

Crosswalk



Newsletter of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho

Remembering Freedom—Earthly and Eternal

In 1976, our nation marked its Bicentennial with hometown parades, red-white-and-blue bunting, tall ships in the harbors, and a broad sense of a shared celebration. There was a feeling—however imperfect—that we were pausing together to remember something larger than ourselves. In just a short while, our country will observe its 250th anniversary. Yet it seems far quieter, far less anticipated, and far less unifying than that moment fifty years ago.

Perhaps that is not surprising. We live in divisive times. Civil discourse has been replaced with suspicion and shouting. Neighbors talk past one another rather than with one another. The ideals that once bound us together—freedom, self-governance, and representative government—feel less like shared convictions and more like contested ideas. What once united is now criticized, debased, or dismissed.

This division affects even our ability to observe Memorial Day well. Memorial Day is not about general patriotism or the start of summer. It is, at its heart, a day of remembrance—a solemn pause to give thanks for men and women who loved this country enough to give their lives in its defense. They did not all share the same opinions, political views, or backgrounds, but they shared a willingness to sacrifice themselves so that others might live in freedom.

Yet even here we struggle. We struggle to pause, to remember, to even attempt to agree on what, or whom, we are honoring. And one has to ask: Do we truly appreciate those who gave their lives for us? Or have we allowed the noise of our divisions to drown out our gratitude?

As Christians, these questions do not stop at our citizenship in this nation. They turn our hearts toward an even deeper reality, a much deeper question: Do we appreciate the One who gave His life for us? Scripture tells us plainly: “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13). Christ did not die for a united people who had everything figured out. He died for sinners—divided, broken, and rebellious. He did not offer His life so that we might win arguments, but so that we might receive forgiveness. He did not promise an easy earthly unity, but He did secure an eternal one: “one Lord, one faith, one baptism” (Ephesians 4:5).

The freedoms we enjoy in this country—precious as they are—are temporary. The freedom Christ gives is eternal. Through His cross and resurrection (as Luther’s catechism reminds us) “we are freed from sin, from death, and from the power of the devil.” That freedom isn’t dependent upon elections, public opinion, or the spirit of the age. It is secured by God’s grace alone.

That does not mean our earthly citizenship is unimportant. As Christians, we are called to live faithfully in both realms of church and state. We honor God by cherishing the freedoms we have, by engaging in civil discourse, and by loving our neighbors even when we disagree. We honor God by remembering the sacrifices that made our way of life possible and by refusing to treat those sacrifices as trivial or expendable.

As we approach Memorial Day, may we pause—truly pause—to give thanks for those who laid down their lives. As we look toward the 250th anniversary of our nation, may we seek not simply nostalgia, but also seek to spread needed seeds of humility and gratitude about our nation. And above all, as citizens of God’s kingdom, may we return again and again to the cross, where true unity is found. I pray that as citizens of this country, we might recover a spirit of gratitude and respect, and a commitment to speak with kindness and listen with charity. And I pray that as citizens of God’s kingdom, we would live our lives for Christ, cherishing the freedom from sin and death that He alone provides.

In Christ,

Pastor Mike



STEPHEN MINISTRY:

Eleven members of our congregation recently completed 50 hours of Stephen Ministry training. This training focuses on how to provide distinctively Christian care (active listening, providing a grace-filled environment, sharing in prayer, drawing on scripture, and insights on when to refer to specialists/resources). On Sunday, April 19th FELC commissioned our newly trained Stephen Ministers: **Elaine Bengston, Bill Boyd, Heather Catanese, Pat Christenson, Ginny Conricode, Tessa Forbord, Trina Jacobson, Linda Lerum, Beth Nicholas, Deborah Nowatzki, and Barbara Valentine.**

FELC is blessed to have a Stephen Ministry program, which provides a trusted ministry of care, walking alongside individuals who are experiencing grief, loss, illness, or other life challenges. Through prayer, listening, and compassionate presence, Stephen Ministers reflect Christ's love in tangible ways. We ask the congregation to please pray for them as they begin this meaningful work. Additionally, please consider if you or someone you know might benefit from having a Stephen Minister. If so, please talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders, Pastor Mike or Annick Dixon.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL, RECOVERING, OR GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME:

