

*First Lutheran Church  
512 N Ruby Street  
Ellensburg, WA 98926-3154*

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ELLENSBURG, WA  
PERMIT NO. 21

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Confirmation Sunday  
October 30th*



# THE FLARE

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*Worship  
the  
Father  
in  
spirit  
and  
truth.  
John 4:23*

*October 2011*

*First Lutheran Church  
512 N Ruby St, Ellensburg, WA 98926  
509-925-2844  
flceburg@yahoo.com ☩ www.flc-eburg.org*

## From Our Pastor . . .

### “Confirmation and Reformation Sunday”

Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup> will be a great celebration day here at First Lutheran in Ellensburg. Two special events are happening on the same day: Confirmation Sunday and Reformation Sunday.

First of all, four of our young people are ready to be confirmed in the Christian faith. They are ready to affirm their baptisms. Four youthful members of God’s church are ready to say “Yes” to the promises God first made to them in Holy Baptism. Many people, perhaps you too, have been teachers and examples of Christian faith and life for them. You may have been preschool teachers, Sunday School teachers, Vacation Bible School teachers or youth leaders for them. Perhaps you were a Christian friend or mentor to them in past years or (I hope) will continue to be so in their high school years and beyond. These four young Christians have completed three years of study on the Bible, 10 Commandments, Apostle’s Creed, Lord’s Prayer, Baptism, Lord’s Supper and Reformation history and are now ready to be confirmed in the Christian faith. They are ready to assume greater responsibility in the life of our church and its mission in the world. These four wonderful young Christians are Alex Ponchene, Tristan Blaisdell, Ethan Johnson and Hunter Francis (a member of First Presbyterian Church). They will be presenting their statements of faith during the 10:00 AM worship service. Of course there will be a cake and reception in their honor following worship, so do come and celebrate with them.

October 30<sup>th</sup> is also Reformation Sunday. On Reformation day we give thanks for the faithful witness of Martin Luther and other reformers of the church. Luther discovered the Bible truth that our salvation is a free gift of God’s grace, which we receive through faith. I should say Luther and others “rediscovered” the truth of salvation as God’s free gift to us, because that was always there in the Bible. But it had gotten covered over with other things during the middle ages. Luther emphasized the Bible truth that we do not somehow earn the forgiveness of our sins and eternal life. Rather these are freely given to us through the precious blood of Jesus, who died on the cross and rose again to save us. Our lives are a “Thank You!” to God as we share the love and good news of Jesus with other people. We work not to be saved. We work because we are saved through Jesus. Jesus says it well in John 8:32: “You will know the truth and the truth will make you free.” Reformation Sunday reminds us that we need to continually let ourselves and the church be reformed and reshaped into the image of God. It’s never “once and done”, but a continual lifelong process. We pray that God will constantly reform us into the image of Christ, so that we can help shine the light of Jesus

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor  
Ministry Associate  
Organist  
Choir Director  
Office Administrator  
Youth Director  
Preschool Teacher  
Preschool Aide

Dennis Hickman  
Carla Bergman  
Betty Kramlich  
Tor Blaisdell  
Christine Rice  
Joe Johnson  
Laura Gorman  
Kandice Halferty &  
Aimee Stinson

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS THROUGH JANUARY 2012

### Officers:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary

Jim Ayers  
Alice Wanless  
Sue Ayers

### Ministry Assignments:

Worship & Music

Alice Wanless  
Timothy Hurson  
Lynn Blazek  
Donna Morris

Education  
Youth

Debbie Butler  
Charlene Watterson  
Ginny Gunderson  
Shirley Fischer  
Brett Koss  
Sue Ayers  
Mary Aho

Congregational Life

Outreach  
Property Management  
Stewardship

### Non-Council Positions:

Treasurer  
Financial Secretary  
South Property  
Facility Coordinator

Min Meseck  
James Stolte  
Glenn Madsen  
Don Morris

**The FLARE is published monthly. We encourage all members to contribute articles which may be submitted to the Church Office by the 15th of each month.**

