

# PROGRESS

MARCH 2026: VOL. 33, NO. 3

## THIS ISSUE:

### DESSERT THEATER

*Fri, Mar 20, 6:30pm Gym*

### CROP WALK

*Mark Your Calendar:*

*Sun, Apr 26*

### HOLY WEEK

*March 29-April 5*

### CONFIRMATION BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER

*March 29 and April 26*

### SOUTH-CENTRAL WISCONSIN SYNOD ASSEMBLY COMES TO JANESVILLE

*May 15-16*



**MISSION:** Reach, Nourish, and Empower people with the Good News of Jesus Christ!

## MAKE DISCIPLES: FROM FOLLOWER TO FISHER

When Jesus called His first disciples, He didn't ask for a resume, how long they had been "practicing religion," or whether they felt qualified. Instead, He met them where they were and said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." This isn't just pretty language, it's a movement of identity. Jesus doesn't say, "Follow me and figure it out." He says, "Follow me, and I will make you." The focus is transformation, not performance.

In nature, one of the most beautiful transformations we can witness is the monarch butterfly. From egg to adult, the process takes time, nearly a full month of slow, unseen change. Growth rarely happens overnight, and the most meaningful transformations are often the ones shaped patiently by what surrounds and sustains us. Faith can feel similar. We don't rush into becoming something new; instead, through Christ's work in and around us, we are gently formed into who He calls us to be. (And unless you're a Disney princess, most transformations take time.)

There is nothing perfect about being a disciple. We see that clearly throughout Jesus' ministry. Simon Peter doubted. Judas betrayed. Matthew was a tax collector. The disciples panicked in storms even when Jesus stood right beside them. A disciple isn't defined by status, leadership, or having it all together. A disciple is simply someone who looks to Jesus and chooses to follow, someone willing to listen, learn, and keep walking. So

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Aubrey McMeen

amcmeen@flcj.org

moving from follower to fisher isn't about becoming louder or more religious. It's about transformation and growth. Growing deeper in understanding, growing deeper in that personal relationship you alone have with Him, and eventually wanting to share that feeling with someone else. Over time, that faith naturally begins to move outward. If the idea of discipleship feels intimidating, if you've ever thought you could never live up to that kind of dedication, remember that it's less about preaching at people and more about living in a way that draws others towards Him. Often, the most powerful form of discipleship is simply showing up: serving, building relationships, and practicing small acts of faithfulness day after day.



Here in our church community, we see this movement happening in quiet and meaningful ways everyday. I can see this on Sunday mornings or during my Tuesday evenings with Masterpiece Ministry. People arrive as followers, seeking relationship and a place to belong. And then through fellowship and shared faith, they grow into people who begin welcoming and guiding others too. And remember, you are not responsible for changing people, that work belongs to Jesus. He said, "Follow me, and I will make you..." So we do just that: we follow. And along the way, Christ shapes us, allowing the Spirit to move through our relationships in ways that make others stop and wonder, "What makes them different than me?"

If you ever feel discouraged, remind yourself daily that fishing can be one of the slowest, most time-consuming hobbies humans have ever chosen to love (or golf, depending on who you ask). Jesus didn't use that image lightly. He understood what it meant

to wait, to trust, and to give your time to something that doesn't always produce immediate results. Sometimes the catch comes quickly, and sometimes it doesn't come at all. But the beauty of discipleship isn't found only in the outcome, it's found in who sits in the boat with you. Even in the quiet seasons, even when you can't see those "fish" beneath the surface, time spent following Jesus is never wasted.

So maybe the real question isn't whether you feel ready to become a "fisher," but simply this: will you keep following Him? Will you trust Him even when growth feels slow? Jesus promises that He is the one who does the making and shaping us into more than we ever imagined we could be. Every transformation begins small. And just like the butterfly that starts without wings, God continues His work in us, patiently and faithfully, until one day we realize we've been changed so beautifully along the way. ①

# SOUTH-CENTRAL WISCONSIN SYNOD ASSEMBLY COMES TO JANESVILLE, MAY 15-16

The 2026 Synod Assembly of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin will be held in Janesville this year – on May 15-16 at the new Woodman’s Center!

Local congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are connected to one another regionally through “synods.” These networks of congregations provide support and resources to one another under the leadership of a bishop and the bishop’s staff. Local congregations are “boots on the ground” for community life and ministry. But we’re connected through synod and churchwide expressions, because we can always do much more by working together than we can accomplish alone.

