

March 2023

1212 Minneapolis Ave.
Gladstone, MI 49837
906-428-4565

www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org
office@firstlutheran-gladstone.org
or check us out on facebook.com

Worship –8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Office Hours – Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Friday – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Rev. Elisabeth Daniels, Pastor

pastor.firstgladstone@gmail.com

What's Inside ...

From the Pastor	Page 4
Upcoming Scriptures	Page 5
Lent News	Page 5
Welcome to the Table Classes	Page 6
Circle News	Page 7
Stewardship	Page 8
Special Giving Envelope	Page 9
Safety Task Force	Page 9
Confirmation Pictures	Page 9
Welcome & Outreach	Page 9
ELCA & Synod Events	Page 10
Lifelong Formations	Page 11
Easter Flowers	Page 13
Fortune Lake	Page 12
Hope at the Inn	Page 13
Thank You	Page 13
Birthdays/Anniversaries	Page 14
Homebound	Page 15
Serving Us	Page 15
Thrivent Choice Dollars	Page 16
Council Highlights	Page 16
Annual Meeting Highlights	Page 16
Offering Envelopes & Directories	Page 16
Contact Us	Page 17
Easter Flower Form	Page 18

Our Mission Statement ...

First Lutheran Church is God's people inviting, involving equipping and empowering to serve, that all may know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"
-John 14:9

FLC Family,

How many of you have transitional lenses? They seem to have improved over the years, but do you remember when folks first started wearing them? They would come inside and it looked like their future was so bright that they had to wear shades? Or perhaps they looked like they might break out into singing, "I wear my sunglasses at night so I can..." "remember that the 80s was a great time for pop songs about visual assistive devices that we wear on our faces! Corey Hart and Timbuk 3 would agree.

Seriously, the 80s had an obsession with all things eye related. "Private Eyes" by Hall & Oates, "Somebody's Watching Me" by Rockwell, and "In Your Eyes" by Peter Gabriel are just a few more examples, but I could go on and I do digress. Transitions in life and eyewear do not always happen exactly how or when we want them to.

Often, we want "new" to spring up. We impatiently demand that the next thing gets here. Just like transitional lenses sometimes our vision is slow to catch up with the significance of staying in the moment. What is God showing you in the changes and transitions in your life? Is Jesus standing in front of you asking for you and you don't see. Distractions may have darkened your view, but wait, the light is coming.

As we continue our journey through these 40 days of Lent may you pause long enough to see God more clearly. May the transitions you are confronted with reveal God in the change and even in the darkness.

And hey, if you can think of more eye/eyewear related 80s music, find me and share, because sometimes digressions are the best path forward.

God's peace,

Pastor Elisabeth

Upcoming Scriptures

March 5 – Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a, Psalm 121, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17

March 12 – Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42

March 19 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

March 26 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

Lenten Soup Suppers & Worship

Each Wednesday at 6:00 pm March 1st -29th

Midweek Worship service to follow at 7:00 pm

Soup Suppers are back this year. Our Confirmation Students are going to help serve, but their numbers are few. We need soup, bread, desserts, side items and kitchen help. Please sign up in the Narthex.



Soup supper free will offerings and Lent offerings will go towards World Hunger.

Maundy Thursday Worship, April 6th at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Worship, April 7th at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 9th at 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Coffee Fellowship

Our coffee fellowship host, Connie, will be away February 21st – March 21st. We are looking for families, groups and/or committees to sign up in the narthex to support this ministry. It doesn't have to be fancy, mostly we are looking for coffee and a morsel or two to tide us over while we connect!

IN SEARCH OF...

- We have many areas in the church where help is needed. Especially during our worship services. These areas include;

***USHERS
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
READERS
SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS***

These are important parts of our worship to run smoothly.
Contact Pastor or the office to help in these areas.

WELCOME TO THE TABLE CLASS

All those interested in receiving their first communion are invited to join this class. First graders and up are encouraged to attend.



Class Schedule
March 5th - March 12th - March 19th
Sign up in the office.

