

FARMINGTON LUTHERAN CHURCH // JANUARY 2022

THE GROVE



*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!*

Stewardship Appeal 2022

MOVING MOUNTAINS

Thank you for all who have been a part of the “Moving Mountains” Stewardship Appeal.

Your giving and returned Statements of Intent are important as we plan to strengthen ministries by sustaining the addition of Pastor Ben and Pastor Kristen Eisele.

- **Over 150 households have returned Statements of Intent.**
- **30 new households completed a Statement of Intent this year.**
- **72 households showed an intent to increase their giving in 2022.**
- **34 households intend to sustain their current level of giving in 2022.**

Your returned Statements of Intent to date show an **estimated increase in giving to the general fund of \$41,029. Thank you!**

We want everyone to have a chance to respond as we pursue our goal of 250 returned Statements of Intent and \$95,000 in increased giving. With your partnership we will continue to develop spiritual growth opportunities, congregational care, service ministry, and our overall intergenerational ministry!

Whether you complete your intent with detail or respond by saying “I will give as able”, please know that **your response is a blessing**. You can **mail in your Statement of Intent to the church office or complete your intent online at Farmingtonlutheran.com/give**.

If you haven't responded yet, please join in today!

Thanks!

**ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 30, 2022
11:45AM**

This year's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 30 after the second worship service (11:45am). At this time, we plan to have lunch and meet in person in the education wing. Due to potential changes with Covid-19 this plan may change. Please stay tuned as more information will be shared closer to the event date.

FACEMASK UPDATE

As the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise, FLC's Reopening Strategy Team continues to make decisions based on the guidance of the CDC and Minnesota Department of Health.

As we hear those who work in hospitals asking for support as they care for such a high number of COVID patients and lack room for patients who need care, we will continue to recommend all worshippers wear facemasks while in the building.

Children's and youth programming will resume in the new year, and while the school district is moving to optional

masks at that time, FLC will continue to require masks for everyone during programming times for youth age 3 through 8th grade on Wednesday evenings and during Sunday FLCTime.

This is an everchanging situation, and our Reopening Strategy Team, Staff and Council, will continue to have discussions on any changes to this policy.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Thank you again for your support and understanding.



FLC will continue to require masks for everyone during programming times for youth age 3 through 8th grade on Wednesday evenings and during Sunday FLCTime.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

It was wonderful to be back together, in person for this year's Christmas Services! If you weren't able to attend in person, be sure to check the livestream videos available on our Facebook and YouTube pages.

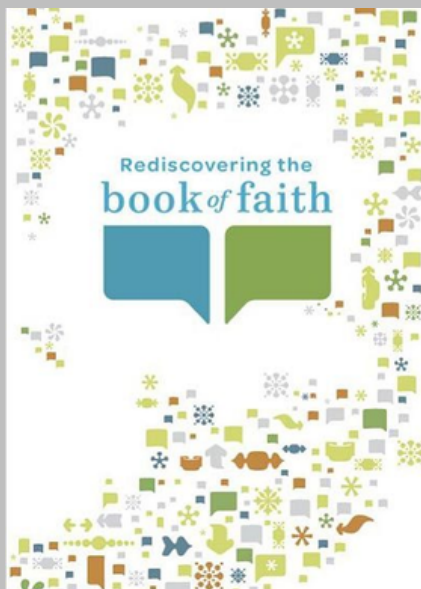


UPCOMING ADULT EDUCATION

REDISCOVERING THE BOOK OF FAITH

4 WEEK STUDY BEGINS
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 12

We're going to start with "Rediscovering the Book of Faith," a 3-4 week conversation on what the Bible is, how we read it, and why it matters. We've ordered participant workbooks (\$6), if you'd like one.



Two class times will be available, afternoons & evenings.

For more information email ben@farmingtonlutheran.com

Once we hit Lent, we'll move to a series called "Road to Coronation," following Jesus royal "crowning" on the cross.

