First Lutheran Church

521 N. 8th Street Manitowoc WI 54220

MESSENGER

November 2026







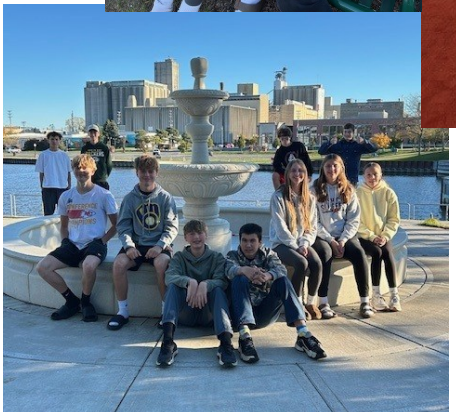












Congratulations to our Confirmands of 2026!



A Month of Gathering, Growing, and Going



Grace and peace to you in the name of our living and loving Savior, Jesus the Christ!

What a busy month October was! Whew! I'm glad to have made it through. But here comes November, bringing its own assortment of activities, Sunday festivities, and celebrations.



First, we'll have a wonderful celebration led by our Outreach Ministry Team. Did you know that we've been hosting Friday meals here on our premises for more than six months? Wonderful people—some of you!—have made sure that those who are most in need have had one of life's basic necessities: a meal. And as our guests have dined "with friends," these meals have offered so much more than food. They have been an opportunity to share community, grace, acceptance, and hospitality. Thanks be to God!

Join us on November 8 for a meal, some sharing, and a few surprises. We'll look for the Holy Spirit to show up!



Second, on Sunday, November 15, we'll celebrate and honor a gifted servant in our midst who is retiring: Connie Dorner. For the past four and a half years, Connie has given her heart, her time, her laughter, her quirkiness, her snarkiness, and her whole self to each of us—but especially to our children. Join us after worship that Sunday as we celebrate Connie and the well-deserved retirement that lies ahead. "Well done, good and faithful servant!" You will be missed!



Third, on Sunday, November 22, another of our gifted servants, Brian Shaw, will lead a special one-session adult education gathering focused on his trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation nearly a year ago. During his visit, Brian experienced the richness of spending time among the diverse Native peoples of our country. Come hear Brian share his experiences, reflections, and insights.

Finally, as if all of that weren't enough, we'll close out the month by entering the season of Advent on November 29. This marks not only the beginning of a new liturgical year but also the beginning of a wonderful season of expectation as we prepare to welcome Immanuel—God with us—into our lives once again.

What a month!

I hope this gives you a taste of what lies ahead, offers you plenty to look forward to, and invites you more deeply into our life together as the people of God. And no, I haven't named everything that's happening! We still have our final Living Bread Luncheon, Sunday School invitations, and undoubtedly much more.

So, let's gather, grow, and go, people of God—not just into November, but into the God-given life we share together!

In peace,
Pastor Andy

First Lutheran Church Giving Tree!



Here's how to brighten it for a Manitowoc Family!

WHAT: Salvation Army – "Adopt-A-Family"
(We call it "The GIVING Tree".)



WHO: YOU are needed to Volunteer…

WHEN: Ongoing Right Now!!!

WHERE: Fireside Room – Choose a name from the tree…
*Gifts are for children and adults. We have been given 70 names. Approximately $75 in gift value is suggested. Thank you for caring.

Other Salvation Army Needs

*Art, craft, or coloring supplies

*Wrapping paper, tape, gift bags, or other gift-wrapping supplies

There are boxes by the "Giving Tree" if you would like to donate.









Adult Education Class ~ What I learned on the "Rez"

From Brian Shaw

Last fall I spent some time in South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation, home of the Lakota people. They are an impoverished people but rich with spiritual tradition. I'm still processing my experience in the Lakota homeland and I want to share with you a few thoughts about: vision quests, prayer flags, sweat lodges, naming ceremonies, reverence for Mother Earth, oneness among all living things and the prophet Black Elk.



Please join me after our worship service on Sunday November 22nd in the Fellowship Hall for a rich exploration of these and other related themes. Thank you.

News and Notes for You!!!



Volunteer Spotlight!

Thank you to the everyone who helped out in the office during our staff transition. We appreciate your help more than you know!

New Office Staff!

We are excited to welcome Amayia Oakley as our new Office Manger! Welcome Amayia!

Soft Seats, Warm Hearts campaign!

