

# November 2021

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

[www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org](http://www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org)  
[office@firstlutheran-gladstone.org](mailto: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 – 12:00 PM and  
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM  
Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Rev. Elisabeth Daniels, Pastor**

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



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## **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.



To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Gladstone or reading this letter,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.

I am greeting you this month with words that might be a little familiar. They are Paul's words to the people of Philippi. This is almost a direct quote of Philippians 1:1-3 with a small "Gladstone" change, but the greeting works today as well as then. I am so thankful to be a part of this community. My prayers of late are almost all joyful thanksgiving. Being thankful is not only the way God hopes we will approach our lives; it also helps with our overall health.

Part of my chaplain training introduced me to a class from Duke University. Duke did a study on healthcare workers proved that the culture of the nursing floor dictated people's wellbeing more so than the actual work. At the core of successful and healthy staffing was a culture of thankfulness. Floors where doctors, nurses, and support staff appreciated each other had less staff turnover and in general a healthier population.

They tested this theory using "3 Good Things." It was an app that had the staff log "3 Good Things" that happened each day. The study found positive results in just three days. 10 days was even better. 14 days was optimal and longer than that burnt people out, but the effects of the 14 days lasted for months. The program has expanded even more since then. If you want to sign up and use Duke's program the website is <https://www.hsq.dukehealth.org/tools/>. They will actually text you daily reminders. I will link a video to our First Facebook page as well.



Otherwise, grab your journal and try it. Just noting three good things from your day for as little as three days in a row could have a positive impact on your life for up to 30 days. It's worth a shot. When we pray for one another in joy, it makes it hard to dwell on the negative. In our joy, we are better equipped to recognize God's light in our lives.

Thanksgiving maybe a national holiday, but it is meant to be a Christian way of life. God's blessings this month FLC Family. I am so thankful for you!

Pastor Elisabeth

Thank you to First Lutheran Church for pulling all the stops out for the Installation Service on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The church looked beautiful, the food was wonderful, the welcome...spectacular. Pastor Elisabeth and her family feel blessed, cared for, and a part of the family. Thank you for your gifts and support!!!

Pastor Elisabeth Daniels

## **Upcoming Scripture Readings**

**November 7<sup>th</sup>** – All Saints Sunday

1 Kings 17:8-16, Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44



**November 14<sup>th</sup>** – Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Daniel 12:1-3, Psalm 16, Hebrews 10:11-14[15-18] 19-25, Mark 13:1-8

**November 21<sup>st</sup>** – Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, Psalm 93, John 18:33-37

**November 28<sup>th</sup>** – First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

## Adult Christian Education Events

On November 21<sup>st</sup> in the double classroom after the 10:30 service.

November will kick us off with a special 2-part series on Rick Steve's European Christmas Special. We will watch ½ the video and have a 10–15 minute discussion during coffee hour. We will finish the video the next week after church on the 28<sup>th</sup> with some European Christmas tradition goodies!

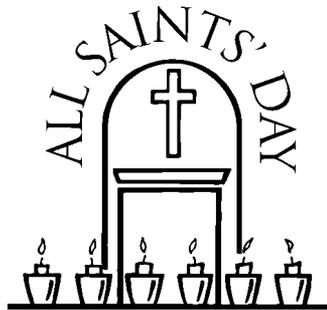
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### *All Saints Sunday*

All saints will be honored in a Book of Remembrances all month long. The book will be displayed in the narthex for all to remember those gone before us. There will be a commemorative ceremonial candle lighting during worship and a bell will be rung when your loved one's name is spoken.

All Saints Day this year falls on Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. During worship that day we will lift up in prayer the following saints who have gone before us, who have witnessed God's love, and who now celebrate eternal life with Jesus:

*Bishop Emeritus Dale Skogman*  
*Jeannie Spaulding*  
*Irene Obenauf*  
*Lillian Strom*  
*Harold Bauer*  
*Bryan Casteel*  
*Keith Soderman*  
*Paul Wedell*  
*Richard DeMay*  
*James McPherson*



If you have a loved one to add to the All Saints Day list, please contact the office so they can also be lifted up on All Saints Day.

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### **Worship Tablets**

Are available to individuals who are unable or uncomfortable to attend worship at church and do not have internet service. Contact the office for more information.

