

# Happy New Year

from the staff at  
First Lutheran Church



*Pamela M. Morolle*

*Amber*

*Darla*

*Bev*

*Julie*

*Don*

## SHARING FIRST

Monthly Newsletter of  
Galesburg First Lutheran Church

[www.galesburgfirstlutheran.org](http://www.galesburgfirstlutheran.org)

We are children of God  
called to serve and share  
the Good News

[info@galesburgfirstlutheran.org](mailto:info@galesburgfirstlutheran.org)

## **January Worship Assistants**

### **Lectors**

**Jan. 7th** - Jerry Albright

**Jan. 14th** -

**Jan. 21st** -

**Jan. 28th**

### **Assisting Ministers**

**Jan. 7th** - Jordan Shroyer

**Jan. 14th** - Carole Buebe

**Jan. 21st** - Myrna Andersen

**Jan. 28th** - John Bicego

### **January Ushers**

Jeff Lundeen, John Gustafson

Chuck Nelson, Becky Lundeen

**Early** - Chuck Nelson

**Team Captain** - Jeff Lundeen

### **Communion Assistants**

#### **January 7th**

- 1) Barb Klein-Boyer
- 2) Dave Johnson, Carole Buebe
- 4) Kim Woodkirk

### **January 14th**

3) Myrna Andersen, Jane Dickerson

### **January 21st**

3) Pat Smith, Myrna Andersen

### **January 28th**

3) Barb Klein-Boyer, Jay Barshinger

### **January Altar Care**

Judy Taylor

### **Church Office Closed**

The Church Office will be closed on New Year's Day Monday, January 1st.

### **Quick News Notes**

- All the January council and committee meetings move back a week
- The 2018 offering envelopes are out. They can be picked up in the parish hall.
- We will taking the Christmas decorations down on January 6th after church. Volunteers would be greatly appreciated to help make this light work for all.

## January Worship Schedule

### Jan 7th

*First Sunday after the Epiphany*

- 8:15 am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am Communion/Worship
- 10:30 am Fellowship
- 10:45 am Faith Formation

### Jan. 14th

*Second Sunday after the Epiphany*

- 8:15 am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am Communion/Worship  
Noisy Offering
- 10:30 am Fellowship  
Endowment Committee Mtg.
- 10:45 am Faith Formation

### Jan. 21st

*Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

- 8:15 am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am Communion/Worship
- 10:30 am Fellowship
- 10:45 am Faith Formation

### Jan. 28th

*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany*

- 8:15 am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 am Communion/Worship
- 10:30 am Fellowship
- 10:45 am Annual Meeting and Brunch

## A Celebration and Thanks

by Myrna Andersen

On Sunday, January 28th, in addition to our Annual Meeting, we will be honoring Pastor Pam Marolla and Pastor Vince Marolla who were ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament 25 years ago. We will thank and celebrate them for their 25 years of faithful servant ministry to the Church here, and in other locations. Their presence in our midst has greatly enriched the life and ministry of our congregation.

We will also especially thank and honor Pastor Pam for her 5 years of faithful ministry with us. We have been greatly blessed with her gifts of preaching, leadership, presiding at worship, music, encouraging, teaching, visiting, challenging, counseling, and caring for and loving us these last 5 years. She has been a blessing to us and also to our community! We look forward to more years of ministry together as pastor and people.

May God bless us as we continue to reach out, invite and be a beacon of hope to our community and the world.

*Matthew 23:11*

*"The greatest among you will be your servant"*

## A Word from Pastor Pam

**Thank you** – to everyone involved in the behind-the-scenes tasks of Advent and Christmas worship! God is indeed with us in Word and Sacrament and in all the big and little acts of devotion to God.

The music of this season has been truly inspirational with many thanks to our volunteer Anchor Choir, and additional singers and instrumentalists under the very talented leadership of Beverly Hines-Whiteside and Amber Clark. Thank you ushers, decorators, carolers, treat makers, lectors, assisting ministers, communion assistants, plant waterers, snow shovelers, coffee makers, table cleaners, and all the hospitality you show to member and guest alike.

