



# May 2025

**CO-CHAIRPERSONS:** Amy Perleberg, Linda Lies, Joan Shroyer

**USHERING:**

**Sunday, May 4** at 9:40 a.m.: Linda Lies & Amy Perleberg

**Sunday, May 11** at 9:40 a.m.: Jim & Fern Schuster

**Sunday, May 18** at 9:40 a.m.: Amy Perleberg & Joan Shroyer

**Sunday, May 25** at 9:40 a.m.: Curt & Marydean Weinmann

*Please fill out the Usher Report and place in the offering plate.  
Usher duties are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.*

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:**

**Sunday, May 4** at 9:15 a.m.: NO COFFEE FELLOWSHIP –

*Senior Recognition Invite Only Breakfast*

**Sunday, May 11** at 9:15 a.m.: Ethan & Abby Shroyer family

**Sunday, May 18** at 9:15 a.m.: Terry & Sandy Koepplin and Gina Clifton  
(Note that the Lay Ministry Board is providing the food this day as it is confirmation Sunday. You will assist with serving and clean up.)

**Sunday, May 25** at 9:15 a.m.: Josh & Trista Langley family

**PREPLANNED CONGREGATION MEALS:** NONE

**FUND:** Property Fund

*If you are unavailable on your assigned day, please use the group list that was mailed to you to find a replacement. If you are unsuccessful at finding a replacement, please notify a co-chairperson.*



*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ~Philippians 4:4-7~*

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.”

These words from Philippians 4:4 are some of the most well-known and beloved in all of Scripture. They are also among the most challenging. How do we rejoice always? In a world filled with uncertainty, illness, division, and grief—is this just wishful thinking?

The Apostle Paul writes these words from a prison cell. He is awaiting judgment, his future uncertain. And yet, even in those bleak circumstances, he encourages the church in Philippi to rejoice. This is not a superficial joy, but one deeply rooted in the presence and promise of God. Paul is not asking us to deny the painful realities of life. Rather, he is pointing us to a deeper truth: the Lord is near.

When Paul writes, “Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near,” he is reminding us that God has not abandoned us. This nearness of God gives us courage to live differently, to respond to the world not with fear, but with gentleness and hope. God’s closeness invites us into a peace that the world cannot give. Paul then invites us to bring everything to God in prayer, to not carry our burdens alone. We are invited into an honest and intimate relationship with God.

And what is the result? “The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” This peace is not simply a feeling of calm. It is an active force that guards us, protects us, holds us steady even, and especially, when the storms come. It is a peace that doesn’t always make sense—because it comes not from circumstances, but from Christ.

In our Lutheran tradition, we trust that God meets us in real life—in bread and wine, in water and Word, in gathering and service. Philippians 4 reminds us that God also meets us in anxiety and in prayer. In a world that constantly pushes us toward worry, this passage is a holy interruption, calling us back to God’s promises, inviting us to rejoice, not because life is always easy, but because God is always faithful.

Thanks be to God. Amen.



## Cradle Roll Graduation



On Sunday April 27th,  
five littles graduated from the  
Cradle Roll to the BIG kid  
LAUNCH Sunday school roster!

They each received a Bible,  
diploma, and a graduation sash.

Congrats gradates & parents!

Left to Right: Cooper Pfeiffer,  
Bridger Fleming, Everly  
Perleberg, & Presley Collier  
Not pictured: Myles Guler

## Thank you

*A special "Thank you" to those who sponsored flowers  
to decorate our church for Easter worship.*

