.



Christmas Dinner Donations & Help Needed. Wednesday, Dec. 16, 4:30 PM

We expect about 70 people to come, and we hope to hand out presents to 40 children. If you would like to help serve food or help us purchase food or gifts, please contact Jane Bugbee, janebugbee@msn.com



Noah and the Snowstorm Conspiracy

– **Fall Drama!** We are blessed to have such a talented cast and crew for a comedy about conspiracy theories, social media, faith, family, and trying to love even our most annoying neighbors. This year's Drama was written by Nathan Roberts, directed by Patrick Tapp, and performed by First Lutheran Actors, Crew, and Choir.

What is White Christian Nationalism? And why is FLC talking about it?

Written by Nathan Roberts

In August, the church was contacted by a First Lutheran member who lived in Columbia Heights and who had received a flyer on her door from the Aryan Nation, a Neo-Nazi group that claims to be “Christian.” People going door to door asking people to join the Nazi party was a new and very scary thing for our church to hear.

For many of us, it's hard to believe that the Nazi party is recruiting members in our community?! Using the language of Christianity?! It was shocking for me. My grandfather was a nurse in WWII in France helping to defeat the German Nazi party.

This new group, The Aryan Nation, teaches that white people need to use violence and government power to promote a country where only white Christians are allowed to make laws. Upon doing some research, we learned these groups have not only been active in Columbia Heights, but online across the country.

We know that this is NOT the gospel of Jesus we read in the Bible and practice at our church. Jesus said, “*Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*” Matthew 28:19. Jesus told us to share the love of God with people from every nation and culture. To teach that white people are a superior race is to change and contradict the Gospel of Jesus.

Our church Hospitality and Outreach board worked with the Staff to find a way to respond to this group. We decided to bring The Rev. Angela Denker, a pastor and journalist, to discuss how our church community can be safeguarded from white Christian nationalism. Over 200 people gathered in October for this discussion.

Three things came out of the discussion:

1. We can continue to teach the Gospel is for all nations and peoples. Jesus does not call us to use political violence to advance white people over other people. Jesus does not want his followers to create a whites-only Christian America.
2. We can remind people that the American Constitution guarantees a separation of church and state.
3. We can continue to engage in safe, civil discussions with those who disagree.

People left feeling more equipped and empowered to have healthy discussions with their neighbors and family. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this ongoing community outreach and education.

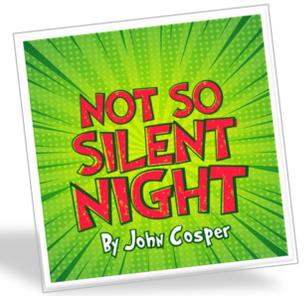
SpudFest Youth Fundraiser!

Join us Nov. 9 for our annual baked potato feast. Serving from 11 AM - 12:30 PM. \$5/person and \$20/family. We need parents & youth who are available to help volunteer. RSVP to Rachel.



Children's Christmas Program And Breakfast with Santa!

Sunday, Dec. 21
This year's Christmas Program will be presented during 10 AM worship on Dec. 21. Rehearsals for our children's Christmas program "Not so Silent Night" will take place during Sunday School on: Nov. 23, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, and dress rehearsal on Dec. 14.



Youth Group Christmas Party, Wednesday, Dec. 18

Waffle Bar, Games and Fun! Celebrate a year of faith, fun and fellowship for all youth in Grades 6-12.

Happy Birthday Jesus Party Sunday, Dec. 21

All ages are invited to join us for a Christmas party at 11 AM. We will have cupcakes and sing Happy Birthday to Jesus. There will be crafts, Christmas music, and a cookie decorating station.



New Year's Eve Party

Dec. 31, 6 PM to 12:30 AM
We will have balloon drops at 9 PM and Midnight. All ages invited - bring a treat to share and games. Bounce House, Gym, Cards, and fun.



Family Choir Schedule:

Join us at 11 AM in the Sanctuary for rehearsals!

- * Nov. 2
- * Nov. 9
- * Nov. 16
- * Nov. 23 (sing in church)
- * Nov. 30
- * Dec. 7
- * Dec. 14 (Lessons & Carols)
- * Dec. 21 (Children's Christmas Program)

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

- No Sunday School or Confirmation on Dec. 22, 29
- No Youth Group on Dec. 25, Jan. 1

Business of the Congregation!

Town Hall Meeting (re: Budget)

Sunday, Jan. 11, 11:15 AM (Chapel)

We will review First Lutheran's 2025 financial results and the 2026 Budget. *Community Lunch 11 AM—12:30 PM*

Annual Congregation Meeting

Sunday, Jan. 18, 11:15 AM

We look forward to fruitful discussion of what God's accomplished among us during 2025. We'll also be focused on our 2026 church "business" in the year ahead. Plan to be at our meeting - it's important to have a critical mass of members present for this conversation and for decisions to be made.

