

First & Palisade Lutheran Parish



February 2023



Join Us
IN Worship

on Sundays

Feb 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th

Palisade Lutheran has 9:00 am worship
and 10:00 am Sunday School

First Lutheran has 10:30 am worship
and 9:30 am Sunday School

We will celebrate Holy Communion on
Sunday, Feb. 5th.

ASH WEDNESDAY *Worship*

Ash Wednesday is the Wednesday of the seventh week before Easter and the first day of Lent. The day is named for the practice of imposing ashes.

Using ashes as a sign of repentance is an ancient practice, often mentioned in the Bible. The early Christians adopted the use of ashes from Jewish practice as an external mark of penitence.

Ashes symbolize several aspects of our human existence:

- Ashes remind us of God's condemnation of sin, as God said to Adam, "Dust you are and to dust you shall return."

- Ashes suggest cleansing and renewal. They were used anciently in the absence of soap. Even on Ash Wednesday, we receive ashes in the form of the cross, the same symbol placed on our bodies with water in our baptism. Even in this ashen mark of death, we anticipate the new life of Easter.

- Ashes remind us of the shortness of human life, for it is said as we are buried into the ground. "We commit this body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

- Ashes are a symbol of our need to repent, confess our sins, and return to God.

Ash Wednesday worship is Wed, Feb 22nd, 7:00 pm at First Lutheran Church

From the Pastor's Desk

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

February is considered by some to be the month of love. We celebrate Valentine's Day on the 14th and billions, (that's billions with a B) of dollars are spent on candy, flowers, jewelry, cards, fancy dinners, and other gifts so that we can profess how we feel about our true love, or prove our love to someone.

A number of years ago the Atlantic Magazine said this about Valentine's Day, *“Valentine's Day is a time to spoil our beloveds, woo our secret lovers, and remember to call our mothers. It is also, to put things slightly less tenderly, a \$20 billion macroeconomic stimulus aimed straight at the heart of the American chocolate-floral-lingerie industrial hydra.”* So, to put it in terms I can understand Americans spend over 20 billion, that's 20 followed by nine zeros, dollars to tell each other how much we are loved. We even spend about \$722 million on our pets on this “romantic” holiday. I don't know about you but that is a bit alarming to me. It costs me absolutely nothing to tell Sharon that I love her, but I too, like many of you, will buy a gift for the one I love to reinforce just how much I love her.

We may not admit it, but we need to feel loved, and for many of us we yearn for someone to tell us they love us. Love is the one emotion that can have physical repercussions if it is not at least perceived. As the song says, “Love is a many splendored thing”, but for some love is an elusive thing and they spend most of their energy trying to find it.

That's why John 3:16 hit so close to home this time of the year. For many, love is a sacrifice. We often sacrifice our own desires or even our own well being in favor of making sure the people we love have what they need. For those who have lost the ones they love recently it feels like love is so distant that it is almost nonexistent and is a painful reminder of love lost.

But in God's undying love for us God made the ultimate sacrifice. God gave his son, his very life, to prove to us that we are worthy of being loved. God loves us so much that God had to find a way to save us from ourselves and offers us abundant life now and eternal life in the future by giving up Jesus as an atoning sacrifice for sin and an end to the penalty of sin.

Jesus died to destroy the power death had over us and he did it out of pure and holy love. That is the quintessential gift of love and Jesus did it simply to prove God's love for us.

So, this Valentine's Day, when you are trying to come up with the perfect gift for the one you love, remember that Jesus gave the perfect gift to us on the cross and give thanks to God for that perfect gift.

God Bless you and Happy Valentine's Day.

Peace,
Pastor Mark



Please let us know of any changes to your mailing address, phone number, or email address so we can stay connected!



Our **Parish** email address is: firstpalisade@alliancecom.net
Church office phone # is: 605-757-6662
Pastor Mark's contact information is:
Email: meliason@sio.midco.net
Cell phone: 605-321-5633

The **first Sunday** of every month we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion during worship.



Celebrating
150
Years



Palisade Lutheran will be celebrating their 150 year anniversary on Sunday, April 14, 2024!

We are looking for confirmation pictures dated 2015 to current year. Please bring to church or email to palisadechurch@alliancecom.net
If you are interested in being on this task force, please contact Pastor Mark.
Email: meliason@sio.midco.net
Cell phone: 605-321-5633

Cancellations

If worship service is cancelled due to weather related conditions: You will receive a text message on your cell phone and/or an email. Notification will also be posted on Facebook, on KELO-TV Closeline (online only) and to KSFY-TV (scroll on tv screen)

We are ONLINE!

Find us on Facebook:



@FirstLutheranValleySprings
@PalisadeLC



YouTube Channel:
FirstPalisadeLutheranParish

Newsletter articles and information may be mailed to:



Tylene Jansma
1019 St Highway 23
Beaver Creek, MN 56116

Or emailed to: btjansma@alliancecom.net

DEADLINE for the March newsletter is February 23rd.