During this year’s annual Synod Assembly, you will again have an opportunity to see the bigger picture and experience the church working together. Our congregation is eligible to send at least four voting members to the Synod Assembly, as well as two additional voting members under the age of 30. All rostered leaders (pastors and deacons) under call in the ELCA are also responsible to participate as voting members.

This year voting members will elect people to important roles in our

synod, including:

- Bishop
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Multiple positions on the Synod Council

**The FLC Council will appoint our congregation’s voting members to the Synod Assembly at the regular Church Council meeting on March 17. If this is an opportunity that interests you, please contact Council President Barb Evert, Pr. Michael Mueller, or Jeanie Pomplun in the church office.**

The Synod Council will host orientation sessions in late April and early May to prepare voting members to 1) know what to expect at the Synod Assembly, 2) understand voting procedures, especially for the bishop’s election, 3) become familiar with synod leadership roles and expectations, and 4) learn how synod finances support our shared ministry.

Our whole synod is coming here to Janesville! Don’t miss this chance to build new relationships, learn from the work of other congregations, and discover resources that could strengthen the work we are doing here at First Lutheran. [📍](#)



Join us for a cozy, delicious time at Soup Club! The last Sunday of March, we meet to share homemade soups, taste new flavors, and enjoy good company.

#### What to bring:

- Your favorite soup (bring enough to share!)
- Ingredient list
- Bowl and spoon (if you forget we have extra in the Gathering Space Kitchen)
- A friend. Soup is better with friends.
- Can’t bring a soup? No problem. Stay and soup anyway!

**When:** 10:45am on Sunday, Mar 29

**Where:** Gathering Space

**Why?** Because who doesn’t love a good bowl of soup? Whether you’re a soup master or a first-timer, come for the soup and stay for the soup!

Sign up in the Gathering Space, or just show up—we can’t wait to see, you and your soup, there!

Hosted by soup lovers - Arwen, Aubrey, & Renee [📍](#)

## FLC YOUTH FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Due March 15



The First Lutheran Youth Foundation Scholarship is available to any member of the community graduating from high school and entering post high school education. The selection is based upon service performed for both First Lutheran Church and the community foremost, and then upon academic achievement and extra-/co-curricular involvement. This scholarship is funded by the First Lutheran Foundation and recipients are chosen by the Financial Strategy and Development Team of FLC, via a blind selection and majority vote, when a quorum is present.

The scholarship application can be found at: [flcj.org/youth](http://flcj.org/youth) (at the bottom of the page).

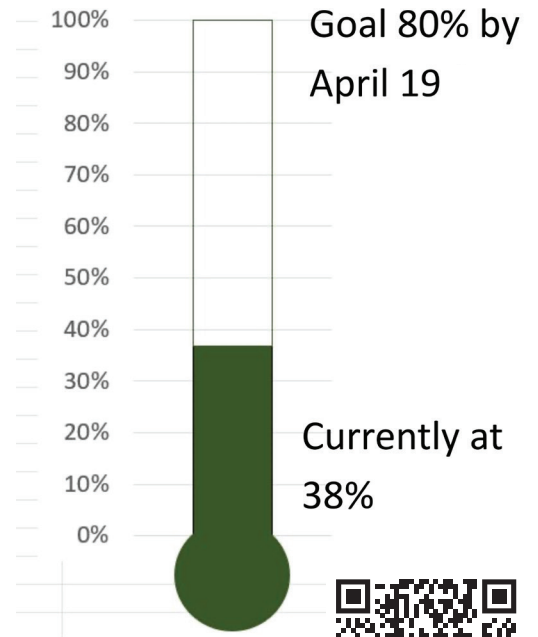
**Scholarships are due March 15.** Please contact Eric Engen, Youth Minister, at 608.290.7083 or [eengen@flcj.org](mailto:eengen@flcj.org) with any questions. ☺

## 4-H FAIR FOOD BOOTH

### Volunteers Needed by April 19

The future of First Lutheran Church's 4-H Fair Food Booth depends on congregational support. This ministry requires 34 volunteers per day and strong leadership to continue. Mike Garvin will serve as Food Booth Coordinator and Jonathan Bjoin will serve as Setup/Tear-Down Coordinator. We still need a Volunteer Sign-Up Coordinator, as well as general volunteers. A new Lay Representative role has also been added to welcome visitors and share information about FLC ministries.