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ON KXLE-AM RADIO (1240)**



**PHONE**  
**(509) 925-2844**



**WEBSITE**  
**www.flc-eburg.org**



**EMAIL**  
**flceburg@yahoo.com**



## Remember in Prayer

*Larry Cruz (Dzintra's nephew), Lois Sorenson (broken hip), The family of Elroy Meyer, John Riggs (recovering from a stroke), Carol Thovsen (shoulder surgery), Roger deVeer, Grace Lutheran in Lewiston, ID (fire), Glenna Johnson (Alice Wanless's sister, lung cancer), Neal Per-son (recovering from surgery) Bob Meseck (Don's brother), Caliya Jackson (infant), Kevin Whitaker (Acute*

*Myeloid Leukemia), For families separated by immigration issues, Evelyn Carter (Carol Thovsen's mom), Greg Otis, Ramona Pearl, Dillon Duncan (Ian & Bonnie Smith's grandson), Norm Bauer, Gail Bauer, Kendy (a child in Haiti), Jane Peterson, Mary Ann Hardenbergh (Tim Dittmer's aunt), Pr. Rick Evenson, the people in the countries of the Middle East, for safety for all U.S. Service Men and Women and their families, especially Mark Blazek, Jana (Blazek) Kitelinger, Marcus Nelson, Peter Leonard, leaders of all nations, and for peace in our world and in our families.*

We pray also for our Companion Synod, the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, and we pray for Tree of Life Lutheran in Yakima.

*~Please update Pastor Dennis about people on the prayer list~*

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## New members/Inquirer's Classes:

Oct 30, Nov 6, Nov 13, & Nov 20

If you would like to become a member of First Lutheran Church, or you have some questions about FLC, or you would just like a little refresher on what Lutherans believe, you are invited to meet with Pastor Dennis at 11:30 AM on Sundays in the chapel room for about an hour. We'll read Dan Erlander's great little book "Baptized We Live", look up some Bible passages and have plenty of time for questions. Please plan to attend all 4 classes if you are able.

more effectively in our world.

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) and Reformation Sunday go well together. I appreciate that the Rite of Confirmation happens here in the fall of the year as young people are beginning high school. This helps emphasize that confirmation is a beginning, not an ending, and that we are all life long students of God's Word and life- long disciples of Jesus. This prayer will be said on Sunday October 30th for Tristan, Ethan, Alex and Hunter:

"We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen."

Serving Christ together with you,

Dennis Hickman, pastor



9<sup>th</sup> GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Just a reminder to meet with Pastor Dennis in the sanctuary after worship (about 11:30) on Sundays, October 9th, October 16<sup>th</sup> and October 23rd. We'll be working on your faith statements. On Sunday, October 23rd, we'll practice your faith statements at the microphone. We'll especially need parents with us on October 23rd as we walk through the Rite of Confirmation.

## FROM THE BISHOP. . .

God's Beloved People,

The 2011 Churchwide Assembly is now history and its work recorded in the minutes of the church's life. It seems good to pause another minute and reflect and give thanks for this work. The complete record of actions, speeches, and reports is available at the ELCA website, <http://www.elca.org/Who-We-Are/Our-Three-Expressions/Churchwide-Organization/Office-of-the-Secretary/ELCA-Governance/Churchwide-Assembly.aspx>, and in the September issue of The Lutheran.

Many thanks to our voting members, faithful members who gave up vacation time to serve on our behalf: Gary Gemar, John Hergert, Donn Gehret, Tamie Evers, David Ophus, Peter Swanson, and Bonnie Calhoun. Each of these members walked the thousand yards of hallways to get back and forth from plenary sessions, to bible studies, to exhibits, and worship and hearings. The Orlando Marriott hotel was the complete venue for the meetings and, except for one dinner out, we hardly faced the damp humid air of central Florida in August.