# A Busy Day Ahead at First Lutheran November 29<sup>th</sup>

## Clean and De-Clutter Party: 9:00 am

Many rooms in the building are hosting unused, unwanted items that need to be disposed and things need to be cleaned. Volunteers are needed to aid in this task. Trucks and trailers for taking items to the dump or to St. Vincent DePaul's is appreciated. Please sign up in the Narthex or call the office if you are able to help. Work will continue on Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> if needed. Bring the whole family, games for the kids will be provided.



## Chili Cookoff: 6:00 PM

Do you have the "Best Chili"? Earn some bragging rights by entering your chili in the Chili Cookoff. Chili will be served, sampled, and voted on. The church mouse heard there will be prizes.



## Hanging of the Greens: 6:30 PM

It is time to prepare for the Advent and Christmas Season. First Lutheran will be decorating outside with evergreen garland, fresh wreaths and putting up the Christmas tree and garlands in the sanctuary. Put your decorating skills to use and your helpful hands to work.

Dress in layers according to the weather. Let the holidays begin!



## Northern Great Lakes Synod Fall Classes 2021

- Biblemania! Reading Through Some of the 66 Books of Food for the Soul
- Ezekiel Bible Study
- Intermediate Biblical Greek
- Walking Together: Companionship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania
- An Introduction to Family Systems Thinking
- Book Study of *Friedman's Fables* (by Rabbi Ed Friedman): "Metaphors for Family Systems Thinking"
- Holy Communion Post-Pandemic: What, When, Where, Who, and Why

Visit [www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation](http://www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation) for more information and to register  
or contact Deacon Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or [lori.ward@nglsynod.org](mailto:lori.ward@nglsynod.org).

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### Custodian Position Open

First Lutheran Church of Gladstone, Michigan is seeking a responsible part-time custodian with flexible hours. Requires heavy lifting, knowledge of and how to use a riding lawn mower, yard trimmer, snowblower, etc. Other duties include cleaning and maintaining inside the building and surrounding outdoor areas.

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### **Bay College Meal**

First Lutheran will be hosting a meal at Bay College on December 6<sup>th</sup> for the current students. This meal helps those students who have a need for food. Thank you to those who help fund this ministry and to those who help prepare the meal.

## **Altar Guild**

The Altar Guild will meet Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm to finalize plans for Christmas decorating.

**Missing:** the metal liner for the baptismal font is missing! If you know it's whereabouts or have any information that would help us, find it, please contact any member of the Altar Guild or the church office.

## **Bible Study**

Bible study meets weekly on Wednesday at 9:30 am.

## **Love Circle & Faith Circle**

Love circle will meet the third Thursday of September at 9:30 am at First Lutheran. Faith Circle on the third Thursday of September at 7:00pm at First Lutheran Church. All women from Gladstone and Rapid River are invited. The study will be about the Holy Spirit. Study material will be in the narthex. Please call 428-1696 for more information.

## **Sewing Circle**

The sewing circle meets every Tuesday at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall.



## **Christian Ed**

Christian Ed is seeking an individual(s) to coordinate the Sunday School, Youth Programs and someone to assist in leading Confirmation.

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## **The Escanaba Community Thanksgiving Dinner**



First Lutheran needs your help. We are helping the Escanaba Community Thanksgiving Dinner by providing pies. Are you able to make a pie for this charitable event? We only need 8-12 pies and they will pick up the pies at church on Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.

# Sewing Circle

SILENT AUCTION



You are all invited to participate in the Sewing Circle's  
Silent Auction

starting  
**Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Find the item you would like to bid on and write your  
name, phone number and bid on the items bid sheet.  
Check your bid often and bid higher if necessary.

On  
**Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>**  
we will **close bidding at noon.**

If you are the highest bidder, you will be contacted by  
phone and you may pick up your winning article with  
your payment during the next week.

The proceeds go to help ship our quilts and kits  
overseas. So come and bid high and often.

## Lutheran World Relief Shipping

The weather was great and the workers were fantastic for Lutheran World Relief shipping day, October 9<sup>th</sup>. We had boxes from 16 churches put on the semi from Escanaba Moving Systems. Tom Woodaz was our driver, donating his time and semi and expenses as his gift, and the semi was over half full. All the boxes traveled to Menominee where they got loaded on a railroad car. Thank you, Pastor Christina Forsyth, for coordinating this.



Those who helped this year in a variety of ways were Connie Salmi, Lloyd and Mary Tuskan, Rick and Paula LaCrosse, Dale Schlemmer, Wayne Marshall, Dave Ottensman, Carolyn Nelson, Jo Skogman, Bill Ehrhardt, Joe and Pam Durbin, Dewey Fairchild, Misty and Jimmy Gerow, Ben Hewitt, and Sam Hewitt. Also, Don and Sherri Makowski and Gregg, Bre and Leo Gendron from Calvary Lutheran stayed and helped.