**At least 80% of volunteer slots must be filled by April 19** for the Food Booth to continue. If this level is not reached, the Food Booth will be permanently discontinued. Scan the QR-code to sign up online or on the bulletin board in the gathering space. This is a shared ministry please consider how you can help. Our goal is to fill 160 of 200 volunteer slots. We're currently at 38%, and every volunteer brings us closer to successfully sharing the ministries at FLC. ☺



## NURSERY ATTENDANTS

### Join Our Team!

First Lutheran is committed to encouraging families to worship with us. One way we make this possible is by offering a staffed nursery so parents can enjoy the service while their children are having fun with kids their age. Would you be able to help? FLC is looking for additional nursery staff members to work on a rotating schedule with our current nursery coordinator. This is a paid position, open to adults over 18,

to run the nursery during the 9:30am service for the summer months and during both services for the rest of the year.

If you are interested in more information or applying, a full position description can be obtained from the church office or by contacting Arwen Twitchett at 608.752.7434 xt14 or [busadmin@flcj.org](mailto:busadmin@flcj.org). ☺

# DESSERT THEATER VARIETY SHOW



Join us for an intimate, Cabaret-style Dessert Theater Variety Show! We'll enjoy a variety of entertainment while sharing in delicious desserts. We will supply drinks, but please bring a dessert to share! Nothing is off limits, but label your dessert if it contains peanuts or tree nuts, and bring it ready to serve. See you there!

**FIRST LUTHERAN  
GYM STAGE**



**3.20.2026  
6:30pm**

## DESSERT THEATER

Fri, Mar 20, 6:30pm in the Gym

**D**o you juggle? Do you sing? Play an instrument? How about a dance or acrobatic number? Do you have a poem or dramatic soliloquy that you just love and want to share? Then this is the event for **YOU!**

Please let Amy Hartsough (amyh@flcj.org) know, and she'll create a program

including bands, dance numbers, and lots of music and drama!

It's always fun, and of course, delicious - because we all bring our favorite dessert to share! Please label if there are nuts or peanuts in the dessert - and gluten free desserts are deeply appreciated, It's fun for the whole family! All are welcome! 🍷

## BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER

Confirmation Class



Support our Confirmation Class while enjoying some delicious homemade treats!

Confirmation students and families are hosting a Bake Sale to help raise \$500 toward a matching grant to purchase communion supplies. Every loaf, cookie, and sweet treat you buy helps us reach our goal!

**March 29 and April 26**

Between services and after the 9:30am service

### What's for Sale?

- Fresh sourdough bread
- Homemade baked goods
- Sweet treats and other goodies

Come hungry, bring a friend, and help make this fundraiser a success! Thank you for your generosity. See you at the bake sale! 🍷

## VBS & DAY CAMP 2026

Kingdom Quest –  
The Call Is Out!




Mark your calendars for **Aug 3-6** as we launch into an unforgettable adventure at Kingdom Quest VBS & Day Camp! Open to children ages 3 through entering Grade 7, this year's theme invites every child to step into the story: **The map is unrolled. The quest begins.**

VBS is more than just a week of fun — it's a front-row seat to life change. And we need **YOU** to help make it happen!

The council is forming! Join the adventure team as a:

- Greeter
- Grandparent
- Host
- Small Group Leader
- Storyteller
- Game Director
- Craft Coordinator
- And more!

Interested in volunteering? You're invited to an informational dinner on: **Sun, March 8 at 5pm**  
**Gathering Space**  
**Please RSVP with Renee.**

The quest is calling — will you answer? 

# ABRAHAM AND ISAAC

## And the Limits of Faith

On Sunday, March 15, we will go off script to try something unusual. Instead of the scripture readings assigned for the fourth Sunday in Lent, we will turn to the story of Abraham and Isaac in Genesis 22.

This is one of the most deeply challenging stories in the whole Bible. Abraham and Sarah were promised to have descendants that would number like the stars, but for years they remained childless, until the birth of Isaac. Then, in Genesis 22, God inexplicably calls Abraham to take this child of promise up a mountain and to offer him to God as a burnt sacrifice. There's no explanation for it, just a command.

Abraham is obedient. He takes his son Isaac up the mountain. When he comes to the place, he builds an altar, lays out the wood, and then binds his son, laying him on the altar. But before he completes the deed, God stays his hand. A ram, caught in a thicket nearby, is provided by God as an animal for the sacrifice. And so, Isaac and Abraham both are saved.

*In Canticle II: Abraham and Isaac*, the English composer Benjamin Britten

set this story to music, based on a medieval mystery play. We recently performed this powerful work with Cooper Buehl on piano, as part of the Musica Maxima series in Beloit. It was well received, and we've been encouraged to bring it to First Lutheran on a Sunday morning. This will provide a chance to reflect carefully on the story, give some context for the musical setting, and consider the challenging questions that the story raises for people of faith.

