

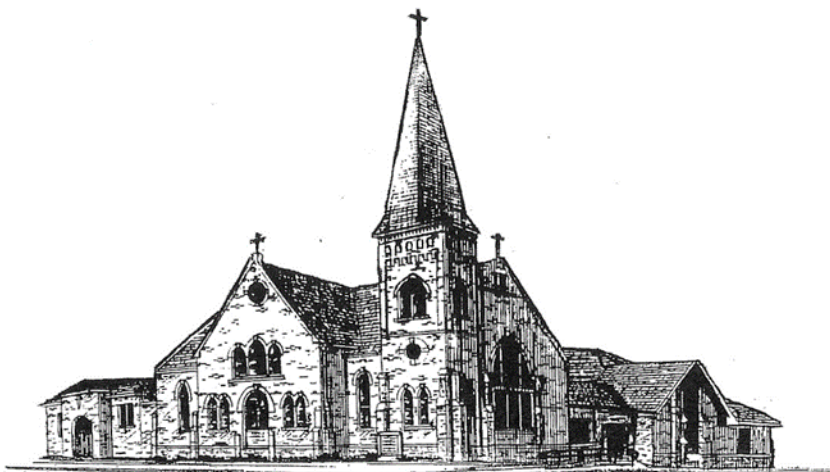
First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
301 West Fourth Street  
Beardstown, IL 62618  
E-mail: [frstluth@casscomm.com](mailto:frstluth@casscomm.com)  
Website: [www.firstlutheranbeardstown.org](http://www.firstlutheranbeardstown.org)

Address Service Requested

Presorted Standard  
Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit No. 100  
Beardstown, IL 62618



9:00 am Sunday School  
10:30 am - Worship Service  
Home Phone Numbers  
Pastor Scott Egbers 323-2850  
Worship Participant Coordinator:  
Janet Fair 323-5288



“4<sup>th</sup> Street Lutheran”

The next newsletter deadline is Friday  
January 17th, 2019

Inside this Issue:

Finance.....pg 4  
Announcements.....pg 7  
Calendar.....(Insert)  
Worship Participants.....(Insert)



December 19, 2019  
Volume 110 Issue 12

January

# The Newsletter

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH OF BEARDSTOWN, IL

Pastor Scott Egbers  
217-323-1770

*First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 301 West Fourth Street, Beardstown, IL 62618*

• **Prayer list**  
• **Finance**

**pg. 5**  
**pg. 4**

• **Pastor's Article**  
• **Announcements**

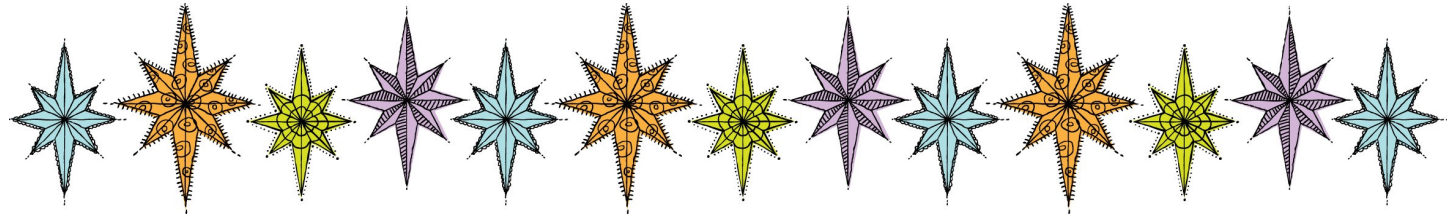
**pg. 2**  
**pg. 7**

*“Hark!” A story worth hearing....The Children’s Christmas Program 2019*



*Joyful Noise  
Children’s Choir  
Singing December  
15th, 2019*





Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope and pray that as we come to the end of Advent that you soon find yourselves filled with joy and awe at the birth of a savior. God has become a human, in order to come to us. There is an incredible mystery in this. We can't really grasp how it happened, but we can be assured that it is reason to celebrate.

There is a lot of talk about "seasons" this time of year. This is the "Holiday Season," a lot of people are sending out "Seasons Greetings," the secular Christmas season began sometime before Thanksgiving and comes to an abrupt end right after the 25<sup>th</sup>.

However, Christmas is not so much a season as it is an event. Sure, the church also has a Christmas season, which begins on the 25<sup>th</sup> and ends on Epiphany, Jan 6<sup>th</sup>, but that season is about a singular event: God becoming human.

The Christmas season, as we know it in our modern world, is about cookies and gifts and family gatherings. It is about children with visions of sugar plums and the warm sentiments of charity and goodwill toward all. These are all great things, but they are peripheral to the event. In the center of it all is the birth of a child who is God.

God became a human being. That is the event and as St. Paul writes "Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great." This is the mystery of God, who is infinite, and powerful, and eternal, becoming finite, weak, and mortal. There is no logical way to explain this. It is a miracle and a mystery.

We don't have to explain it though. We know that it is great news. So we celebrate this good news with a season of festivities. We celebrate with cookies and gifts and family gatherings. We are joyous about this mystery and that joy wells up into warm sentiments of charity and goodwill toward all. Most importantly we gather to worship God for sending Jesus to us.

Now that we are past most of the December Christmas bustle, I hope you have some time to think about the mystery of God becoming human. It is a deep and profound mystery that inspires both fear and hope. God is no longer far away. God is right here, walking and breathing and living among us. There is no telling what He will do, but one thing is for sure: this world will never be the same now.

With all the peace that a Savior brings,

Pastor Scott Egbers



*Above, Liam Skinner, Herald, in "Hark!"*

*Participants in Children's Christmas Program below*



**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service** will be held at 7:00 pm.

**Christmas Day Worship Service** will be held at 9:30 am.

**The Church Office** will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> through December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019, and on January 1, 2020.

**Christian Love in Action** We are continually giving food to hungry people in our community through Christian Love in Action. Any nonperishable food items are needed for this ministry. Those items especially needed for January are canned beef stew and chicken-n-dumplings.

**Thank you and congratulations** to those who helped with the Christmas float for the Christmas parade. First Lutheran's float won first place in the non-business category!

**Please Remember Reports for the Annual Report** are due by December 31, 2019.

**Pregnancy Resource Center is Hiring** for the position of Fatherhood Program Coordinator. Seeking someone who has a desire to work with dads and help them find the skills they need to fulfill their role as a father. This is a part-time position with flexible work hours. If you or someone you know is interested or would like more information, please-mail Cheri Triplett, Executive Director at [ctriplett@mypregnancyoptions.com](mailto:ctriplett@mypregnancyoptions.com)

**Game Trivia Night** will be held on January 15, 2020 at 7pm at First Lutheran. The congregation is invited to join the fun, please plan to attend.

**The Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on February 2, 2020 after worship, with a council meeting following.

**A Blessing Box** has been established by the members of First Lutheran at the location of CLIA. Funds from *God's Work Our Hands* funded the construction of this box which was built by Brian Pilger. The Social Ministry committee prays that you will support this project in addition to your support of CLIA.

**Synod Delegates Needed** If you are interested in being a delegate from our congregation to the Synod Assembly please talk to Sara Brockschmidt. The assembly is June 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> in Peoria and the registration and lodging are paid by the congregation. If you have any questions, you can ask Pastor Scott or Sara Brockschmidt.



**January Birthdays:**

- Jan 1 Kara Fox, Beau Turner
- Jan 2 Steve Fischer, Linda Looker, Brandy Spears
- Jan 3 Brian Crabtree, Rebecca Thomas
- Jan 4 Rebecca Humphrey, Billie Jo Quincy, Robert Weishaar
- Jan 6 Melinda Orrill, Rebecca Pilger,
- Jan 7 Cynthia Phillips
- Jan 8 Wanda Surratt, Cindy Tracy
- Jan 9 Melissa Orr
- Jan 10 Ray Anderson, Doreen Hetzler
- Jan 11 Isla Briney, Racquel Rawlins
- Jan 13 Pam Anderson, Karey Clark, Carolyn Heriford, Barb Merriman, Jennie Prather, Gary Shaw
- Jan 14 Janice Patterson, Cole Stock
- Jan 15 Akofa Dogo Kassan
- Jan 16 Fischer Alloway, Dorothy Weimer
- Jan 17 Debby Egbert
- Jan 18 John Ashcraft
- Jan 19 Carolyn Greve, Kelvin Hults
- Jan 20 Levi Collison
- Jan 21 Joe Wilcox
- Jan 22 Dorothy Hobrock
- Jan 23 Mila Garcia, Jacob Swan
- Jan 24 Alison Brewer, Kellen Brown, Susan Rawlins, Samuel Reller
- Jan 25 Joshua Fischer
- Jan 26 David Hobrock, Tylor Patterson
- Jan 27 Adam Jamison, Amanda Jamison, Joshua Knouse, Diane Zeeck
- Jan 29 Jonathan Hall, Barbara Hobrock, Rosemary White
- Jan 30 Makenna Brockman, John Smith

