



First Evangelical Lutheran Church – Glencoe, MN

July 2020 Church Newsletter

“Sharing Christ Changing Lives”

It Is Not What We Were Expecting, but Things Will Get Better!

We are half-way through it! Halfway through what, up to this point, has been a challenging year filled with bad news and hardships. It seems like an entire decade has been and we are just six months into the year 2020!

In January we had the untimely loss of Kobe Bryant, a widely admired sports celebrity and family man. In February we witnessed on TV some of the wildfires that had been consuming Australia and its wildlife: An estimated 500 million animals lost their lives. Then in March the Coronavirus pandemic really began making its impact known in our country, bringing death or serious illness to many and a radical change of life for every one of us. And then just when pandemic restrictions were beginning to loosen, protest, rioting, and destruction began breaking out in several cities throughout our country in response to George Floyd's homicide in Minneapolis. What is more, now many loud voices are calling for the removal or destruction of monuments to people, who despite their faults (and who does not have faults?), helped to shape the country that we all enjoy today.

Talk about hardships! And I have not even gotten to all the problems each of us has to deal with as individuals: Stress, depression, conflict, financial worries, sickness, loss of loved ones, doubts about the future, and more. No, this year has not at all been what we were expecting, but things can only get better, right?

I think we could all use some good news and so could the writer of **Psalm 130**. You can hear it in his words right away in verse one: “**Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice!**” The Hebrew word that is used here for “depths” refers to deep waters, to the sense of being overwhelmed and sinking into the depths of the sea. This is something to which I believe many, especially those still living in isolation for health reasons, can relate.

Verse 2: “**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**” Even from the depths of suffering, God hears our cries for help He will not abandon us.

Verses 3-4: “**If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness that you may be feared.**” The Psalmist confesses his sins and does not try to stand before God on the basis of his own good works. Thanks be to God, that our Lord does not remember and record our sins for future punishment. The fact that the almighty God is so merciful only increases just how much we stand in awe of Him!

Verses 5-6: “**I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**” Our hope is truly in God's Word through which He assures us of the forgiveness of all our sins and the undeserved gift of eternal life. Our souls wait in anticipation for God's plan of salvation to be fully realized on the Last Day!

Verses 7-8: “**O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption, And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**” Although our sin is great, God's redemption in Christ is far, far greater!

So, what can we take away from this Psalm and apply to our lives today in July of the year 2020? It is this: whenever we are overwhelmed, we can be assured that God really does hear our cries for mercy and relief. He does not remember our sins, but rather grants us free forgiveness through the work of our Lord Jesus, who gives us hope. Through His ministry, through His life, and through His death, Christ has plunged into our depths to raise us up in salvation.

Nothing in all of creation “will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:39). With Jesus, things will definitely get better; eternally better!

~In Christ, Pastor Dan Welch



We are especially thankful for all you do to bring glory to God through the various ministries here at First Lutheran Church!

Sunday July 5

8:00 AM- Dean Dahlke / Dave Sell
10:30 AM- Brian Witte / Dave Hoes

Sunday July 12

8:00 AM- Don Hepner / Mark Schmidt
10:30 AM- Rich Jannusch / Dave Sell

Sunday July 19

8:00 AM- Don Hepner / Doug Dahlke
10:30 AM- Brian Schuch / Roger Schmidt

Sunday July 26

8:00 AM- Lars Ide / Dave Sell
10:30 AM- Brian Schuch / Rich Jannusch

God Gives Us the Victory

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

Like Pastor Welch, I also enjoy Independence Day. Like him, I also have “a blast” each July 4. If you missed this, Pastor Welch mentioned this in his June 21 sermon.

Welcome to July! This July will be much different than the July’s of the past. But, one thing is for certain, we have the sure and certain hope of eternal life by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord!

Some years ago, I visited Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland. Of all the historical sites I visited over the years with my family, this site really affected me. In past years, I have visited Revolutionary War sites, Civil War sites, Arlington National Cemetery, presidential homes and Washington, D.C. sites. But, this trip to Fort McHenry put all those historical sites into perspective for me.

“O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?”

These are the words of our National Anthem, known as “The Star-Spangled Banner,” which Francis Scott Key wrote on September 14, 1814 after he witnessed the bombardment of Fort McHenry by the British Royal Navy during the Battle of Baltimore in the War of 1812 — known as the “Second Revolutionary War” or the war to keep our independence.

Key was inspired to write this poem as the large United States flag remained flying triumphantly above the fort as “the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air.” This flag “gave proof” that the United States was still “there.” You see, if this battle had a different outcome, it is very likely that the United States would have been re-taken by the British.

Being at Fort McHenry touched me so much. Even though the original flag is no longer flying there, I was at the place where America remained America. If you would like to see the original Fort McHenry flag, it is at the Smithsonian American History Museum in Washington, D.C. And, I have seen that flag too, as it still stands with bomb holes and all tattered and torn. But, the “flag [is] still there”!

The forgotten third stanza of “The Star-Spangled Banner” praises the One who won the victory at the Battle of Baltimore: the one true God. Key writes, “Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation! Then conquer we must, when our cause is just, And this be our motto: ‘In God is our trust.’”

Key also wrote a popular hymn titled “Before You, Lord, We Bow” (LSB 966). This hymn praises the one true God for our republic.

Before You, Lord, we bow,
Our God who reigns above

And rules the world below,
Boundless in pow’r and love.
Our thanks we bring
In joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise
To You, our King!