Donna Amundson; Betty Benjamin (*Lisa Mullinix's mother*); Charlotte Benson; Dean Benson; Kevin Call; Tracy Coburn; Margaret Contor; Devyn, Corden & Elias Cox (*Cal Miller's family*); Wendy Cudmore; Dayna Dabauras; Laura Dean; Joan Douglas (*Bev Novak's sister*); Josephine Fife (*Julie Reinwald's mother*); Steve Galbraith; Sharon Gilbert; Jo & Al Glissendorf; Jeanne Griffes-Koepplin; Diane Hackman; Steve Hammond; Bill Hayes; Sue Hindman; Jose Holtz; Cathy Homberg (*Heather Catanese's sister*); Ann Hurley; Lexi Jensen (*Rebecca Jackson's cousin*); Vickie John; Lynn Parshall Kinghorn (*Alecia Coburn's former mother-in-law*); Mary Krippner; Daniel Lance (*Cal Miller's brother-in-law*); Austin Leger (*Heather Catanese's son*); Allan Magnuson; Mike Martin; Adara McClure (*Jeannie Campbell's daughter*); Bob McGee (*Richard Magnuson's friend*); Tim Metcalf; Vicky Mickelson (*Becky Jackson's aunt*); Cal Miller; Dick Mitchell; Wendy Morgan (*Larry Hudson's sister*); Bob Neff; Josh Neis; Don Newman (*Richard Magnuson's cousin*); Alicia Palmer; Mary Pilkington; Mark Pischer (*Cal Miller's son-in-law*); Priscilla Rainey; Patricia Richardson (*Dustin Jackson's aunt*); Cindy Robello; Laura Schoonmaker; Julie Sundberg; Scot Swenson (*Vernal & Jackie Swenson's son*); Kathy Tauscher; Deborah Vavra; Chris Weaver; Jane Winston; Daniel & Sarah Young

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY SERVING IN THE MILITARY: TJ Litteer; Brianna Townsend; Jody Townsend

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR NEW LIFE: ON TUESDAY, APRIL 21ST DUSTIN & BECKY JACKSON (AND OLDER SIBLINGS— CARSON, SUEANNA, & RYKER) WELCOMED THEIR SON, OWEN MARSH (20.25 INCHES, 7 LBS. 13 OZ.)

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR RESTORED HEALTH: Peggy Buhr; Barrett (*Cara Dahlberg's nephew*); Bobbie Eddie (*Barbara Carlson's father*); Scottie Grace; Jack Heier; Tami Henvit; Amelia McDaniel; Pat Matthews; Cameron (*DiAnn Brown's niece's husband*); Oakley (*Nonda Meyer's great granddaughter*)

FELC Annual Rummage Sale

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026 8 AM—2 PM

Keep an eye out for any FELC cookbooks that come in for the garage sale!

Please join us by:

- **SET UP:** Starts at 12 noon Sun. May 31 (*If you help with set up—once we're done you can drop off your items*)
- **DONATING:** Mon. June 1-Thurs. June 4, 9am-4pm;
 - Fri. June 5, 9am—noon
- **VOLUNTEERING:** any day, any time, as you are able (we have so much fun!)
- **SUPPORTING:** Healthy snacks and water bottles make a happy crew
- **SHOPPING:** volunteers—all week :); everyone—Saturday, June 6, 8am-2pm
- **PRAYING:** Nice weather!

Start setting aside your clean, usable stuff to drop off!!

Your help is so important and is greatly appreciated!

Your grateful, Co-chairs,

Wendy Schoonmaker
Sheryl Schaffer
Deborah Knauff

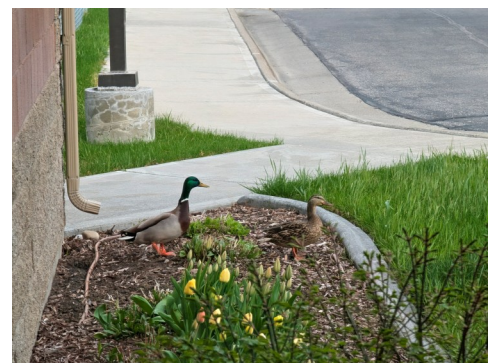


Property

A heartfelt thank-you to the small but mighty crew who showed up for our annual Spring Clean-Up! Though few in number, they tackled the work with Spartan determination. Because of their hard work, our courtyard and church grounds look fantastic. We are grateful for their time, energy, and faithful service. Apparently we spruced up enough to impress a local duck couple who want to use our flower beds for their nesting grounds!