Maundy Thursday “Welcome to the Table” meal at 6:00 pm with First Communion Families. All are welcome to the dinner . Worship will follow at 7:00 pm.

Cub Scouts Sunday

The Cub Scouts will be participating in our 10:30 worship on Sunday, March 5th. They will also be hosting a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser from 9:00am – 1:00pm in the fellowship hall. Adults \$7, Children \$5, under 5yrs old are Free. Or just have a cup of free coffee and join in fellowship.

Music Notes

Thank you to Glenn Bengry for playing his trumpet and to Finlee Carter and Caroline Salminen for sharing their voices during our 10:30 service.

Bible Study

Bible study meets Wednesday mornings at 9:30am – 11:00am in the Youth Room. We are finishing reading and discussing the *Book of Ecclesiastes*. The next study is the *Song of Solomon*. Is this a study that interests you? Come and see!

Christian Education

The Christian education team is planning an Easter Egg Hunt.



Saturday, April 8th at 1:00 pm

Love Circle

Meets on Thursday's at 9:30 am.

Sewing Circle

The sewing circle meets every Tuesday at 9:00am in the fellowship hall. Any questions, call Connie at 428-1696. As you are doing "deep cleaning" we can use gently used towels, sheets, blankets, yarn, materials, and t-shirts. If you have any doubt that we might use it, please check with us. We are here on Monday's too from 8:30-11:30 am.

Tried-N-True

Meets on the 3rd Friday of each month at noon. March meeting is on the 17th in the fellowship hall. You are treated to a wonderful lunch, fellowship, and seniors. Program news will be on the Sunday church announcements slides and in the bulletin.

Book Club

The book selected for discussion in March will be: "*The Giver of Stars*" by Jojo Moyes. We plan to meet on Friday, March 24th at 1:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining this discussion, but the meeting time does not work for you please let the office know. We are willing to find a meeting time and day that will work for all those interested.

Stewardship

LOVE LIGHTS THE WAY

When you have been writing about stewardship as long as I have, composing a monthly message requires more and more soul searching about whether I have anything to say that's worth reading. It's difficult not to repeat oneself or not to plow the same old ground over and over. It's like getting hung up on worrying about the presentation instead of the message. We can miss the forest for the trees.

Back to basics is always a good way to clear away the small stuff and make way for the big picture. Stewardship is not complicated. It's all about God's love. Because God loves us, we can be the light of the world (or, at least, our world). Does any of that sound familiar?

As it says in Matthew 5: 16,” let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven”.

For those of us who might get hung up on the friction caused by the dichotomy between the seeing of your good works in Matthew 16 and salvation by grace alone, the WHY we show off makes all the difference. The writer of the February 5 “Christ In Our Home” message says it very well. We light up our world “not to earn our way to heaven, but because God loves us SO much that we overflow with that love and need to share it”. You've heard this before. It's all about God's love and THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING.

So, we are back to basics. It all starts with God's love (and grace) who created all of us with gifts that God intends for us to use, NOT HIDE AWAY. I, for one, feel abundantly blessed to be in community with so many of you who don't hide your gifts. Thank you for lighting up your world and ours!

Humbled by God's love,

Dirk Manson, Stewardship Chair



Special Giving Envelope

March Special Giving will go towards
Fortune Lake Camperships

This fund enables First Lutheran to financially help families send their children to Fortune Lake.

February Special Giving - Miriam Scholarship: Thank you to all who contributed to the Miriam Scholarship. As of February 20th, you raised \$175.00.

Safety Task Force

Carbon Monoxide detectors have been installed throughout the building. Thank you to Andy Nelson for installing them.



*For every ones safety, make sure
Doors are locked when leaving.*

NEXT SAFETY MEETING

To be determined

Confirmation Pictures

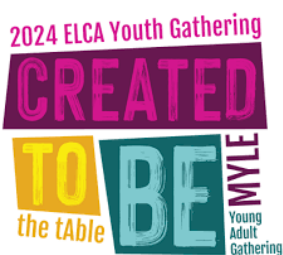
We are missing confirmation class pictures from 2019, 2021, and 2022. If you have a picture of one or more of these confirmation class, would you share them with the congregation? Bring it to the office and we will have a copy made. We would like to continue the tradition of placing the confirmation classes in the photo stand in the fellowship hall..

