

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**

**Monday, September 23 | 6:30-7:30pm | Room 1A**

Please join us if you are interested in membership at First Lutheran or just interested in learning more about our ministry and congregation. Sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, September 22. A light snack will be provided. Childcare will be available.

**FAITH ENGAGEMENT CAMPAIGN**

**August 24-September 30**

We want to engage you in a way that fits your gifts and passions. Thank you to all who have already filled out a Faith Engagement form. If you have not already done so there is one in your bulletin, or on our website, and at the Welcome Center. Completed forms can be returned to the Welcome Center or put in the offering plate.

**BAPTISM CLASS**

**Thursday, September 12 | 6:30-7:00pm | Sanctuary**

This class is for anyone interested in baptism at FLC. Please sign up at the Welcome Center by 9/8.

**CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE MERRY MAKERS**

Sign Up to make crafts and/or baked items for the Christmas Boutique on 11/8-9 at the Welcome Center by September 29.

**STEWARDSHIP AND PASSING ON THE GIFTS OF OUR LIVES: A HERITAGE WRITING WORKSHOP**

**Thursdays, October 10-24 | 1:00-3:00pm | Room 1A**

Mara Faulkner, OSB, a retired English professor from St. Ben's will again be leading this class. All writers and abilities are welcome. We will try out several different ways of putting our experiences into words that will reach across the generations (memoir, letters, poetry, hybrid forms, etc.). Sign up by October 1 at the Welcome Center.

**MATT KJELLAND MEMORIAL WALK/RUN**

**Sat, Sept 21 | 8:00am-1:00pm | City Park**

Registration and donations: [runsignup.com/race/mn/alexandria/mattkjellandmemorial5k](https://runsignup.com/race/mn/alexandria/mattkjellandmemorial5k). 9:00-10:00 Program / 10:00-11:00 Walk-Run / 11:00 Kids Fun Run

**WELCA OCTOBER LUNCHEON**

**Thursday, October 3 | 12:00pm | Rm 1A**

Women of all ages are encouraged to attend the monthly WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) gatherings. Join us as we hear from David and Marilyn Bengston's presentation called *Hands*.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

You are invited to join the Prayer Shawl Ministry! We meet monthly October through May at 2:00pm in Room 1A.

**SNOWBIRD SEND OFF**

**Sunday, October 6 | 9:30-11:00am | Gathering Space**

Join us for this opportunity to gather prior to your winter travels! Please remember to update your winter address either in the church office or at this event.

**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

Please consider a donation to help with the devastating impact of Hurricane Dorian. You may make a payment to Lutheran Disaster Response and place it in the offering plate, in the church office, or at [elca.org](http://elca.org).

**WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE**

Welcome to First Lutheran Church, where faith and life meet!

**OUR MISSION**

First Lutheran is a vibrant Christian community where faith and life meet through worship, learning and serving in Jesus' name.

**MORE INFORMATION**

Volunteers and staff are available before and after worship services to assist you. Children's bulletins and worship bags are available for use on the tables outside of the Sanctuary. The nursery is available and staffed on Sundays and Wednesdays during worship for children ages 0-5.

**LEARN MORE AT**

[FIRSTLUTHERANALEXANDRIA.COM/EVENTS](http://FIRSTLUTHERANALEXANDRIA.COM/EVENTS)

or stop by the Welcome Center for our monthly calendar.

**PRAYER REQUESTS | HOSPITAL VISITS**

If you have a prayer request or if you or a loved one are hospitalized and would like a visit, please call or email the church office at 320-762-2196 or [admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com](mailto:admin@firstlutheranalexandria.com).

**GIVING**

Offering envelopes are available on the tables outside of the Sanctuary. You can also give by texting 320.500.6014 or by visiting us online at [firstlutheranalexandria.com/your-gift](http://firstlutheranalexandria.com/your-gift).

**OUR WORSHIP LEADERS**

Greg Billberg, Lead Pastor  
Kari van Wakeren, Associate Pastor  
Ben Jacobson, Associate Pastor  
Randy Morken, Director of Music and Liturgy



1655 18th Ave E  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
320.762.2196

Emergency After Hours Phone Number: 320.219.5492

For more information, visit us online at [firstlutheranalexandria.com](http://firstlutheranalexandria.com).



**SATURDAY | 9.14.19 | 5:00PM**  
**SUNDAY | 9.15.19 | 8:30AM**



WELCOME AND GREETING

GATHERING SONG

*Just As I Am, without One Plea* #592

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:** *In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*  
**C:** Amen.

