

August 2nd, 2026

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

1000 South Jay Avenue - P.O. Box 73 Rush City, MN 55069-0073

320-358-4076 - rushcityfirstlutheran.org

Led by the Spirit, growing in faith, to welcome and serve all.

Worship Leaders: This Sunday, August 2nd

Ushers: Mike & Kristin Papke

Musicians: Praise Band

AV: Brenda Taylor

Acolytes:

Lector: Wendy Schmidt

Prayers/Liturgists: Alex Flaten, Gracie Larson,
Marilyn Schoolmeesters

Communion Assistants: Sue Griffin & Kathy McDonald

Altar Guild: Muriel Bungert & Shari Schlagerl

Flowers on the Altar:

Events This Week

August 2

9:00 AM: Worship

10:00 AM: Coffee Fellowship

August 5

9:00 AM: Quilters

1:00 PM: Bible Study

7:00 PM: Call Committee Meeting

August 9

9:00 AM: Worship

10:00 AM: Coffee Fellowship

Bible Study

Join us on Wednesday, August 5th at 1:00 PM in the church library to read the scripture for the coming week (see next page) and tell Pastor Manda what she should say in her sermon.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, August 10th from 12:00 – 6:00 PM at St. John's Lutheran Church. For an appointment call 800-733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org

Dine & Discover

Thursday, August 13th at 3:30 PM at the Rush City Community Center

Topic: Alzheimer's and Dementia: Diagnosis, Treatment and Caregiver Support

Registration is required by Friday, August 7th by calling 651-674-1025 or online through North Branch Community Ed.

Fare For All

Is a low-cost food sale that is open to all. Affordable frozen meats and fresh produce are available for cash, credit/debit and SNAP. Friday, August 14th from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the Rush City High School (enter door 5).

Quilt Blessing

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 16th when we will bless the quilts that have been made here at First Lutheran. The quilts we bless will be donated to Global Health Ministries and Lutheran World Federation. More about these organizations will be shared that morning.

WELCA Convention

The St. Paul Area Synodical Women's organization held its 37th Annual Convention on Saturday, April 25, 2026 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Circle Pines, MN. Bev Anderson and Sue Mold attended from First Lutheran.

The day started with the plenary session where the voting delegates attended to the business aspect of the convention. This year's convention was based on Psalm 136, "His Love Endures." There were 87 women who attended the convention. After the plenary, everyone attended worship service. Our keynote speaker was Marcie Rendon who is the author of several books, one of which is "Where They Last Saw Her." Other presentations were based on "Love the Stranger: Tips for Congregation in Practicing Immigrant Justice" and "Joy, Patience and Perseverance in Christian Life Today." In addition, Bishop Lull provided a Bible Study based on Psalm 136.

Officers were elected for a two year term: President Karin VuKich from Trinity Lutheran, Lindstrom and Treasurer Robin Kieffer from Easter Lutheran, Eagan. Board members elected for two year terms were Patty Todnem, St. Phillips Lutheran, Hastings; Glenda Schnirring, St. Phillips Lutheran, Hastings; and Kathy Hogenson, Trinity Lutheran, Lindstrom. Board members elected for a one year term were Jennifer Abbott, Emmanuel Lutheran, Almelund.

Material offering of Women Hygiene Products was donated to MN Indian Women's Resource Center. Offering was taken at the worship service for a total of \$4,986.00. One half went to the synod, one quarter to Jonathan House, and one quarter to Second Harvest. Attendees were asked to donate a quilt if they have a quilting group. 17 quilts were donated for Lutheran Social Service Safe House.

Church Office Hours This Week

Monday, August 3rd: 1:00 - 5:00 PM
Wednesday, August 5th: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Thursday, August 6th: 8:00 - 1:00 PM

Scripture for the Coming Week

1 Kings 19:9-18
Psalm 85:8-13
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

Worship Leaders: Next Sunday, August 9th

Ushers: Dawn & Skylar Nelson

Musician: Kaia Sand

Acolytes:

Lector: Maureen Sybrant

Prayers/Liturgist: Pastor John Omans

Communion Assistants: Yvonne Lind & Maureen Sybrant

Altar Guild: Muriel Bungert & Shari Schlagel

Flowers on the Altar:

All Together in One Place

Dear church,

From its earliest days, the United States has been shaped by religious diversity. Indigenous peoples sustained diverse spiritual and religious traditions long before the nation's founding, and successive waves of settlers, including Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and others, brought a variety of beliefs that helped define the nation's unique and vital religious landscape.