Welcome & Outreach



The Welcome and Outreach committee is seeking new members. Their ministry reaches out to those who have lost loved ones, sends supportive greeting cards, help with tracking membership, and many other ministries. If you think you would like to join, call the office, or attend their next meeting on March 21st at noon.

ELCA & Synod Events



July 16-20, 2024

The **2024 ELCA Youth Gathering** planning team recently announced its theme of “Created to Be” centered on Psalm 139:14 “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.” The ELCA Youth Gathering will take place in New Orleans July 16-20, 2024. If you have

high-school youth who will be eligible to attend in 2024, now is a great time to plant the seed and invite them to join other ELCA youth from across the country for this faith-forming event.



Christ's Kaleidoscope Challenge

A new group of Northern Great Lakes Synod people who are passionate about leading our Synod's efforts to see others through the eyes of Jesus. The **Kaleidoscope Challenge** for Lent 2023 focuses on resources that educate and deepen cultural competency regarding racial equity, our indigenous neighbors, and the LGBTQIA+ community. For the Challenge, each week participants listen, read, and watch various resources to engage the subject matter. Then, you are invited to a weekly discussion to process your experience of these resources with a zoom cohort of your choosing. A variety of facilitators, days, and times will be available.

The Year 2023 begins a year when we focus on **Love**. This Lenten Kaleidoscope Challenge puts love into action as we make the effort to see others more clearly. The goal is greater awareness and deeper understanding. The Challenge begins February 23 and runs through April 3. Visit <https://nglsynod.org/christ-kaleidoscope-challenge/> for more information



Northern Great Lake Synod From Martin Luther to Contemporary Concerns, Synod-Wide Lifelong Faith Formation Program Invites Growth in Faith and Spirituality

Beginning in January 2023, the Northern Great Lakes Synod will offer more opportunities than ever for fellowship and learning through Lifelong Faith Formation. In its third year, the online learning program will open for registration in early December on the synod website for classes this winter and spring. The upcoming offerings reflect the remarkable diversity of gifts, experiences, and interests of our teachers and participants. The new class schedule includes:

A Spirituality of Death and Dying

The fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 pm January 24 – April 25
Instructor: Pastor Elisabeth Daniels of First, Gladstone

Rediscovering God and Changing the World: A Book Study of the Life of Martin Luther by Eric Metaxas

First and Third Tuesday at 5 pm February 7, 21 and March 7, 21
Instructor: Bishop Emeritus Tom Skrenes



Easter Flowers

If you would like to supply Easter flowers for Easter Sunday in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the form at the back of the newsletter.

Fortune Lake News

Senior Days 2023

Fortune Lake is proud to continue the tradition of Senior Days for the elders in our region. This year's dates have been selected. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us!

Monday, May 8

The day begins at 10:00am and wraps up by 2:00pm CT.

The day includes, coffee and fellowship time, devotion and announcements, presentation in the morning, lunch, and an afternoon presentation. It's not too early to sign up.

Summer 2023 Program

It is time to start planning for another great summer at Fortune Lake. The schedule grid is now available online on the main Summer camp page. The calendar and links to all detailed session descriptions are now live under Camp Sessions. Brochures are available on the Sunday School bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

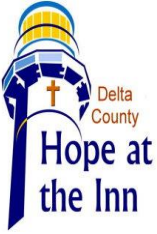
WonderDays

Whether you're looking for mindfulness tools and practices, a chance to explore the outdoors, a creative outlet, or just an afternoon of family fun, WonderDays is the place for you! WonderDays is a series of FREE events taking place on one Saturday afternoon each month through April. Activities for all ages are provided by Fortune Lake and the Crystal Falls Contemporary Center through the generous support of the Iron Area Health Foundation.