Speaking of flower beds, we're grateful once again to have Heide Larsen taking the lead on planting and maintaining our flower beds. It takes a lot of sweat and equity to keep them "Duck-worthy!" :-). It also takes your financial support, so if you would like to make a donation to the cause you can make out a check with notation "Flower gardens" or drop a donation in the "Flower Pots" at the Welcome Window or Fellowship Hall at church. (see picture)



Missions

Penny Power



In April, funds from Penny Power went to:



Thanks to our kids (and big kids!) contributing to Penny Power this April, the Christian Motorcycle Association, (a missionary outreach group) will receive \$337. May's Penny Power funds will go to the Idaho Falls **Humanitarian Center** so they can provide hygiene kit supplies for those in need. The Humanitarian Center gives those hygiene kits to other organizations,

especially our local YMCA, who is one of the few facilities in Idaho Falls that provides free access to showers to homeless individuals and families. The kits are given to the homeless who come for showers. This works well since the kits include things like shampoo, soap, and toothpaste - items we often take for granted.

MAY BOOK REVIEW FROM YOUR CHURCH LIBRARY MOUSE:

"PORTRAITS OF JOY" by Karen Chick and Ann Walsh.

This book is a spirited collection of impressionistic paintings and stories of the children, battling cancer, who attend Camp Magical Moments located in Swan Valley, Idaho. The portraits of the children, who have the opportunity to attend this wonderful week of camp, is in a beautiful setting among the huge trees and mountains. The book is illustrated and has heart warming comments by the campers, their parents and camp volunteers. A 9 year old boy, named Izeyah wrote a very special poem that received a National Award. This poem was read to our Mission Team and grabbed all their hearts as I know it will grab yours too! Each summer your FELC Mission Team provides lunch for Camp Magical Moments. It is such a heartwarming experience preparing the food and having the opportunity to serve and meet these wonderful children and counselors.

Thank you, FELC!! Your generous Lenten Service donations to FISH are greatly appreciated! First Lutheran's kindness and willingness to give makes a meaningful difference in the lives of those in need within our community. It is truly a blessing to be part of a congregation that cares so deeply and responds so compassionately. Your support helps ensure that neighbors facing difficult times are met with hope, dignity, and practical assistance.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for being a shining example of faith in action!

Kären Bateman



Men's Ministry



LICENSE-FREE FISHING:

Saturday, June 13th the congregation is invited to a "GO FISH" event sponsored by our Men's Ministry. This outing is to take advantage of Idaho's "Free Fishing Day" which is held annually on the second Saturday of June. Idaho has some of the best fishing in the 50 states and this event helps promote the support and use of outdoor fishing environments for everyone to enjoy. Speaking of "everyone," this outing is for novices and experts, guys and gals, young and old alike. We will meet at Gem State Pond just off Yellowstone Highway in Shelley, ID.

We'll be starting @ 9 am with the Men's Group providing a short "Greg Hanson* School of Fishing" for novices. The Men's group will have loaner rods and reels available as well as a supply of rubber worms, power bait eggs, and select lures.

Gem State Pond offers pond fishing as well as river fishing, so bobber fishing, casting fishing, and fly fishing are all available. A free "Minnesota Fisherman's Lunch**" is planned for 1 pm. A sign-up sheet is located at

the Welcome Window. Please let us know if you are coming so we have a head count for the lunch. Also, the sign-up sheet will have columns to mark regarding skill level and whether you need loaner equipment. Skill levels include novice, intermediate, or expert. If you are an expert and would be willing to be an instructor for our novices, please contact Brad Kirkwood.

Details are still being worked out, but we may gather at a member's house near the Snake River to enjoy an evening campfire.

*Greg Hanson, the late husband of our Music Director, Michelle, was an active leader of FELC and an avid outdoorsman. We'd like to honor his memory, as a churchman who helped support and lead our congregation forward for many years and as an outdoorsman who worked to promote the stewardship and use of God's creation.

**The Earth's surface
is 2/3 water 1/3 land.
I guess the good Lord
figured we would rather
fish than plow!!**

** Minnesota Fisherman's Lunch is typically fried/barbequed fish, served with a potatoes, onions, and garlic dish along with a side serving of coleslaw. Ours will include all this plus kettle potato chips and assorted sodas.

FELC CHURCH SOFTBALL

We want to say a word of thanks to Andrew & Alina Meng for helping to organize our church softball team for the second year in a row. Last minute recruiting managed to net us the minimum number of guys and gals to field a team but please know we've got still got room on the roster for a few more softball lovers. Most games are played on Sunday afternoons and evenings at Community Park SW; we'd love to have an FELC fan base cheering us on. Watch for the time and schedule to be posted in our upcoming bulletins.