Donny & Kristen Allmaras family IMO Margaret Bollingberg

Donny & Kristen Allmaras family IMO Jean Lessner

Traci Harrington & family IMO Scott Harrington

Cory & Katie Jorgensen family IMO Kathryn and Caryn Jorgensen

Cory & Katie Jorgensen IHO our kids

Metta McDowell IMO Doreen Taylor

Leona Eversvik IMO Lester, Jenny, and John Pulst

Rick Eversvik IMO Joseph, Mary, & Joey Eversvik

Michelle Pfeiffer IHO Tara Pfeiffer on her 1<sup>st</sup> birthday

Robert & Carmen Ludwig IMO Nathan

Johnny Carlson IMO Gladys Carlson

David & Gail Roberts IMO loved ones

Sharon Whitmer IMO Bill & Eliz Porter

Greg & Janine Anderson IMO Cliff Gedrose & Marvin & Emma Anderson

Marsaa/Alderman family IMO Grandpa Verle Marsaa

Marsaa/Alderman family IMO Grandpa Mike Hillebrand

Tim & Amy Perleberg IMO Darlene Tennyson

Beverly Lesmeister IMO loved ones

Jim & Fern Schuster IMO Donald & Mikie Greb, Frank & Barbara, Fern's  
brother Jeff, and Jim's sister Sandi

Terry & Sandy Koepplin IMO Hank & Verna Ingwaldson, Gary & Darlene  
Ingwaldson, and Donna Koepplin

# FLC Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry Team  
April 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The Women's Ministry Team met on Sunday, April 6, 2025, at 5 p.m. In attendance: Katie Jorgensen, Nan Taverna, Marydean Weinmann, Michelle Pfeiffer, Sharon Whitmer, Pastor Amy Kippen and Amy Perleberg. Absent: Ashley Fleming, Allison Pfeiffer & Kristen Allmaras.

The meeting was called to order. Nan gave the Treasurer's Report. There is \$1,196.05 in checking and \$1,732.86 in savings. \$930 came in from the yearly gifts by FLC women. Katie made a motion to approve the report, Amy seconded the motion, motion carried.

New Business: Spring Roundup for ELCA Synod Women will be held on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at Stump Lake. If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office to register and carpool together.

Metigoshe Fall Women's Retreat was discussed and possible dates were considered. Pastor Amy will check with Camp Metigoshe and see about booking a retreat from Thursday evening until Saturday afternoon. Check your newsletter, church bulletin and Facebook page for upcoming summer event information!

Benevolence: The group discussed how to disperse benevolence this year. It was decided to cover the cost of new soup bowls for the kitchen. Any other benevolence money will be considered throughout the year as needs or requests come in from church groups. A motion was made by Sharon, seconded by Michelle, motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Amy Perleberg, Secretary

## By the Numbers



ATTENDANCE	OFFERING
April 2 - 60	\$ 22.00
April 6 - 152	\$ 11,532.77
April 9 - 61	\$ 130.00
April 13 - 170	\$ 2,630.00
April 17 - 92	\$ 600.00
April 18 - 61	\$ 210.00
April 20 - 183	\$ 4,201.00
Vanco MTD	\$ 864.05

*Weekly Offering Needed to Meet  
Budget \$3,430.00*

### GENERAL FUND as of 3/31/2025

BUDGET:	\$ 44,571.25
EXPENSES:	\$ 45,572.04
OFFERING:	\$ 37,429.85

### DESIGNATED FUNDS

Property Fund:	\$16,778.42
Banner/Altar Fund:	\$1,198.14
Music Fund:	\$2,948.01
Budget Reserve:	\$19,007.36
Thrivent Choice:	\$815.00
Noisy Offering:	\$475.34
FLC Men's Group:	\$2,140.79
Capital Campaign Fund:	\$73,194.87
(Includes Carpet Fund:	\$11,736.09
& Hopes & Dreams:	\$1,224.35)



### May (Group 8)

Richard Anderson  
Johnny Carlson  
Gina Clifton  
Bob & Sandi Hoffman  
Amy Kippen  
Terry & Sandy Koepplin  
Josh & Trista Langley family  
Larry & Debbie Larson  
Linda Lies  
Tim & Amy Perleberg  
Jim & Fern Schuster  
Scott & Jerri Severs  
Ethan & Abby Shroyer family  
Joan Shroyer  
Erik & Tammy Sorensen family  
Kenny & Luann Thompson  
Glenn & Mary Walz  
Aaron & Kim Weber family  
Curt & Marydean Weinmann  
Justin & Liza Ystaas family

### Have you considered automated giving?

It is a great way to stay current with or grow your giving to our church. It is super easy to set up. Just contact your own bank and they will set up an automatic transfer to the church's bank account. We have set a goal of five new families switching to automated giving in 2024. Can you be one of those five?

