

## READINGS

### For Sunday, Dec. 27

Beginning of Good News, Mark 1:1-20

*Pew Bible: p. 812, Spark Bible: p. 1100*

### For Wednesday, Dec. 30

Boy Jesus in the Temple, Luke 2:41-52

*Pew Bible: p. 833, Spark Bible: p. 1131*

## PRAYERS & CARE

Hospital: Joyce Olson, Devera Yonkovich

Home: Carolyn Skogen, Don Hickok

Celebrations: on the birth of Aspen Jo Willinger, daughter of Wade & Teesha Willinger

Sympathy to the family and friends of

Howard Anderson (husband of Mary Etta, father of Diane Shuda), and

John Olson (husband of Katherine Olson)

Global Missionary: Aliyah Richling, serving in Hungary

*Please contact the office if you have any prayers to be lifted up: office@firstlu.org or 608.783.2236*

## NURSERY AVAILABLE

Members and visitors: our nursery is available for children newborn through age 4. The nursery is staffed Sunday mornings during and between services, and on Wednesday evenings during service and programming. **Please bring your diaper bag.** It will also be staffed during some church events and will be advertised as such when available. We hope you take advantage of our services while here at First.

## HOSPITAL REMINDERS

*For Gundersen:* be sure to alert the hospital of your church affiliation when they ask and they will then release your name to us when we call.

*For Mayo/Franciscan Healthcare:* it is important that you or a family member contact us directly at the church office: 608.783.2236. Mayo no longer gives out information regarding who is hospitalized.

## SERVING:

Pastor Jason Stanton, Pastor Karyn Bodenschatz  
Organist: Gabe Hicks; Nursery Attendant: Crystal Miller;  
Bread Baker: Kenzie Marcon; Treat Providers: Mary Every, Lowell & Mary Meier, Arnie & Nancy Holthaus, Darla Johnson

### SUNDAY, DEC. 27, 8:00am

Communion Server: Mary Ann Redfearn; Reader: Sharon Kjos; Ushers: Kendra Bauer, Kenzie Marcon; Projectionist: Larry Schreiner

### SUNDAY, DEC. 27, 10:30am

Communion Servers: Todd Lofald, Paula Skoy; Reader: Kristen Dall-Winther; Projectionist: John Peterson

### WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30, 6:15pm

Reader: Sharon Kjos; Nursery Attendant: Madalyn Olson; Projectionist: Brian Wittkop

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

410 Main St, Onalaska WI 54650

www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org • office@firstlu.org

608.783.2236 • Fax: 608.783.3741

Office hours: Monday–Friday 8am–4pm

**Senior Pastor:** Jason Stanton  
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**Associate Pastor:** Karyn Bodenschatz  
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**Director of Servant Ministries:** Kathryn Pedretti  
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**Sunday School Superintendents:**  
Sheri Betz & Tawni O'Rourke  
sundayschool@firstlu.org

**Confirmation Administrative Assistant:**  
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**Director of Discipleship for Youth:** Tina Nelson  
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**Director of Small Group Ministry:** Bridget Crave  
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**Communications & Marketing Coord.:**  
Andrew Stutesman, andy@firstlu.org

**Head Custodian:** Mike Peper  
mike@firstlu.org



AT FIRST LUTHERAN

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUN., DEC. 27 & WED., DEC. 30

### WELCOME GUESTS!

The 1,800 baptized members of First Lutheran hold hospitality to visitors among our greatest priorities. We understand that visiting a church can feel overwhelming. **Please know that ALL are welcome to worship, commune and participate in all church activities, programs and events.**

We hope you can make time to stop at the Connecting Point table in the front entry where we have a gift for you. It's also a great place to ask questions, gather information and share ways that we may keep in touch with you. **We're glad you're here!**

### COMMUNION CARDS

"Holy Communion" cards help the staff keep in touch with the needs of members and visitors alike. **Please fill out a communion card each week,** complete with prayer concerns and anything else you'd like the Pastors to know. Hand it to an usher on your way forward for Communion, or place it in the offering plate. Thanks!

### PREPARING OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Please consider using your time in the sanctuary before worship as a time of personal preparation for an encounter with God. Our musicians seek to create a prayerful time and space meant to assist in your preparation. Conversation is, of course, an essential part of our fellowship that deserves its own time and space. Our entry area (narthex) is perfect for those conversations before and after worship services.

# BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS!

Everyone is invited to attend the Birthday Party for Jesus in the fellowship hall from **9:15–10:15am THIS Sunday, Dec. 27.** This event replaces "usual" Sunday school.

# BOBBY LEVINGER RECITAL

Bobby Levinger, a student of Moores School of Music at the University of Houston, TX, and a son of First Lutheran, will return to First for a recital on **Tuesday, December 29, at 7pm.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please take time before worship and go to the narthex to write down any prayers you want to lift up, so we can be certain to include them in worship today!