2023 WonderDays Schedule

March 18

April 15



Hope at the Inn

If you are in need of homeless services, please contact the Community Action intake line at 1-800-562-9762 x207.

Thank you to Lloyd and Mary Tuskan for their help folding the bulletins each week. And to Judy Hammond, Judy Haulotte and Gloria Kanerva for their help in assembling the February newsletter.



Dear First Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your very generous donation of \$440.00 to our Delta County Walk for Warmth fund. We appreciate your continued support over the years.

We are very grateful to have the generosity of so many churches, businesses, organizations and individuals in our community.

We assure you that your donation will go directly to support local families and senior citizens struggling to pay their heat bills in the winter. We thank you again for your support of Walk for Warmth.

Sincerely Yours,

Julie Moberg, Executive Director

Thank you for the kind words and also for the gift to our food pantry. The family of Robert Koski acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

Dear first Lutheran Church, Gladstone,

...We want to thank you for your support in December 2022 of the CoVantage Cares Foundation Giving Tuesday Campaign, where you donated in support of our Crystal Falls branch recipient, Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. We look forward to seeing the good that Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp will do because of your generosity...

Take Care, Morgan Teal

CoVantage Cares Foundation Director



Week 1:

Jeanne Hoegh
Rachel Soderman

Tiffany Olsick

Easton Groleau

Week 2:

Rhonda Husbye

Stacie Carter

Tom Otis

Week 3:

Audra Steinhoff
Christine Johnson

Paul Geiken
Savanna Sovey

Jenna Stenhoff
Maxine Maki

Week 4:

Myra Skorupski
Anne Movalson
Mack McDonald

Taylor Trudeau
Arla Pearson

Max Westerberg
Vicki Ottensman

Week 5:

Sophie Scholer

Jeff Gudwer

Evora Schaefer



Michael & Susan Snowaert
Harvey & Betty Setter

49 years
59 Years



Lakeview

Laila Whitfield
 Carole Wedell
 Everett Robinson

Bishop Noa

Betty Erickson

Murray's Country View

Pat Shampo

At Home

Arla Pearson
 Lorraine Moreau
 Gen Morley

Serving Us in March

Readers

8:00 am

10:30 am

March 5	Ellen Swenson	Connie Salmi
March 12	Pam Durbin	Lynn Thomas
March 19	Judy Hammond	Laura Coleman
March 26	Cindy Sjoquist	Pam Durbin

Communion Assistance

March 5	Communion Kits	Need 2
March 12	Communion Kits	Kathy Gudwer
March 19	Communion Kits	Carol Kocsis
March 26	Communion Kits	Cindy Sjoquist

We need one more person for each 10:30 worship. If you are interested, contact the office. No special training needed. Thank you for volunteering to serve. If you are unable to serve, please find a substitute and contact the office at 428-4565.

Altar Guild:

Marty Nelson
 Amy Miron

Thrivent Choice Dollars Given By:

Dirk and Sue Manson
William Obenauf
Llyod and Mary Tuskan

Council Highlights

The Congregational Council met on February 5th with president, Kathy Gobert, presiding. At this meeting the council; elected new officers. Cindy Sjoquist – President, Lynn Thomas – Vice President, Christine Mineau – Secretary, Bill Ehrhardt – Treasurer. The installation of new members will be at the next council meeting on March 21st at 7:00pm via Zoom.



Annual Meeting Highlights

Changes were made to the agenda and corrections to some of the reports. The 2022 annual meeting minutes were approved. A unanimous ballot of all the Nominating Committee nominees were approved. All reports were approved, including the financial reports. Pastor noted many of the saving and checking accounts were closed and are now funds under the general checking. The new Constitution was approved and the Resolutions were presented and approved. The next Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2024

Offering Envelopes & Directories

Many offering envelopes remain in the narthex and will remain out only until the end of the March. Please note: Offering Envelopes will *NOT* be delivered or mailed this year. If you need help in getting your envelopes, please call the church office or a council member.

If you had your picture taken for the new directory, it is available in the narthex with your name on it.