MOTHER

by Penny Tanksley

MY FIRST THOUGHTS OF GOD
CAME TO MY CHILDISH MIND
THROUGH SONGS YOU SANG TO ME
SO LONG AGO IN TIME.
MY FIRST DESIRE TO MEET
MY FATHER GOD ABOVE
WAS INSPIRED BY YOUR LIFE
OF GLADNESS MIXED WITH LOVE.
MY FIRST ATTEMPT TO TRUST
MY LORD AND SAVIOR, CHRIST,
WAS DUE TO WELLS OF JOY
I SAW SPRING FROM YOUR LIFE.
HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR YOU,
MOTHER, I OFTEN SAY,
I MAY HAVE MISSED THE LIFE
AND NEVER FOUND THE WAY.

(From the files of Donna Amundson)

In celebration of Mother's Day, on Sunday May 10th children are invited to participate in a special appreciation craft during Sunday School. Through this fun and creative activity, children will have an opportunity to honor and thank the mothers and caregivers God has placed in their lives.



Palm Sunday and Holy week Sunday School

provided an engaging, hands-on faith formation experience that helped children and families walk together through the story of Jesus' journey to the cross and resurrection. Holy week daily devotionals and the interactive holy week kits provided a daily reflection opportunity to experience at home. In Sunday School, our students dove deeper into Jesus' journey to the cross and the celebration of His Resurrection. We celebrated with Palm Sundaes.

Hosanna!





...from the files of
Donna Amundson

WHY GOD
MADE MOMS
ANSWERS GIVEN
BY 2ND GRADE
SCHOOL CHIL-
DREN

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MOMS AND DADS?

1. MOMS WORK AT WORK AND WORK AT HOME AND DADS JUST GO TO WORK TO WORK.
2. MOMS KNOW HOW TO TALK TO TEACHERS WITHOUT SCARING THEM.
3. DADS ARE TALLER AND STRONGER, BUT MOMS HAVE ALL THE REAL POWER 'CAUSE THAT'S WHO YOU GOT TO ASK IF YOU WANT TO SLEEP OVER AT YOUR FRIENDS.
4. MOMS HAVE MAGIC, THEY MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER WITHOUT MEDICINE.

WHY DID GOD MAKE MOTHERS?

1. SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHERE THE SCOTCH TAPE IS.
2. MOSTLY TO CLEAN THE HOUSE.
3. TO HELP US OUT OF THERE WHEN WE WERE GETTING BORN.

HOW DID GOD MAKE MOTHERS?

1. HE USED DIRT, JUST LIKE FOR THE REST OF US.
2. MAGIC PLUS SUPER POWERS AND A LOT OF STIRRING.
3. GOD MADE MY MOM JUST THE SAME LIKE HE MADE ME. HE JUST USED BIGGER PARTS.

WHAT INGREDIENTS ARE MOTHERS MADE OF?

1. GOD MAKES MOTHERS OUT OF CLOUDS AND ANGEL HAIR AND EVERYTHING NICE IN THE WORLD AND ONE DAB OF MEAN.
2. THEY HAD TO GET THEIR START FROM MEN'S BONES. THEN THEY MOSTLY USE STRING, I THINK.

WHY DID GOD GIVE YOU YOUR MOM AND NOT SOME OTHER MOM?

1. WE'RE RELATED.
2. GOD KNEW SHE LIKES ME A LOT MORE THAN OTHER PEOPLE'S MOMS LIKE ME.

WHAT DID YOUR MOM NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR DAD BEFORE SHE MARRIED HIM?

1. HIS LAST NAME.
2. SHE HAD TO KNOW HIS BACKGROUND. LIKE IS HE A CROOK? DOES HE GET DRUNK ON BEER?
3. DOES HE MAKE AT LEAST \$800 A YEAR. DID HE SAY NO TO DRUGS AND YES TO CHORES.

WHY DID YOUR MOM MARRY YOUR DAD?

1. MY DAD MAKES THE BEST SPAGHETTI IN THE WORLD. AND MY MOM EATS A LOT.
2. SHE GOT TOO OLD TO DO ANYTHING ELSE WITH HIM.
3. MY GRANDMA SAYS THAT MOM DIDN'T HAVE HER THINKING CAP ON.

WHO'S THE BOSS AT YOUR HOUSE?

1. MOM DOESN'T WANT TO BE BOSS, BUT SHE HAS TO BECAUSE DAD'S SUCH A GOOF BALL.
2. MOM. YOU CAN TELL BY ROOM INSPECTION. SHE SEES THE STUFF UNDER THE BED.
3. I GUESS MOM IS, BUT ONLY BECAUSE SHE HAS A LOT MORE TO DO THAN DAD.

WHAT DOES YOUR MOM DO IN HER SPARE TIME?

