

Weekly Insert - Announcements for Dec 22

TODAY: Adult Ed: From Expectation to Rejoicing: Scripture and Song in Advent 2024 with Roy and Nancy Carroll (9:15am; Chapel) - Looking for a foil to seasonal gift decisions about slippers and pajama sizes? Blessed are those who offer (and receive and share) the gifts of Advent. Today, FLC will offer an opportunity to fully engage with the 'gift' that is the christian church season of Advent. Participants will listen, read, reflect and sing Advent texts for the here and now, and the times yet to come.

TODAY: The **nursery will not be staffed** for the 8am service, but will be open for parents to use. It will be staffed for 9:30am service as usual. We apologize for any inconvenience.



Christmas Eve Worship (Dec 24; 4pm & 7:30pm) with brass and candlelight. Late worship has a **new time** of 7:30pm this year! The nursery will be staffed at the 4pm service only.

Christmas Eve Candles - You will receive candles that will be lit during *Silent Night* on Christmas Eve. The wax candles do drip and need to be held upright for several minutes. They are appropriate for youth in 4th or 5th grade, on up. There are electric candles for younger worshippers, who tend to lose focus. Please choose wisely for your children and monitor them closely to prevent wax spills.

Worship Participation on Christmas Eve - Thank you to everyone who has offered to help on Christmas Eve! We still need:

- **4pm:** Greeters to open doors at the main entrance and 4 ushers
- **7:30pm:** Greeters to open doors at the main entrance and 3 ushers

Please contact Nan at nbandt@flcj.org or

Weekly/Bi-Weekly

Centering Prayer (Mons; 8-8:30pm; Zoom)

Led by Pr. Michael Mueller.

Login Link: <https://tinyurl.com/2p89n5sc>

Meeting ID: 816 1696 9038 | **Passcode:** 224107

The BG's (Tues; 8-11am; Fellowship Hall Lounge)

A group of men that gather for coffee, socializing, and to handle the many indoor/outdoor misc maintenance needs of the church.

Knitters (Tues; 9am; Gathering Space)

Join us for smiles, laughs, and lots of knitting!

Wednesday Bible Study (10am; Rm 302)

We explore the prophets of the Old Testament.

Mission Sew (1st, 3rd & 5th Wed of the Month; 8:30am; Fellowship Hall)

Help us with cutting, sewing, tying, and pinning quilts for LWR.

Contact: Margaret Drinkwater, by contacting the church at 608.752.7434.

Young Adults (Thurs; 6:30pm; Youth Room)

We eat, learn, & grow together.

Contact: Eric, 608.290.7083 / eengen@flcj.org

608.752.7434 x15, or Jeanie at office@flcj.org or extension 10.

Lessons & Carols (Dec 29; 9:30am) - One service

Building Closed for the Holidays

- Dec 24, 25, 26 closed, will be open for Christmas Eve Worship at 4pm & 7:30pm
- Dec 31 closed at Noon
- Jan 1 closed

Time to Sign-up for Winter Break Groups (Deadline to Sign-up is Jan 3) - Break Bread is

a fellowship ministry of FLC where small groups, usually 5-8 people, gather for meals and fellowship.

Break Bread offers a great way to strengthen your relationships

within our church community. Both new and long-



time members are encouraged to participate. Options are available for weekdays or weekends, for lunch, dinner, breakfast, or brunch and to eat at restaurants or for members to host in their home. Each group will meet in January, February, and March at dates and places determined by the group. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Gathering Space which can be returned to the FLC office, or scan the QR code to sign up. The deadline for sign-up is Friday, January 3. Questions, contact Christine Smith, 608.692.6521. **SIGN-UP: flcj.org/break-bread**

Pickleball Resumes Jan 4 - Come play pickleball or learn how to play on Saturdays in the gym from 10am-Noon. Questions call Jenny McMullen at 608.208.0315.

Coffee Hour Hosts needed for Jan 5. Sign-up in the Gathering Space.

Page Turners Book Club (Jan 7, Feb 4; 5pm; Gathering Space) - Meets the first Tuesday of each month. **Contact:** Sally Schuenke, 608.754.0407
Jan 7: *The Wish* by Nicholas Sparks
Feb 4: *Trust* by Hernan Diaz

Men of Iron (Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 4, Apr 1, May 6; 6pm; Fellowship Hall Lounge) Join us as we use *The Chosen* drama series and curriculum to discuss and explore the Bible in a unique way. Open to men of all ages. **Contact:** Eric, 608.290.7083 / eengen@flcj.org

Eat, Play, Learn, Pray: Resolutions are Dumb (Jan 8; 6-7:30pm; Gathering Space) - I hear you—there's definitely a lot of skepticism around New Year's resolutions. They can often feel like empty promises or setups for failure. The pressure to start fresh, completely overhaul your life, or be "perfect" can sometimes make it harder to focus on the real, messy process of growth. It's like a cultural expectation that we need to dramatically change every year, but the reality of habit change is much less about drastic shifts and more about incremental steps, setbacks, and learning along the way. What can be more helpful than resolutions is an honest reflection on habits and the grace we give ourselves. Join the conversation on January 8. Everyone is welcome.
—Renee Engen

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon (Jan 14; Noon; Gathering Space) - The First Lutheran Church Women invite all who are interested to the annual Soup and Sandwich Luncheon on Tuesday, Jan 14 at Noon in the Gathering Space of the church. There will be two choices of sandwiches on three kinds of bread, three soup choices, bars, cookies, coffee, and tea. There will be a short program following lunch about the Noteables, a ladies choir which practices here at the church every Monday afternoon. This is a free lunch but donations are welcomed. Please RSVP to the church office if you will be attending.

Second Harvest Food Pantry (Jan 16; 3:30-5:30pm; Fellowship Hall) Please call Mary Gallup at 608.755.1399 so she knows if she has enough help. Set-up begins at 2:30pm.

Speed Meet (Jan 19; 10:40am; Fellowship Hall) - Sign-up for the 2nd ever "First Lutheran Speed Meet" (FLSP) where First Lutheran members and friends can meet someone new or learn more about an old friend. The FLSP is scheduled for Sun, Jan 19, at 10:40am in Fellowship Hall. Here's how it works:

- A list of questions will be provided. They will range from silly to meaningful. They are available ahead of time. Just ask Renee.
- On Jan 19 sign-in by 10:40am in Fellowship Hall. Make a name tag.
- Find an open chair and have a seat.
- Use the questions provided or your own questions to meet the person in front of you for approx. 3 mins.
- The facilitator will instruct you how and when to switch partners!

Please sign-up by calling the office by Jan 17. Questions? Contact Renee at rengen@flcj.org.

Ways to Give

- **Online Giving:** Go to bit.ly/flcjgive
- **Electronic Giving:** Your Bank Account; call office
- **Offering Envelopes:** Request from office
- **Citrus Café** (Mention FLC *any day of the week* and Citrus Café donates 10% of your bill to FLC)
- Use our **QR Code** ----->
- **Mail** in a check
- **Stocks**
- **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

