“SOUPER HERO’S FOR HUNGER”
Fundraiser
Help First Lutheran’s Food Pantry
See p. 6

SPAGHETTI DINNER & BINGO

Mark your calendars! Nativity’s annual Spaghetti Dinner and Bingo will be held on Saturday, April 5th. Enjoy dinner, bake sale, free bingo and drawings. Tickets are $8 for adults, and $4 for children 3-12 yrs. For tickets see Lillian Ribnek or call the church office. Please reserve tickets by 3/31.

IN THIS ISSUE......
P. 2 From Our Pastor
P. 3 Worship & Study Opportunities
P. 4 Musical Notes
P. 5 Community Info./Nativity News
P. 6 Mission Project/Interfaith
P. 7,8 First Lutheran Committees
P. 8 Pictures
P. 9 First Lutheran Calendar

March - In Like the Spirit

In many places, March is notoriously windy: “In like a lion …!” Though I don’t like the damp chill that’s often part of the transition to spring, I love windy days. Something about the air’s movement — a gentle breeze or ferocious gale blowing through trees, against the house, in my hair — breeds excitement in me, anticipation that something new is astir.

How fitting that in conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus said, “The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit” (John 3:8, NRSV). Like Nicodemus, we fail to comprehend the Spirit of God. But Jesus reminds us that though we can’t see the Spirit, we feel his love, see his actions of justice and hear his sounds. These include kind words, bold preaching, weeping for another, shared laughter and songs of praise.

—Heidi Mann
Dear Fellow Travelers on our Lenten Journey:

Lent starts with **Ash Wednesday** on March 4. Come to one of our Ash Wednesday services and begin your Lenten Journey receiving the cross of ash on your forehead, the sign of faith and forgiveness. Lent begins with our contemplation of the Temptation of Jesus. Right after his baptism by John he was “**led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.**” (Matthew 4:1) Jesus was tempted in every way just as we are tempted. The weapons against the temptation of the devil are **faith in Jesus Christ, the Word of God and Worship and Prayer.** Without these we would be lost.

Contemplate deeply on your Lenten Journey. How will you take hold of the weapons of the Spirit against the attack of the devil? Our Sunday worship with Holy Communion and the midweek Lenten Services are a help on our Journey. Each Wednesday we will offer a Lenten Fellowship meal at 6:00 p.m. and two services at First Lutheran ant 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Our focus during Lent will be on **Worship and Prayer** and we will look at our **Worship Service as a Model for Living the Gospel.** If you are looking for answers to life’s questions, come and be part of our midweek Lenten services.

Pastor Peterson
ANGELS

The question of angels has been presented to me on occasion from time to time. Many people believe that angels are God's messengers at work in the world today. Angels come in many forms, from helpful animals to mysterious strangers, from glorious heavenly angels to earth angels, human beings who generously help others. Hebrews 13:2 “Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.”

I personally believe angels are messengers of God. They have been created by God, and serve a purpose for God. God's angels are here to help us through troubled times. On a personal note, I believe everything happens for a reason, I have been through some real hard times physically and through God's help and many prayers to him, he has guided me in such a positive direction in my life. When I felt my health was failing me, things began to turn around because God was and is there for me on a daily basis. I share this with you to stress we are not to pray to or for angels, that we only worship and pray to God. Angels were created by God for his purpose, just as we were created by God for fellowship.

The bible has so many references to angels. God tells us how the angels are delivering messages, accompanying the lonely, granting protection, and even fighting His battles.

As we praise God, so do angels. Luke 2:13-14”And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God saying: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

God created man for fellowship, and He created angels to assist him in a variety of ways. Now that is very special. Have you ever met an angel? You don’t have to look very far, you probably see one every day. May your guardian angel watch over you each and every day.

Blessings, Deacon Deborah

“A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.”

—Theodore Roosevelt
Our Hymnody

Our Lenten Journey this year will place a special emphasis on hymns or the songs of the church. The word *hymn* derives from Greek ὕμνος (*hymnos*), which means "a song of praise". Collections of hymns are known as hymnals or hymn books. The first in our Jewish/Christian heritage were the one hundred fifty found in Book of Psalms from the Old Testament. Our Evangelical Worship has rightly restored them to the hymn section of the hymnal were they make up the first one hundred fifty numbered hymns. We know that the Psalms were sung by the ancient Hebrews, but alas history has not been kind enough to give us any information on what they may have sounded like. We have many references in the Bible of the early Christian Church’s singing of, "psalms and hymns and spiritual songs", both in private devotions and in corporate worship (Matthew 26:30; 1 Cor 14:26; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; James 5:13; cf. Revelation 5:8-10; Revelation 14:1-5) The church of the medieval age developed chant, notably that of Ambrose of Milan (Ambrosian Chant) and that of Pope Gregory (Gregorian Chant), the singing of which was restricted mostly to Monasteries.