*Baptismal blessings are extended to  
**Chloe Jo Aspenson,**  
daughter of Adam & Melissa Aspenson*

***Kasen John Charles Ebner,**  
son of Kyle & Aaryn Ebner*

***Declan Roman Melby,**  
son of John & Marisa Melby*



## NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY

It's a relaxing way to volunteer! **Wednesday, December 30, at 9am**, to assemble the January newsletter. See you there!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

**Sunday, January 3**

- 9:15am 2nd Grd Faith Building Block: What's Fair (1st meeting, parents/guardians only)

**Sunday, January 10**

- 9:15am 2nd Grd Faith Building Block: What's Fair (2nd meeting, child w/ parents/guardians)

New registrations welcome any time of the year. Contact Sunday School superintendents Sheri Betz and Tawni O'Rourke at [sundayschool@firstlu.org](mailto:sundayschool@firstlu.org) or stop in the Sunday School office in room 206.

## YOUTH PRAISE BAND 2016

Kick off the new year and join the Youth Praise Band! We are especially looking for a guitarist and bass player. All youth 18 or younger are welcome. Experience playing with a group is NOT needed. Rehearsals are on Sundays after second service. For more information contact Dick Daleki: [dick@firstlu.org](mailto:dick@firstlu.org).

## FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

We all need a plan for our money. Dave Ramsey's class will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more! This is a nine week course that **starts Sunday, January 3, from 6-7:30pm!** A supervised nursery is available during class time for children age 4 and younger—you need to call the church office at 608.783.2236 to let us know how many children you plan to bring to the nursery. Thanks!

## DRAWING FROM THE WELL

**Saturday, January 9, 8:30am–1:30pm.**

Each meeting consists of lunch and using the ELCA's wellness wheel to explore an aspect of wellness. Physical wellness is the name of the game in January. We will begin with a study of Luke 11:37-52 and Luke 14:1-24 (Jesus eats with the Pharisees and they have issues to hash out). After some conversation together we will explore the topic of body image: throughout time, in our culture and what Paul tells us about the body.

## SUNSHINE BOYS

The Sunshine Boys serve at First to help with odd jobs around the building. **In January they will meet on a different day: Monday the 11th, at 9am.** Rolls and coffee are supplied to replenish your reserves! Dues are free! Contact Mike, our custodian, with any questions: [mike@firstlu.org](mailto:mike@firstlu.org).

## CLOTHES CLOSET APPOINTMENT HOSTS NEEDED

Make a difference in the community by hosting Teen Clothes Closet appointments. As an adult volunteer, you will be teamed with another host to welcome teens and their guardian/parent as they select clothing from the First Teen Clothes Closet located in the house. If you want to learn more, attend an information and training session **Wednesday, January 13, at 7pm** at the house. Sign up at [firstlu.org/cchost](http://firstlu.org/cchost) or contact Bridget Crave, [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto:bridget@firstlu.org).

## GIFTS OF IMPERFECTION SMALL GROUP

By popular demand, a new small group will be starting to study *The Gifts of Imperfection* by Brene Brown.

- **January 14–March 31** (no meeting on Maundy Thursday)
- Thur. nights 6–8pm at church
- 12-week study
- For men & women

Let go of who you think you're supposed to be and embrace who you are.

## CONFRONTING RACISM: A HOLY YEARNING; LIVE WEBCAST

Thursday, January 14, 8–9pm. Tune in for Presiding Bishop Eaton and William B. Horne II (ELCA member from Clearwater, Fla.) as they continue their conversation on racism—a violation of God's intention for humanity—in another live webcast. Eaton and Horne will be joined by other ELCA members who bring various perspectives on the U.S. criminal justice system. First Lutheran will be showing this webcast in the fellowship hall when it airs live. RSVP and more info at [firstlu.org/webcast](http://firstlu.org/webcast).

*To learn more about these and other announcements, head to our website at [www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org](http://www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org)*

**Share your Faith Alive! experience and tag your posts on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook with #faithaliveinOna.**

THIS WEEK: Dec. 27–Jan. 3

SUN 27	<b>8:00am Worship</b> 9:15am Parent Share - Upper Rm 9:15am The Story Small Group - Mary Rm 9:15am Birthday Party for Jesus! - FH
MON 28	<b>10:30am Worship</b> 7:00pm AA - FS
TUES 29	9:00am Quilters - FS 9:30am Staff Mtg 5:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Bobby Levinger Recital
WED 30	6:00am Courageous Men's Bible Study - House 6:30am Coffee with Pastor Karyn - Panera 9:00am Newsletter Assembly - NX 5:15pm Knitters - NX
THUR 31	<b>6:15pm Worship</b> 6:15pm NarAnon - FS
FRI 1	OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm AA - FH
SUN 3	<b>8:00am Worship</b> 9:15am Parent Share - Upper Rm 9:15am The Story Small Group - Mary Rm 9:15am 2nd Grd Faith Building Block: What's Fair (1st Mtg, parents/guardians only) 9:15am Sunday School <b>10:30am Worship</b> 11:45am Youth Praise Band Rehearsal - SN 6:00pm Financial Peace - FH 6:30pm High School Youth Group - Mary Rm

### ROOM KEY:

CR = Choir Room      FS = Fireside Room      FH = Fellowship Hall  
NX = Narthex      SN = Sanctuary      TR = Thomas Room

For more info, visit our website at [www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org](http://www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org)



## SERVE @ WORSHIP!

**OPENINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:**  
Acolytes, Coffee Servers, Communion Servers, Nursery Helpers, Puppet Volunteers, Treat Providers & Ushers.  
*For the above opportunities & many others sign up at the Connecting Point table or on your phone or computer at [firstlu.org/assist](http://firstlu.org/assist)*