



Evangel

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Evangelical Lutheran Church

28 Acacia Rd
Babbitt, MN 55706
(218) 827-2659
Church email:
belca2659@frontier.com
Church website:
www.BabbittELCA.org

Pastor Evelyn Weston

Pastor's Office Hours

Wed & Fri 10:00am-1:00pm

Pastor's phone

218-404-5303

Pastor's Email:

eweston@luthersem.edu

Secretary's Office Hours

Tue.—Fri. 10:00am -1:30pm

Like Martin Luther, I often find myself marveling at the faith of Mary. During Advent, I often ponder the faith of this young woman, and Mary's willingness to consent to God's "proposal" that she become the mother of God's child.

Mary already was engaged to be married. How would her husband-to-be react to this pregnancy? Would Joseph believe her and agree to move forward with their marriage? Or would he turn away, leaving Mary and her Son to fend for themselves? Would Joseph follow biblical law and have Mary stoned to death? Mary must have had faith that— one way or another— God would work everything out.

But the waiting must have been hard. Even with her deep faith, I wonder whether waiting for Joseph's response tested Mary's faith.

What are you waiting for this Advent? Waiting for Christmas? or waiting for the holidays to be over? Waiting for family to arrive, or waiting to hear from someone? Waiting to see if God might work a miracle in your bank account? or in your heart?

There is at least one thing we don't need to wait for: God loves us so much that God was willing to risk everything to come and be with us, to walk alongside us, to support our shaky faith, to shower us with holy love.

Even as you wait for Christmas, the waiting for Christ is over. God is with you now.

Let every heart prepare Him room,

Pastor Evelyn

*"I marvel not as much at the virgin birth
as I do at the Virgin's faith."*

Martin Luther



Affirmation of Baptism

Congratulations to our 2017 Confirmands!

James Anthony Zupancich, son of Jim and Andrea Zupancich, and Christopher Michael Ferguson, son of Michael & Gloria Ferguson, said “Yes!” to God on Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2017, and have been accepted by the congregation as full members of the church. The confirmands were presented with quilts made especially for them by the Krazy Quilters group.

Pictured l-r: Jimmy Zupancich, Chris Ferguson, Pastor Evelyn Weston.

Giving Tree

We have received 12 “wish” tags from the Ely Resource Center for children and youth who otherwise would not receive a gift this year. The RED tags are for toy wishes and the GREEN tags are for clothing wishes. You may provide one or more of the items listed. If you want to give a gift but are unable to get out to shop, you can make a monetary donation and the staff at the Ely Resource Center will shop for you! When taking a tag be sure to sign the appropriate line on the list with your name and phone number and take one of the instruction sheets. Please drop off your gift to the church office by Sunday, December 10th. Thank you for your caring and generosity!

2018 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2018. Based on this date the required reports will be due at 5:00PM on Monday, January 15, 2018 and copies of the Annual Report will be available in the narthex on Sunday, January 21st for member review prior to the meeting.

Substitute Sunday School Teachers Needed

We need a few adults who would be willing to occasionally substitute teach Sunday School when Nancy Mettler, the regular teacher, is not able to. If you are able to help with this please contact Nancy at 218-827-3322.

KRAZY QUILTERS

Krazy Quilters make a difference in the world by quilting. The group meets on Monday's 9am—noon. New members are always welcome, even if you cannot come every Monday, or cannot stay for the entire morning. We will train! No sewing skills required! We have work for everyone, cutting squares, laying out tops, tying quilts or sewing.

Women of the ELCA GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, February 7, 6:30PM

Women of the ELCA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Monday, January 15th, 1:00PM

ALTAR GUILD

Wednesday, December 13th, following
Esther Circle meeting

ESTHER CIRCLE

Wednesday, December 13th, 12:00PM

ATTENDANCE

October 29	52
November 5	49
November 12	35
November 19	47

COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, December 14th, 6:30PM

2017 Budget & Current Exp. Offering* (thru Nov. 19)

2017 Adopted Annual Budget	\$92,753
2017 Monthly Budget	\$ 7,730
November MTD Offering	\$ 4,604
<hr/>	
Current Expense Offering YTD	\$66,611
Synod Benevolence YTD	\$ 3,000
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$ 748
Total YTD Current Expense	\$70,359

* Figures are unaudited and subject to adjustment.





EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Upcoming Youth Events



March 2-4, 2018—
Cardia Deo (NE MN
Synod Senior High
Retreat for grades
9-12) at Big Sandy
Camp, McGregor.
Bible studies led by

the LYO Board, servant learning, worship, mystery event, camp life, games and climbing, and an adult track led by the retreat chaplain all make this event deeply meaningful, fun and faith-nurturing. Pastor Evelyn and Stan will take our parish youth to this retreat. Register by January 31, 2018 for the early bird discount.

Confirmation Service Opportunities

Wed Dec 13 - Hanging of the Greens at our church, beginning at 6:30pm, and ending with cookies an' fellowship. Our young people have enjoyed helping decorate the church for Christmas, and our older members love connecting with our youth. (All ages welcome.) For Confirmation students, I'll give credit for one hour of service and one sermon note (no writing needed, just pay attention and participate during "worship").

Sat Dec 23 - Ruby's Pantry (4th Saturday of every month)

Snow Duty - Youth & parent are welcome to sign-up in the narthex to help with winter clean-up. (Negleys do the snowplowing). Move snow away from the front door, clear snow from the handicap ramp exit, put out ice melt, etc. The guys who have been doing this are getting up in years, so younger help would be greatly appreciated.

2018 God's Creation Calendars

The God's Creation calendars have arrived. We had 32 pre-orders so there are plenty available if you did not pre-order. Pick up your calendars in the narthex, the cost is \$7. These calendars make great gifts! Make your check payable to BELC Youth. Thank you for supporting Youth Camperships.

Plus other events to be planned.....

Do you have an idea for a Evangelical Hope Parish Youth event? We would like to hear from you! Please submit your ideas to Stan Dow, Jr at Hope or Donna McKibbon at Evangelical. Events take 60-90 days to plan so please let us know early if you have an idea for a youth event.

Hope contact info: Phone 218-984-2037 or email hopelutheranembarrass@gmail.com.

Evangelical contact info: phone 218-827-2659 or email belca2659@frontier.com.

Lefse Fundraiser for members heading to the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston & Synod Journey to serve in Galveston. AnnMarie Kupka, Carl Sundblad, Jon Weston, Lance Kupka & families will take orders for homemade lefse beginning Sunday Nov.19, \$5 for 3 rounds. Thank you to Ed Kuehl for potatoes and Chris Dale for your expert help! Youth & parents will make lefse on Fri-Sat Dec 8-9 at Hope Lutheran, available for pick-up on Sunday, Dec 10. If you would like to help or learn how to make lefse, contact Pastor Evelyn 218-404-5303. Thank you for your support!

Carefree Living Worship & Holy Communion

Worship service with Holy Communion will be held at 2PM on Sunday, November 5, 2017 at Carefree Living. If you are interested in helping in some way (reader, or serving coffee an'), please contact Jo Langan. All Carefree Living residents and their families, all church members and neighbors, all ages are welcome!

Poinsettia Sponsorship

Sign up sheets are in the narthex for Poinsettia sponsorship. Please let us know when you sign up if your sponsorship is in honor of or in memory of someone. The Poinsettias will adorn the chancel area for worship on Christmas Eve through New Year's Eve. Sponsors may take their Poinsettias home after worship on New Year's Eve day.

Communion Trial

We have completed three months of our Communion trial, having Communion twice each month, on the first and fourth Sundays, plus Church festival days (Reformation Sunday, Christmas Eve, Easter, etc.) After following this schedule thru January we will discuss the options at the annual meeting.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Candlelight Worship for Christmas Eve will begin at 4:30pm on December 24th. All are welcome! There will not be a morning worship service on December 24th.



Sunday School

Sunday School classes start at 9:30am and are over at 10:30am. Sunday School is open to all children age 3 through 5th grade. Come and join us for Bible study, singing, games, and crafts. Members, friends and family are welcome.



2017-2018 Confirmation Classes

Classes for the 2017-2018 year will be held on Wednesday afternoons, 2:30—4:00pm at Evangelical Lutheran Church. Classes begin on September 27.

Ruby's Pantry—Sharing the Love of Christ through food

Ruby's Pantry will hold a food share distribution at the Babbitt Municipal Center on Saturday, December 23rd. Registration begins at 9:30AM and distribution at 10:00AM. The cost is \$20. Bring two containers to carry your food share. Volunteers are always needed, no special training required; please come at 8:00AM.

