



First Lutheran Church
 W2314 Prospect Street
 P.O. Box 250
 Poy Sippi, WI 54967



10:30am
 Sunday Services.
 All are welcome!



Join us for Mid-Week Lent worship Services.

Wednesday, 1:30 pm at First in PoySippi
 Wednesday, 6:30 pm at Grace in Berlin



We also provide our service
 at our Facebook page, at:
 "First Lutheran Church ELCA"



SPRING FORWARD
 Turn your clocks ahead
 March 10th, 2024

"THE FIRST EDITION"
 March 2024

wednesday's
 Mid-Week
Lenten
 Worship
 See page 3



See page 3

Pastor: *Pastor Rebekah Tarras*
Email pastortarras@gmail.com
Office Phone (920) 987-5151
Cell Phone (715) 897-5393



Council President: *Mark Henn*
Home Phone 715-820-2565
Email cmhenn96@gmail.com



Office Email - firstluthpoysippi@gmail.com
 Administrator: Diane W., Assistant: Patti Langkau
Office Phone (920) 987-5151
Bookkeeper Email - firstluthbook@gmail.com (Nina M.)



From the Pastor :

This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. Hebrews 6:19

Do you know what the earliest Christian symbol was? You probably guessed the cross, right? Nope. According to Hugh Halter in his book *Flesh: Learning to Be Human Like Jesus*, "The cross became a well-known symbol about three hundred years after Jesus as the Roman Empire conquered countries and kingdoms in the name of Jesus. Before that, the main symbol was an anchor. Why an anchor? It was because God's people, the true Jesus followers, were constantly on the run, on mission, in trouble, in prayer, building community, experiencing sacrifice and loss - and they were in need of a symbol that reminded them that they were safe and secure. While the symbol of the cross became and still remains a symbol that focuses on what Jesus did for us, the anchor is a symbol of what He is for us while we live for Him."

Anchors are nautical devices that provide stability to ships during harsh storms, protecting them from being tossed around at sea. Throughout history, anchors have served as a much-needed device for sailors. In the Bible, an anchor is used as a symbol of our hope in Jesus which gives us stability and steadfastness in life.

According to Hebrews 6:19, the anchor of our souls is our hope of God's inheritance in Christ. Unlike the feelings-based, doubt-infused definition of hope common in our world, the Christian's hope is "a strong and trustworthy anchor". Our hope is "firm and secure" because it is based on Jesus and the promises of God. Our hope anchors us during the stormy seasons of life. We have been given an anchor for the soul, a lasting hope both sure and unshakable. All else is fleeting and changing, but Jesus remains the same (Hebrews 13:8).

As the words of the great hymn by Edward Mote proclaims "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand."

When the storms of life flood us with fear, worry, or doubt, we can hold onto God's promises and find stability in the salvation Jesus has provided. No matter what happens, God's promises remain. God does not want His children to be set adrift; He wants them to be fixed in a secure place. Just as an anchor grounds a ship to protect it from going adrift at sea, so also does our hope in Jesus keep us grounded and secure during the difficult, uncertain, and often painful tempests of life.

May your faith in Jesus be the anchor of your life.

Pastor Rebekah

Worship Schedule

March 3rd Sunday – 10:30AM -

Third Sunday in Lent

March 6th Wed. – 1:30PM -
Midweek Lenten Services
Weekly 6:30PM Lenten worship at Grace.

March 10th Sunday – 10:30AM -
Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 13th Wed. – 1:30PM -
Midweek Lenten Services

March 17th Sunday –
Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 20th Wed. – 1:30PM -
Midweek Lenten Services



March 24th Palm Sunday Worship
10:00AM at Grace, Berlin



March 28th Holy Week Service
Maundy Thursday 6:30PM at First



March 29th Holy Week Service
Good Friday 1:00PM at Grace



Easter Sunday Service ~ March 31st ~ 10:30am
The M-Team and Stampin' Ministry will be working together serving a hot continental breakfast (9:30am). Please check out the sign-up sheet for food items to bring.

Scripture Readers:
The Macijeski Family

Monologue Readers:
N/A

**Patti Langkau &
Joan Everson**

Dar Cravillion

Colleen Hein

N/A

Diane Warning

Jerry Wrage

Dar Cravillion

N/A

Joan E. / Patti L.