The Church Office will be Closed:

- * Nov. 27 & 28
- * Dec. 24 & 25
- * Jan. 1

No Community Meal will be Served

- * Sunday, Dec. 28



Join us on a Mission Jamaica Trip this Summer!

Dates: July 7-14, 2026

Who Can Join: Youth & Young Adults (youth finishing 8th grade and older)
Cost: \$600 per participant

Embark on a life-changing adventure with Mission Jamaica! This incredible mission trip offers a unique opportunity for youth and young adults to make a positive impact while experiencing the vibrant culture of Jamaica. We will serve at Westhaven Orphanage and stay at YWAM Montego Bay.

Secure Your Spot Today! Deposit of \$200 due by Jan 15.
Sign up with Rachel James, rachelj@flcch.org

Join us for a week of service, learning, and adventure in beautiful Jamaica!

HOLIDAY MARKET Saturday, Nov. 8 9 AM-2 PM

We are excited for this year's Holiday Market and appreciate everyone's efforts in making this a huge success! Join us in the busyness of preparing and be sure to bring your family & friends to shop our market for unique homemade gifts & goodies to enjoy now or for the holidays!

Honoring Our Veterans!

A member of FLC, the American Legion, and Army Veterans, Mel Robinson is chairing a project to support the Mpls. VA Hospital & Veterans Home. These facilities provide a residence for retired service men and women. In honor of Veteran's Day, we are collecting *travel size toiletries* to be distributed to these residents, with minimal storage space. A collection basket is being placed in the Commons with a sign to explain the donations. For more details, please contact Mel, melandpat@comcast.net



Cards for Vets '21

'Prince of Egypt' Musical Saturday, Nov. 15, 2:30 PM

The story from the Bible—with humor, dance, and music. Presented at Northwestern University on Snelling Avenue in Roseville. Last year's show was attended by our Young at Heart (YAH) group, and we were in awe of the professional quality of the show. Tickets are \$19. Kathy Ballard is coordinating this event. Please contact her for ticket availability. bkadebee@msn.com

Monthly Prayer Group

Before each church council meeting, the Board of Spiritual Growth is offering a drop in prayer meeting. During this meeting, we will offer up to God whatever is on our hearts for the edification of ourselves, our congregation and our world. All people are welcome. Check the church council schedule. The prayer meetings generally start at 5:30 PM on the fourth Tuesday of the month.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social Wednesday, Nov. 26, 6 PM

Join us in worship to give thanks to God! Bring a pie to share for our annual pie social following the worship service.



Young at Heart Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 12 PM
Everyone is invited to this festive and elegant annual event! The meal is prepared by our chef, Rock Hauser and includes lots of carol singing & visiting. Advance reservations required. Tickets: \$20 will be sold on Sundays, Dec. 7, 14.



Lutefisk Dinner

The Annual Scandinavian Lutefisk & Meatball dinner is nearly here! It will be held on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026, with seatings at 12, 2, 4 & 6 PM. Tickets go on sale starting at 8 AM on Saturday, Nov. 8. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://www.flcch.org/lutefisk-meatball-dinner>. Costs: \$25 for adults, and \$12 for children aged 2-12 years and under 2 years are free. Watch for the volunteer sign-up board to go up in the Commons the first Sunday in December.

Mission Jamaica

We are excited to be returning to Jamaica for our 21st year in 2026. The FLC team will be returning to serve in Jamaica the first week of February. Mission Jamaica has greatly benefitted by your generous donations of supplies and monetary gifts. A supply 'wish list' will be posted in the Commons after Thanksgiving. Thank you for your generous support!



Christmas Garden ...

A wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one. Purchase poinsettias for worship on behalf of a loved one. Sign up at the welcome desk in the Commons to donate a plant, \$14 each (we will purchase the plants). Make checks payable to "FLC" by Dec. 14. Those who purchase a plant for the Sanctuary may take one home following worship on Dec. 24.



Camera Club

The camera club gathers with interesting discussions, demonstrations, workshops and more! Join them on the first Saturday of the month (Sept.-May). Contact Larry Bugbee, lbugbee@msn.com for details.