We offer this in the spirit of the weekly cantatas that Bach wrote, setting themes of the Sunday scriptures to music. The text of Britten's *Abraham and Isaac* invites listeners to recognize connections to Christ's gift of grace and our call to live with the trust of Abraham, themes that will resonate as we approach the celebration of cross and resurrection.

We look forward to sharing it with you!



—Pr. Michael Mueller and  
Amy Hartsough, Music Director





Our 2025 CROP Walk Team

# CROP WALK 2026

Mark Your Calendars: Sun, Apr 26

The weather is starting to change and get warmer. March madness is in the air. You know what that means? It is time to begin thinking about the Crop Walk in Janesville. This year the Janesville Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, April 26.

Last year was a record year for the Janesville Crop Walk with over \$71,000 being raised. First Lutheran Church contributed over \$5,000 to this total and had the largest team walking with 32 participants.

In 2026, First Lutheran Church's goals are 35 walking participants and raising \$6,000. So how can you help in meeting these goals and participate in the Crop Walk?

1. Plan to join the First Lutheran Church Team on Sunday, April 26 and walk in the Crop Walk.
2. Collect pledges from family members and friends to support the Crop Walk.
3. Make a donation to someone who is walking on April 26.
4. Pick up a Mason jar during Lent this year and collect loose change in your home during the Lenten season.

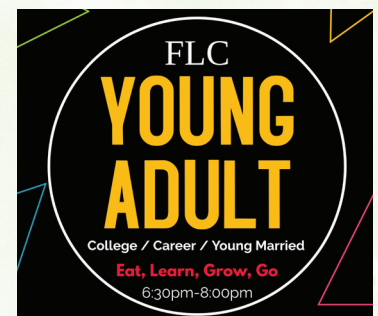
Crop Walk registration materials will be available at Church in March. So start planning now to participate in some way with the Janesville Crop Walk. Please contact Mat Haeger (608.449.4250) with any questions or concerns. Thank you. 🙏

## YOUNG ADULTS

Mar 5, 12, 19

6:30-8pm

Youth Room



For college, career, and young married, nights include a free meal, trivia, Bible study & worship.  
 Contact: Eric, 608.290.7083  
 eengen@flcj.org 🙏

## COME TO HOLY WEEK

As spring arrives and March becomes April, we come to the goal of our 40-day Lenten journey, and Jesus' teaching reaches its climax. The Son, who is close to the Father's heart, gives himself freely in love to the end, making known the heart of God.

**Palm/Passion Sunday** introduces Holy Week. Our worship includes a palm procession, the drama of Jesus' passion, communion and prayer.

On **Maundy Thursday** we gather around tables in the Gathering Space to experience Jesus' summary of his teaching on the last night with his disciples.

**Good Friday** invites our contemplation at the cross. In his dying, Jesus identifies with our suffering world.

Finally, after waiting in the space of grief through Holy Saturday, we arrive at the joy and celebration of **Easter morning**.

Come this year to Holy Week. Follow Jesus on the way to the cross and then to resurrection. Listen to him. Learn from him. ☪



# HOLY W



# EEK SCHEDULE



**April 5 at 6am, 8am, & 9:30am**

A festival of new life celebrating Christ, risen from the dead

## MORE THAN ONE SIDE TO A STORY

We are often reminded that there is more than one side to any story. In the present cultural moment, as political polarization and fears are exacerbated by divided media worlds, this is especially true. Even the story of Jesus' death and resurrection can be told from contrasting perspectives.

In Matthew's Gospel, we hear one perspective from the priests and the council of elders, who find Jesus guilty of insulting God when he claims that they will all see him coming on the heavenly clouds – like the vision of the one given kingship in the book of Daniel (Mt 26:59-64). From the religious leaders' perspective, Jesus was a deceiver, deserving of death (Mt 27:63).

Jesus, for his part, has challenged the religious leaders' honesty and authority. He calls them out for not practicing what they preach. He declares them hypocrites and blind guides, focused on superficial matters while failing to practice the justice, mercy, and faith at the heart of God's instruction (Mt 23:1-36). In the kingdom of heaven these weightier matters are at the center. Jesus invites all who are willing to follow him in this way.

Who is right? What is the truth?