The Reformation produced a burst of hymn writing and congregational singing. Martin Luther is notable not only as a reformer, but as the author of many hymns including *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* (*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*), which is sung today even by Catholics, and *Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ* (*Praise be to You, Jesus Christ*) for Christmas. Luther and his followers often used their hymns, or chorales, to teach tenets of the faith to worshipers. The Lutheran and other Protestant Congregational singing of hymns was done acappella, meaning with no instrumental accompaniment and in four-part harmony. An interesting note to all of this is the great organ chorale preludes of J.S. Bach and other German and Dutch composers were written simply as introductions to the singing of the hymn, once played, the organ was silent as the people sang the chorale without it. The use of the organ to lead unison singing of the hymns seems to have originated in the Church of England.

Many churches today use contemporary worship music, which includes a range of styles often influenced by popular music. This is not new; the Christian pop music style began in the late 1960s and became very popular during the 1970s, as young hymnists sought ways in which to make the music of their religion relevant for their generation.

This long tradition has resulted in a wide variety of hymns. Our ELW Hymnal is full of hymns, which include the traditional hymn (usually describing God), contemporary worship music (often directed to God) and gospel music (expressions of one's personal experience of God). This distinction is not perfectly clear; and purists remove the second two types from the classification as hymns. It is a matter of debate, even sometimes within a single congregation.

The worship leaders from First/Nativity Churches will be attending a May workshop sponsored by our Synod exploring ways to include a variety of musical styles in our worship experience.

**Wanted: Choir Members!**

First Lutheran’s choir is in need of more members! If you enjoy singing, consider joining the choir - no previous experience needed! With the Lenten season almost upon us, a larger choir would be wonderful!
Community Information

Clement Manor Center for Enrichment
9405 W. Howard, Greenfield

Lifelong Learning Book Club - 1st Tue. at 12pm
Mar. 4 - The Shoemaker's Wife by Adriana Trigiani
Apr. 1 - The Light Between Oceans by M.L. Stedman
Matinee Movie Series
Mar. 19 - “Now You See Me”
Keynote Presentation
Mar. 20 - “Diary of a Turkish Wedding” with Sunni Boehme.
1:30 to 3pm. $3 members/$5 guests.
Club Loomineers - A No-Needle Knitting Group - 1st Wed. of month. 12pm. No charge.
Bridge Group - Every Tues. - 9-11 am
Call Clement Manor at 546-7302 for registration or info.

Hart Park Senior Center

Crafter’s Corner - 1st Thurs. of each month at 9am
Scrabble - Wednesdays at 10am
Cards and Games for Ladies and Gents
Skat: Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 am
Men’s Sheepshead: 12:00pm Mon. thru Thurs.
Bridge: Thursdays. at 12:00; call Pat at 231-3935 to sign up.
MahJongg: Wednesdays at 12:00.
Call 471-8495 for information.

Put Pain in its Place!
Get Osteoarthritis Pain Under Control

Wednesday, April 9th
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Library Square
1820 S. 75th St., West Allis

Register by April 7th at 774-4411

Pelican
In the Middle Ages, the pelican came to represent Jesus' sacrifice of his blood for the world. According to legend, a mother pelican, in times of famine, would pluck open her chest and feed her young with her own blood. An alternate myth was that she fed her dying young with her blood to revive them, losing her own life in the process. The depiction of a pelican with a drop of blood on her chest is called "the pelican in her piety."
The Sew and Sew Quilters have adopted as a mission project the El Salvadoran Los Heroes Sewing School, which began as a program for at-risk young teen girls. We are asking First Lutheran Church sewers to help us “FILL THE SUITCASE” in the narthex with no longer needed or leftover sewing notions.

**Needed items are:**
- Zippers
- Buttons (non-metal)
- Bias tape
- Hemming tape
- Lace
- Trims
- Thread
- Needles (stainless steel)
- Scissors (for fabric)
- Tailor’s chalk
- Pins

**What do Super Hero’s do?**
They help others in their community!

Be a Super Hero for Hunger! Donate to the food pantry today.

$10 or 10 lbs. of food buys a 🌟 in the narthex at First Lutheran.

Let’s fill it with 🌟 before Easter!

**Mission Project at First**

**West Central Interfaith**

**Thank you for a Great Spaghetti Dinner**

Our third annual Spaghetti Dinner for West Central interfaith was a great success again this year! Thank you to all who attended and made our dinner a success, we were truly touched by all of you and your support. A special thanks to St. Matthias for donating the facility, Library Square for the desserts and to the volunteers and donors who made this event possible. We made just over $2,600 from the dinner! Thank you all so much, this money will go towards helping older adults in need in our community.