Diane Warning

Grace member

N/A

Kim Huerth

Steve Macijeski

Grace member

N/A



March Communion Bread: Jan Strehlow

We are using prepared communion elements for those who wish to partake in Holy Communion during Sunday worship service. The first Sunday will be communing at the rail, as well as in the pew. - Thank you, Altar Guild -

Although it is not as well-known as St. Patrick's Day or Women's History Month, March bears another significant honor — National Flour Month. When it comes to cooking or baking, flour is a principal ingredient in many food options all around the world. It is necessary for baking bread, cakes, crackers, pasta, pastries, breading for meats, and much, much more. Think of it this way: we would find it pretty hard to make a cake or muffin without flour, and what would breakfast be like without toast, donuts, or other delectable breakfast items??



March 2024 Church Office Hours:

<p>Pastor : 9:00-12:00pm Monday & Wednesday, Pastor Rebekah 715-897-5393 (Please note times may vary due to home visits, etc.)</p>	<p>Office Hours: 9:00-4:00pm Monday*, and Thursday*, 10:00-12:00pm Tuesday and Wed. (Unless noted differently in the Sunday bulletins.) *Days Patti is in the office.</p>
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Bookkeeper Hours: TBD - flexible

Bulletin Deadline

Information should be turned into the church by noon on Tuesday to ensure adequate time to process the information into the following Sundays bulletin.



“THE FIRST EDITION”

Please provide the church office with news items for the April newsletter by the **17th of March** to ensure the newsletter is emailed on time. You may **email** your news item(s) in Word format to Diane at firstluthpoysippi@gmail.com.
Thank you, ~The Office



When calling after office hours, we invite you to leave a message on the church phone at 920-987-5151 with our voice messaging system, so that we can assist you at our earliest convenience.
Thank you. ~the Office



Email – make sure the office has your current email address to receive the church newsletter for all church activity.

2024 Council Members

Mark Henn	715-820-2565 (<i>President</i>)
Kevin Birschbach	920-266-3628 (<i>V-Pres.</i>)
Dar Cravillion	920-987-5887 (<i>Treasurer</i>)
Mali Beine	262-224-8336 (<i>Secretary</i>)
Jerry Wrage	920-290-0986
Jan Strehlow	920-572-6098
Lenny Langkau	920-229-3593
Joan Everson	920-295-9404
Jim Laird	303-690-2428



Joint Parish Council Meeting for council executive officers will be Monday, March 18th, 6:30pm at Grace.

Reminder:

To let the office know if your email, or mailing address has changed, or if you will be away, this will avoid uninterrupted service of church news and mail.

If you know of someone who would like to receive a copy of the newsletter via email, please let the office know.

~Thank you.





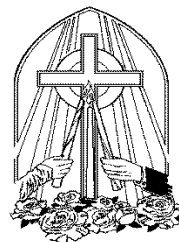
March Birthdays:

- 5th – Rochelle Michels
- 5th –Caitlin Yahr
- 9th – Bob Hansen
- 15th – Sally Haeckel
- 15th – Sharon Schmidt
- 19th – Kathy Chamberlin
- 26th – Shirley Geoffrey
- 26th – Delores Jorgensen
- 28th –Tammy Hansen
- 29th – Judy Schierland
- 30th – Katie Nitzke



March Anniversaries:

- Brent & Bridget
Anderson - 12th
- Dave & Allison
Schliepp - 28th



"May the dear Lord bless you both."

If I have missed anyone, dated anyone incorrectly, or misspelled a name, kindly let me know.

Thank you. ~Diane

"Birthdays come and go, and years may pass, but God's love and mercy will be with you always."

➤ May you enjoy your day and receive blessings from above. ➤

Prayers of Concern & Healing

You are in our Prayers . . .



**Pray without ceasing,
because Satan
Preys without ceasing!!**



- * For Jon L.
- * For Dennis E.
- * For Karen K.
- * For Diana K.
- * For Pastor Rick R.
- * For Carolyn H.
- * For Marcella J.
- * For Carol K.
- * For Matt E.
- * For Tommy C.
- * For Shirley B.
- * For Joni B.
- * For Patti B.
- * For Georgia Lee
- * For Shannon M.
- * For Kaycie P.
- * For Tammy B.
- * For Patti C.
- * For Phyliss J.
- * For Diane H.
- * For Baby Ryder
- * For Mali B.



If you are unable to attend in person, you can watch online through our Facebook page, listen to worship via the radio station 93.1 FM or 1600 AM at Noon.





Who's New in the Pew . . .

