

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

900 Main Street Brockton, MA 02301
Phone: 508-586-9021 Fax: 508-583-5501

Visit us on the web at

www.firstevlutheran.org

Like us on Facebook at:

First Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Brockton, MA

A Congregation of the



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Our Vision Statement

Our vision is to become a visible, outreaching community resource consisting of diverse, active, enthusiastic and supportive Christians of all ages, working together with dynamic leadership and ministering to the spiritual and social needs of the congregation and community.

Our Mission Statement

Gathered in Christ, Together We Serve

MINISTERS:

The Members of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

STAFF:

Pastor : The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson

E-mail: jjohnson@firstevlutheran.org Cell: 508-944-7109

**Pastors Emeriti: The Reverend Michael P. Fruth, Ph.D.
The Reverend Kenneth W. Hilston, Jr.**

Parish Administrator: James E. Benson

Cell Phone: 508-207-8746 E-mail: jbenson@firstevlutheran.org

Church/Financial Secretary: Paula M. Fedele

E-mail: pfedele@firstevlutheran.org

Minister of Music: David Burnham

Minister of Music Emeritus: Hope E. Mehaffey

Sexton: Brian Gagne

ANNUAL REPORTS

In preparation for our Annual Report and our 149th Annual Meeting on January 24 we ask that all committees, groups and individuals submit their written reports to Jim Benson no later than Sunday, January 3. If possible please e-mail to Jim as a Word document with 12 point, Times New Roman type.

Thank you!

PUT ON YOUR MARCHING SHOES

On Saturday, November 28, under the auspices of our Community Service commission First Lutheran Church as well as Food for Friends Food Pantry will be marching in Brockton's 29th Annual Holiday Parade. This parade will also celebrate 125 years since Brockton's merchant, James Edgar donned his Santa suit and became the world's first department store Santa Claus—come join in the fun. Everyone is invited to join us.

As soon as we know our point of assembly we will post it on the web-site, Facebook and the Sunday bulletin. We will have a couple of banners as well as our Food for friends truck in the parade.



JAMES EDGAR



2014 Parade

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

900 Main Street

Brockton, MA 02301

Non-profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Brockton, MA

Permit No. 418

Time Dated Material Please Do Not Delay

Or Current Resident



*O Come, All Ye Faithful
Christmas 2015*

CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday, December 24

Family Services time to be announced

Traditional Service at 11:00 pm

The Nativity of Our Lord,

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, December 25 9:00 am

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS

FROM YOUR PASTOR



Dear Friends of First:

Greetings and Blessed November to you all. Thank you all for making our ASK, THANK, TELL stewardship campaign go so very well this month. A big shout out goes to Gary Oman, Pr. Ken Bjorklund, and Julie Erving, and the staff for the

smooth operation of this year's campaign. Please remember that stewardship is year round and not reserved only for November or those times purely set aside for Thanksgiving. In addition, Kudos for the excellent celebration brunch from the Sousas.

December is upon us soon and we have many events: Four Sundays of Advent, Lucia Fest on December 13, and the my installation as the pastor of First Lutheran on Tuesday, December 8 at 7 p.m. It is a joint partnership in ministry with the community at First Lutheran, the New England Synod, and our other congregations at First Lutheran, namely Grace Chapel. Please plan to attend. There will be special music and a grand service of celebration followed by a reception.

Many thanks to Pr. Ken Bjorkland and the fine healing service he crafted along with our Parish Nurses, Shirley Elefson and Sandy White on Sunday, October 18. I've only heard great things about this service and we hope to offer similar services of healing and thanksgiving in the future.

We have a council retreat on November 20 and 21 where we take some time in getting to know each other better and some strategic planning and dreaming.

We have some council members whose terms expire in December.

If you feel called to be a part of exciting, dynamic leadership at First Lutheran, please talk to me.

Our community here can only go onward and upward!

Blessings on you during November and especially this month of Thanksgiving and Stewardship.