We belong to a wonderful church! It's hard to express how impressive it was to see thousands of people at work and prayer, in worship and in conversation and debate. I'll never forget hearing upper Midwest farmers and genetic scientists express their joy at having their vocations recognized through the sterling work of the Genetics social statement. To hear a scientist say how proud he was to pass this piece of work among his colleagues, was to hear a proud witness to our thoughtful and courageous work and the heart of the faith.

Youth and young adult voting members comprised 13% of the voting body this year and they were not shy about entering the debates with prepared, thoughtful and articulate comments. Those who may have been watching the live streaming video would have seen a "new face" to our church. This "new face" took expression in other ways, especially in the announced appointments of new leaders. Our church is more colorful by these appointments and we are sending the world a vision of multicultural leadership and our confidence in young leaders occupying key positions in interfaith dialogue and financial stewardship.

More than anything else I sensed our church turning to the future in this Assembly, most notably by our commitment to congregations as centers of evangelical mission and ministry. The report of the Living Into The Future (LIFT) Task Force was powerful, clear, and will press us all to be the missional church of Jesus' call. This will be a leaner church, closer to the ground, and hungry for the chance to express our trust in God during these challenging days for all the people of God's world. Our Synod Council is beginning the work that will aid our congregations in taking up the call of the LIFT Task Force.

## Apple Cider Press

We're planning an apple picking and pressing event this month. The Strand's have invited us to use their press; we just need to glean some apples first. Depending on the season, these dates could change. As of now, our plan is get apples on Saturday, 10/22, and press them after worship on 10/23. Watch the bulletin and Facebook page for details and plan adjustments.

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## Corn Maze

Last year several Youth survived Schell's Corn Maze in Union Gap. We didn't learn our lesson and are going back for more. We'll leave from FLC at 4:30 on Sunday 10/30. The maze closes at 7:00. Admission rates: Adults \$9, kids 3-10 years and Seniors 65+ \$6.50, children 2 and under free with paid adult. (For more information, visit <http://www.visityakima.com/newsite/yakima-valley-event-detail.asp?eventID=75>)

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## Adult and Family Participation

The Youth department is part of the body of FLC. Our aim is to integrate into this church, preparing students for a lifetime of worship and service. For true integration to happen, we need everyone's help — from the infants we can care for on a Parents' Night Out to every saint who still draws breath. This year we treasure any participation you can have in this ministry, whether it is prayer, snacks, chaperoning, or just taking a moment to wander into gym chaos to say "hello" to some of our Youth. We thank you for all your support and for being seen, letting us know that Jesus isn't someone we outgrow.

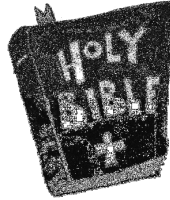
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## Stay Connected

Do you want Youth updates through e-mail? If so, please e-mail Joe at [flcyouth.eburg@gmail.com](mailto:flcyouth.eburg@gmail.com) to be included on our news and events e-mail list.

## Youth Sunday School

This year, the Youth Sunday School is aimed at tackling some tough questions about the Christian faith. Every Sunday we'll spend our mornings in prayer, Bible study, and consideration of those strange beliefs we hold. To help us along we are working through a curriculum called "re:form." The re:form materials consist of study, activities, and videos designed to help students grapple with the many questions that surround Christianity, including "Who wrote the Bible?", "How can God be three-in-one?", and "What does it mean to be 'born again'?" All Youth, sixth through twelfth grade (or people, including college students, who like to learn with/from 6-12 graders) are welcome every Sunday. (For more information on the re:form curriculum, visit [www.wearesparkhouse.org/reform](http://www.wearesparkhouse.org/reform).)



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## YOUTHNight

### Three Youth Night's this Month

Youth Nights are weekly times for worship, fellowship, games, and food — usually for high school (and college students who don't thing we're too weird to hang out with). We have three YNs this month: no YN on 10/19 (homecoming week). Youth Nights last 6:30–7:30 with a shared game time with Confirmation students, 7:30–7:45. Come spend some time together praising God and enjoying his people.