**VANCO**  
FAITH





***Thanks to all the sponsors of our radio broadcasts!***

April 6: IMO Levi Duda by Duane & Annette Duda

April 13: IMO Kjos family members, by their family

April 20: IHO Maggie Wobbema's birthday by Jim & Ann Marie Wobbema

April 27: IHO Traci & Vicki's birthdays by Jess, Courtney, & Lauren



**May 2025**

Deb Stafford and Sheila Brown

Thank you for your commitment to this important ministry of our church!



**BAPTISMS:**

**WEDDINGS:**

**FUNERALS:**

**TRANSFERS:**

## Faith Stepping Stone 4: Holy Communion



On Maundy Thursday, the 4th & 5th graders were recognized for their latest Faith Stepping Stone: Holy Communion.

Back row: Jack Skogen, Livi Skogen, Jace Ystaas, Kinley Thompson, Kaliyah Whitetail

Front row: Josslyn Hager, Lincoln Langley, Kelsy Larson, Teigan Alderman, and Meah Gehrtz.

Not Pictured: Luca Schumacher and Rynna Jorgensen

## Our Mission Dollars At Work

*Over the next months, we will be sharing stories from Willie Langdji, our international missionary who serves as the ELCA Regional Rep for West and Central Africa. His stories highlight how the wonderful work we are involved in is transforming the lives of God's people and strengthening our sister church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Central African Republic (ELC-CAR).*



### From whole peanuts to 100% peanut oil by Willie Langdji

The Food Security Program of the ELC- CAR has provided technical and material support to subsistence farmers in the Nana-Mambere and Ouham Pende Prefectures of CAR for over 30 years. This support has helped the farmers grow food for their families and sell the surplus on local markets. Their produce has been sold to individual families and mainly to middle merchants who have enough resources to transport it to the cities and make more money. Over these years the program has evolved to respond to the needs of the small farmers. One aspect that has recently been addressed is related to the processing of some farm products.

The ELC-CAR's dream has been to add value to the agricultural products of the farmers and enable them to derive more benefit from their produce while at the same time ensuring that the Food Security Program becomes sustainable in the future. In this perspective, January 31, 2025, saw the inauguration of the first peanut oil extraction unit of the church. It is the first in the country by a faith-based organization and by a non-profit private entity. The unit has a production capacity of two tons of peanut oil per day.

Lay Ministry/Evangelism: Worship in the Park will be paused for 2025. There will be no Wednesday night worship in July.

Property/Stewardship: Concern over furnace repair expenses and 2025 budget line noted.

Plans are underway for parsonage deck replacement.

#### Old Business:

Capital Campaign pledges total \$178,000 with \$73,000 received. A second mailing is planned for remaining donors.

#### New Business:

Motion by Christina Anderson to approve \$100 benevolence to the Sorensen family and \$100 to Tony Clifton family, seconded by Jon Johnson. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion by Christina Anderson to approve confirmands Beau Baumbach, Megyn Bjerke, Kaylynn Chamberlain, Tatyn Heskin, Jaida Schumacher, Sophie Skogen, and Hannah Wobbema, seconded by Jon Johnson. All in favor, motion carries.

Pastor Amy led a discussion on expectations and boundaries in pastoral care. Council expressed support for establishing clearer written pastoral care visit protocols so that all church duties receive the amount of pastor's time that is required.

Governance Holy Experiment: Goals and measures were discussed including optimal term limits, possible board vs committee naming, council and board roles, and financial transparency. Things to consider in the future were to consolidate some of the church financial accounts, to set calendar-based governance checkpoints, to add Congregational Comment at the start of Council meetings, and to adjust the agenda to fit the Holy Experiment efficiency.