**Join us in worship with
Pastor Mark Eliason**

Serving
First Lutheran Church
300 Maple Street
Valley Springs, SD 57068

&

Palisade Lutheran Church
211 121st Street
Garretson, SD 57030
www.palisadelutheran.org

OUR NEXT
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IS

**THURSDAY, FEB 16TH
AT 7:00 PM
AT PALISADE LUTHERAN**



Palisade Council meets at 7 pm
on **Thursday, Feb 9th**

First Lutheran Council meets at 7 pm
on **Tuesday, Feb 21st**



Palisade WELCA Minutes

January 12, 2023

The Palisade WELCA met on Thursday, January 12th, 2023, at 1:30pm with 5 members present.

Pastor Mark opened with prayer and led the Bible study: The Ten Commandments: Reviving the soul (Session one).

Candice called the business meeting called to order.

Secretary report was distributed and reviewed. Correction re: quilts. Six quilts were sold, and 8 quilts were donated to SHARE. MSC received and filed.

Treasurer's report distributed and discussed. Year end report is available in Annual Report. Ending checking balance on December 31st is \$904.02.

Correspondence: A thank you from SHARE for the beautiful quilts.

Old Business: None.

New Business: No new business for month of November. No meeting held in December. Discussion of lunch after Annual meeting on January 29th. Members will be asked to bring salads, desserts, etc. WELCA will serve scalloped potatoes/ham.

The date of our 150th anniversary celebration will be April 14th, 2023.

Next meeting will be February 9th and Karen will serve.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Deb Johnson, Secretary



Palisade Lutheran Church Council Meeting

January 12, 2023

The Palisade Church Council was called to order by President Rodney Lowe at 7pm. Others present were Pastor Mark Eliason, Kelvin Edmundson, Karen Rollag, Tylene Jansma and Deb Kruger.

Secretary's report: was read and placed on file.

Treasurer's report was read and placed on file.

Pastors report: Pastor Mark delivered some of the Christmas gifts to Palisade Lutheran Church members who are unable to make it to Church. The gifts were made by the LYO members. Pastor will be having knee surgery on January 25th. Ash Wednesday will be at First Lutheran on February 22. We will alternate between Churches on Wednesday nights. There will be no confirmation on January 25th.

Outreach Committee: no new business

Correspondence: Thank you card from Luverne Area Community Foundation for the gift of money we gave the food shelf in Luverne.

Old Business:

Camera system: installation is in progress

Carpet: has been completed

150th anniversary task force: The date has been set for April 14th, 2024. If you would like to volunteer please get in touch with Pastor Mark or any council member.

Defibrillator: in progress

New business:

We will be renewing our insurance policy with the same company.

The toilet in the men's bathroom is being repaired by Kirby Lowe construction.

The annual meeting will be January 29th with 10:30 service. There will be a lunch served afterward.

Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Deb Kruger, Secretary



First Lutheran Council Minutes

January, 17, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Artz with 7 members present and Pastor Mark.

Pastor Mark opened with prayer.

Secretary's report: MSC to approve the secretary's report.

Treasurer's report: MSC to approve the treasurer's report.

Old Business: The Treasurer stated that each church did not have to make a December contribution to the Parish account. This refunded to each congregation the amount of excess funds that existed in the Parish account.

New Business: Art reported that the sign advertising our church is nearing completion and will be ready soon. The suggestion was made that we start a prayer chain in our congregation. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. Pastor Mark would like our congregation to have a knock on doors evangelism event this spring. The council will discuss how to proceed with this suggestion at the next council meeting.

The next council meeting will be February 21 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Les Hengeveld, Secretary

February 2023

Sunday School is at 10 AM at Palisade Lutheran
Sunday School is at 9:30 AM at First Lutheran



First Lutheran Church Annual Meeting January 22, 2023



Vice President Don Johnson called the meeting to order.

Pastor Mark led the meeting in prayer.

Vice President Don Johnson presented a summary of 2022 activities.

Secretary's report was read and approved.

Treasurer's report was read and approved.

WELCA report was read and approved.

Parsonage report was read and approved.

Old Business: None

New Business:

The Parish budget for 2023 was discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget

The 2023 budget for First Lutheran was discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget

Nominations for council members were opened. Motions were made, seconded and pass to have nominations cease for each position. Nominations were as follows:

President: Les Hengeveld

Vice President: Don Johnson

Secretary: Mary Finck

Treasurer: Jerry Kerkhove

Board of Deacons: Dave Artz

Board of Trustees: Lynn Nielson

Board of Education: Shannon Jacobs

Motion was made and seconded to accept the slate of officers as presented. Motion carried.

Delegates Elected: Tuff Home: Dennis Boeve and Jerry Kerhove
Synod Assembly- Mary Finck and Lynn Nielson

A motion was made, seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Les Hengeveld, Secretary

**FIRST & PALISADE LUTHERAN PARISH
PO BOX 190
VALLEY SPRINGS, SD 57068**