I wish every member of our congregations could witness the church at this level of faithfulness and hope. Please consider whether you might be willing to serve as one of our voting members for the 2013 Churchwide Assembly, set for August 12-18 in Pittsburgh, PA. We will elect these voting members at our Synod Assembly this April so it is time to makes plans!

God's richest blessings,  
Pr. Martin Wells, Bishop  
[mshmmwells@aol.com](mailto:mshmmwells@aol.com)



WOMEN'S RETREAT

## "Abundance"

### Women of Faith Retreat

At Lazy F Camp

October 14–16

Our 4th annual Women's Retreat held this year the third weekend in October. Women of all ages from First Lutheran and friends from other faith communities are welcome to attend.

This is a great way to get to know each other better, to share our faith and enjoy a relaxed atmosphere away from it all. Those who attended in past years can tell you what a great time we have had at the retreats!

Registration forms are now available in the fellowship hall. Please return your form and payment to the church office. This year the cost is \$88. Full or partial scholarships are available—please see Sheila Johnson if you are interested. All requests are confidential.

Pastor Mary Johnson will lead two sessions on "Abundance," based on John 10:10. We will enjoy Bible study, sharing our faith, the great outdoors, time to relax, and of course, no cooking!

There will be 3 meals provided on Saturday, and a brunch on Sunday—good food and fellowship in a beautiful setting! What could be better?

Please pray for the retreat and join us for a memorable weekend. For more information, see Sheila Johnson or Carla Bergman.



## Stewardship

We have heard this word "STEWARDSHIP" so many times on our Faith journey, that people begin to roll their eyes saying, "Haven't we heard this before". But it never hurts to hear it again and again as a reminder to listen to God's call. We seem to get in the same predicament every year of not meeting our budget and falling short.

FLC has always stepped up to the challenge of funding a need. We saw that with the Radio Broadcast, FLC stepped up to keep that mission funded. Members and friends of FLC thought it was worth saving. Even though we responded to that special need; we need to be vigilant about giving regularly in order to keep our doors open.

As we journey through our Stewardship Commitment, let's PRAY for God to guide, lead and direct our path to further His mission here at First Lutheran, the Ellensburg community and the world.

Our commitment Sunday is October 16th where we bring our sealed commitments and place them in front at the altar. This is an outward expression of supporting FLC's missions.

As God has given to us **ABUNDANTLY**, let us respond generously.

Stewardship Committee

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## 5th Annual Turkey Dinner

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, October 22nd for the annual Turkey Dinner. The monies are used for the Christmas Food Bank and Support of our Veterans and families and scholarships for Ellensburg High School, Air Force and Army ROTC. If you have any questions, please call Don Morris at 929-1032 or 962-9026.



## Fall Yard Cleanup

Saturday, October 22nd  
8:30 a.m. to noon

Please join us to help get our front garden ready for winter. If you have the following items, please bring to the clean-up: rake, shovel, gas-powered hedge trimmers, lopper/clippers, gloves and pickup trucks. Hope to see lots of people there to help out. Thank you!

## Updates from the Churchwide Assembly

### Malaria Campaign

Every 45 seconds a child dies from malaria, a preventable and treatable disease. Now the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will join with Lutheran churches in Africa, to work toward a malaria-free future. This effort is part of the ELCA Malaria Campaign, officially launched by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly Aug. 15 by a 968-19 vote. A goal of the campaign is to raise \$15 million over a four-year period.

"Throughout our life as the ELCA, we have focused our work with our global partners around the concept of accompaniment, our relationships with companion churches all over the world," said the Rev. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl as she introduced the campaign to voting members. DeGroot-Nesdahl is the campaign's coordinator.

**The 2011 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) on Aug. 18** adopted a social statement on genetics and a series of resolutions from an ELCA task force charged with recommending options for the future of the ELCA.