“Faith grows only in the dark. You’ve got to trust [God] when you can’t trace him. That’s faith.”

—Lyell Rader
Evangelism on the Move……

Our next concert is **Palm Sunday**, April 13, at 3pm at First Lutheran. Enjoy performances and inspiring music for Holy week, including selections from Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Jesus Christ Superstar”. This year, we’ve invited the **Carson Chin Baptist Church Youth Choir** to participate. Enjoy their music and learn about the Chin, who are Burmese refugees who have resettled their lives and families in the United States. Founding Senior Pastor Ron Nunuk will discuss their journey as a church and their homeland. The reception following the concert will be a multi-cultural event featuring food from both cultures. A free will offering will be accepted.

We’ll need several volunteers to greet visitors, set up the reception and clean up. We also need cheese trays, cookies, bars, etc. for the reception. See the sign up sheet at the welcome desk or contact the office at 476-4664.

See Us on the Web…
Check out our website at www.firstlutheranelca.org. You can find information on all of our activities on the “**What’s Happening at First Lutheran**” opening page. In the right hand column, you can click and view an online version of the First and Nativity newsletter, in color (saves postage costs). If you prefer viewing the newsletter electronically vs receiving a mailed copy, please notify Barb in the office at 414-476-4664. If you have other ideas for the web page, see any member of the Evangelism Committee or contact the church office.

“**Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.**
  Life is beauty, admire it.
  Life is a dream, realize it.
  Life is a challenge, meet it.
  Life is a duty, complete it.
  Life is a game, play it.
  Life is a promise, fulfill it.
  Life is sorrow, overcome it.
  Life is a song, sing it.
  Life is a struggle, accept it.
  Life is a tragedy, confront it.
  Life is an adventure, dare it.
  Life is luck, make it.
  Life is life, fight for it.”
  -- Mother Teresa

Evangelism Committee: Sharon Phillippo, Gail Sopa, Carla Ullerich, Natalie Jaeger, Joy Dowd, Dennis Wolfgang and Pastor Peterson.

Social Ministry Corner

Many thanks to the following members and friends of First Lutheran/Nativity who have donated or prepared food for the Friday lunches in the past month: Pat and Mike Temke, Natalie Jaeger, Cindy Labadie, Jamie Schoberg, Chris Hasenberg, John Hrovat, Joy Dowd and Judi Mueller. **Special thanks** to our food pantry “friends” from the Sons of the American Legion - Todd Post #537 in West Allis. Darryl Wnuk, Bridgette and Steve Bradie, Paule and Wojo prepared delicious ribs that we served for lunch.

If you’d like to prepare a dish for us to serve, we’ll provide the ingredients. You provide the “heart.” We are also praying for some additional cooks to help prepare some items on Thursdays, such as cooking and slicing meats, making chili, etc. each week. Contact Joy Dowd for more information.

**Fundraising**

**Culvers**- Thanks to everyone who purchased food from Culvers on Hwy 100 during our fundraiser on February 24th! The total donation from Culvers is not available as of the printing of this newsletter, but we had a nice crowd. We are grateful to Culvers for their donation and to Paula Yanzer, a friend of First Lutheran, for all of her work in organizing this event.

“**Finding your joy**”…Mark your calendars now for this interesting spiritual retreat on Saturday, April 5, from 10am-3:30pm at The Landmark-Senior Living, located at 1441 S. 68 St (south of Greenfield Ave.) We’ve lined up several fun speakers and musical entertainers (welcome to Ann and Matt Nagel), who have interesting stories to tell about what brings them joy in life. Pre-registration is required because lunch is included. The registration fees, minus expenses, will be donated to the food pantry. We’ll also have several “prizes” that we will be giving away as part of benefit drawings. If you are interested in being a presenter, would like to donate a prize, want to help us set up or clean up, contact Joy Dowd, Paula Yanzer or the church office. Watch for more information about this fun event.

*I will sing to the Lord as long as I live…*  
_Palm 104:33_
Above: Deb Knitter was recognized at First Lutheran for her years as custodian. Top right and right: Volunteers from Heritage Sr. Living help out at the food pantry.

Above: Heritage Senior Living presented First Lutheran food pantry with a check for $950.