Those who came for the first shift stayed longer, treats were shared, kitchen duties were done, boxes loaded and good conversation was had. All the churches arrived by 10 am and the semi was on its way.

First Lutheran sent 217 quilts, 536 baby care kits, and 200 school kits. The school kits were a joint effort from First Lutheran and Calvary Lutheran. Calvary did an awesome job of sending 818 quilts this year. Amazing!

Also made and shared this year were 400 masks, 400 feminine pads, and 100 doggie beds.

Thank you to all who helped in any way in this mission and ministry. Those who sew at home, donated funds, shop for bargains at stores and rummage sales, create, cut squares, dew and tie, those who come to church on Monday and Tuesday and the square ladies and those who pray. Thank you for being a part of the work we get to do together to distribute these gifts of our hearts and hands of God's kingdom into the world.

Nora Smith

## Stewardship

### **WHY GIVE TO THE CHURCH?**

At this time of the year, in many churches, people are asked to commit financial support to fund ministries in the coming new year. We have asked you to make an estimate of giving for many years and you have never failed to respond boldly and generously. Thank you for blessing us with such faithful trust.

While the stewardship emphasis shifts to committing money to further our mission, dollars, as you have read here before, tell only part of the story. Whether I should commit to the church and how much is a much bigger conversation with God and our families. How much time should I commit? How much energy should I expend? What abilities, with which I have been blessed, should I share. Giving is a package deal.

Most mornings when I pray, I ask God to help me be a better steward and be a generous giver. Truth be told, I don't have this conversation with God often enough.

Being a good giver is not easy although as you give more and more, it gets easier. Decisions on how much to give usually requires an honest, hard look at how much you NEED to keep and how much you WANT to keep. One problem with this approach is that God's work gets what's left.

In a perfect world, after much prayer, we would get a clear answer of how much time, talent and money God wants from us. Alas, that world doesn't exist, but our conversation with God is always where we should continue to turn.

Whatever each person or family decides to commit we, especially as Christians, NEED TO GIVE.

Why do we give? Borrowing from Eugene Grimm's book, "Generous People", people give for, at least, these reasons:

- it's a grateful response to God
- it adds meaning to life
- people like to help people
- it's a spiritual response to God's gift of our salvation
- someone asked them to give
- people give to those they trust
- belief in the mission and ministries meet its budget

Notice that absent from the list is, people give so the church can meet its budget. If we give only because the church needs so much from each of us to meet the budget, we are limited to "our fair share" of a church's annual bottom line.

Don't get me wrong. Congregations cannot function without financial resources. For us to do the work God expects of us, we need money. But, and it's a BIG but, if ALL we give is money, our glass will always be half empty.

Our cup can runneth over. We have been drinking out of our saucer because our cup has runneth over. Thanks to you. Thanks be to God!

Grateful and In Christ,  
Dirk Manson, Stewardship Chair



### **2022 Pledges**

To make it even easier to pledge, you can simply scan this QR Code with your smartphone. It will take you right to First Lutheran's pledge page. Fill out the form and click submit.

## INTRODUCING THE NEW VANCO MOBILE APP

Supporting our ministries and mission is only a click away. We offer convenient online giving, so you never have to worry about leaving your cash or checkbook at home. You can make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts – a great option for members who will be traveling south for the winter months. Get started by visiting our online donation page at [www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org](http://www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org). You can also download the new Vanco giving app from your app store.



(Vanco App Logo)

Get started today!

## A REMINDER FROM VANCO

Hello,

We're Vanco, the eGiving provider behind your church's GivePlus Mobile app. We're getting in touch today to notify you that we are sunsetting the GivePlus Mobile app. It is being replaced with our new, free Vanco Mobile app.

**We will stop supporting GivePlus Mobile after January 31, 2022. You will not be able to make new donations to First Lutheran through GivePlus Mobile after this date. (All recurring gifts currently scheduled will be made.)**

We encourage you to download the free Vanco Mobile app today! And it's easy for you to use:

Your GivePlus Mobile log-in credentials stay the same in Vanco Mobile. No need for a new user ID or password.

If you have recurring gifts set up, they will continue to be made as scheduled.

Vanco Mobile is available in the Google Play store and the Apple App store now. Download it today.