Thank you Cori and Amy Silber for the Sugar Plum treat bags for the children. What a lovely tradition for you to carry on

I would also like to offer my personal thank you from my family, for your many expressions of love and Christmas cheer. In these past five years, First Lutheran has truly become our church home and family and we love you all. Here's to blessings in the New Year!

Pastor Pam

## Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting/Potluck Continental breakfast of the congregation of First Lutheran Church is January 28th at 10:45 am. Come celebrate another year of meeting together and be a part of this important decision-making process.

## Reading the Bible Genesis to Revelation

Whether or not you have been part of this ongoing study, everyone is welcome to attend as we complete the Gospels, and start learning more about the new testament letters.

### Fridays 11:30 a.m.

Jan 5 –Self Giving Love According to John

12 - Paul's Calling

19 - Paul and the Roman Empire

*No study on January 26th*

### Sundays 10:45 a.m.

7 - The Early Church in Acts

14 - Paul's Calling

21 - Paul and the Roman Empire

*No Study on January 28th Annual Meeting*

## Faith Formation Advent Activities



*Billie and Reagen made treats for the Faith Formation Advent activity.*

*Thanks Cindy Barshinger and Judy Taylor for the pictures.*

## Mitten Tree Follow Up

If you were in church on December 3rd, you may have participated or witnessed the very full Mitten Tree! What a wonderful outreach this has been to the Galesburg community! We have already heard from many of the places to which the items were donated.

### From Silas Willard:

Dear First Lutheran Church,  
Thank you for your donation of hats and gloves to Silas Willard. We have many students who will benefit from your donation. Thank you for your generosity.

**Jenny Bridomeier**

### From Bright Futures Preschool:

Dear First Lutheran Church Members,  
Thank you so much for your donation of socks, underwear, hats and mittens for our Bright Futures students. I can assure you that they will be used in the coming months! The staff appreciates your kindness and thoughtfulness in remembering our students.

Sincerely,

**Ellen M. Spittell**

**Bright Futures Director**



*Top: Pastor Vince (standing in for Pastor Pam on vacation), blessing the Mitten Tree. Thanks Joep Huijbregts for the picture..*

*Middle: The Mitten Tree, loaded down with lots and lots of mittens, hats, scarves, ear muffs. Thanks Judy Taylor for the pictures.*

## Notes of Thanks

### From Nielson Outreach:

Dear friends at First Lutheran,  
Thank you for including Nielson as part of your Mitten Tree this year! We really appreciate your thoughtfulness and many students will benefit from the items donated! Thank you again.

**Jodie McNally**

**Nielson Outreach Worker**

### From Gale School:

Thank you for your recent donation of hats/gloves to Gale School. As the temperatures drop, the need for warm clothing items will be in demand for our students inadequately dressed for the weather. Your donations will be distributed as needed. We appreciate your choosing Gale School as the recipient of your kindness.

Sincerely,

**Brian Wright, Gale School**

### From Steele School

Dear First Lutheran Church,  
Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the terrific items you donated to Steele School. I have been able to clothe a number of children for the cold weather because of your generosity!

Sincerely,

**Diane VanHootegem, Outreach Worker**

## More Christmas 2017 Memorials

The following memorials came in too late to be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin:

*In memory of:*

**Clarence W. and Ruth O. Johnson**

**Rev. and Mrs. Otto Oleen**

**Mr. and Mrs. Albin Johnson and loved ones**

*From:*

Irene and Kimberly

*In memory of:*

**Sterling and Katie Simpson**

**Marvin and Helen Peterson**

**Jeanette (Spark) Burgland**

*From:*

Milt and Judy Peterson and family







### **Ministry Plans for 2018**

We encourage members, if you have not already done so, to consider completing a **pledge card** and **time and talent** form. We try to plan our upcoming ministries based upon the advanced commitments of our members. You may change your pledge at any time during the year if your circumstances change.

Committee chairs, it is that time of year again. Please review your ministry plans for 2018 and send a copy of your proposed 2018 **budget** to the church office as soon as possible. **Annual reports** are due at the end of December. Thank you to all of you who did this in advance this year!