Right: First Lutheran’s new council with Pastor Peterson - (L to R) Gail Sopa, Adriana Rees, Natalie Jaeger, Jamie Schoberg, Jackie Bayer, Sharon Phillippo, Dave Wegener.
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<th>Date</th>
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<td>First Lutheran Church</td>
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<td>Set your clocks</td>
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<td>Worship and communion at Nativity Lutheran are held every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Mid-Week Lenten Services are held at First Lutheran at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.</td>
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**Set your clocks ahead tonight!**
### Nativity Lutheran Church
#### March 2014

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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td><strong>Sunday School</strong> is held on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. at First Lutheran, 7400 W. Lapham St., West Allis</td>
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| 11:00a-Worship & Communion  
12:00p-Coffee Hour  
12:00p-Venture Crew | 9:15a-E.L.L.F. | 10:00a-Bible Study at First  
12:00p-S.A. 12-step  
7:15p-Dartball | Ash Wednesday  
9:00a-Quilting  
12:00p-Ash Wed. Worship  
7:00p-A.A. and Al-Anon | 9:15a-E.L.L.F. | 12:00p-S.A. 12-step | 5:30p-S.S.C.C. Worship |
| 9      | 10     | 11      | 12        | 13       | 14     | 15       |
| 10:15a-WELCA Mtg.  
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12:00p-Coffee Hour | 9:15a-E.L.L.F. | 10:00a-Bible Study at First  
12:00p-S.A. 12-step  
7:15p-Dartball | 9:00a-Quilting  
*Lenten Services*  
7:00p-A.A. and Al-Anon | 9:15a-E.L.L.F. | 6:30p-Council Mtg. | 5:30p-S.S.C.C. Worship |
| 16     | 17     | 18      | 19        | 20       | 21     | 22       |
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| 30     | 31     |         |           |          |        |          |
| 11:00a-Worship & Communion | 9:15a-E.L.L.F. |         |           |          |        |          |

*Mid-Week Lenten Services are held at First Lutheran at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. A light supper will be served at 6:00 p.m.*

Worship and communion at First Lutheran are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. South Side Christian Church worships at Nativity Lutheran at 5:30 p.m. on Saturdays.
March

Birthdays

First Lutheran:
3/2   Audrey Enloe
3/3   Jason Zehe
3/4   David Gruulke
3/5   Diann Hall
3/5   Abby Stefonic
3/11  Roger Gray
3/13  Alfred Korth
3/14  Sharon Smith
3/15  Erin Anderson
3/15  Wesley Anderson
3/16  Joan Hirschinger
3/17  Lori Swan
3/22  Alexa Ulbrich
3/25  Debra Kubek
3/27  Dolores Hurst
3/27  Adriana Rees
3/28  Matthew Herbert
3/28  Samuel Marquez
3/28  David Ulbrich
3/31  Melissa Weisnicht

Nativity Lutheran:
3/1   Audrey Fierst
3/3   Donald Nell
3/9   Arthur Gruetzner
3/11  Joyce Favre
3/17  Evan Reynolds
3/22  Nicole DeBack
3/26  Dawn Reynolds

FIRST LUTHERAN FINANCES 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>DIFFERENCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>$12,807.17</td>
<td>$15,068.75</td>
<td>-2,261.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year to Date</td>
<td>$12,807.17</td>
<td>$15,068.75</td>
<td>-2,261.78</td>
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</table>

Note: Expenses YTD include payments for bathroom remodeling.

FIRST LUTHERAN ATTENDANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>Diff.</th>
<th>% +/-</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>-65</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year to Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Svcs.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year to Date Svcs.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BIBLE QUIZ...

Moses was a prophet and lawgiver for God’s chosen people, the Israelites. What does the name Moses mean in Hebrew?

A. “Out of the water”
B. “Giver of the Law”
C. “Prophet”
D. “God is good”

Answer: (See Exodus 2:10.)

Prayer can help... If serious illness or other life factors affect you or those you love, contact the church office and we will send your request through our prayer chain. We have people who will pray for your need. If you are interested in joining a prayer chain, contact Marie Le Page (First Lutheran), Laverne Breed (Nativity Lutheran) or the church office.

Set your clocks ahead before you go to bed on March 8th!

Prayer Requests

Anniversary Blessings

Nativity Lutheran:
2/11  Phillip & Jaci Steffes  53 yrs.
***Sorry! Missed last month!
3/21  Marcus & Nicole DeBack  16 yrs.
3/21  Donald & Jean Leppien  55 yrs.

First Lutheran:
3/1   William & Janice Hansen  32 yrs.
3/2   Michael & Melissa Weisnicht 7 yrs.
3/26  Lori & Joel Marquez  7 yrs.
Worship With Us

Saturday
5:30 p.m. at
First Lutheran

Sunday
9:30 a.m.
at First Lutheran
11:00 a.m. at
Nativity Lutheran

3/5 - Ash Wednesday
10:00 a.m. First Lutheran
12:00 p.m. Nativity Lutheran
7:00 p.m. First Lutheran

Midweek Services
10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at First Lutheran

Lenten Suppers will be served at First Lutheran on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

If you no longer wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please contact the church office.