1. MOTHER'S DON'T DO SPARE TIME.
2. TO HEAR HER TELL IT, SHE PAYS BILLS ALL DAY LONG.

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO MAKE YOUR MOM PERFECT?

1. ON THE INSIDE SHE'S ALREADY PERFECT. OUTSIDE, I THINK SOME KIND OF PLASTIC SURGERY.
2. DIET. YOU KNOW, HER HAIR. I'D DIET, MAYBE BLUE.

IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT YOUR MOM, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

1. SHE HAS THIS WEIRD THING ABOUT ME KEEPING MY ROOM CLEAN. I'D GET RID OF THAT.
2. I'D MAKE MY MOM SMARTER. THEN SHE WOULD KNOW IT WAS MY SISTER WHO DID IT, NOT ME.
3. I WOULD LIKE FOR HER TO GET RID OF THOSE INVISIBLE EYES ON THE BACK OF HER HEAD.

Sunday School



Our Sunday School year will be coming to a close on Sunday, May 17th. We invite young and old to help us celebrate another great year of "Sharing Jesus." We will have activities to honor students who have grown in faith and learning, as well as give special thanks to our teachers who have shared their time, wisdom, and hearts so generously. Your ministry makes a lasting difference!

EASTER SUNDAY

We celebrated Christ's resurrection by hosting a Church-wide Easter Egg hunt. We were reminded that "NO BUNNY LOVES YOU LIKE JESUS" as the kids searched for over 800 eggs. The families enjoyed a great time of refreshments and craft opportunities as well as a photo booth. Thanks to the Lerum family, we even had live bunnies. Thank you to all those who volunteered, donated candy, and helped facilitate such a successful event. Christ is Risen; He is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!



Family Ministry



Our Youth helped us prepare for the Easter egg Hunt by stuffing over 800 eggs!! We had fun enjoying food and conversation while diligently stuffing all those Eggs. We appreciate the youth and their parents who participated in this service opportunity. Amazing Job!



Fireworks Fundraiser

Once again, FELC will be operating a fireworks stand, as a church-wide fundraising opportunity. This has been very successful in the past years due to the dedication of our church community. In the hopes of continued inter-generational participation, all hours of volunteered service will be applied to the ministry team of the volunteer's choosing. This provides the opportunity for the individual ministry teams to participate and determine how to use the funds raised. Look out for an announcement of a sign-up sheet. Or contact Heather at youth@firstlc.com for more information.



USA's 250th Independence Day Parade in Idaho Falls The Theme is "Happy Birthday USA"

In celebration of our country's 250 years, FELC is putting a float in the Idaho

falls parade this year. We are forming a committee to help plan and design a float that represents our church and celebrates our country. If you are interested in being part of this unique celebration, please contact our Youth & Family Minister, Heather Catanese, at the church office (208)522-9301 or youth@firstlc.com



Family Ministry

LUTHER HEIGHTS DAY CAMP

~Incoming Kindergarten-6th graders~



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
455 W SUNNYSIDE RD
IDAHO FALLS, ID 83402

June 15th -19th

Monday-Thursday
9AM-3PM
Friday
9AM-12PM

\$20/Camper

*FUN, FAITH TIME, AMAZING YOUNG ADULT
LEADERS, CAMP SONGS, CRAFTS &
COMMUNITY!*

Scan the QR code with your
phone or visit lutherheights.org
to register



**It's not too early
to start thinking
about summer
camp!**

The Luther Heights
Day Camp
dates for
FELC
are
June 15-19, 2026

Find out more about our camps & retreats at lutherheights.org



**SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR
LUTHER HEIGHTS AND OLD FAITHFUL CHRISTIAN RANCH!**

Summer camp Scholarships available. Are you thinking of sending your child to a bible-based summer camp? FELC has scholarships available.

Contact Heather at Youth@firstlc.com for more information.



HELP WANTED LUTHER HEIGHTS DAY CAMP June 15-19, 2026

Luther Heights is returning to FELC with their amazing Day Camp program! Camp counselors will lead our children through a creative week of praise and worship through music, devotions, games, arts and crafts, and fellowship. And teaching God's children how they are called by Him to be loved, grateful, faithful and called to share. What a blessing our Luther Heights Day Camp is to everyone involved!

Without the generous gifts of time, talent, and money from our congregation, our day camp would not be the success it has been for so many years! The cost of attending this week's long day camp is \$100. Thanks to successful fundraising over the years, FELC is able to offer an \$80 grant to every participant, bringing the cost down to \$20! A special "Thank you" to all of you who help support our Day Camp, whether it be in prayers and/or gifts.