The assembly adopted the "Genetics, Faith and Responsibility," the ELCA's 11th social statement, on a 942-34 vote. It is one of the first by a North American church that develops a comprehensive ethical framework for addressing advancements in medical and agricultural research.

"Social statements are important documents for us as a church," ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson told the Churchwide Assembly, which met in Orlando, Aug. 15-19.

Social statements "guide us as we step forward as a public church" because they form the basis for both this church's public policy and my public speech as presiding bishop," he said.

The Churchwide Assembly also adopted a series of resolutions derived from its **Living into the Future** (LIFT) task force and report. The vote was 914-57.

"We are grateful for the leadership of this Churchwide Assembly in adopting the LIFT implementing resolutions, and we look forward to the renewal envisioned in the report and recommendations," said the Rev. Wyyetta Bullock, ELCA executive for administration.

The Churchwide Assembly also voted, 817-169 to change the frequency of assemblies from a biennial to a triennial cycle, starting with the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly

For more details from the Churchwide Assembly go to: [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

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## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

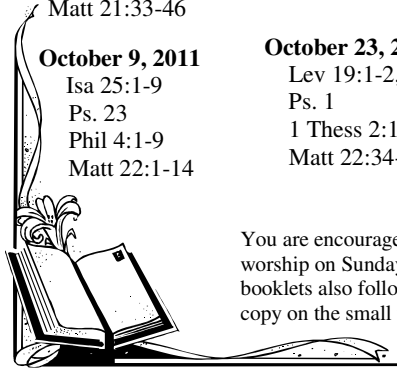
**October 2, 2011**  
Isa 5:1-7  
Ps. 80:7-15  
Phil 3:4b-14  
Matt 21:33-46

**October 16, 2011**  
Isa 45:1-7  
Ps. 96:1-9 [10-13]  
1 Thess 1:1-10  
Matt 22:15-22

**October 30, 2011**  
Jer 31:31-34  
Ps. 46  
Rom 3:19-28  
John 8:31-36

**October 9, 2011**  
Isa 25:1-9  
Ps. 23  
Phil 4:1-9  
Matt 22:1-14

**October 23, 2011**  
Lev 19:1-2, 15-18  
Ps. 1  
1 Thess 2:1-8  
Matt 22:34-46



You are encouraged to read these in preparation for worship on Sunday. "Christ in our Home" devotional booklets also follow these Bible readings. Pick up your copy on the small table by the front doors.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Worship with Holy Communion.....Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23  
Bible Study, Fellowship, Prayer Group.....Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27  
Church Council Meeting.....October 10  
Confirmation Class.....Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26  
Men's Lunch.....October 11, 25  
Fall Yard Clean Up.....October 22  
November Flare Deadline.....October 15

## Change of Address



If anyone is going to be away for the winter please, let the office know so we can either hold your Flare for you or mail it to your temporary address. Thank you!

3 Kristen Fisher	14 Terry Firman	28 Erik Lillquist
5 Frank Swanson	14 Thomas Jones	28 Janet Thomas
6 Heather Burfeind	17 Wayne Fairburn	29 Cookie Ringe
6 Diana Lien	20 Joyce Ackerman	
8 Dawn Hugo	20 Fred Cutlip	
8 Laurae Lygre	20 Dorothea Storlie	
9 Lovelia Case	21 Richard Widner	
9 Leroy Day	22 Jean Cutlip	
9 Gladys Wahle	22 Robert Malde	
10 Meghan Doughty	22 Andrea Ringe	
10 Della Elfers	23 Patty Akers	
10 Peggy Gries	28 Hannah Hugo	
12 Andrew Ponchene		
13 Joan Green		



*Kevin & Patti Johnson*  
10/1/94

*Howard & Patricia Swearingen*  
10/17/39

*Victor & Linda Strand*  
10/11/86

*Don & Donna Morris*  
10/29/52

*George & Dawn Hugo*  
10/17/81