Katie Luther Circle

This is a group for Moms to encourage, pray and learn together. We like to go out for fun too! We are meeting on the first Sunday of each month 11:15 AM-12 PM in Katie Luther Room. Contact: Rachel, rachel@flcch.org

First Lutheran Book Club

The Book Club meets at 1 PM on the third Wednesday of the month for a book discussion. Fellowship time with coffee & treats are included! Contact Char, charzarich@gmail.com

FINANCIALS / GIVING / SHIP GRANT

As the stewardship drive is in "full swing," a reminder of the three most common ways of giving monetary gifts to the church.

Cash Donations: Outright gifts of cash (including donations made via check, credit card and online payments) are the easiest.

Stock Donations: Appreciated publicly traded stocks you've held for more than one year is long-term capital gains property, which can make one of the best charitable gifts. Why? You can deduct the current fair market value and avoid the capital gains tax you'd pay if you sold it.

IRA Donations: Taxpayers age 70½ or older are allowed to make direct contributions from their IRA to qualified charitable organizations, up to \$100,000 per tax year. A charitable deduction can't be claimed for the contributions. But the amounts aren't deemed taxable income and can be used to satisfy an IRA owner's RMD.

First Lutheran Financial Snapshot: 9/30/2025

General Checking	\$ 657,407
Mortgage & Maintenance	\$ 16,758
Perpetual Reserve Balance	\$ 108,060
Special Projects Balance	\$ 195,971
General Fund CD Balance	\$ 267,431
Memorial Fund Balance	\$ 55,000
Endowment Savings Balance	\$ 106,438
Endowment Investments	\$ 517,393
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,929,774
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 2,713,390
Mortgage Loan Balance	\$ 989,444
Total Liabilities (excluding mortgage)	\$ 11,766
Total Equity	\$ 3,616,807
Net Revenue as of 9/30/2025	\$ 25,146

*includes Endowment Funds that have been transferred and will be reinvested

Online Contributions: If you designate the Finance Director, Jana Dietering to change your pledge contribution on our online platform "VANCO Payment Services" please indicate on your 2026 pledge

form **before Dec. 20**, when you want your total donation to change and for what amount. If you choose to change or keep your 2026 donations in VANCO and run into problems, please don't hesitate to contact Jana.

GIVING

First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights is financed by the generous, direct monetary gifts of its members and friends.

There are several ways you can bless this mission of Jesus with your gifts:



- Drop off your **Check or Cash** during Sunday Worship or send a check thru the mail. Please use an offering envelope so we can give you credit for your gift.

- **Stock Transfers to FLC**
- **Electronic Funds Transfer** See our website, flcch.org (upper right hand corner) to set your donation frequency.
- **Bill Pay.** Follow the directions of your bank or credit union to create First Lutheran as a Payee at 1555 40th Ave. NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421. Choose weekly or monthly offerings.

For more information, contact Jana Dietering 763-788-9653, jana@flcch.org

A Grant for New Kitchen Appliances!

The SHIP Grant is statewide, with the Minnesota legislature providing \$17.5 million in funding per year to support critical primary prevention activities led by local public and tribal health partners.



First Lutheran was a great fit for the "Healthy Eats" portion of the grant, by increasing access for healthy foods by providing kitchen equipment to increase the amount of food we can handle at FLC. A reliable refrigerator, chest freezer, and new ice machine can better support the number of people we feed on Sundays, during the week with the after-school program. Also, by being able to stock up in a larger dependable freezer and to buy supplies for these meals when things are on sale at Business Costco/Walmart, thus saving money and increasing our meal counts!

Thank you to Jane and Larry Bugbee and Rock Hauser for getting the grant! And to Bruce, Jody and Roger for keeping the old ice machine going all these years!

2026 Offering Envelopes

Change? We're going to change something?

Yes! This year, instead of handing out pre-numbered offering envelopes, if you plan to give your offering by using an envelope, we encourage you to pick up a packet of "pew envelopes" at the Welcome Desk in the Commons. They will be available Dec. 7.

Why? Many people now choose to give electronically or mail in their offerings instead of using the numbered envelopes. By using the "pew envelopes," you will be saving the church a considerable amount of money.

How do you use them? Simply enter the amount of your offering in the appropriate category or categories and write your name in the area indicated. Cash or check is fine. You may place them in the offering plate or mail them in. The monies received will be credited to your account in the church office.

If you need some envelopes mailed to you, please notify the church office.

End of Year Giving Makes a Difference!

Please consider the ease and security of giving electronically or dropping your gifts off at the church. If unable to do so, please mail any donations or payments postmarked on or before **Tuesday, Dec. 31** to be credited to your 2025 Year End Statement. —*Thank you!!*



Have a Blessed and Happy New Year!



First Lutheran Church
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SUNDAY WORSHIP
8:30 & 10 AM
[YouTube](#)

COMMUNITY MEAL
11 AM-12:30 PM

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights

