

FIRST FOCUS



February 28—March 13, 2010

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*Congratulations, Karen
on 10 years of music ministry
which has enriched
our worship at First Lutheran*



Please join us for a reception
in Karen Brown's honor
this Sunday, February 28
at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to write a note or card
for Karen on this special occasion,
please leave in the church office
for Maryellen Paton
or bring with you on the 28th.

March 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

*First Lutheran is a partner in the NC Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

God's work. Our hands.



Worship Ministries

What is worship?

Is worship a noun - a service or religious rite? Or is worship a verb - one's participation in the expression of love and adoration to one's God? It is both, isn't it? Now we are in the season of Lent and I encourage you to worship every single day. Read Romans 12:1-2, or go to a daily devotion site like www.365.org, or just take time apart to open your heart to be fed again by the Presence of God's Spirit. Join us here for services of worship either on Sundays, Tuesday mornings or Wednesday evenings during Lent to sing, pray, and learn together. This participation with your fellow believers helps to fuel you for your daily living as a called child of God. You can worship as you sing, worship as you work, worship as you pray, worship as you love a family member or a stranger. You can serve others in the community or give financial support to agencies like GUM.



Special expressions of music in worship for the upcoming weeks:

- ✠ Youth Choir sings a special Psalm Anthem on February 28 in the 11:15 service.
- ✠ Youth Choir sings a musical offering "From the Inside Out" in the 9:00 service on March 7, and John Brumbaugh plays cello at the 11:15 prelude.
- ✠ The Handbell Choir rings the prelude at the 11:15 service on March 14.

Favorite quotes from Pastor Brady...

"Hope is the strongest driving force for a people. Hope which brings about change, which produces new realities, is what opens man's road to freedom. Once hope has taken hold, courage must unite with wisdom. That is the only way of avoiding violence, the only way of maintaining the calm one needs to respond peacefully to offenses."

-- Oscar Arias Sanchez, excerpted from his 1987 Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech

"When it comes down to being a provider of God's love, there is really only one provider, who sends us out with nothing at all and with everything we need: healing, forgiveness, restoration, resurrection. Those are the only things we really have to share with the world, which is just as well, since they are the only things the world really needs."

-- Barbara Brown Taylor, from her book Bread of Angels

Children's Ministry

Faith-filled summer fun!

Sign-ups are underway for summer camps!

Children today need summer faith camp more than ever! Time away in intentional Christian community is life-changing and critical for faith development in young people!

- Sixty percent of ELCA pastors say outdoor ministry was significant to their call to ministry.
- The Search Institute found that a week at camp is the second most important thing a child can have in their life to pass on the faith. (The faith of the family is first.)

Lutheridge/Lutherock have summer programs for 1st graders through 12th graders. A special Outdoor Adventure Program has been developed to attract middle school and high school youth.

Camp Agape/Kure Beach have camp programs for children entering first grade through high school. Register for any overnight camp before May 2 and save \$25.

Camp brochures are available on the bulletin board outside Denise Riley's office at the church. Scholarship money is available for these camps, so don't skip camp just because of the cost.

And don't forget Grandcamp on June 16 (more to come!), or Agape Day Camp June 21-25 here at First Lutheran! The cost for Day Camp is \$125 if you register by April 5. After that, the cost is \$140.

Women of the ELCA—Circles

Annie Ray Moore Circle

Sunday, March 21, 7 pm FLC Café

Linus Blankets to donate. Bring 2 yards of fleece (or 1 yard each of coordinating patterns) and good scissors.

Mary Martha Circle

Wednesday, March 3, 10 am

Church Parlor

Hostess: Helen DeRochi

Powlas Deal Circle

Tuesday, March 2, 2010, 7 pm

(Note change of date due to Lent)

Place: FLC, Room 4

Hostess: Kim Harms

Program: Learning how to fold boxes
Assembling Easter Baskets for Mary's House Residents

Bring items for the baskets.. 14 children, 8 adults.

Sullivan Huddle Circle

Monday, March 1, 7:30 PM

Hostess: Marion Bunge

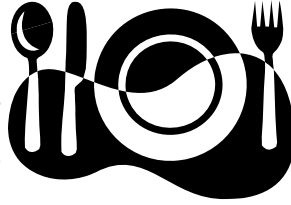
1 Water Gap Ct.

Program: Sisters 'N Saints

Youth Ministry

GUM NIGHT for all 5th & 6th Grade Youth & Families
Thursday, March 25 5:45–8 pm

Put it on your calendar and join the serving team! Since we expect to serve close to 150 homeless guests during this very cold season - we are counting on YOU!! Homemade Chicken Tetrazzini was successful last time so we are trying it again. We are requesting that interested FLC members prepare a 9x13 casserole ahead of time. Sign up will be on the youth board. Grade 7-8 & Families will be asked to provide desserts and/or rolls plus the people power to prepare & serve the meal.



5th & 6th Grade Parents

You should have received an informational letter via e-mail about the human sexuality curriculum, "Created By God." Please mark your calendars and be a part of the parent meeting on March 7 at 10 am in room 1. For more information please contact Carol McPeeters, 292-9125 or carol@firstlutheran.com.

Also note - "Created By God" classes for 5-6 grade youth will begin on April 11 during the Sunday Education Hour and run through May 16.

7th & 8th Grade Mission & High Adventure Trip

July 18-24, 2010

Sign Up with a \$70 Deposit by March 7

This summer, new confirmation youth (gr 7-8) have the opportunity to experience an unforgettable week of hands-on mission, group building and high adventure activities. Working through TEAMeffort, participants will serve others by helping with home repairs and renovations but relationships formed with people will be something to remember forever. Youth will stay in a campus near Sevierville, TN. Please check out <http://www.teameffort.org/mountains.php> for more information. Our total cost per participant is estimated at \$350 (depending on the high adventure activities we select).

High School Rural Servant Trip

Appalachian Mountains

June 27 - July 3, 2010

Deposit of \$70 due by March 7

Open to all current First Lutheran High School Youth. Be a part of hands-on relational mission and high adventure this summer! Working through TEAMeffort, our group will stay at a youth camp in Tennessee near the Georgia and North Carolina borders. As servants we will help people living in the Appalachian Mountains. The "Whitewater Camp" where we will stay offers a variety of high adventure opportunities for our group right on the campus. Deposits must be made soon to keep our reserved spaces. Please check out www.teameffort.org/mountains.php for more information. Our total cost per participant is estimated at \$350 (includes \$269 TeamEffort cost, transportation, extra high adventure experiences and extra

From the Green Team

Do you drink coffee in the Luther Cafe on Sunday mornings? Make coffee for FACEOUT or a meeting during the week? We are now collecting the grounds and using them for composting in gardens. These are particularly good for acid-loving plants such as blueberries, hydrangeas, and yes, azaleas. Would you like to try this at home? Here's more information from Starbucks itself!



<http://www.starbucks.com/aboutus/compost.asp>

Building Space

As we watch the progress of the new building going up, it is time to think about what should be done with the current rooms that will be made available. If you have ideas about how that space should be utilized, please contact Heidi Baer at heidibaer@aol.com or 688-4015.

Grace Reigns Down in CONCERT!!!!

THIS Saturday, February 27—7 pm



**Bring the family for an evening of
Christian Music
and help support
Greensboro Urban Ministry
all at once!**

**Bring canned food for admission,
and make sure to tell
your friends!!!**

Community Ministries

GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD - February 21- April 4

What is full of "cheeps" and you can buy for \$10 each? CHICKS ... FOR CHANGE!



The children and adults of First Lutheran are seeking to provide 100 chicks during Lent through God's Global Barnyard, a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Chicks make a big difference for families! Within a few months of birth, chicks begin laying eggs. Eggs make nutritious meals for growing children, and the extra eggs generate income to grow a small business.



Special displays/collection points will be set up in the church beginning in mid- to late February and will end on Easter, April 4. Please make checks to either First Lutheran Church or the ELCA World Hunger Appeal and put "chicks" on your offering envelope.

Thanks to Amy Schenck, 540-8395, aschenck73@gmail.com, for coordinating this project to help children see how small steps can mean big changes.



Write a check for chicks and hatch some hope!

COMING SOON!



The Habitat home will begin being built April 10 and will be dedicated on June 20. Kimberly Embry, Colette Gibson and Mack McPeeters will be the major contacts for this project, which supports one of the main mission priorities of ending homelessness.

THANKS! An updated SOUPER Bowl count:

You gave \$1,073 for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal and 568 total food items, including 87 jelly jars and 25 peanut butter jars. Most of the food items went to Food Assistance Inc., thanks to Phil Barry. The jelly and peanut butter were given to Greensboro Urban Ministry for the Thursday/Friday breakfasts.