**January Baptismal Anniversaries:**

- Wade Swan
- Ava Schlueter
- Emma Jones
- Emily Brewer
- Jocelyn Weber
- Lucas Swan
- Caroline Pate



**January Wedding Anniversaries:**

- Jan 1 Scott & Mallorie Egbers
- Jan 12 Jake & Rosemary Swan
- Jan 25 Larry & Carol Cummings
- Jan 30 Dorothy & Terry Gholson



**Guidelines for Prayer Requests**  
**First Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Beardstown, IL**  
prepared June 2019  
by Pastor Scott C. Egbers

Prayer is an important part of our life together as a congregation. In faithfulness to our Lord Jesus, we seek to pray without ceasing, to pray for each other, and to pray for anyone in need.

To that end, anyone may request prayer from First Lutheran Church. There are three avenues of prayer that can be requested:

1. Prayer can be requested from the pastor. Pastor Scott has a daily prayer list. All prayers are kept strictly confidential. Contact Pastor Scott at [pastor@casscomm.com](mailto:pastor@casscomm.com) (217) 323-2850 or by calling the church office.
2. Prayer can be requested from the prayer circle. The prayer circle is a group of people that are willing to pray at any time. They have a calling chain to pass the prayer request around. Contact the church office to have the prayer circle pray. (Note: Pastor is on the prayer circle so any prayer requests going to the prayer circle will also go to Pastor Scott.)
3. Prayer can be requested from the congregation as a whole. These prayers are public and will be included in the prayers of the church every Sunday morning. They are also compiled into a prayer list so that everyone may pray for them. (Pastor Scott and the Prayer Circle pray for the prayers on the prayer list daily.) Everyone in the congregation is encouraged to regularly pray for the people on the prayer list.

When placing people on the congregational prayer list, a length of time will need to be specified. If the prayer is for an indefinite amount of time, then the Administrative Assistant will periodically check with the person making the prayer request to find out if continued prayer is desired.

Don't see your celebration here? Contact the church office with the dates of any birthdays and/or anniversaries not included in this listing and they will be included next year.



# FINANCE

## NOVEMBER PARISH STATISTICS WORSHIP SUMMARY

DATE	ATTEND- ANCE	OFFERING	
		GENERAL FUND	BENEVO- LENCE
Nov 3, 2019	88	\$ 2,174.95	\$ 348.05
Nov 10, 2019	100	\$ 2,171.05	\$ 339.95
Nov 17, 2019	77	\$ 1,360.80	\$ 191.30
Nov 24, 2019	105	\$ 2,214.95	\$ 312.05
Nov 27, 2019	26	\$ 157.50	\$ 25.50
ONLINE OFFERINGS		\$ 544.00	\$ 96.00
DIRECT DEPOSIT		\$ 467.50	\$ 82.50

## Special Offerings for November

Children's Sunday School	\$	45.17
Adult Sunday School	\$	84.00
Building Fund	\$	145.00
Building Use	\$	170.00
Inn Place for Babies	\$	170.00
Memorials	\$	50.00
Roof Fund Contributions	\$	215.00
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	

Total Roof Fund Deficit as November 30, 2019: -23,218.66  
Deficit for October 2019: -13,545.66

## Sunday School Attendance

Date	Students	Adult Class	Staff	Total
Nov 3	17	9	7	33
Nov 10	20	8	8	36
Nov 17	22	6	5	33
Nov 24	23	6	7	36

## THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR WEEKLY PRAYERS

Those who are facing long term illness or for whom we offer our weekly prayer support



Evelyn Anderson	Dave Krohe
Robert Coats	Don Looker
Roger Hale	Janice Patterson
Sue Hale	Caitlyn Rous
Tari Hale	Sherry Rous
Wendell Harbin	David Thompson
Linda Hendricker	

**Those whose mobility is limited and whom we remember in prayer as a part of our community of worship:**

**In Nursing Homes: (Heritage South):** Robb Cooper, Peg Rink, Marge Shaw

**In the Military:** Makenna Brockman, Brian Collison, Marcus Collison, Marcus Couch, Chad Hale, Benjamin Raney, Doug Ross, and Quentin Thompson.

## JANUARY LECTIONARY READINGS

**Sun. January 5th– 2nd Sunday of Christmas**

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

**Sun. January 19th –2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

Isaiah 49:1-7  
Psalm 40:1-11  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

**Sun. January 12th –Baptism of our Lord**

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Mathew 3:13-17

**Sun. January 26th-3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

Isaiah 9:1-4  
Psalm 27:4-9  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Matthew 4:12-23