Phyliss Jenks has attended church service at St. John's in Saxeville, But likes attending First better. It could be since she is a sister to Lee Chase; or maybe because she was baptized, confirmed and married at First Lutheran.



Phyliss lives on County Road A, between Saxeville and Wild Rose. She is now widowed, but was married to Ronald Jenks. He died from cancer in 1991. Phyliss and Ronald have five children. Terry Lea Ditchait, Sandra Kay Van den Burg, Vicki Lyn Nelson (died from cancer), Kari Lou Rodencal, and David Ronald Jenks.

Phyliss likes gardening, riding horses, fishing and outdoor stuff. She can't do any of these now because her balance is bad and she has back problems. Her pet peeves are making the bed and don't leave the toilet seat up.

If you haven't already said hello and welcomed Phyliss, please do so.



Pastor Rebekah held a class to prepare students for First Communion on February 18th. We are excited to see the celebration of Anders Beine taking his First Communion soon during worship here at First.



The Library Lion

The Library Lion is once again on the prowl for a good read. Will he enter March with a whirlwind or go out with a whoosh??



March hosts

- 3rd - Clara & Flora Voigtlander
- 10th - Chris Monroe & Carolyn Holz
- 24th - open
- 31st - M-Team & Stampin' Ministry
(Serving Hot Continental Breakfast)



Easter Sunday: March 31st, 2024. The Altar Guild will be decorating the church for Easter Sunday. They have a sign-up sheet for flowers at the front table. You can choose to have your spring plant(s) "In Honor" or "In Memory" of someone, make sure to specify which along with the family names(s) for each plant ordered.

Due to the prices getting rather high with florists, we will not be offering a 'purchase through church' option. Please make sure to mark each plant your bring with your name preferably on the bottom. Plants can be brought in during office hours Thursday, March 28th, and no later than 9AM Saturday, March 30th. Questions can be directed to the Altar Guild.



CHICKEN BBQ



Mark your Calendar!!

Chicken BBQ - March 16th at the Poy Sippi firehouse station, serving at 3:30pm until they sell out.



CROSSWAYS
CAMPING MINISTRIES

Volunteer With Crossways

We celebrate and give thanks for the many volunteers who contribute so much to the mission and ministry of Crossways! Volunteers make it possible for camp to accomplish more than we could ever do on our own.

Specific needs change seasonally, from supporting our summer programs to moving forward with facilities and site needs.

Jobs include:

- Camp turnover (cleaning common spaces)
- Dessert baking or Grilling
- Check-in/Check-out (guiding people around camp)
- Raking & Landscaping
- Painting (interior & exterior)
- Administrative Support
- Event Support
- Mailing Support

All volunteers must be 18+ years old (or a minor with their guardian) and pass a background check.

[Volunteer Inquiry Form](#)

March Mission of the Month :

We continue our mission focus with the Lutheran World Relief.



All money put in the Noisy Bucket or envelopes marked Lutheran World Relief this month will go to Lutheran World Relief. We will also be assembling Personal Care Kits. Lutheran World Relief states that Personal Care Kits are one of the most requested items and make a simple yet profound difference for families struggling in poverty



The kits and generous financial gifts will help deliver hope to our neighbors in need around the world. Items needed for each Personal Care Kit:

- **ONE light-weight bath-size towel** (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended.

Note: Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use. Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.

- **TWO or three bath-size bars of soap** equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping.
- **ONE adult-size toothbrush** in its original packaging
- **ONE sturdy comb**
- **ONE metal nail clipper**

Many of these items can be purchased in bulk. If you would like more information on doing that talk with Pastor Rebekah. Thrivent members, consider applying for a Thrivent Action Team to work to purchase, items for this project, especially towels.



Installation of Council Members during Worship.



Remember to donate blood, Red Cross can always use it.



The Poy Sippi Community Food Pantry News:

The food pantry is located at First Lutheran Church in Poy Sippi.
 The food pantry will be open the first and third Friday* of each month.
 (*unless a Friday falls on a holiday)

The food pantry's hours are: 9:30am-10:30am and 3:30pm-4:30pm.

The food pantry graciously accepts food (in date) and monetary donations.

We would not be able to serve the community without your generous help and support!

Thank you to everyone who supports this great ministry.

Coordinators of the pantry: Jody and Rodger Surprise,
 phone 920-987-5024,

Food Donations: Judy Schierland, phone 920-987-5582,
 backup – Patti Langkau 920-229-3193,

Money donations can be mailed to:

Poy Sippi Community Food Pantry, P.O. Box 250, Poy Sippi, WI 54967-0250.