Stewardship

As part of a lesson on stewardship, Pastor Charlie asks participants to reflect on the following questions. Take a moment to do that now. Contact either Pastor Charlie or Frank Moore if you would like to have a copy of the entire lesson plan.

- ✦ What ministries (1or 2) at FLC are you most passionate about?
- ✦ How do you support those? (Time, talent, treasure)
- ✦ How have those ministries been a blessing in your life?

Easter Flowers

Help celebrate the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday by placing flowers and greenery in the Worship Room and narthex, either as a memorial or honorarium.

In lieu of the lilies and hydrangeas you may make a contribution towards the purchase/rental of decorations and/or greenery.

Please complete this form and mail or bring it to the church office with a check made payable to First Lutheran Church NO LATER than Monday, March 22. Please DO NOT place your order form in the offering plate.

Name: _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Number of lilies _____ at \$10.00 = \$ _____

Number of hydrangeas _____ at \$15.00 = \$ _____

Miscellaneous contribution (Liturgical Arts) \$ _____

Total check amount \$ _____

Our Church Family



...from Shirley Wilhelm, who writes, "Thank you for the food, the cards and the calls I received expressing love and concern. I feel like the prayers have really helped my recovery. Thank you for the visits from the pastors and chaplains. God's love to all."

Fair Trade Coffee, etc.

Fair trade coffee, tea, cocoa and chocolate are on sale at First Lutheran on the second Sunday of every month. The next sale will be on Sunday, March 14. These items are also on sale during the week in Frank Moore's office. Support fair trade! For more information, go to <http://www.equalexchange.coop/lwr>

2010 sounds like a good year to have another Congregational Retreat at Lutheridge.

Please mark your calendars for October 8-10, 2010.

Our first planning meeting will be:
April 11 at the church in room 9 at 4 pm.

Let's have a big group come together with excitement to help make this weekend special. Please call Donalyn Johnson at 288-5106 with questions and don't forget to mark your calendars.



February 28 - March 13 at First Lutheran

Sunday, March 14

- 8:45 am Traditional Worship
- 9:00 am Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 am Faith Formation
- 10:00 am Karen Brown's 10th Anniversary Celebration
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship
- 3:00 pm Worship Ministries Comm.
- 4:30 pm Youth Choir
- 6:30 pm SHOUT! Service
- 7:30 pm Luther Brass
- 7:30 pm Bible Study

Monday, March 15

- 1:30 pm Spirituality Group
- 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study
- 5:00 pm Grace Reigns Down
- 7:30 pm Sullivan Huddle Circle

Tuesday, March 16

- 9:30 am Knitting Ministry
- 10:00 am Chair Yoga
- 11:00 am FACEOUT-Lenten Service
- 1:00 pm Spirituality Group
- 7:00 pm Faith Formation Visioning
- 7:00 pm Powlas Deal Circle
- 7:00 pm Living Stones

Wednesday, March 17

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 10:00 am Mary Martha Circle
- 6:00 pm Handbells
- 7:00 pm Lenten Service
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 18

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 10:00 am Quilters
- 7:30 pm Fellowship Choir

Friday, March 19

YOUTH LOCK-IN

Sunday, March 21

- 8:45 am Traditional Worship
- 9:00 am Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 am Faith Formation
- 10:00 am New Beginnings Class
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship
- 6:30 pm SHOUT! Service
- 7:30 pm Luther Brass
- 7:30 pm Bible Study

Monday, March 22

- 1:00 pm Chrismon Class
- 1:30 pm Spirituality Group
- 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study
- 5:00 pm Grace Reigns Down

Tuesday, March 23

- 10:00 am Chair Yoga
- 11:00 am FACEOUT-Lenten Svc.
- 1:00 pm Spirituality Group
- 7:00 pm Charlie's Garden Comm.
- 7:00 pm Living Stones

Wednesday, March 24

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 10:00 am Crocheting Christians
- 6:00 pm Handbells
- 7:00 pm Lenten Service
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 25

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 7:30 pm Fellowship Choir

Worship Attendance

	<u>2/14</u>		<u>2/21</u>	
8:45	64	8:45	80	
9:00	260	9:00	198	
11:15	385	11:15	172	
6:30	45	6:30	64	



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Deadline for next newsletter: Wednesday, March 3

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