



First Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Kathleen L. Kluck - Pastor

September 21, 2025

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin our 2026 Stewardship Campaign, we celebrate what your generosity made possible in 2025. Through God's grace and your faithful giving, we launched Kids Hope Next to mentor at-risk middle schoolers and began Stephen Ministry with five trained caregivers, extending Christ-centered support to those in need. Your offerings also sustained our staff, facilities, and worship life despite rising costs.

This coming year is especially meaningful as we prepare to celebrate our 75th anniversary. Our theme—"Rooted in Faith, Growing Our Missions"—calls us to build a stronger foundation for the decades ahead. Our primary initiatives for 2026 are to:

Build a Stronger Foundation

To serve our community well, our church environment must remain safe, accessible, and welcoming. Key needs include stronger cyber security, accessibility improvements, and facility upgrades. With enhanced outreach, including a dedicated marketing team, and community events, these improvements will help us share God's love more widely.

Sustain Our Ministry Excellence

Our church is a place of peace in uncertain times. Sustaining excellence means supporting fair staff compensation, keeping pace with rising costs, and funding essential repairs and system replacements. These commitments will be prioritized and addressed to ensure we can continue to worship, serve, and grow together.

In the weeks ahead, you will hear more details in worship, by mail, and online about these goals. A personalized letter with pledge details will arrive by mail around October 13th. Then, on Sunday, October 19th, we will celebrate Stewardship Sunday and invite you to bring your 2026 intent card as a joyful response to God's gifts.

We ask you to please closely read and listen to the materials presented, then prayerfully consider increasing your offering this year as we strengthen our foundation and grow our future ministries.

Thank you for helping to strengthen our church foundation and grow our future ministries.

In Christ,

Bruce Holderead, Pastor Kathy Kluck, Mike Meyer, Wayne Mosley, Jim Zakrasjek
First Lutheran Church Stewardship Committee

Living God's love through our devotion to service, worship, and one another.