

FARMINGTON LUTHERAN CHURCH // JANUARY 2023

# THE GROVE



HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

# 2023

## NEW YEAR- NEW PERSPECTIVE

BY LINDA MORRIS

2023....here we are at the threshold of the new year...the door is open...the snow is fresh...what footprints will we leave as we progress?

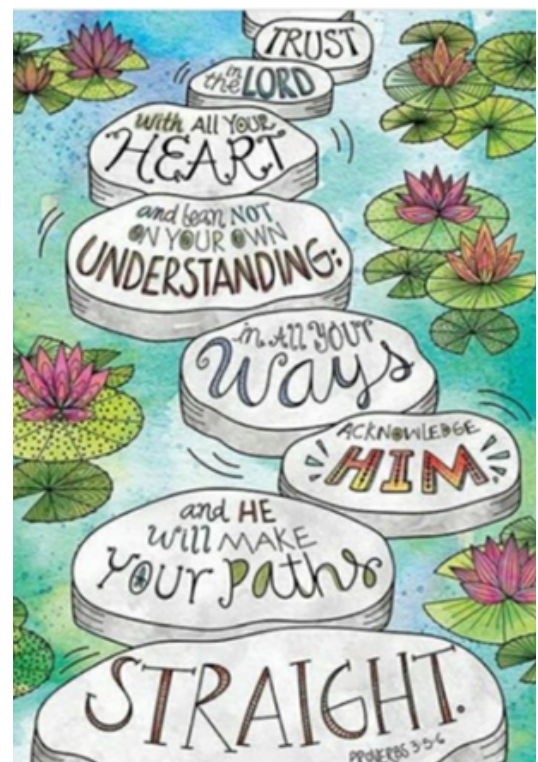
Many have said what a challenge 2022 has been for them and/or those they know. In my own life I was reminded of what I thought I already knew, and that was how life can change in an instant. It happened on the weekend before Thanksgiving, hurrying to unlock the front door when I misjudged the steps, fell across the entryway, and slammed into the wall. I knew in that instant that life had changed for me (for at least a portion of the foreseeable future). Surgery followed the day before Thanksgiving. That whole week is somewhat of a blur. But throughout that time, I remember thinking how grateful I was – grateful that I didn't break my neck, grateful that my husband had the week off and could help me adjust, grateful for a daughter that lives close and made time to spend with me. Mostly grateful for the knowledge that God is ever-present, as Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

The decisions we make, the changes we encounter, the challenges we face are all colored by the view we have of life and the knowledge we have that God is always there for us. Always. It doesn't mean we won't face adversity. It does mean that He will be there to face the adversity with us. Comforting.

Happy New Year! A good verse that can substitute for a New Year's resolution:

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."



# Food *on the* Fourth

James 2:15-17

December was our best month yet for Food on the Fourth! 1004.5 pounds of food was collected! Amazing! Thank you, thank you!

This month, the Food Shelf is requesting supplies to assemble birthday bags for children in our community. Donations will be collected on Sunday, January 22.

## Food Shelf Needs:

- Birthday bags
- Birthday candles
- Birthday plates and napkins
- Balloons
- Streamers or other decorations
- Party favors
- Coloring books
- Crayons
- Markers
- Pencils
- Cupcake paper liners
- Inexpensive toys/trinkets



## ANNUAL MEETING: January 29, 2023

Farmington Lutheran's Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 29 at 11:45am. The meeting will be available both in person, in the sanctuary, and online on our Facebook and YouTube pages.

## NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

**Sunday, January 22 at 11:45 am, lunch will be provided**

Everyone is always welcome at FLC and you do not need to be a member to attend worship, events or classes. Nevertheless, we would love for you to join our community of faith if you're interested!

At FLC, church is more than just a building. FLC is a community of people that worship together, serve the Lord, share God's love and support one another. Sign up [HERE](#).

New members will be received January 29th, at both services.

# BREW EDTHE OLOGY

Brewed Theology is back AND on a new night! Starting in 2023, Brewed Theology will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

January's theme is "Affluenza"  
January 24 at 7:00pm  
Stay tuned for a sign up link and more information.



# THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!!!

A huge thanks to everyone who helped throughout FLC's Advent, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services. Over 75 volunteers helped with special music, lighting the Advent candles, as worship hosts, acolytes, with screens and livestreaming, and the preparation! We are so grateful for each and every one of you! Thank you, thank you!



## POPCAN TRAILER IS BACK!

The CAN trailer is back and ready to collect cans. You can find our can trailer out by the small shed and basketball hoop. Please empty your cans into the trailer and take your bag with you.