Those in power are often able to control the narrative, telling the story from their perspective. But in the Gospels, we hear the story from the perspective of one who is killed. Matthew asserts from the beginning that this is the story of Jesus, the

Messiah, the promised son of David. But he is not the kind of king most people expect. Jesus identifies himself with the least and the forgotten when he is handed over to suffering and death. The account of his resurrection vindicates the perspective that Jesus was mocked and killed unjustly. It confirms the faith of those who trust him and embrace his message about the kingdom of heaven.

As you listen to this story through Holy Week:

- What insight does it give you into the conflicts we face today?
- How does your perspective on this story shape the way you act in the world today?
- Where do you find courage and hope? 🕊

## MEMORIALS

Jan 2026



### MEMORIALS RECEIVED

#### Jack Kislia Memorial

Building Fund: Barb & Terry Ryan

General: David & Susan Cress

#### Richard Ott Memorial

Foundation: Jean Vining

#### Phil Selgren Memorial

Foundation: Steve Falk  
Music Fund: Family & Friends of Phil Selgren

#### Arlene Silness Memorial

Foundation: Karen Grimsrud

### GIFTS RECEIVED

ECHO: David Romstad, Catherine Garvin, Frances & Vincent Kessenich, James & Karla Vriezen, Charlotte Christensen

Foundation: Paul & Mary Schulz, Dee Hurst, Kris & Alison Bjoin, Bill & Gail Stroner ☺

## COUNCIL MINUTES

### Highlights of February Minutes

These are the highlights from the February 2026 Church Council Minutes. If you would like to read the full minutes please visit: [www.flcj.org/council](http://www.flcj.org/council)

- Council prioritized Foundation grants to present to the Foundation Board.
- The council is looking for interested members to attend the Synod Assembly on 5/15 and 5/16 in Janesville
- The council directed the removal of the West Portico for safety.

**Next meeting:** Mar 17, 2026, 6:30pm

Respectfully Submitted, Elisa Ried, Secretary ☺

## PICKLEBALL SATURDAYS

Join us on Saturdays from 9–11 am in the gym for pickleball! Whether you're an experienced player or brand new and want to learn the basics, everyone is welcome. If you have questions or would like more information, contact Jenny McMullen at 608.208.0315. Come give it a try—we'd love to see you there! ☺

## MONTHLY HYMN SING

Join us for our monthly Hymn Sing on Wed, Mar 18, at 2pm at Cedar Crest Assisted Living - 1702 S River Rd, Janesville. All are welcome!



## PAGE TURNERS

### Upcoming Books

The Page Turners meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 5pm in the Gathering Space. Come every month or simply when you can—everyone is welcome!

**Contact:** Sally Schuenke, 608.754.0407

**Mar 3:** *The Lost Bookshop* by Evie Wood

**Apr 7:** *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans



# March

6th- 12th  
first lutheran student ministries




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**4** Craig Release Time / 11:40am  
Youth Group / 7-8:30pm

**11** Youth Group / 7-8:30pm

**18** Craig Release Time / 11:40am  
VanGo / 7pm-8:30pm

**25** No Youth Group  
*Janesville / Milton Spring break*

**28** Echo Community Meal  
11:00am

*For more information contact:*  
Eric (H.S.) 608-290-7083, [eengen@flcj.org](mailto:eengen@flcj.org)  
Renee (M.S.) 608-359-9685, [rengen@flcj.org](mailto:rengen@flcj.org)

## EASTER FLOWER DELIVERY

Pick up: April 6 from 9am-Noon

Stop by the entry way on April 6, 9-12 and pick up a flower to deliver to our First Lutheran friends

who were unable to join us at Easter. For more information contact Renee at [rengen@flcj.org](mailto:rengen@flcj.org).

## MONTHLY READINGS

March



Take a few moments each day to connect with God through His Word. You'll be amazed at how your relationship with Him deepens and grows.