**P:***Most merciful God,*  
**C:** we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**P:** *God, who is rich in mercy...that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.*  
**C:** Amen.

GREETING

**P:** *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*  
**C:** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** *God of surprises,*  
**C:** You come to us in the midst of our lives. You show up when it all seems overwhelming, when healing and hope seem impossible; yet nothing is impossible for you. Teach us to trust in your goodness. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

(5:00)  
(8:30) *Joy Returns in the Morning...*Snowdon Chancel Choir

CHILDREN’S TIME

(8:30) Congregation sings *This Little Light of Mine* as children come forward.

SCRIPTURE READING See insert.

First Reading: Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7  
*Word of God. Word of Life.*  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Mark 10:27  
*The Gospel of the Lord.*  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

SERMON Pastor Ben Jacobson

SERMON SONG  
*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* #843

CONFESSION OF FAITH **WE CONFESS OUR SHARED FAITH.**  
Apostles’ Creed: on back cover of ELW hymnal.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING **WE RETURN TO GOD A PORTION OF OUR BLESSINGS.**

OFFERING PRAYER  
**P:** *Blessed are you,*  
**C:** O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness, you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (8:30)  
LORD’S PRAYER See back cover of ELW

DISTRIBUTION (8:30)  
*All are welcome. Gluten free wafers and white grape juice are available upon request.*

COMMUNION SONG (8:30) *Lamb of God, p. 112*

COMMUNION BLESSING (8:30)  
**P:** *The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.*  
**C:** Amen.

BENEDICTION **GOD’S BLESSING IS SPOKEN OVER US.**  
**P:** *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.*  
**C:** Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL **WE DEPART TO SERVE CHRIST IN THE WORLD.**  
**P:** *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*  
**C:** Thanks be to God.  
**P:** *And all God’s children said,*  
**C:** Amen!

SENDING SONG  
*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* #836

PRAYERS  
HEALTH CONCERNS: Arlyn Davis, Lyle Nelson, Karin Senstad  
SYMPATHY: Tim and Kathy Schoonhoven on the death of Tim’s dad, Donald  
CONGRATULATIONS: Tanner and Ashley Thomson on the birth of their son Kaden Daniel Thomson on August 29th.

RADIO BROADCAST  
This week’s radio broadcast is given by Jim and Shirley Brakken in memory of Sheryl Brakken-Feely.

NEW CHURCH DEDICATION & OPEN HOUSE  
**Sunday, September 29 | First Lutheran Church**  
**2:00-2:30pm Dedication | 2:30-4:00pm Open House**  
We will dedicate our new building and have a brief program followed by an open house for the congregation and community.

FLC GOLF SCRAMBLE  
**Sunday, September 22 | Minnewaska Golf Club**  
No experience necessary. Proceeds go toward the outdoor project at the church. New this year is a Hole in One Contest, which includes a free trip through Bursch Travel! DONATION: \$100/person. DINNER ONLY: \$15. No charge for children 10 and under. Sign up at the Welcome Center by 9/18.  
12:00-12:30pm | Registration 1:00pm | Shotgun Start  
4:30pm | Silent Auction, Putt Against a Pastor, Open Driving Range  
5:00pm | Happy Hour 5:30pm | Dinner

STOCK THE SHELF AT DMS  
**Aug 17 - September 15 | WELCOME CENTER**  
Non-perishable food items (list provided at Welcome Center) can be brought to First Lutheran Church. If a monetary donation is preferred, please make your check out to FLC and include DMS Shelf in the memo line. Look for the yellow bags!

ADULT STUDY: **GOD’S STORY. OUR STORY.**  
**Mondays, September 9-30 | 10:00-11:00am | Room 1A**  
Join us this fall as we dive deeper into God’s word through studying scripture and the promises for our lives.

MUSICIANS WANTED  
We’re looking for more musicians for our 6:15pm Wednesday and 10:00am worship. If you play the guitar, bass or drum, we invite you to consider using your talent to help lead our congregation in worship. Please email [randy.morken@firstlutheranalexandria.com](mailto:randy.morken@firstlutheranalexandria.com).

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
**Sunday, September 15 | 9:30-10:00am | Sanctuary**  
This meeting is to approve hiring Tom Jolivette of Kairos and Associates to be our consultant on our next capital campaign, which will begin May of 2020.