Motion by Colleen Semmens to adjourn with prayer, seconded by Fern Schuster. All in favor, motion carries.

Submitted by Christina Anderson

## SUNDAY

### Sound, Lay Readers, & Communion Servers

**May 4:** Cherry Heinz, sound; Colleen Semmens, lay reader; Fern Schuster, communion server.

**May 11:** Kevin Cartwright, sound; Christina Anderson, lay reader.

**May 18:** Kenny Thompson, sound; Sharon Whitmer, lay reader; Curt Weinmann, communion server.

**May 25:** Gail Weisenburger, sound; Melanie Homelvig, lay reader.



Hackers, pretending to be a local church or pastor, have been sending fake emails and texts to church members. They ask parishioners to buy gift cards for church projects. These messages look authentic, but they are not. This tactic is a scam!

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Neither First Lutheran Church nor Pastor Amy will ever ask you to purchase a gift card via email or text message.

## April Memorials

### Capital Campaign

IMO Phyllis Topp by Greg & Janine Anderson



1 <sup>st</sup> - Jim Dockter	20 <sup>th</sup> - Gail Roberts
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Dan Shroyer	22 <sup>nd</sup> - Greg Anderson
4 <sup>th</sup> - Kaci Weisenburger	Curt Weinmann
5 <sup>th</sup> - Jesse Anderson	23 <sup>rd</sup> - Jake Burkhardtsmeier
Everly Perleberg	Janet Heskin
8 <sup>th</sup> - Kaelyn Ystaas	Stu Richter
9 <sup>th</sup> - Layne Allmaras	Lonnie Thompson
Raelynn Fleming	24 <sup>th</sup> - Lynnae Lies
10 <sup>th</sup> - Lillian Lommen	Judy Meier
14 <sup>th</sup> - Melony Allmaras	Kaiya O'Connor
15 <sup>th</sup> - Lenni Smith	Terik Pfeiffer
16 <sup>th</sup> - Luann Thompson	27 <sup>th</sup> - Chantel Heskin
17 <sup>th</sup> - Tasha Skogan	30 <sup>th</sup> - Ross Homelvig
18 <sup>th</sup> - Noah Alderman	Brian Perleberg
Susette Allmaras	
Lynn Homelvig	
19 <sup>th</sup> - Adison Bullinger	
Leah Bullinger	

If you find your birthday is not listed, or is incorrect, let us know!



## Unapproved April Minutes

Quorum was established and meeting called to order by Bruce Hirschert.

**First Lutheran Church Council present:** Bruce Hirschert, Colleen Semmens, Jon Johnson, Pastor Amy Kippen, Christina Anderson, Katie Jorgensen (Office Admin)

**Board Report Representatives:** Katie Jorgensen, Education; Fern Schuster, Lay Ministry/Evangelism; Rick Swenson, Stewardship/Property

Motion by Colleen Semmens to approve the agenda, second by Jon Johnson. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion by Colleen Semmens to approve the 03-12-25 minutes, second by Pastor Amy. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion by Colleen Semmens to approve the financial reports as presented, second by Pastor Amy. All in favor, motion carries.

### Correspondence:

Thank you notes received from Lutheran Home and the Synod for mission support contributions.

### Pastor's Report:

Pastoral Acts included 2 nursing home worship services, 2 pre-marriage sessions, and counseling sessions. Church activities included Lent series coordination, youth lock-in, Faith Steeping Stone classes, women's ministry meeting, and capital campaign meetings. Pastor Amy participated in various Synod, community, and theological events including churchwide assembly orientation.

### Board Reports:

Education: Preparations for Faith Steeping Stones (Holy Communion and Cradle Roll graduation) are underway. 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade lock-in scheduled. Metigoshe in Motion (MiM) event planned for last day of LAUNCH. VBS planning in progress.