The money returned goes for camperships and/or the purchase of new Bibles in Children and Family Ministries. Bibles cost \$24.99 and we want to provide our youngest with Bibles (FLC purchases Bibles three different times for families from birth – 5th grade).

The cost for one week at Camp Wapo is \$610. We want everyone to have a camp experience and will try and help with the cost of camp.

Special thanks to Phil Kadlec and Eagle Scout, Trevor Leshner, for repairing and upgrading the trailer.



# YOUTH UPDATES

## 7TH GRADE CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Our 7th grade Confirmation students will have a day retreat on Saturday, January 28th from 10:00am to 4:00pm. This will be a great event for these students to work hard serving the Lord, and have some fun together. We will start the day packing meals for Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, and finish the day at Bowlero in Lakeville. An email with all of the details as well as a registration link has already been sent out but please reach out to Nick if you have any questions.

## FLY CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES



FLY (Farmington Lutheran Youth) had a lot of fun celebrating the birth of our Savior together.



PreCon (6th grade) students were able to challenge their parents in Sword Drill competitions. Sword Drills give students training on how to use their Bible (Sword of the Spirit, Ephesians 6:17) by finding a certain book, chapter, and verse by memory. Parents won the competition this time.

Confirmation (7th and 8th grade) students watched A Charlie Brown's Christmas, baked cookies, made Christmas cards, and enjoyed one another on our last night of programming for the year.



KOIN (9th through 12th grade students) participated in an Ugly Sweater contest and exchanged funny gifts with one another. It was a very fun and festive night in all FLY programming.



### SUNDAY MORNINGS at 9:30am

All FLY students are always welcome to join us every Sunday morning at 9:30am for breakfast, fellowship, and Bible study. We would love to have and invite any student that is interested to join us for breakfast cereal, Pop Tarts, and Jesus.

# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING NEWS

## KiC: KIDS IN CHRIST 4th, 5th and 6th Graders

KiC (Kids in Christ) is a group of 4th, 5th, and 6th graders that meet monthly. We have our next event coming up on Friday, January 13th from 6-10:00pm. Sign up [HERE](#).

There will be food, snacks, games, prayer, and more! Don't miss out on all the fun. We are always looking for awesome adults and high schoolers to help with this event. Please contact Dawn for more information.

In December, KiC got together and baked cookies and bars for the Christmas program. We had so many delicious treats and enjoyed taste testing them. Thank you to all the volunteers and KiC kids that made this event a success.



## SPONTANEOUS, UNREHEARSED CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Spontaneous, Unrehearsed Christmas worship services were enjoyed by everyone! A huge thank you goes out to all our participants.

Have you ever wanted to be part of the planning of this worship service, or would you like to help in some other way to make that service a success? Please contact Dawn Albrecht for more information.

# MILESTONE EVENTS

## FOUR YEAR OLD CHRISTMAS STORY MILESTONE

In December, we met with some of our 4-year-old friends and learned more about the Christmas story. We shared our favorite cookie types and listened to Pastor Kristen read from our Spark Story Book Bible. We made a craft at the end of our time together.



## UPCOMING MILESTONE EVENT

In January, we have our Baptismal Anniversary on Sunday, January 8. This milestone event is for those that were baptized in 2022. We will meet in the Fireside room at 9:45am. Register [HERE](#).

## CAMP SUNDAY IS THIS WEEKEND!

Camp Sunday is approaching, and you know what that means, right? Summertime fun is just up ahead! All registrations will be opening soon, and you'll be able to grab one of the limited spots available. Mark your calendars- you don't want to miss out on these awesome opportunities. Join us on Sunday, January 8th at either service for Camp Kick-off! Stop by the welcome booth with any questions!



# KICK OFF 2023 WITH SIMPLER GIVING

Giving is easier than ever, sign up today for online recurring giving through our website!

Benefits of online giving:

- customize the dates to give
- track your giving online
- safe and secure
- fast, easy and convenient

Visit the link below or contact the church office and get signed up today.

[FARMINGTONLUTHERAN.COM/GIVE](http://FARMINGTONLUTHERAN.COM/GIVE)

**tithe.ly**  
**give**  
**online**  
**today**



Did you know FLC offers Text to Give options? Giving in the moment is easy with our text-to-give option.

1. Text GIVE to (855) 410-8106.
2. Click the registration link and enter your payment information.
3. Receive a verification text as well as an email receipt.

For future giving, simply send a text to the same number with the amount you wish to give, and your donation will process automatically.

## WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 am and 10:30 am

Livestreaming at 10:30 am



[www.farmingtonlutheran.com](http://www.farmingtonlutheran.com)

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