Contact Us:

First Lutheran Church

1212 Minneapolis Ave.

Gladstone, MI 49837

906-428-4565

www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org or find us on facebook.com

Rev. Elisabeth Daniels, Pastor

pastor.firstgladstone@gmail.com

Office: 906-428-4565 Home: 773-419-2892

Office Administrator: Rhonda Husbye

office@firstlutheran-gladstone.org

Director of Music: Stacie Carter

staciecarter717@gmail.com

Musicians: Paul Rajala

Christian Ed Coordinators: Suzanne Dahlke & Pam Brown

Custodian: Hope Thompson

Congregation Council:

Cindy Sjoquist, President

Lynn Thomas, Vice President

Chris Mineau, Secretary

Bill Ehrhardt, Treasurer

Ruth Botbyl

Ann Christiansen

Rachel Coyne

Kathy Gobert

Dirk Manson

Ray Miller

Sam Olsick

Reyna Rose

[mailto: office@firstlutheran-gladstone.org](mailto:office@firstlutheran-gladstone.org)

A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



Easter Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one for Easter, please fill out the form below and turn it in to the church office by **Wednesday, April 5th**. All flowers must be delivered to the church on **Friday, April 7th** between **9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.**



_____ I will provide flowers (**NO LILIES, HYACINTHS or TULIPS!**) to be delivered on Friday, April 7th between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. *I will take the flowers after worship.*

_____ I will provide flowers (**NO LILIES, HYACINTH or TULIPS!**) to be delivered. on Friday, April 7th between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. *The flowers will be distributed by the Altar Guild.*

In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 8:00am Worship - Vicar Melissa 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:15am Christian Education Hour 10:30am Worship - Vicar Melissa 11:45am Farewell Potluck for Vicar	27 6:00pm Cub Scouts	28 9:00am Sewing 10:30am Pastor's Text Study	1 8:00am Kiwanis 8:30am All Staff Meeting 9:30am Bible Study 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	2 1:00pm Bulletin Folding 5:15pm T.O.P.S.	3 World Day of Prayer	4
5 8:00am Worship 8:45am Special Coffee Fellowship 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Property Committee Meeting 9:15am Christian Education Hour 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship	6 6:00pm Cub Scouts	7 9:00am Sewing 10:30am Pastor's Text Study	8 8:00am Kiwanis 9:30am Bible Study 11:00am Office Staff Meeting 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	9 1:00pm Bulletin Folding 5:15pm T.O.P.S.	10	11 Turn Your Clocks Ahead
12 Cub Scout Sunday Daylight-Saving Time Begins 8:00am Worship 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser 9:15am Christian Education Hour 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship	13 6:00pm Cub Scouts	14 9:00am Sewing 10:30am Pastor's Text Study	15 8:00am Kiwanis 9:30am Bible Study 11:00am Office Staff Meeting 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	16 LIFELINES 9:00am Men's Group 9:30am Love Circle 1:00pm Bulletin Folding 5:15pm T.O.P.S.	17 12:00pm Tried-N-True	18
19 8:00am Worship 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:15am Christian Education Hour 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship	20 6:00pm Cub Scouts	21 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9:00am Sewing 10:30am Pastor's Text Study 12:00pm Welcome & Outreach 7:00pm Council Meeting	22 8:00am Kiwanis 9:30am Bible Study 11:00am Office Staff Meeting 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	23 1:00pm Bulletin Folding 5:15pm T.O.P.S.	24 1:00pm Book Club	25
26 8:00am Worship 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:15am Christian Education Hour 10:30am Worship 11:45am Coffee Fellowship	27 6:00pm Cub Scouts	28 9:00am Sewing 10:30am Pastor's Text Study	29 8:00am Kiwanis 9:30am Bible Study 11:00am Office Staff Meeting 2:00pm Newsletter Assembly 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Worship	30 1:00pm Bulletin Folding 5:15pm T.O.P.S.	31	1

First Lutheran Church
1212 Minneapolis Avenue
Gladstone, Michigan 49837

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Gladstone, MI 49837
Permit No. 6