**Mar 1 (Lent 2):**

Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17

**Mar 8 (Lent 3):**

Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

**Mar 15 (Lent 4):**

1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

**Mar 22 (Lent 5):**

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

**Mar 29 (Palm Sunday):**

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 26:14—27:66

# MAR CALENDAR


If you have an article idea for the Progress, please submit it to [christals@flcj.org](mailto:christals@flcj.org) by the first of the month so the layout can be planned. The actual articles are due the 10th of the month.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p><b>8a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>9a</b> Coffee Hour (GS)  <b>9:15a</b> SS (SS)  <b>9:30a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>10:30a</b> Choir (CR)  <b>10:30a</b> Confirmation Class (CH)  <b>4p</b> Cub Scouts (FH)</p>	<p><b>1p</b> Noteables (CR)  <b>8p</b> Centering Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p><b>8a</b> BG's (FHL)  <b>9a</b> Knitters (FHL)  <b>11a</b> Staff Mtg (302)  <b>1:30p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>4:15p</b> Handbells (SA)  <b>4:30p</b> Girl Scouts (FH)  <b>5p</b> Page Turners (GS)  <b>6p</b> Men of Iron (YR)</p>	<p><b>8:30a</b> Mission Sew (FH)  <b>10a</b> Bible Study (302)  <b>11a</b> Worship (CH)  <b>4:30p</b> FLCW (FHL)  <b>5:30p</b> Lent Meal (FH)  <b>6p</b> Worship Team (SA)  <b>6:30p</b> Worship (SA)  <b>7p</b> Worship Team (SA)  <b>7p</b> Youth Group (YR)</p>	<p><b>3p</b> Comm Team (Zoom)  <b>5pm</b> Youth Band (SA)  <b>6p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>6:30p</b> Young Adults (YR)</p>		<p><b>8a</b> Stamping (301/302)  <b>8a</b> All teams Meeting (FH)</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p><b>8a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>9a</b> Coffee Hour (GS)  <b>9:15a</b> SS (SS)  <b>9:15a</b> Dementia Class (CH)  <b>9:30a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>10:30a</b> Choir (CR)</p>	<p><b>1p</b> Noteables (CR)  <b>5:30p</b> Building &amp; Grounds Team (302)  <b>8p</b> Centering Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p><b>8a</b> BG's (FHL)  <b>9a</b> Mary Ruth Cir (FHL)  <b>11a</b> Staff Mtg (302)  <b>1:30p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>4:15p</b> Handbells (SA)  <b>4:30p</b> Girl Scouts (G)  <b>5:30p</b> Worship Collective (GS)  <b>6:30p</b> Youth &amp; Fam Team (YR)  <b>7p</b> Discipleship Team (YR)</p>	<p><b>10a</b> Bible Study (302)  <b>11a</b> Worship (CH)  <b>1p</b> Joanna Circle (FHL)  <b>2p</b> Blood Drive (FH)  <b>5:30p</b> Lent Meal (FH)  <b>6:30p</b> Worship (SA)  <b>7p</b> Youth Group (YR)</p>	<p><b>10a</b> Worship (Rock Haven)  <b>11:15a</b> Worship (Oak Park Place)  <b>5pm</b> Youth Band (SA)  <b>6p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>6:30p</b> Young Adults (YR)</p>		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p><b>8a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>9a</b> Coffee Hour (GS)  <b>9:15a</b> SS (SS)  <b>9:30a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>10:30a</b> Choir (CR)  <b>4p</b> Cub Scouts (FH)</p>	<p><b>9a</b> Safe Fam (301)  <b>1p</b> Noteables (CR)  <b>8p</b> Centering Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p><b>8a</b> BG's (FHL)  <b>9a</b> Knitters (GS)  <b>11a</b> Staff Mtg (302)  <b>1:30p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>4:15p</b> Handbells (SA)  <b>6:30p</b> Church Council (301)</p>	<p><b>10a</b> Bible Study (302)  <b>11a</b> Worship (CH)  <b>5:30p</b> Lent Meal (FH)  <b>6:30p</b> Worship (SA)  <b>7p</b> Youth Group (YR)</p>	<p><b>3:30p</b> Second Harvest (Gym)  <b>5pm</b> Youth Band (SA)  <b>6p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>6p</b> Foundation (301)  <b>6:30p</b> Young Adults (YR)</p>	<p><b>6:30p</b> Dessert Theater (Gym)</p>	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p><b>8a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>9a</b> Coffee Hour (GS)  <b>9:15a</b> SS (SS)  <b>9:30a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>10:30a</b> New Friends Brunch (GS)  <b>10:30a</b> Choir (CR)</p>	<p><b>1p</b> Noteables (CR)  <b>8p</b> Centering Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p><b>8a</b> BG's (FHL)  <b>11a</b> Staff Mtg (302)  <b>1:30p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>4:15p</b> Handbells (SA)</p>	<p><b>8:30a</b> Mission Sew (FH)  <b>10a</b> Bible Study (302)  <b>11a</b> Worship (CH)  <b>5:30p</b> Lent Meal (FH)  <b>6p</b> Worship Team (SA)  <b>6:30p</b> Waukee HS Concert (SA)</p>	<p><b>5pm</b> Youth Band (SA)  <b>6p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>6:30p</b> Young Adults (YR)</p>		<p><b>11a</b> ECHO Meal (St John's Lutheran)</p>
29	30	31				
<p><b>8a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>9a</b> Coffee Hour (GS)  <b>9:15a</b> SS (SS)  <b>9:30a</b> Worship (SA)  <b>10:30a</b> Soup Club (GS)  <b>10:30a</b> Confirmation Class (CH)  <b>10:30a</b> Choir (CR)</p>	<p><b>1p</b> Noteables (CR)  <b>8p</b> Centering Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p><b>8a</b> BG's (FHL)  <b>9a</b> Knitters (GS)  <b>11a</b> Staff Mtg (302)  <b>1:30p</b> Smart Recovery (302)  <b>4:15p</b> Handbells (SA)</p>				