Upcoming Gospel Readings.....

Dec	3	Mark 1:1-8
	10	John 1:6-8, 19-28
	17	Luke 1:26-38
	24	Luke 2:1-14
	31	Luke 2:22-40
Jan	7	Mark 1:4-11
	14	John 1:43-51
	21	Mark 1:14-20
	28	Mark 1:21-28



Swiss Steak Dinner

The women of the ELCA held their annual Swiss Steak Dinner on Saturday, October 28th. Sixty-three meals were served and \$777 was raised for charity. Thank you to all who helped prepare and set up, and to those who served and cleaned up. Pictured clockwise, top left: Diane Pastika & Gloria Ferguson in the kitchen frying steak, Barb Richtsmeier, Ed LaFrenier, Darryl Johnson, Sylvia Hammer made quick work of peeling 40lbs of potatoes. Arlene Eckman prepares carrots. The crew, Ed LaFrenier, Carroll Eckman, Arlene Eckman, Sylvia Hammer, Diane Pastika, Barb Richtsmeier, Debbie Anderson, Gloria Ferguson, Judy Johnson, Edna LaFrenier, Carol Prigge and Darrel Johnson, enjoy a coffee break. Carol Prigge helps fry the steak.



Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry

Retreats and Day Events

Cookie Take-n-Bake—Saturday, December 2, 9:00a-3:00m at Camp Vermilion. Get your Christmas Cookies done in one day! We will provide the recipes, ingredients, and work space, you just mix, form and bake! Be sure to bring containers to take your creations home. Cost is \$75/person which includes lunch, devotions and ingredients. Additional members from same household pay just \$10 for lunch.

Celebration of Light and Music—Sunday, December 10, 2:00p-7:00p at Camp Hiawatha. Join us for an afternoon of fellowship, holiday fare, winter activities, and celebrating the season of Advent. There is something for all ages as we gather in community to prepare our hearts for the coming Christ child. Activities include sledding, Advent crafts, Sleigh rides, Cookie decorating, ethnic food demonstration and samples, hymn sing, candlelight worship and festive holiday dinner. Due to limited space, RSVP by December 4th is required for those who wish to stay for dinner. Cost: Afternoon activities: \$5/person (\$15 family maximum). Meal: \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 6-11.

YourStory 3-Weekend Series—at Camp Vermilion; come for one or come for all three. YourStory is an innovative retreat format that blends guided self-reflection through questions and story starters, exploration of a related biblical character, and developing your story. Guided questions help you reflect in your life experiences with faith, through change, and when facing conflict. Cost: \$150/weekend, includes lodging, meals, and program.

Part 1 "It's My Life" - November 10-12

Part 2 "Changing My Story" - February 2-4

Part 3 "Characters in Conflict" - April 27-29

Paddle Building Workshop—January 26-28 at Camp Vermilion. This weekend long class includes four 3-hour sessions during which you will complete your own paddle—from gluing the wood blanks to a finished work of art. Cost: \$200/person, includes lodging, meals instruction and materials.

Sunday Pancake Breakfasts—Feb 11, Mar 11, Apr 8, 10a-1p at Camp Vermilion. Spend your Sunday at Camp and enjoy a delicious Pancake Breakfast. Cost \$5/person, children 12 and under are free.

Register online at www.VLMcamps.org/retreat-registration or call the VLM office (800-331-5148). Registrations will be processed in the order they are received. Registration is not complete until paid.

**Council Meeting Minutes
Evangelical Lutheran Church
November 8, 2017**

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President Sader, followed by opening prayer.

Present were: Roxanne Sader, Edna LaFrenier, LuAnn Smith, Barb Richtsmeier, Morgan Klatt, Don Negley, Shanna Sundblad, Treasurer Mary Herring and Pastor Weston.

Absent were: Allen Eckman and Bud Fish

Motion by LuAnn Smith, support by Edna LaFrenier, to adopt the agenda. Carried

Motion by Edna LaFrenier, support by Shanna Sundblad, to accept the Secretary's Report. Carried.