Please prayerfully consider where you may be of help in the following areas:

- ◆ **Counselor Hosts:** *This one's the biggie!!*
- ◆ **Bed & Breakfasts:** The counselors need a place to sleep & breakfast to fuel their day with our kiddos. We can split them up in several places, so if you have room for 2, that will be great!
- ◆ **Lunch:** Again, fuel for the counselors. All you have to do is pick a day, provide lunch for 4 counselors, & bring it to the church.
- ◆ **Dinners:** This is an opportunity for anyone to spend time with and get to know the counselors. This also relieves the stress of our host families. You can do this however you'd like - at your house, out for pizza, etc.
- ◆ **Miscellaneous activities:** The counselor's LOVE Reed's Dairy ice cream, so if you'd like to treat a day, I'm sure they'd be appreciative! Or maybe a boat ride - or a hike - the possibilities are endless.
- ◆ **Counselor Helpers (7th grade and up):** Extra hands for the counselors are always needed - sometimes by helping younger campers come inside to use the restroom, or help with crafts, or help prepare/serve/clean up the snacks.
- ◆ **On-Site Volunteers:** Moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas, or caring adults to lend a hand where needed and prepare the morning and/or afternoon snacks.
- ◆ **Providing or preparing or serving snacks:** morning or afternoon. We bring the campers inside every morning & afternoon for a light snack, some water, and shade. A list of snacks needed will be provided for dropping off. We also welcome volunteers to serve and clean up after the snacks.

And of course, we need your help in spreading the word about our extraordinary Day Camp to your friends, relatives, neighbors, acquaintances; anyone you know with children entering first grade (Fall of 2026) through the sixth grade. Registration is now open at lutherheights.org

There will be sign-up sheets available in the Narthex for Youth Helpers, On-Site Volunteers, Counselor Hosts, and to provide snacks. Please consider helping where you are able. Please contact our Youth and Family Minister, Heather Catanese, with any questions regarding Day Camp, becoming a Counselor Host, On-Site Volunteers, or a Youth Helper, at (208)522-9301 or (208) 521-2565 or email at youth@firstlc.com. We are looking forward to another fun and successful ministry with the Luther Heights Bible Day Camp!

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH, IS MUSIC SUNDAY.

Since last fall, we have enjoyed the beautiful music presented by our four music groups. Before taking a well-deserved summer break, the Grace Note Choir and the King's Men will bless us again with inspirational anthems and beautiful harmonies. Precision ringing and heavenly sounds will be performed by the For His Glory Ringers. Unfortunately, the Praise Band director and lead guitarist is still recovering from surgery, so we will miss their contemporary sound and energy that day, but they'll return in the fall. Thank you to all the singers and musicians for your passion and commitment to our music ministry.

Our music program is made possible through the dedication of a few key individuals. A big thank you goes out to music director and worship accompanist, Michelle Hanson, Praise Band director, Steve Galbraith, and choir accompanist, Heidi Bessette.

Lastly, if you enjoy music, perhaps you'd be interested in offering some special worship music this summer – either vocal and/or instrumental. If so, just contact Michelle at musicdirector@firstl.com. Oh, one more thing: each music group is looking for additional members. Perhaps Music Sunday will be the nudge you've been waiting for to join one (or more) of our four music groups. Try it, you'll like it! :-)

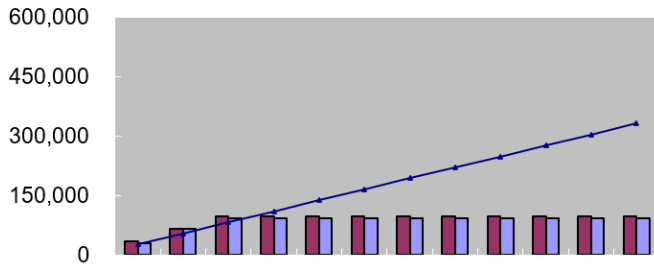
DiAnn Brown—Worship & Music Chair



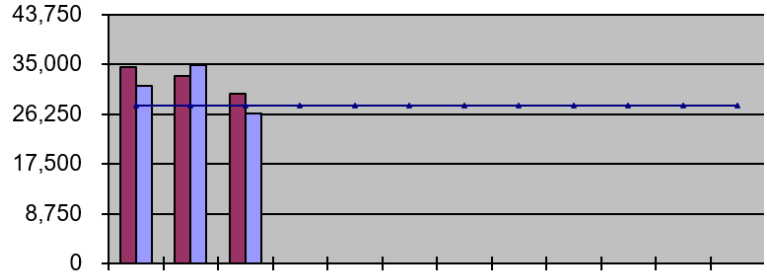
Members of our For His Glory Ringers traveled to Livingston, MT April 24-26 to participate in the 43rd Big Sky Handbell Conference. Several of the pieces we have presented for worship over this school year were part of the repertoire that was rehearsed with clinician Kathryn Jurado and presented as a concert on Saturday evening. We also had the opportunity to attend classes for bell maintenance and learning 4-in-Hand ringing.