Thank you to everyone who has given or pledged to give to our campaign to replace our tired pew cushions. We are well on our way with over $17,995 committed so far towards our $20,000 goal. Help us finish this off this fall and let's get these things ordered as soon as we can. Thank you!



Living Bread Together- You're Invited!

Living Bread

Our last **Living Bread Together** for this fall will take place November 19th. This adult gathering meets at 11:30am to share a meal, spend a little time in devotion, and sing a favorite hymn or two. We plan to gather until about 1:00pm, and we'll accept a $5 per person donation to help cover the cost of the meal. Our next, and final, gathering for 2026 will be November 19th. We will look forward to seeing you there!

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION



Next collection: Sunday, December 6, 2026

List of suggested items: Juice boxes or pouches (100% fruit juice), beef or chicken jerky pouches, dried fruit packs, no added sugar fruit cups, individual cereal packs, Bumble Bee "Lunch on the Run" chicken salad kits, any on-the-go healthy snacks/meals for kids, pasta sauces, pouched meat, pasta, condiments (including pickles and olives), cake/brownie mixes and frostings, canned soups, salad dressings, peanut/almond butter, jelly/jam, crackers, rice "sides" to go along with a meal, canned fruit, canned beans.

Stop by and pick up our black cloth bags printed with "First Lutheran Church – Gather, Grow, Go…" that are available in the lobby near the office. You can bring your donations to church on November 1st. Remember that if you wish to have your donations picked up, call or leave a message for Harry at 920.242.2489.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FLC STAFF

Pastor Andy Wendle

Pastor Brian Staude
Visitation Pastor

Connie Dorner
Faith Formation Director

Stephanie Bowman
Contemporary Music Coordinator

Mark Sikkila
Organist

Amayia Oakley
Office Manager

Patti Reilly
Financial Secretary & Office Assistant

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pres.: Sheila Hansen
V.P.: Karin Jaeger
Treas: Rob Michaelson
Secretary: Kate Dorner

Committee Representatives

Finance
Rob Michaelson

Personnel
Karin Jaeger

Property
Andy Jacobson

Additional Ministry Groups

Music and Worship, Christian Education and Youth, Marketing and Technology, Congregational Care and Fellowship, Outreach & Stewardship



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

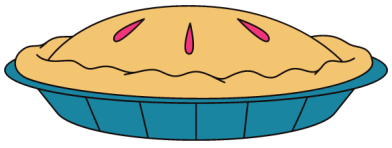
Gather in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Grow

in faith and love.

Go out to serve and invite others to faith in Christ.

Why shouldn't you overeat pumpkin pie during fall?



You will get autummy ache.

©2022 EASY FAMILY FUN

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone for keeping in mind that the parking spots closest to our entrance are best served for our elderly members and visitors.
You are incredibly thoughtful!

HOW TO GIVE

We have five (5) secure options available!

- Offering plate during worship
- Mail your check
- Instruct your bank or financial advisor to mail a check
- Call the church office to set up electronic giving
- Credit card

Please call the office with any questions.

920.682.7742
Thank you!

WE NOW HAVE GUEST WIFI!!!!

NETWORK TO JOIN:

First Lutheran Guest

PASSWORD: flcgrace

First Lutheran Church
920.682.7742
office@flcmanitowoc.org

Our Fellowship Coffee Hour

Everyone is welcome to join in the Fellowship Coffee Hour after the Sunday service in the Fireside Room! See you there!!!

First Lutheran Prayer Chain

To join prayer chain or leave a prayer request please call Mary Gammelin (920.682.2250) or email mgammelin@lsol.net. Or leave a prayer request by email to Betsie Auchter eauchter@comcast.net

Holy Communion Delivery

Members that are homebound or unable to drive to church, may receive communion in their homes once a month. We deliver communion on a short-term basis for those unable to attend services. Please call the church office to sign up. 920.682.7742

Watch for information as to when your group will meet. Get in touch with your group's coordinator or call the FLC office (920.682.7742) with any questions.

Grief Group

Group meets the first and third Friday of each month at 9am in the Lounge.

Book Club

Book Club takes place the third Wednesday of every month at 1pm in the Fireside Room.

Zoom Bible Study

Join the Zoom Bible Study group on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 9am.

Scripture Readings

November 8th

First Reading	Amos 5:18-24
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Psalm	Psalm 70
Gospel	Matthew 12:1-13

November 15th

First Reading	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Psalm	Psalm 90:1-8,12
Gospel	Matthew 25:14-30

November 22nd

First Reading	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Second Reading	Ephesians 1:15-23
Psalm	Psalm 95:1-7a
Gospel	Matthew 25:31-46

November 29th

First Reading	Isaiah 64:1-9
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Psalm	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Gospel	Mark 13:24-37

What is your favorite Thanksgiving Dish?