The featured collection items for the month of March: Boxed Cereal

Reflecting - The World Day of Prayer

March 1, 2024

About the Art & Artist



Halima Aziz (b.1999 in Hagen, Germany) is a passionate Palestinian visual artist and design student based in Germany. She spent her childhood in Palestine. Halima experienced the war in Gaza in 2008 and survived it. In 2009 she moved back to Germany.

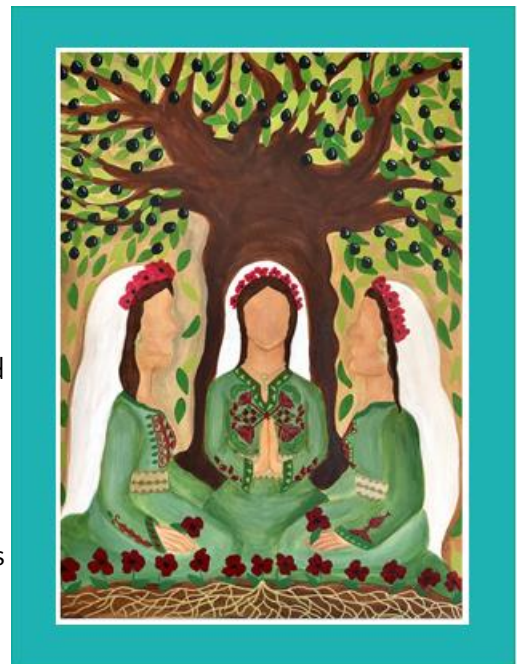
The artwork, to the right, is made in honor of the World Day of Prayer.

Through her artwork, Halima represents three Palestinian women praying together in nature in a peaceful place. In her work, she has different motives and symbols that indicate the origin of these women and their cohesion.

Olive trees/ branches are a sign of everlasting and abundant life because they can live for thousands of years.

The golden roots are underlining the fact that the Palestinians will always exist and as they exist, they will always resist for their rights and freedom. Poppy flowers are abundant and meaningful to Palestinians. They remind Palestinians of loved ones who have given their lives for their country.

The women are wearing traditional Palestinian dresses like the tateez (embroidery) thobe (dress) or the white scarf. And the keys are a symbol of the hope to return back to Palestine.



**"I Beg You...
 Bear With One Another in Love"**

Ephesians 4:1-3



Fellowship Flooring Project Update

Was Mark a tight rope walker in a previous job?



Mark installing the carpet tiles – looking good Mark!



Mark installing the carpet tiles – looking good Mark!

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes January 16th, 2024

Attendance in Person: Mark Henn, Kevin Birschbach, Lenny Langkau, Jerry Wrage, Jan Strehlow, Dar Cravillion, Pastor Rebekah Tarras. Excused: Joan Everson.



Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Mark Henn at 6:29PM.

Devotions: Pastor read a passage from Mark 1:4-11, discussion followed, ending with prayer.

Approval of Minutes: One correction made. Motion made, seconded, and carried to approve minutes after correction.

Visitor: Connie Henn

1. Audit was completed by Connie Henn, Sheri Bahr and Steve Macijeski.
2. Credit card implemented
3. New software
4. Explained some of the financial statement

New Business:

- A. Approval of snowblower : Motion was made and seconded to use money from the building fund to pay for new snowblower parts. Motion carried
- B. Approval of hire for bookkeeping position: Three candidates were interviewed. Motion was made and seconded to approve Nina Monacelli as bookkeeper, motion carried.
- C. Approval of curtains between fellowship hall and sanctuary: Motion made and seconded to purchase curtains with money coming from budgeted money for the flooring account. Motion carried.
- D. Pastor salary & staff wages: Pastors salary is set by the synod guidelines. The staff wages increase of \$.50 hourly will be brought to the annual meeting January 28th.
- E. Approval of proposed 2024 budget: Motion was made and seconded to approve the budget and present it to the congregation at the annual meeting. Motion carried.
- F. Unspecified Mission distribution recommendation: \$2169.60
 1. Bethany Home of Waupaca - \$300.00
 2. Crossways Camping Ministries - \$300.00
 3. ELCA World Hunger - \$300.00
 4. Poy Sippi Community Food Pantry - \$369.60
 5. St. Jude's Hospital - \$300.00
 6. Foundation for Living - \$300.00
 7. Welcomed - \$300.00

Motion was made and seconded to bring these recommendations to the annual meeting.
Motion carried.