BREW ED THE OLOGY

GOD & SPORTS: SILLY OR SERIOUS

January 27, 7:00 - 8:30pm

Bourbon Butcher, please arrive earlier if you plan to order meals

Please register online in advance

PARENTS TIME OUT

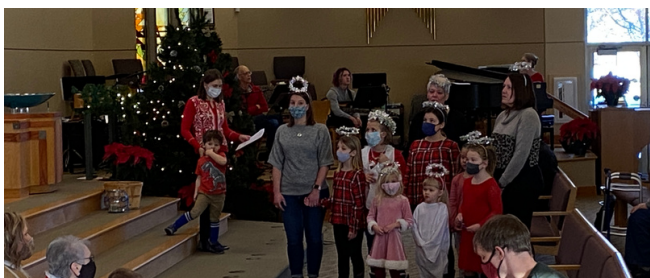
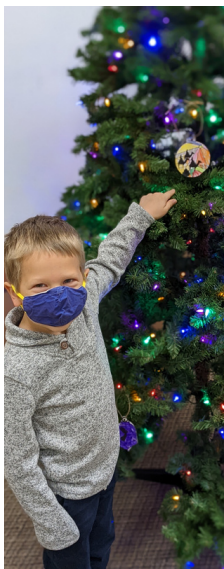
Sunday, January 16
between worship
services



We'll plan on coffee, simple introductions, parenting highs & lows, and hear about what you/parents would like to get out of that time.

CHRISTMAS STORY MILESTONE EVENT

We held our Christmas Milestone event for our preschoolers and kindergartners on December 5th and 8th. The kids (and adults) were able to hear the Christmas story from Pastor Kristen, create a keepsake ornament, and eat a yummy snack. The kids were super excited about seeing the manger and baby Jesus. Thank you for joining us!



SPONTANEOUS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

This year's program was held on Sunday, December 12 at both worship services. The program was like nothing we have ever done before, and we believe it might have been one of the best ones yet!

This was an intergenerational program that was put on spontaneously and unrehearsed. We had people of all ages take parts (yes, Dawn may have voluntold a few people) and jump in so we could all hear the Christmas story. If you missed out and want to watch it find it on YouTube or on our Facebook page.

A HUGE 'Thank you' to all that participated in the program. Thank you for bringing JOY to the congregation.

CHILDREN'S UPCOMING EVENTS

First Wednesday Worship will take place on Wed., Jan. 5th at 5:30pm. We hope to see you there...we might be celebrating Epiphany. All are welcome to join us!!

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARY MILESTONE EVENT

Baptismal Anniversary event is for anyone that was baptized in the year 2020 or 2021. Come and celebrate this special event with us on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 9:30 am.

We want to celebrate your Baptismal Anniversary! Bring your sponsors, your baptism candle, and be ready to learn and grow in your faith journeys. Please contact Dawn with any questions. You can email her at: dawn@farmingtonlutheran.com Pastor Kristen and Dawn will be facilitating this event and look forward to seeing you all soon. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!!

CAMP KICK-OFF SUNDAY

Join us on Sunday, January 9th to get the HOT OFF THE PRESS details about all SUMMER (and late SPRING) opportunities happening in and around FLC. There is something for almost all ages. We will have a table and volunteers available to help answer questions. You'll be able to take home a flyer to save the dates and have access to the registration links. If you miss us on KICK-OFF SUNDAY, you'll have access to our events via the website.

Please note that some activities have registration deadlines and a limited number of participants.

CONFIRMATION PARENT NIGHT

Wednesday, January 5, 6:30pm

As we enter the new calendar year, Wednesday January 5th will be a PARENT NIGHT focused on the question of "What is God calling us to?" Part of this night will be to share more details of how Confirmation will be led and organized. It will also be a time to hear your hopes on what you'd like to see and any other questions and concerns that you have. If you would like to submit a question or idea before hand you can do so here:

[Hopes, Questions or Concerns](#)

Here is the schedule and location for those January 5th gatherings:

- 6:00 - 6:25pm Small Group Leader meeting in the Fireside Room
- 6:30 - 8:00pm Confirmation Students and Parents in the Sanctuary
- 8:00 -9:00pm Koin students and Parents in the Education Wing

You can anticipate more communications being sent to you in preparation for meetings on January 5th. Some key pieces to know for now:

- =A full-time Director of Youth & Family Ministries will be hired in the coming months.
- During the interim time, Pastor Ben will be our main leader for Confirmation with efforts also from Pastor Kristen, Pastor Kevin, and other volunteers. We are also making arrangements so that administrative tasks are handled well.