Finance

General Fund Cumulative Summary - 2026



General Fund Monthly Summary - 2026



Current Month:	March	
Current Month Income		29,807.94
Current Month Expenses		26,313.42
Difference		3,494.52
Year to Date Income		97,512.65
*Year to Date Expenses		92,864.84
Difference		4,647.81

Budget Comparison 2025:	
Year to Date Actual Income	97,512.65
Year to Date Budget Income	83,125.00
Difference	14,387.65
Year to Date Actual Expenses	92,864.84
Year to Date Budget Expenses	95,075.00
Difference	(2,210.16)

Worship Assistant Schedule

Date	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS # = Gluten-free server	LITURGISTS/ READERS	GREETERS	USHERS # = Coordinator	COUNTERS	STREAMING	ALTAR GUILD
May 3	Cathi Bean#, Kim Bermensolo, Carole Mason, Elaine Bengston, Bev Thomas	Liturgist: Sheryl Schaffer	Geri Magnuson Beth Nicholas	Jim Sahr# Lisa Swenson, Cal Miller	Lisa Swenson Janice McBride	Paul Bayless	Marda Kirkwood Debra Holst
May 10	Diane Sheldon#, Shawn Cleverly, Diana Murphy, Beth Nicholas, Deb Nowatzki	Liturgist: Steve Galbraith	Michelle Cleverly Jan Galbraith	Dave Sheldon# Phil Forbord, Paul Worth	Phil & Tessa Forbord	Paul Lerum	Marda Kirkwood Debra Holst
May 17	Natalie Meyer#, Elaine Bengston, Ginny Conricode, DiAnn Brown, Debra Hogg	Liturgist: Deb Nowatzki	Mary Hanek Mary Pilkington	Richard Magnuson# Geri Magnuson, Tom Pilkington	Paul Bayless Lisa Swenson	Paul Lerum	Marda Kirkwood Debra Holst
May 24	Linda Lerum#, Kim Bermensolo, Bev Thomas, Carole Mason, Diane Sheldon, Beth Nicholas	Reader: Debra Hogg	Beth Nicholas Sheryl Schaffer	Ryan Dixon# Scott Berger, Greg Stultz	Greg & Kathy Katainen	Paul Lerum	Marda Kirkwood Debra Holst
May 31	Natalie Meyer#, Cheryl Swenson, DiAnn Brown, Diana Murphy, Debra Hogg, Ginny Conricode	Reader: Marda Kirkwood	Mary Hanek Geri Magnuson	Gary Holst#, Phil Forbord, Paul Worth	Greg & Kathy Katainen	Paul Lerum	Marda Kirkwood Debra Holst

On the Bulletin Board



- SUPPORT CHAMPS HEART: HOSTED BY THE EAGLES LODGE
- WHERE: THE EAGLES LODGE, 635 HEMMERT AVE, IDAHO FALLS, ID
- WHEN: JOIN US ALL MONTH LONG IN MAY AS WE COLLECT DONATIONS TO SUPPORT CHAMP'S HEART. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Saturday Dinner – 5:30pm – until gone, \$8.00-\$15.00/per person (No Dinners on May 2nd)

Sunday Breakfast – 9am-11am, \$7.00-\$9.00/per person

May 2nd – Kentucky Derby Party

Time: 12:00pm, Lunch Buffet from 12:00pm -2:00pm cost \$8.00

Hat Contest



May 16th – Hoedown Party

Dance starts at 7:00pm, Chuck Wagon Dinner
Boots, Hats, and a great time for a great cause!



ALL PROCEEDS
BENEFIT CHAMPS
HEART!

DON'T BE SHY! TELL
ALL YOU'RE YOUR
FRIENDS!

CASH ONLY VENUE -
ATM ON SITE



PLEASE JOIN US
FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL
**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
BREAKFAST**

THURSDAY, MAY 7TH

9:00 A.M.