- G. Mission of the Month recommendations: February and March will be LWR (includes personal care kits). April will be Veterans Home at King.
- A. Annual Meeting Agenda items: Agenda should include unspecified Mission Funds, input on Thanksgiving Eve service, hiring of bookkeeper, update on 150 anniversary, and updates on ongoing projects.

Unfinished Business:

1. Update on flooring project - Mark explained next steps to be taken.
2. Update on Archive Storage: safe has been purchased, delivered and set up.
3. Update on laptop computers: computers are being set up.
4. Update on blacktop project - still waiting for estimates.

Other Business: none.

Ministry Reports:

Monthly Financials: Motion was made, seconded to accept the report, and motion carried.

Finance Ministry: Training for bookkeeper will start January 20th. Next meeting is Feb. 7, 2024.

Archive Committee: Nothing new to report.

Parish Council Committee: Upcoming events; Bingo February 3rd at Grace 12:00PM - 3:00PM.
Lent starting February 14th.

Noisy Bucket: February and March - LWR (includes personal care kits) April - Veterans Home at King.

Children's Ministry: Sunday School started again January 7th, 2024.

Worship: Lent services are being planned.

Endowment: Next meeting is scheduled for February 6th, 6:30pm at First.

Property: Solar light has been installed by the West door.

Staff Reports:

Pastoral Care: Funerals: Kelly Boening 12/13, June Lubbert 12/16
Hospital Visits: Phyllis Jenks, Joni Bahr - two visits
Visitation: Don Rew, Marcella Jorgensen, Judy Vergin & Victor Hansen.

Organist: Deb plans to play January 14th and January 28th.

Office or Custodian: Notes:

Adjourn: Motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:22PM, motion carried.
Pastor closed with prayer.
Next meeting will be Tuesday January 9th, 2024 at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Strehlow,
Church Council Secretary



*Deadline for the
April 2024
First Edition
Newsletter items
Sunday, March 17th!*



Memory Café encourages the sharing of memories in a safe, non-threatening way, and opens the door for socialization, particularly for people with limited memory recall and their caregiver or care partner. Memories are important to us all!

<p>February 19</p> <p>We've Gone to the Birds</p> 	 <p>3rd Mondays</p> <p>1:30pm</p> <p>Waushara County Courthouse Demo Room (Pre-registration required)</p>
<p>April 15</p> <p>Spring is Blooming</p> 	
<p>June 17</p> <p>Picnic in the Park</p> 	

Pre-register by calling Marty: 920-787-0403

Check the front entrance bulletin for this posted flyer.



March 2024 First Lutheran Church, Poy Sippi, WI

SUN 25	MON 26	TUE 27	WED 28	THU 29	FRI 1	SAT 2
					Office closed ● 9:30am Food Pantry ● 3:30pm Food Pantry	
3rd Sunday in Lent ● 9am Sun.School Clas ● 9:15am Coffee Fellow 2 more	● 9am Pastor in ● 12:45pm Worship com	Bulletin deadline	● 1:30pm Midweek Len	● 12:45pm Soul Food -	Office closed	● 8am Men's Breakfast-
10 4th Sunday in Lent ● 9am Sun.School Clas ● 9:15am Coffee Fellow ● 10:30am Worship	● 9am Pastor in ● 2:45pm M-Team Mtg	Bulletin deadline ● 6:30pm Council Mtg.	● 1:30pm Midweek Len	Office closed ● 12:45pm Soul Food -	Office closed ● 9:30am Food Pantry ● 3:30pm Food Pantry	16
17 5th Sunday in Lent ● 9am Sun.School Clas ● 9:15am Coffee Fellow ● 10:30am Worship	Deadline for Newsletter ● 9am Pastor in	Bulletin deadline	● 1:30pm Midweek Len	● 12:45pm Soul Food -	Office closed ● 1:30pm Stamp'nWork	23
24 Palm Sunday ● 9:15am No S-School t ● 10am Worship at Gra	● 9am Pastor in	Bulletin deadline	27	● 12:45pm Soul Food - ● 6:30pm Maundy Servi	Office closed ● 1pm Good Friday Sen	30
31 Easter Sunday ● 9am Hot Cont. Breakf ● 9am No S-School Cla ● 10:30am Worship						