Feel free to contact Pastor Kevin or Pastor Ben with any questions or concerns that you might have.

KOIN: High School Youth Group

Wednesday, January 5, 8:00 - 9:00pm

Open to all 9th through 12th grade and college age youth

We will meet for devotion, games, food and fun. Grab a friend and join us!



MONTANA SENIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP **July 9 – 16, 2022**



Serve this summer in Montana! We will partner with an organization called Service Learning Camps (SLC). We will meet at FLC Saturday, July 9 and travel to Montana. We'll spend the first night in Rapid City, SD. The next day we'll get to Billings, MT. Billings, is known as Montana's Trailhead, located on the Yellowstone River, with views of mountain ranges in each direction.

We will serve that week with these organizations: Tumbleweed Youth Homeless Services, Family Services (various services for all ages), Friendship House, Summer Camps and various other organizational outreach agencies connected with United Way. The week will end with a surprise Friday Funday.

Youth currently in grades 8 – 12 are invited to be a part of this experience.



SENIOR HIGH ELCA YOUTH GATHERING **JULY 24 – 28, 2022**

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. This year's youth gathering will be in Minneapolis, MN. For more information visit elca.org/nationalyouthgathering.

Youth currently in grades 8 – 12 are invited to attend this great experience.



Spirit of Giving

On Saturday, December 11 a number of Farmington Lutheran's congregation and choir members sang Christmas Carols as they took part in the city of Farmington's Spirit of Giving Event.



ALLELUIA BELLS- YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR

4th-8th graders are welcome to join Alleluia Bells, no experience necessary! It's a unique, fun, musical opportunity! Students will learn the basics of ringing and will prepare musical offerings to ring in worship once a month. Alleluia Bells rehearse during the program year on Wednesdays; 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm in the choir room, led by Karissa Dennis.





FARMINGTON FOOD SHELF

Thank you for your food donations,
your continued support is appreciated!

Current needs are:

- Spaghetti sauce
- Canned Northern beans
- Canned Pinto beans
- Canned Kidney beans
- Paper towels
- Shampoo and Conditioner
-

Resource support Intake Volunteers
needed for committed 2 hour
weekly shifts, basic computer skills
necessary, will train!

Contact:

FoodShelf@farmingtonlutheran.com

Did you know Farmington Lutheran is a
drop off site for the Food Shelf?
Collection bins are located in the coat
rack area of the building. Drop off
items anytime during normal office
hours or Sunday morning worship
times.



FIRST WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5 5:30PM

Worship will take place in the sanctuary and include
a message, wonderful music led by our youth band,
and end with a fun event!



A New Year - You matter in this space just as you are...

WRITTEN BY LINDA MORRIS

The beginning of a new year, the idea of change seems required, doable. New fitness routines, new ways of eating, doing more of the “should” and less of that which no longer serves us. The turn of the calendar provides the incentive – and winter, the quiet time – to experiment.

But sometimes, the best change is one of perspective – embracing what we have in front of us. Perhaps it’s not as much about doing as it is about being. Being still to listen for God’s voice. Being grace-filled. Being who you were born to be. You were fearfully and wonderfully made. (Psalm 139:14)

Self-acceptance goes a long way in allowing us to look outwardly to ways we can be the

change for others. In doing so, we are also changed. May the new year find you wresting yourself away from what the world implies you

*The steadfast love of the
Lord never ceases
His mercies never come to an end:
They are new every morning:
Great is Your faithfulness
Lamentations 3:22-23*

should do or be and listen to the voice of God, the one who made you and knows your talents and abilities. Shine your light with the gifts you’ve been given, so that you may share that light with others.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 am and 10:30 am

Livestreaming at 10:30 am



www.farmingtonlutheran.com

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