Thank you for using GivePlus Mobile, we know you'll enjoy the Vanco Mobile app even more. **Remember, download the Vanco Mobile app before January 31, 2022.**

Thanks,  
The Vanco Team

## **Fortune Lake News**

### **SENIOR DAY**

Senior Days at Fortune Lake 2021/2022. Come and join us for a day of wonderful conversation, delicious food, and great fun! Senior Day is a wonderful way to reconnect with old friends and make a few new ones along the way! Gather in the Dining Hall from 10 am – 2 pm and enjoy a delightful day at FLLC, including a devotion, program, lunch and fellowship!

**Dates: Nov. 15, 2021**

**Jan. 10 2022**

**Mar. 14, 2022**

**May 9, 2022**



### **Crafter's Retreat**

Are you needing a change of scenery and an opportunity to finish that project that you've been working on for what seems like forever? Fortune Lake has a weekend of crafting and community planned for **November 19-21<sup>st</sup>**. Join other crafters while you spend time on your passion projects, socializing and relaxing. Registration deadline is November 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Hope at the Inn**

The shelter will open on Nov. 7. We need your support by volunteering. In discussion with the Congregational Council, First has decided to continue hosting Hope at the Inn at First Lutheran. However, we will not be hosting during 2021. Instead, we will host sometime between January and April at least one, possibly two, weeks. We would like to increase our volunteer support before hosting again. Please visit [www.hopeattheinn.org](http://www.hopeattheinn.org) for the next volunteer training session and listen to the announcements.

Fall Blessings, Rhonda Husbye and Pat Casteel

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### **Salvation Army Lunches**

At this time there are no plans to resume the Saturday lunches hosted by area churches at the Salvation Army.

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Take a step toward staying healthy and active. Life Line Screening goes beyond regular checkups to provide a more thorough look at your health. Adults age 50+ and those 40 and older with one or more risk factors for cardiovascular disease should be screened. "Key Risk Factors include: "High blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity, smoking, family history".

**When: Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Where: First Lutheran Church  
1212 Minneapolis Ave  
Gladstone, MI 49837**

**5 Screenings for only \$139  
Special Package Pricing**

To register for your appointment please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit <https://lisa.social/HSC>.

**Advent Worship Services "Holden Evening Prayer"**

Take a breath out of the busy holiday season and attend a special evening of worship on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

December 1<sup>st</sup>

December 8<sup>th</sup>

December 15<sup>th</sup>

December 22<sup>nd</sup>

## Advent Calendars



First Lutheran is selling advent calendars to spread good cheer to someone near. Start a sweet tradition with this delicious Advent calendar! Milk chocolate hearts, one for each day, hide behind the visual story of Divine Chocolate and a nativity scene. Suitable for vegetarians. Free from artificial flavorings, colorings and preservatives. Yummy! Pick them up in the office, while supplies last. November 1<sup>st</sup>–19<sup>th</sup>.

**Cost per Calendar is \$9:00**

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## Community Christmas Dinner

At this time there are no plans to have the Community Christmas Day dinner.

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## Christmas Eve Worship

**The birth of Christ will be celebrated on December 24<sup>th</sup>.**

**Family Worship at 4:00 pm**  
**Evening Worship at 7:00 pm**

## Kiwanis Christmas Tree of Honor & Remembrance

The Gladstone-Rapid River Kiwanis is kicking off its annual Christmas Tree of Honor and Remembrance. Lights can be purchased in Remembrance of loved ones or to Honor someone special. Each light costs \$5 or 3 lights for \$10. Lights are available for purchase until December 1st. The Christmas Tree will be located in Gladstone's Van Cleve Park and a lighting ceremony will take place at 5:30 on Sunday, December 5th at the beach house. The tree will stay lit through January 3rd. Forms are available on the table outside of the office, at City Hall, and on the Kiwanis website [www.gladstonekiwanis.weebly.com](http://www.gladstonekiwanis.weebly.com)



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## **You are Invited to Attend Bells for Hospice**

In recognition of National Hospice Month 2021, UP Health System Home Care and Hospice and OSF Home Care and Hospice will join together, along with staff, volunteers and community members who wish to ring bells in memory of those in our community who have passed away while receiving hospice care throughout this past year.

The "Ring the Bells for Hospice" campaign is launched throughout our state and local area to create awareness of hospice services. This initiative was inspired by a poem entitled "The Meaning of the Bell" and the words guiding this poem suggests a gentle, comforting way to work through individual grief following the loss of a loved one.