**Abbreviation Key:**  
 CH = Chapel  
 CR = Choir Room  
 FH = Fellowship Hall  
 FHL = Fellowship Hall Lounge  
 G = Gym  
 GS = Gathering Space  
 SA = Sanctuary  
 SS = Sunday School Room  
 YR = Youth Room  
 301 = Room 301  
 302 = Room 302

# CHURCH FINANCIALS

The monthly financial report shows the Memorial giving and expenses in the first column, with the actual and budgeted revenue and spending in the last three columns, for July-December 2025. This chart follows the treasurer's report for December in the council minutes. The financial reports are re-organized to reflect the transition to the new teams. The Discipleship Development, Inclusion and Integration,

Relationship Building, Worship and Youth and Family Engagement teams fall under the category of church programs. The full balance sheet and profit and loss reports can be viewed online ([www.flcj.org/financials](http://www.flcj.org/financials)). If you have any questions on the financial reports, please contact Arwen Twitchett at 608.752.7434 x14 or email [busadmin@flcj.org](mailto:busadmin@flcj.org). 

## Year to Date Financials July - December 2025

	Memorials	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	\$ Over/(Under) Budget
<b>Revenue</b>				
Contributions		\$359,741.90	\$417,456.50	(\$57,714.60)
Rentals		\$20,180.37	\$20,459.12	(\$278.75)
Weddings/Funerals		\$850.00	\$500.00	\$350.00
Other Receipts		\$40,767.80	\$23,922.48	\$16,845.32
4-H Fair		\$41,570.96	\$44,300.00	(\$2,729.04)
Memorials and Gifts	\$128,934.04			
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$128,934.04</b>	<b>\$463,111.03</b>	<b>\$506,638.10</b>	<b>(\$43,527.07)</b>
<b>Mission Spending</b>				
Benevolence	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Personnel	\$5,162.54	\$316,643.89	\$322,522.62	(\$5,878.73)
Administration	\$53.81	\$17,845.43	\$21,867.02	(\$4,021.59)
Buildings and Grounds	\$30,528.00	\$70,899.59	\$80,436.00	(\$9,536.41)
Communication	\$820.07	\$1,596.73	\$3,990.00	(\$2,393.27)
Church Programs	\$7,614.13	\$29,233.99	\$32,594.98	(\$3,360.99)
Community Connections	\$2,391.24	\$0.00	\$170.00	(\$170.00)
Memorial Miscellaneous	\$1,185.15			
<b>Total Mission Spending</b>	<b>\$47,754.94</b>	<b>\$442,219.63</b>	<b>\$467,580.62</b>	<b>(\$25,360.99)</b>
<b>Total Net Income (loss)</b>	<b>\$81,179.10</b>	<b>\$20,891.40</b>	<b>\$39,057.48</b>	<b>(\$18,166.08)</b>

# CHURCH FINANCIALS

The financials for the fiscal year to date, July-January 2026, are shown below. The weekly need is calculated by averaging the total budgeted expenses for 12 months (from July 2025 through June of 2026). The weekly average YTD is the total income received, divided by the number of weeks in this fiscal year, to date. The graph shows the budgeted expenses in green,