Youth Group & SPARK

Youth Group and SPARK will be on a break until the new year. If there is someone interested in helping these groups meet, please talk to Pastor Andy for more information.

New Office Contact Information

While our office remains in some transition, we have established a new (old) office email. Please begin using: **office@flcmanitowoc.org**. Thank you.

Pastor Andy Wendle

PastorAndy@flcmanitowoc.org

920.682.7742 Ext.104

Pastor Andy Wendle can also be reached for pastoral support on his cell phone: 541.490.6703

You're Invited to

"Picture This"



A Celebration of Mission

Sunday, November 8th at 10:15

Picture This...

A delicious brunch
Time for fellowship and community connection
Personal stories of love in action here and around the world
Unveiling First's newest piece of artwork

Sunday School Planning



All parents of FLC families with young children – there was a meeting November 1st to discuss our Sunday School plans for 2027! If you were unable to make it, let Pastor Andy or Dayna or Kate know and we'll share those plans with you.

Gather

Grow

Go

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am Worship 10:10am Sunday School / Fellowship 4-5:30pm Confirmation 6pm N/A All Saints Day	2 10am Pastor Text Study 1pm Snip 'N Sew 6pm Handbells 10am-12pm Laundry Days	3 9:30am Snip 'N Sew 9:30am Staff Mtg.	4 9:30 am Bible Study 4:30 Values Study Group 5pm Chancel Choir	5	6 9am Grief Support Group 12pm Lunch With Our Neighbors	7
8 9am Worship 10:10am Sunday Fellowship 4-5:30pm Confirm. 6pm N/A	9 10am Pastor TS 1pm Snip 'N Sew 1pm Music Select 6pm Handbells 5:30pm Church Council	10 9am Snip N' Sew 9:30am Staff Mtg 4:30-6pm Dinner at Lighthouse Rec. 6pm Worship/Music Mtg	11 9:30 am Bible Study 5pm Chancel Choir **Veterans Day**	12	13 12pm Lunch With Our Neighbors	14
15 9am Worship 10:10am Sunday Fellowship 4-5:30pm Confirm. 6pm N/A	16 10am Pastor Text Study 1pm Snip 'N Sew 6pm Handbells	17 9am Snip N' Sew 9:30am Staff Mtg	18 9:30 am Bible Study 4:30 Values Study Group 5pm Chancel Choir	19 11:30am-1pm "Living Bread Together" *see inside for details	20 9am Grief Support Group 12pm Lunch With Our Neighbors	21
22 9am Worship 10:10am Sunday Fellowship 6pm N/A	23 10am Pastor Text Study 1pm Snip 'N Sew 6pm Handbells	24 9:30am Snip 'N Sew 9:30am Staff Mtg.	25 9:30 am Bible Study 4:30 Values Study Group	26 	27 Office Closed	28
29 9am Worship 10:10am Sunday Fellowship 6pm N/A	30 10am Pastor Text Study 1pm Snip 'N Sew 6pm Handbells 4:15-5:15 Personnel					

Sunday November 8th - Outreach Ministry Team brunch and presentation
Sunday November 15th - Connie Dorner retirement celebration!
Sunday November 22nd - Reign of Christ Sunday
Sunday November 29th - First Sunday of Advent!

FIRST LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

[ ] ELCA Good Gifts $25

[ ] Radio Broadcast [Sunday on WOMT] Full Sponsor= $465

*Monetary gifts of any amount are welcome. For more info call the office at 920.682.7742.

Fill this out & place it in the offering plate or stop by the office.

Type of Sponsorship: _____

Date of Sponsorship: _____

Message: _____

_____

Name & Phone _____

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
521 N. 8th Street
Manitowoc WI 54220

Phone: 920.682.7742
E-Mail: Office@flcmanitowoc.org
Web: FLCmanitowoc.org

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

To:

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Andy Wendle

Sunday Services at 9am

WOMT 1240AM, womtradio.com

YouTube, Facebook Live

Holy Communion – Every Sunday

Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00am-3:00pm

Friday: 9:00am-12noon

920.682.7742
Email: Office@flcmanitowoc.org

Web: FLCmanitowoc.org

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our God Given Mission ....Gather *in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,*

Grow *in faith and love,* ***Go*** *out to serve and invite others to faith in Christ.*