COUNTRY INN SUITES
2500 CHANNING WAY

We will have a delicious breakfast followed by
spiritual thoughts and beautiful musical numbers

Please RSVP to this email or to Kelly Call 208 521-6666
by Thursday, April 30th

SPONSORED BY RCCM
Regional Council of Community Ministries



250

FIELD OF HONOR®
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
MAY 23-25, 2026
FREEMAN PARK, IDAHO FALLS



**1,000 AMERICAN FLAGS
TO HONOR OUR HEROES**
FREE TO THE PUBLIC



LEARN MORE

Net proceeds go to local veterans
groups, child abuse prevention,
and community programs.

Brought to you by
EXCHANGE
THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF IDAHO FALLS, ID



Heroes & Homefront
— A VETERANS & FAMILY DAY —
Rigby City Park • May 30th • 10am-7pm

Join us for a meaningful and fun-filled day focused on supporting veterans
and their families right here in Jefferson County.

Whether you're a veteran, a family member, or a community supporter—
this event is for YOU.

Resources Available: ★★	Family Fun Includes: ★★
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portable Mammography Bus • Idaho Division of Veteran Services • VA Healthcare • East Idaho Vet Center • Home Healthcare Services • Blackfoot Veterans Cemetery • And many more local resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Trucks • Live Music • Games & Activities for Kids • Champs Heart Equine Healing

Rigby City Park
— May 30th —
10am – 7pm

Rigby City Park • May 30th • 10am-7pm

★★★ Open to the Public • Veteran & Family Focused ★★★

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10:00am-4:00pm Friends in Stitches	2
3 9:00am Adult Forum 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Inquirers' Class 10:15am Worship & Quilt Presentation 11:30am Fellowship Hour 11:30am King's Men Rehearsal 12:00pm ERT & Shofar Meeting 3:00pm Round About Brass Rehearsal	4 10:00am Staff Meeting	5 9:00am Happy Stitches 9:00am Preschool 12:00pm Happy Stitches' Bible Study 1:00pm Preschool 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop #930 6:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal	6 9:00am Preschool 1:00pm Preschool	7 9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Kaffeeklatsch 1:00pm Preschool 5:00pm Finance Team Meeting 7:00pm Stephen Ministry Team Meeting	8 10:00am-4:00pm Friends in Stitches	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00am Adult Forum 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Inquirers' Class 10:15am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Hour 11:30am King's Men Rehearsal 12:00pm Executive Team Meeting 3:00pm Round About Brass Rehearsal 7:00pm Eastern Idaho Chorale Concert	10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Worship & Music Meeting	9:00am Happy Stitches 9:00am Preschool 12:00pm C&C Meeting 1:00pm Preschool 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop #930 6:30pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal	9:00am Preschool 1:00pm Preschool	9:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Kaffeeklatsch 1:00pm Preschool 6:00pm Stephen Ministry Training 7:00pm Stephen Ministry Team Meeting	10:00am-4:00pm Friends in Stitches	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00am Adult Forum 9:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Inquirers' Class 10:15am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Hour 4:00pm Round About Brass Rehearsal	10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Council Mtg	9:00am Happy Stitches 9:00am Preschool 12:00pm Happy Stitches' Bible Study 1:00pm Preschool 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop #930	9:00am Preschool 1:00pm Preschool	9:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Kaffeeklatsch 9:00am-4:00pm Preschool Graduation	10:00am-4:00pm Friends in Stitches	9:00am Men's Breakfast
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:00am Adult Forum 9:00am Inquirers' Class 10:15am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Hour 3:00pm Round About Brass Rehearsal	10:00am Staff Meeting	9:00am Happy Stitches 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop #930		9:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Kaffeeklatsch	10:00am-4:00pm Friends in Stitches	
31	June 1	2	3	4	5	6
9:00am Inquirers' Class 10:15am Worship 11:30am Fellowship Hour 3:00pm Round About Brass Rehearsal						Rummage Sale

Crosswalk is a publication of
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
455 West Sunnyside Road
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

Tel: (208) 522-9301
E-mail: office@firstlc.com
Website: www.firstlc.com



Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday Closed

Pastor	Rev. Mike Knauff
Music Director	Michelle Hanson
Youth & Family Minister	Heather Catanese
Church Administrator	Julie Sagnimeni
Bookkeeper	Greg Stultz
Financial Secretary	Wendy Schoonmaker
Minister of Welcome	Rev. Larry Cudmore
Preschool Director	Barbara Carlson

Bring items for the *Crosswalk* to the church office
OR
e-mail items to: office@firstlc.com

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 am Adult Forum
10:15 am In-Church Worship &
Church Live @ firstlc.com