To support our effort, we are asking you to join us at North Woods Place, 501 South Lincoln Road at 12 noon on Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup> to participate in the ceremony as we remember our loved ones who have passed. This event is not only for loved ones who received hospice services but for the entire community to join together in memory of a loved one.



Please bring a bell if you have one and feel free to make a poster to share with those passing by.

**The community event is as follows:**

We will meet at North Woods Place, 501 South Lincoln Road, Escanaba, MI 49829

**Monday, November 1, 2021**  
**11:45 a.m. – Gathering**  
**12 noon – Bell Ringing and Program**

For more information contact Eric xxxxxxxxxx or Gayle DeShambo 906.241.7974.

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## **November Birthdays**

### **Week 1:**

Elaine DeRoeck	Anna Smith
Mark Nelson	Sally Strom
Jacob Siedlecki	Eric Husbye



### **Week 2:**

Laura Coleman	John Skellenger	Sherri Ide
Kara Salo	Susan Snowaert	Diane Krouth
Raino Maki	Barb Tauzer	

### **Week 3:**

Don Casteel	Kimberly Roman	Dale Hongisto
Annabelle Christie	Hannah Christie	Dave Cowen
Hunter Martunucci	Austin Brown	Carson Sovey

### **Week 4:**

Ira Goetsch	Diane LaPorte	Kaden Menard
Connor Sovey	Denise Warner	Bill Ehrhardt
Sally Pouliot	Paige Warner	Doug Anderson
Sue Manson	Lorraine Moreau	
Lee Anderson	Marie Hirn	

## **November Anniversaries**

Paul & Patty Geiken	14 years
Jason & Leah Hanson	18 years
Joe & Pam Durbin	43 years
Dennis & Christine Johnson	50 years
Gerald & Carol Ebbesen	57 years





## Homebound Members



### Christian Park

Ruth Johnson  
Helen Ruth Seppala  
Marilyn Stade

### Bishop Noa

Betty Erickson  
Joyce Creten  
Marie Hirn

### Pinecrest, Powers

Jean Schmidt

### Sunny View

Marv Kaski

### Lakeview

Laila Whitfield  
Carole Wedell  
Agnes Johnson

### Murray's Country View

Pat Shampo

### At Home

Arla Pearson  
Mary Kossow  
Lorraine Moreau  
Don Erickson



## **Council Highlights**



The Congregational Council met on October 20<sup>th</sup> with Vice-President, Lynn Thomas presiding. At this meeting the council: Approved Pastor Daniels health and retirement renewal of Portico's Gold+ package. Approved the budget, with changes, to go to the congregation at the annual meeting for approval. Approved hosting Hope at the Inn beginning in January 2022. Accepted Warren Eichner's resignation. Discussed the mortgage allocation be lowered to \$1,000.00 per month to Capital Improvement. Decided to table discussion on the Daycare/Preschool project until more information is available from the committee. They also talked about the Advent and Christmas services, the ELCA Youth Gathering and the arrival of new office furnishings.

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## **Serving Us in October**

<b>Readers</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
November 7	Nora Smith	Dolli Salmi
November 14	Doris Sundstrom	Connie Salmi
November 21	Ellen Swenson	Jo Skogman
November 28	Pam Durbin	Chuck Thomas

## **Communion Assistance**

November 7	Dale Schlemmer	Carol Kocsis
November 14	Nora Smith	Jo Skogman
November 21	Dotti Ford	Ann Christiansen
November 28	Judy Hammond	Pam Bialik

Thank you for volunteering to serve. We understand if you do not wish to serve during the pandemic. If you are unable to serve, please contact the office at 428-4565.

## **Altar Guild**

Jan Gustafson and Amber Hess-Soderman

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## **Contact Us:**

### **First Lutheran Church**

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### **Rev. Elisabeth Daniels, Pastor**

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

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

### **Office Manager: Rhonda Husbye**

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

### **Secretary: Reyna Rose**

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

**Director of Music:** Ray Miller (temporary volunteer)

**Musicians:** Ray Miller, Paul Rajala

**Christian Ed Coordinator:** Cindy Sjoquist (temporary volunteer)

**Custodian:** Warren Eichner

### **Congregation Council:**

Kathy Gobert, President

Lynn Thomas, Vice President

Cindy Sjoquist, Secretary

Bill Ehrhardt, Treasurer

Steve Bolek

Jeff Gudwer

Dirk Manson

Chris Mineau

Howard Haulotte

Ray Miller

Jane Coyne-Smith



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



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1212 Minneapolis Avenue  
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