Motion by Shanna Sundblad, support by LuAnn Smith, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and place on file. Carried

Old Business

Strategic planning was discussed. Pastor Weston presented information on ELCA's Congregational Vitality Survey. The Vitality Survey can be used as a tool in the strategic planning process. Results compiled from survey questions prepare congregations to develop new or revised mission and values statements for their congregation, and assess strengths and weaknesses of the congregation as perceived by survey participants. A strategic plan for the congregation to achieve its mission while recognizing its values can be developed utilizing the identified strengths and weaknesses of the congregation. Motion by LuAnn Smith to purchase for \$200, the ELCA Congregational Vitality Survey, support by Don Negley. Motion carried.

LED lighting was discussed. Minnesota Power can evaluate the church and give an estimate of cost savings. Roxanne has the contact information and will refer this to the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

New Business

A contribution to Special Olympics has been requested and was declined by the council.

Motion by Don Negley, support by Shanna Sundblad to accept the transfer of membership for Leanne and Rylan Popenhagen. Carried.

Motion by Don Negley, support by Morgan Klatt to contribute, the remaining balance of the \$120 early-bird registration fee for the Cardia Deo Synod Senior High Retreat if the youth participant has paid the initial \$30 non-refundable deposit. Carried.

Food 4 Kids, has been contacted for a possible intergenerational service project. The project would assemble nutritional food packets for disaster and poverty relief. Council members were interested in pursuing the project. Ely and Tower will also be invited to participate.

Committee Reports were reviewed and accepted.

The next council meeting will be December 14 at 6:30 p.m.

December Communion Assistant: Roxanne Sader

December Usher: Carroll Eckman

Motion to adjourn by Morgan Klatt, support by Shanna Sunblad at 8:30 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

LuAnn Smith
Church Council Secretary



Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor Evelyn Weston

1-218-404-5303 (cell), eweston@luthersem.edu

Pastor's Office Hrs (unless noted otherwise in the calendar): Wed & Fri 10:00 am—1:00 pm
 Church Office Hrs (unless noted otherwise in the calendar): Tue -Fri 10:00 am—1:30 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 2017						
3 Second Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion 9:30 AM Coffee An' 9:30 AM Sunday School 2:00 PM Carefree Living Worship & Communion	4	5	6 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Office Hours 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM Confirmation class 6:30 PM Women of the ELCA Christmas Party	7 8:30 AM TOPS	8 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Office Hours 7:00 PM Synod Journey Youth leise mixing at Hope	9 9:00 AM Synod Journey Youth leise making at Hope
10 Third Sunday of Advent Leise available for pick-up 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee An' 9:30 AM Sunday School	11	12	13 No Confirmation class 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 PM Esther Circle meets at Kell's 6:30 PM Hanging of the Greens	14 8:30 AM TOPS 6:30 PM Council Meeting	15 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Office Hours	16
17 Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Worship Service & Sunday School Christmas Program 9:30 AM Coffee An' No Sunday School	18	19	20 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Office Hours 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM Confirmation class	21 8:30 AM TOPS	22 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Office Hours	23 Ruby's Pantry at Babbitt Municipal Center 8:00 AM Volunteers 9:30 AM Registration 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Distribution
24 Christmas Eve 4:30 PM Candlelight Worship Service with Holy Communion	25 Christmas Day	26	27 No Pastor's Office Hours No Confirmation class	28 8:30 AM TOPS	29 No Pastor's Office Hours	30
31 First Sunday of Christmas 8:30 AM Lay-led Lessons & Carols 9:30 AM Coffee An' No Sunday School						

happy new year!

**Evangelical Lutheran Church
28 Acacia Rd
Babbitt, MN 55706
218-827-2659 Church**

**“Pray, and let God worry”
*Martin Luther***

December 2017 Evangel inside!

EVENAGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

PASTOR: EVELYN WESTON	218-404-5303
ADMIN. ASSISTANT: DONNA MCKIBBON	218-827-2659
TREASURER: MARY KAY HERRING	218-827-3257
FINANCIAL COORDINATOR: DIANE PASTIKA	218-290-9666
SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR: ROXANNE SADER	218-827-2414
CUSTODIAN: LOIS FLUG	218-827-2264

CHURCH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: ROXANNE SADER	218-827-2414
VICE PRESIDENT: DON NEGLEY	218-827-2322
SECRETARY: LUANN SMITH	218-827-2743
MEMBERS: ALLAN ECKMAN	BUD FISH
MORGAN KALTT	EDNA LAFRENIER
BARB RICHTSMEIER	SHANNA SUNDBLAD

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