Yours,

Pastor Jeff Johnson

ADVENT

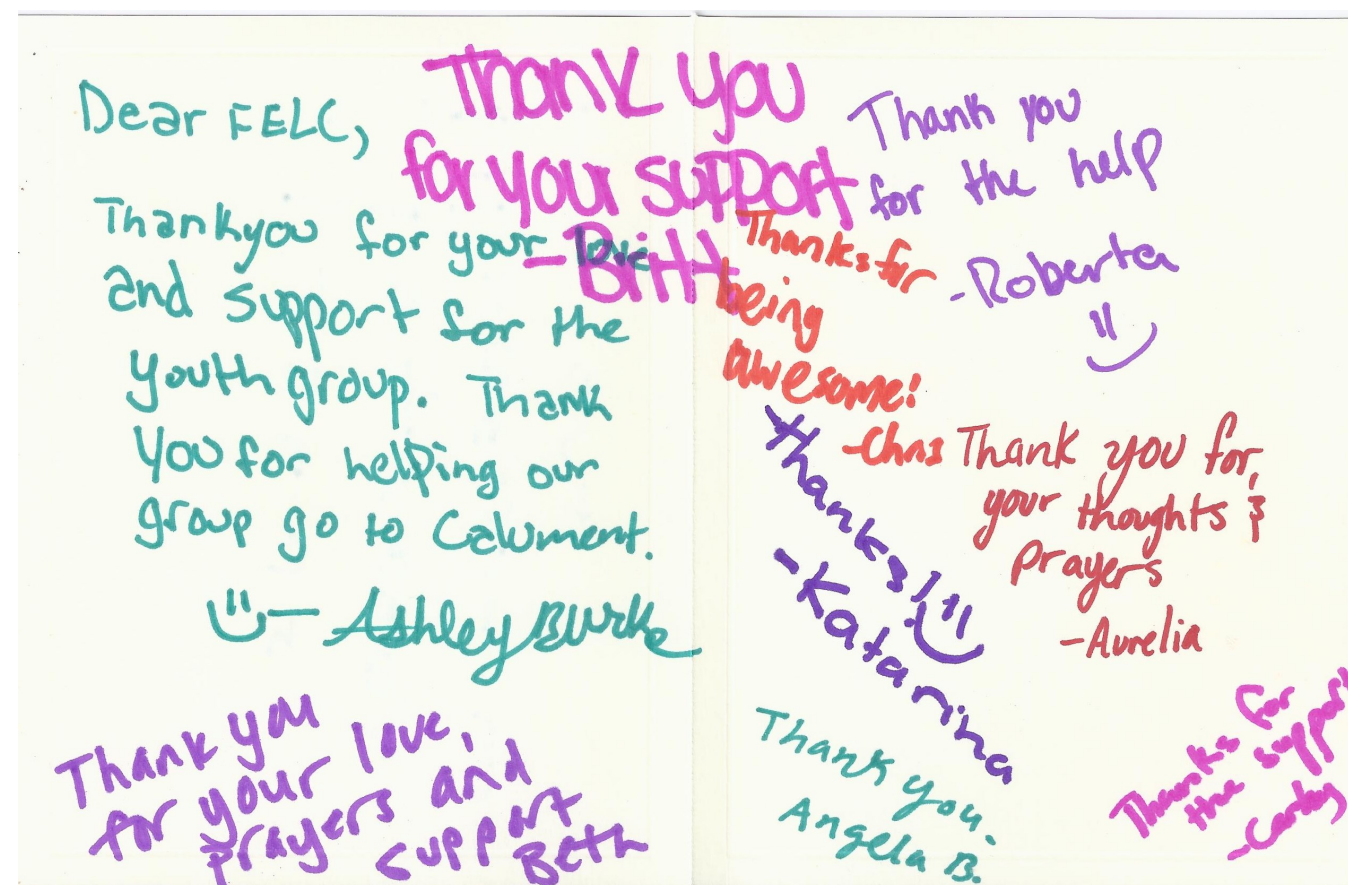
Advent begins on Sunday, November 29. Please join us for worship as we journey to the manger at Bethlehem on Christmas Day.