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### **Lost and Found is Filling Up**

Are you missing a pair of glasses or a glove, a pair of pants, a shirt, a hat or a pair of reindeer antlers? We have that and much much more in the (overflowing) lost and found box located between the Food Pantry cabinet and the freezer. Check it out, you might just find something you thought was long gone!

### **Martin Luther King Annual Holiday Breakfast Monday January 15, 2018 Hosted by First Lutheran Church**

This has been an activity which brings the whole Galesburg community together. Sponsorships from the Breakfast are used to fund scholarships to first-time college students and for non-traditional college students.

The doors will open at 7 am, food will be served beginning at 7:15, the program will begin at 7:30 and the event will wrap up by 8:30 or 9:00.

### **Please Volunteer to Help**

There is a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall for those interested and able to help prepare food on Sunday, take an egg-bake home to bake, come early on Monday to bake and get the coffee going, provide hospitality and clean-up. There will be young people who will be bussing the tables. Check out the sign-up sheet. Every volunteer is greatly appreciated. Many hands make light work.



## BIRTHDAYS

- January 5 - William Collis
- January 6 - John Perrin
- January 6 - Mary Stevens
- January 7 - Lucien Burton
- January 11 - Kenneth H. Olmstead
- January 12 - Roger Peterson
- January 14 - Reva Stachniw
- January 15 - Jeffrey Lundeen
- January 15 - Sara Saey
- January 16 - Tyler Nelson
- January 19 - Kathleen Goetsch
- January 19 - Roger Myers
- January 22 - Arthur Greenquist
- January 25 - Nola Dykeman
- January 25 - John McCulloch
- January 26 - Rosalie Palm
- January 27 - Maureen Huels
- January 28 - Erik Liepitz
- January 29 - Rebecca Smith
- January 30 - Marsha Collis
- January 30 - Carl Cole
- January 31 - Diana Riley
- January 31 - Sharon Yeager

## Food Pantry News

The Food Pantry was a very busy place this year with all the Christmas Baskets distributed. Thank you to everyone for the extra Christmas donations to make this possible!





**Church Women United  
First Thurs. of the Month  
9:00 am**

There will be no meetings in January or February for Church Women United. See you in March!

**Piecemaker's Sewing Circle  
Tuesdays at 9:00 am  
in the Parish Hall**

If you like to sew or would like to learn a little more about sewing, check out the Piecemaker's in action. Their quilts are amazing and very much appreciated by all who receive them!

**Hannah Circle  
Monday, January 15th  
6:00 pm**

The January meeting of Hannah Circle will be held at Perkins Restaurant, Galesburg on January 15th at 6:00 pm.

**Miriam Circle  
Tuesday, January 9th  
12 noon at Hawthorne Inn**

Circle will meet January 9th at 12 noon for a luncheon at the Hawthorne Inn. Please bring your Bible with you. If you would like to join us, call 309-342-2459.

**Deborah Circle  
Wednesday, January 10th  
9:30 am in the Parish Hall**

The Deborah Circle will meet January 10th at 9:30 am in the Parish Hall. The hostess and the lesson leader are to be determined. If you are interested in joining us call 309-342-2459.

**Young at Hearts (Potluck)  
Thursday, January 18th  
12:00 noon**

Young at Hearts will meet January 18th at 12:00 noon for a potluck meal. The meat will be furnished and everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. You may give a small donation rather than bring a dish. After the lunch, we will make valentines for the shut ins. To help with planning, please sign the sheet in the Parish Hall or call the church office.

## Book Club

Book Club will meet on January 24th at Chris Johnson's home. The book we are reading is called "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman. On February 21st book club will meet at Jane Dickerson's home. The book for February will be "Quitter" by Kevin Hicks. If you plan to attend please let the hostesses know. Thanks!

## Prayer Train

There is a group of members of First Lutheran who are intentionally in prayer for our congregation and for any who ask for prayer. Formerly the "Prayer Chain," they have renamed themselves "Prayer Train." Contact Cindy Barshinger to receive prayer or join this group.

## Calling and Caring

There are members of our congregation who visit members who are home or nursing home bound. They also bring communion to those who wish to receive. Because of the crossover of members and purpose of these groups, we gather once every other month in order to pray together and share concerns and joys. All are welcome.

## Making a Clean Scrub of It

I drove to church a bit reluctantly, weary about the long day and resenting last Sunday's request by our pastor's wife that we give the church kitchen a thorough cleaning before our upcoming festival.

As I entered the social hall, I saw the same few people who always help out. I dipped a rag into a bucket of pine scented cleaner and started scrubbing down the hood over the stove. Next to me, James and his son, Jimmy, were washing the walls. They were laughing and joking, teasing each other about who was getting his part cleaner and purposely dripping water on each other.

Their humor was contagious. Soon I was laughing along and scrubbing more vigorously. We joked with Jimmy about how we wished we had his teenage energy, "Isn't it hard to work with us old folks?" Laughing, he said, "Well, actually, I'm having a lot more fun than I thought I would!"

James put his arm around his son's shoulder and said, "Always remember, son, there's special grace given to you when you work for the church."

As I wrung out my rag, I pondered James's words. Here I'd been complaining about the needs in our parish and the heavy workload for a few. My attitude needed the good scrubbing it got from James and Jimmy!

Mary Brown from Someone Cares,  
a division of *Guideposts*

## Music is on the Move

Thank you to all the FLC musicians for the spectacular music you provided during Advent and Christmas! You gave of your time and talent so generously to sing and play instruments in worship and praise. It was thrilling to hear a concert of the magnitude which you performed in our beautiful space. You made that possible with dedication and lots of extra rehearsal time.

Now it's time to look ahead to the possibilities that lie before us in our music ministry. Are you someone who makes New Year's resolutions? FLC music is on the move and growing. Make a resolution to try your hand at joining us in this vital part of worship. If regular singing in The Anchor Choir isn't for you, perhaps you would enjoy singing occasionally with the women's ensemble, Sojourners, or the men in Sons of the Rock. Remember, you can always dust off your old instrument and join us when The Band plays. Whatever commitment you can make, there's a place for you in FLC music ministry!

Choir Rehearsal....8:15 a.m. on Sunday  
*We'll be looking for you!*



## Notes of Appreciation

If you attended our concert of Advent and Christmas music, you probably noticed the addition of a new dimension of sound to The Band as well as to The Anchor Choir. We now have a suspended cymbal which provides a lovely and exciting sound. It is with deep appreciation that we thank Sarah Koons for her generous donation that made this purchase possible.

And you may have noticed great looking, new black folders in use by the choir. They are just perfect for our needs, and we thank Bob and Vera Fornander for donating them to us!



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## Welcome New Members!

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members of the Galesburg First Lutheran family. Welcome!

**John and Chris Allison**

**Lisa Corps**

**Michael and Carolyn Pierson**

**Lori Nye**

*Pictured are Lisa, Lori and Carolyn.*



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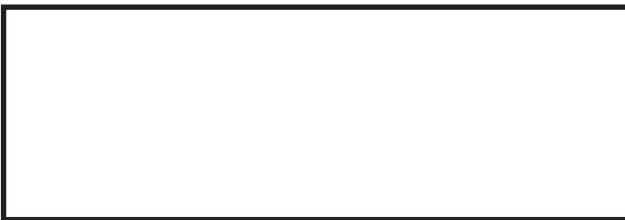
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*Mary Brown from Someone Cares,  
a division of Guideposts*

**NEWSLETTER**

To cover the cost of postage, we ask for a \$5.00 donation from those who receive the Sharing First Newsletter for the 2018 year. Thank you!



**First Lutheran Church  
Galesburg**

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday through Friday**

**12noon to 4:00pm**

**Office closed**

**January 1, 2018**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017**

David Johnson - *President*

David Howland - *Vice President*

Kim Woodkirk - *Secretary*

Myrna Andersen  
Jay Barshinger  
Carole Buebe  
Verna Crouch  
Jane Dickerson  
Bill Hornbaker

Barb Klein-Boyer  
Pastor Pam Marolla  
Phil Chadderdon  
Dominic Michael  
Steve Cheesman  
Pat Smith

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