Throughout the church today, many are struggling with debates regarding the religious identity of our nation. While religious diversity did not begin with the Constitution, the Constitution's framers recognized an important truth: the future of our nation could not be tied to a single religious identity. By rejecting religious tests for public office, the Founders created space for people of any or no faith tradition to participate in public life together. That commitment continues to be foundational to our nation's vitality, especially at a time when people are tempted to identify love of the nation, or the government itself, with a single religion. No one faith tradition should rule the United States, just as the framers desired.¹

As the apostle Paul writes, God has given us "the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18). Reconciliation involves living in God's future — including through renewed interreligious relationships.

Religious diversity is the reality of the world we live in. Recognizing this, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which affirms that mutual understanding with other faith traditions can deepen our own faith. Through encountering neighbors and working side by side in shared commitments to love and compassion and community, our own Christian faith is strengthened. This conviction means that through my call as presiding bishop of the ELCA, our church develops and maintains relationships with Jewish, Muslim and many other faith communities. Like personal friendships we hold, these relationships do not require us to set aside Christian faith. Rather they reaffirm that in a nation as diverse as ours, being a good neighbor across religious differences is not optional. It's a part of the shared American experience. It is an experience we can support as everyday Lutherans in God's call to reconciliation.

The ministry of reconciliation is both local and national. God invites us to love one another across differences. Trusting in God's grace, we boldly form relationships with neighbors of all faiths who share a commitment to justice, peace and the flourishing of all creation. I encourage you to engage in this essential ministry, which offers a powerful opportunity to heal divisions, deepen respect across differences and strengthen the bonds of our common life.



In Christ, The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"The ELCA will explore and encourage inter-religious friendship, accompaniment, and partnership with all who seek justice, peace, human wholeness, and the well-being of creation (ELCA Constitution, Chapter 4.03.f)."

"The ELCA will defend the full participation of all in our religiously diverse society, 'strengthening public space as a just place for all' regardless of religion or worldview ('The Church in the Public Space: A Statement of The Lutheran World Federation,' 2016)."

To learn more, read A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment



LUTHERAN NIGHT

★ 2026! ★



AT TARGET FIELD **TUESDAY, AUGUST 11TH** 6:40 P.M.

★ **TWINS vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES** ★

★ TICKET OPTIONS ★

★ LOWER LEVEL SEATING ★

 **FIELD BOX** **\$34**
Third base line seats

 **OVERLOOK** **\$45**
Right Field overhang seats

 **LEFT FIELD BLEACHERS** **\$33**
Left Field outfield wall seats

★ CLUB LEVEL SEATING ★

 **LEGENDS LANDING** **\$52**
Club level seating along third base line, all you can eat ballpark fare

★ UPPER LEVEL SEATING ★

 **HOME RUN PORCH VIEW** **\$16**
Left Field upper level outfield seats

★ OTHER FUN PERKS! ★

 **FAMILY VALUE CONCESSION STANDS:**
SECTIONS 120, 133, 311

 **\$1 DOG DAY!**



RESERVING TICKETS FOR YOUR GROUP IS EASY!

Let Ryan know your preferred seating area and estimated number of tickets. *No money is due at this time of reservation*, and you can confirm your group size and finalize your order 3 weeks before the event date!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PLACE A RESERVATION, PLEASE CONTACT RYAN THOMSON:

 612-659-3582

 ryanthomson@twins.com

★ MINNESOTA ★

Join the LUTHERAN NIGHT MASS CHOIR

TUESDAY AUGUST 11TH



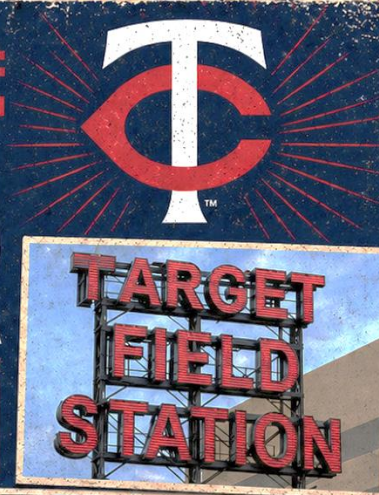
**ARRIVE AT THE RALLY POINT
BEFORE 5:20 PM**



**TICKET PURCHASE REQUIRED
TO SING IN THE CHOIR.**



**THE RALLY POINT WILL BE UNDER
THE LARGE TARGET FIELD STATION
SIGN NEAR THE GREEN BY TARGET
FIELD STATION. THERE ARE BENCHES
UNDER THE LARGE SIGN.
LOOK FOR THE GROUP WITH
LUTHERAN NIGHT SIGNS.**



Contact **RYAN**

 Ryanthomson@twins.com

 612-659-3582

★ FOR MORE INFO. ★