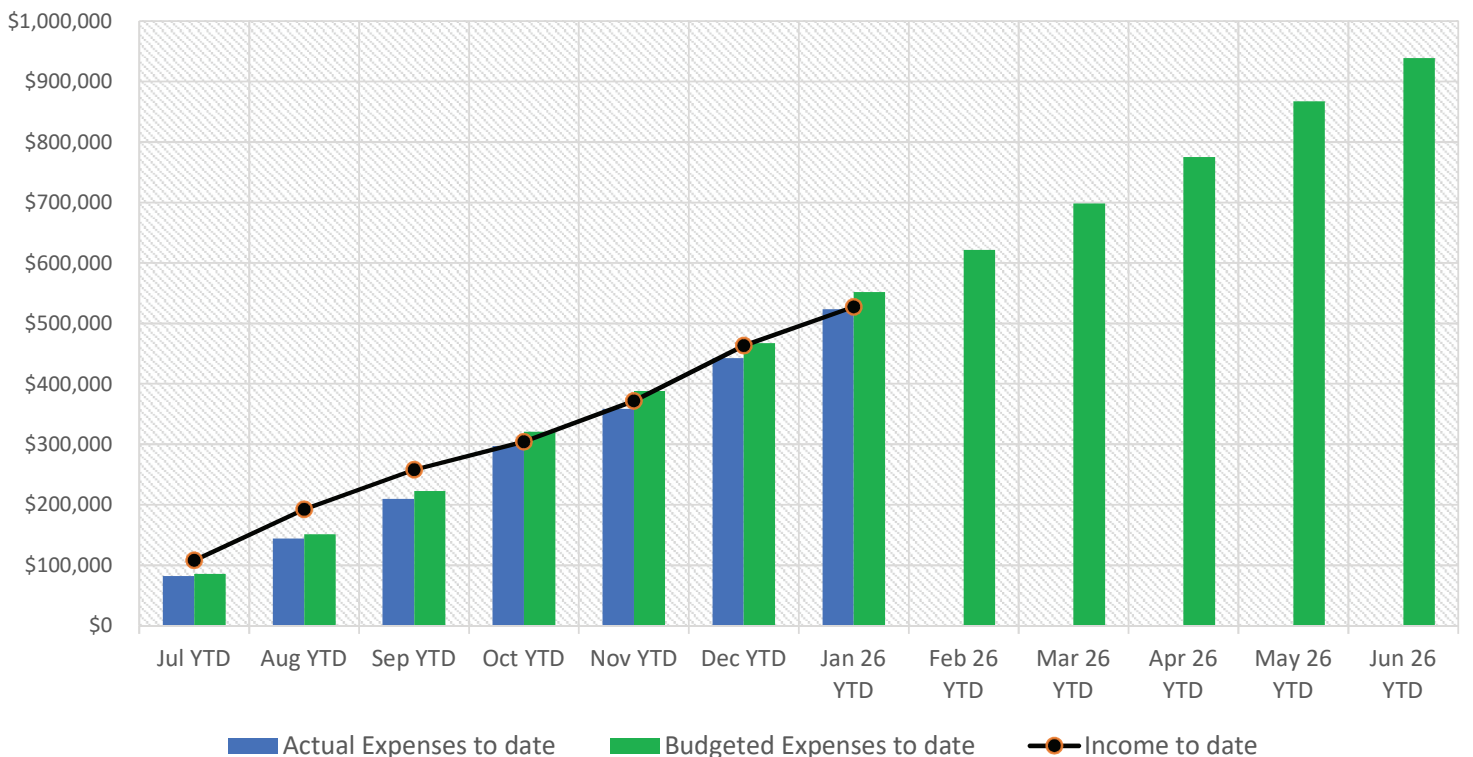
the actual expenses in blue and the monthly income received as a black dot and line. Total income for July through January was below budget again, however, expenses remain slightly lower than anticipated, so year to date net income continues to be higher than monthly expenses. ⓘ

## January 31, 2026

<b>Weekly need</b>	\$18,198	<b>Budgeted Income:</b> \$89,138	<b>Budgeted Expense:</b> \$84,629
<b>Weekly average YTD</b>	\$17,578	<b>Actual Income:</b> \$64,230	<b>Actual Expense:</b> \$81,652

		Received to date	Difference	% Difference
<b>YTD income needed</b>	\$551,984	\$527,341	(\$24,644)	96%
<b>12 month income needed</b>	\$938,539	\$527,341	(\$411,198)	56%

## YTD income and expenses





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# Share an Easter Flower

Our Decorating Committee is hoping to add to the beauty and meaning of Easter by decorating the Church altar with Easter Flowers. If interested, please fill out this form and return it to the church office (612 N Randall Ave, Janesville, WI 53545) with \$19 by Wed, Mar 18.

**(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)** # of Plants \_\_\_\_\_

In memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
(circle one)

GIVEN BY \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to be an anonymous donor

**Also please check the appropriate response:**

I will pick-up my flowers after the last service on Easter Sunday

I wish my flowers given to the homebound

I can deliver to the homebound the week of April 6\*

\*See bottom of page 11 for details.



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**Worship Schedule:** 8am: Sanctuary; 9:30am: Sanctuary & Live-Stream on Facebook & YouTube  
9:15am: Sunday School