Advent is a season of preparation — take time out of your hectic holiday pace — enjoy some silence, some relaxation — prepare yourself for the Nativity of Our Lord!



THANK YOU FROM OUR YOUTH

Our youth and advisors who attended the ELCA Youth gathering in Detroit this summer wish to thank all of the members of the congregation who supported them and made this trip financially possible.



THANK YOU FROM CHILDREN'S ARK



We would like to thank everyone who has helped during the past few months. Since he children started back in September, many of you have been very generous with monetary and supply donations. Thank you also to the members who attended our Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser, and a special thanks to Beth Christianson and the members of Youth Group who volunteered to serve and clean-up. A big thank you to Pastor Jeff, Pat McAfee, Liz Belanger, Evelyn and Al Bandlow and Kirsten Denholm for their help.

Your friends at Children's Ark Preschool

SAVE THE DATE



Lucia Fest

Sunday, December 13, 2015

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Come, participate in this joyous festival!

Lucia, the Queen of Light, brings the promise of
light for the upcoming holidays.

Traditional Swedish refreshments will be served following the program.

Bring your children and grandchildren to this family event.

A special visitor from the North Pole will drop by.

Cost of ticket: \$5.00 adult. Children under 12 free.

Tickets may be purchased after services or from the church office.

MINISTERIAL ACTS



Baptisms

Julian Ryder Weatherbee

Emma Leigh Weatherbee

Funerals

Janice A. Beyer

A. Laverne Ekberg

SAVE the DATE

*Installation of
The Reverend Jeffrey C. Johnson
as the Pastor of
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Tuesday, December 8, 2015
7:00 pm*



Hope Mehaffey with her successor,
David Burnham

Deck the Halls



On Friday evening, December 18 the
Worship & Music Commission invites you
to join them along with the youth of the
congregation to decorate the Christmas
trees in both the Chapel and Church for
Christmas. This fun event will begin at
6pm followed by pizza and soda. All are
invited to join us for this fun evening.

Minister of Music Installation

On Reformation Sunday, October 25, David Burnham was officially
installed as our new Minister of Music. David has been our interim
organist for over a year and we are glad that he is now fully in his
new role. It was wonderful to have our Minister of Music of 53
years Hope Mehaffey present and play the hymn of the day, "When
in Our Music God is Glorified"



Pastor Jeff with David Burnham and members of his family
following David's installation as Minister of Music.

Installation photos courtesy of Dana Christensen

SCENES FROM CALUMET YOUTH RETREAT, OCTOBER 2015



Photos courtesy of Jessica Burke
& Beth Christensen

THE GIVING TREE



The Giving Tree will be on display in front of the Chapel beginning on November 15th, Stewardship Sunday.

This year we are supporting Ruth House and others in need. Please select an ornament from the Giving Tree for a gift card in various denominations to either Target or Market Basket. (Generic gift cards like Visa, Master Card or American Express are also acceptable.)

Sign your name in the log book next to the ornament number you have selected. Return your gift card to either Paula in the church office during the week or deposit the card into the wrapped gift box by the tree on Sundays. The last collection day is Wednesday, December 9th.

Our Youth Group will shop with the gift cards to purchase the items requested. It is great fun to see our youth and the shopping carts lined up at the checkout! Please contact Liz Belanger or Lynn Pearson with any questions you may have.

We sincerely appreciate your generous support!

On October 21 the boys and girls from the Children's Ark Preschool along with their teachers paid a visit to our Food for Friends Food Pantry and performed some greatly appreciated service. The pantry often receives canned goods in cartons of 24 which are hard to display on the racks and require that the cans be placed in cardboard trays that hold 12 cans. The preschool students repackaged 1,307 cans in a half hour! Great work everyone, hope to have you back soon!

CHILDREN'S ARK PRESCHOOL TEACHES COMMUNITY SERVICE



CHILDREN'S ARK PRESCHOOL WISH LIST

Cream of tarter

Dish Soap

Napkins

Cooking oil

Corn holders

And if anyone has a popcorn popper they want to donate we would love one.

Thank you for all your support!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas

