

From the Organ Bench

To all; as the choir prepares for recess, I continue to suggest the reading of the text of each hymn to be sung during worship. The text is a supportive element of the service in that tunes are selected to support the message of the day. That is why we sing what we sing. Though we all enjoy visiting, checking on someone's past week or future plans, it is important to prepare our hearts and minds for worship. Reading the text of the day's hymns is one way to do that.

Thank you to the dedicated Choir members of First Lutheran Church. You have come early, rehearsed much music and accepted alterations of concepts. May you enjoy your worship time in the pews of the church with family and friends.

The Handbells at Easter added a new concept to the worship service. Thank you, Sandy and Dave, for your willingness to come early and rehearse. Positive comments were received on the way the worship service was opened on Easter and because of you and the choir, it was possible.

During the summer months, a 4th hymn is added for the congregation to sing. This is a way to get more favorites sung in worship. Also, to hear melodies of unfamiliar hymns. The music for reflection, while receiving communion, will be hymns that are unfamiliar yet calming as you commune. I hope you like these slight changes that happen during the service.

Thanks for our Season of Song as the choir goes into recess during May through September. Having seldom sat in a pew with family, I know you will cherish the special time the recess allows.

Plans are to resume again in the fall for both Choir and Handbells.

Working with the energy and dedication of each of these means of worship is encouraging.

Come Sing a Song and Ring those Bells when notified of when, where and it all starts over again. We will welcome additional voices and ringers. There is room for more!

Diane Phillips, Music Director



EASTER BREAKFAST

The Service and Witness Committees at First want to thank everyone who attended the breakfast and gave generously to the free will offering.

The offering gave us \$120.00 to gift Total Living Center. Again, we thank you for your fellowship and generosity!

Thank you to everyone who brought fresh flowers for our Victory Cross.

(The Victory Cross pictured is from 2019.)

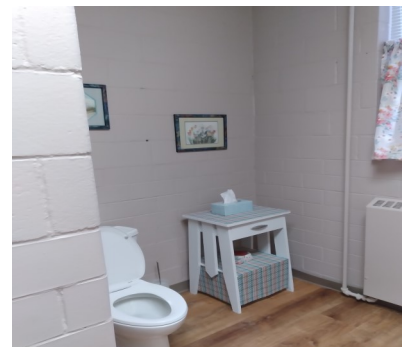
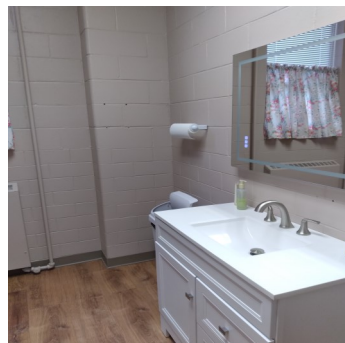
More News for First

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As you are aware, with the support of the Service and Witness Committees, the congregation reached out to help one (1) of our community members after a fire in her apartment building. Her apartment received no structural damage, but everything was heavily smoke damaged. The photo on the left shows the items purchased with the Thrivent money to support the project. The pictures on the right are Diane's thank you card to everyone who helped them. The physical card is in the outer office. The "Cut-Ups" made double-tied fleece and lighter-weight flannel blankets for each family member. In addition, two (2) living room lamps and a recliner were delivered directly to the apartment. Teresa Bohland and Judy Reisinger delivered the above items. In addition to the items given, there was a cash collection of \$260.00. The cash was distributed in gift cards. Thank you to EVERYONE who contributed to this. The family is very thankful to be blessed by the congregation of First Lutheran Church.



BATHROOM REMODEL

The above pictures are from the women's bathroom project. The project is finished and in use. The former two stalls and tight space is now a spacious, pretty, single occupancy bathroom. A **HUGE** thank you to Fred Stuhldreher and Geri Keeler for their time and effort. They were here daily and worked hard. Fred frequently took work home. Fred wants everyone to know that Geri also helped with the tear-down and painting. Thank you, Geri and Fred!