The nation You have blest
May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest,
Protected by Your care.
For this bright day,
For this fair land —
Gifts of Your hand —
Our thanks we pay. (LSB 966, stanzas 1-2)
Text: Public domain

Some years after the War of 1812, a Frenchman named Alexis De Tocqueville (1805-1859) came to the United States. He noticed that the American Revolution was far different than the French Revolution. So, what made the two different? In France, the revolution removed all religious influence upon the French society. Everything changed. France wiped away their entire culture and started anew. This caused chaos and much strife in France. But, in the United States Christianity remained an integral part of the American society. Yes, the United States was a new country, but the United States didn’t wipe itself clean from its foundation.

In Tocqueville’s book that was given the title “Democracy in America”, he wrote what made the United States different was that the religious atmosphere remained. But, he did warn that if Christianity’s influence wavered, the United States would become like France, where the only hope for the people is found in government, rather than in Christ’s Church.

Tocqueville tells where the United States was and may be heading if Christianity’s influence goes away.

But, don’t let your hearts be troubled, as Jesus says. We are all called by God to live in this time and place. As Christ says, we are to acknowledge Him, and this isn’t always easy, as we may be betrayed by the ones we love, because of our faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Thanks be to God, when we remain faithful to Him, He will acknowledge the faithful to God the Father and we receive eternal life with Him! In Christ alone, we have received eternal freedom from the bondage of sin.

As it was during the Battle of Baltimore, freedom looked bleak for the United States. The same doubt was upon the hearts of Christ’s disciples on that Good Friday as they saw their Lord stretched out upon the cross. But, like God who gave the United States the temporal victory at the Battle of Baltimore as the flag was still there, God the Father also gave us the eternal victory through the resurrection of His Son. Since Jesus lives, all who trust in Him are given eternal life all by grace through faith in Him!

~In Christ, Pastor Adelsen

ANNUAL REPORT

FLC Annual Report

Work on our Church's Year-End Annual Report has begun. Group and organization leaders are invited

to submit a brief report of their 2019-2020 fiscal year activities (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020) no later than Friday, July 24th. Your input will be welcomed as we put together recaps for our congregation. These recaps are extremely helpful to our new members and a great way to show what exciting and fun things your group has been up to.

REMINDER: Treasurers of ALL committees and organizations are asked to submit an annual financial report showing receipts and expenditures. This financial report, requested by the Audit Committee and Church Council, provides accountability, shares information of fund-raising activities, and helps safeguard the Church's tax-exempt status. This report is not printed but remains on file for the annual audit.

First Lutheran Cemetery Board



Please remove all flowers and other memorials (except those in permanent stands) from First Lutheran Cemetery by Monday, July 6th. Items left after that date will be disposed of by the First Lutheran Cemetery Board.



If you pause to check out the exterior grounds around our Church building, you will be treated to an amazing array of beautiful shrubs, plants, and blooms! In addition to our gorgeous landscaping, Dennis Wolter has once again fashioned magnificent displays at our building entrances (South/Southwest/Northwest). Pinks are the dominant color this season, with sprinklings of yellows, purples, blues, and reds! You will see a wide variety of plants – Dahlias, Geraniums, Petunias, Honeybells, Dipladenias, Hibiscus, Gerbera Daisies, Pintas, Solanums, Superbells, and others. These lovely blooms require quite a bit of TLC and sometimes need to be watered twice per day! We thank Dennis for his donation of materials, time, and care – it is greatly appreciated! This is the 20th year that he's been doing this at FL!



We are excited to announce our plans of Virtual VBS! This will be a fun, and family centered at home experience for you! I have joined up with my 2 friends Josh, and Pastor Josh who work at a church in NYA!

When you sign up for this you will receive a packet of everything you will need for the week which includes, crafts, games, and options for at home snacks. Along with that, there are daily videos that will share the bible stories and might even make you laugh!

Confident in Confinement VBS

Dates: July 19th - 23rd

The link to sign up will be on our FLC Facebook page, or you can send me an email: tkidd@firstglencoe.org

Blessings ~ Tori Kidd

We desire to be a church that loves and serves Jesus Christ and loves and serves our community. We are especially thankful for our greeters who help us spread the love each worship service!



Sunday July 5

8:00 AM- Jackie Selchow / Charles & Sharon Czychalla

10:30 AM- Bruce & Deb Bergmann / Kim & Cassidy Rislund

Sunday July 12

8:00 AM- Jeri Ring / Lenny & Carrie Donnay

10:30 AM- Irene Grochow / Grant & Allison Grochow

Sunday July 19

8:00 AM- Neil & Cindy Eggersgluess / Lester & LaNaye Schauer

10:30 AM- Julie Uecker / Jon & Mary Sellnow

Sunday July 26

8:00 AM- Melissa Adelsen / Dean & Sheila Scheele

10:30 AM- Lynn Exsted / Jeri & Claire Witte



Polka Service

The Polka Service will be on Sunday, August 23rd at the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM services. Music will be led by Chuck Thiel and his band. Songs will include both familiar hymns and polka tunes with worship-style lyrics.

Electronic Giving- Members & Visitors

First Ev Lutheran Church and School want to remind you that we offer e-Giving as a way to automate your offerings. It allows members and visitors to give even when they don't have cash or checks with them.

Electronic giving offers convenience and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation, especially during the summer months.



e-Giving lets you give in a few ways:

Visit www.firstglencoe.org at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation, pay tuition payments, donate toward special projects, or view your on-line donation history. After you log onto the web site, click on "Giving" at the top of the page and then "Online Giving" about halfway down on the left side.

Mobile App Option (for Smartphone/Tablet): Download the "Give Plus Church" app from the App Store or Google Play. Open the app and search for First Ev. Lutheran Church (you can type in the name or tap Find Churches Near Me. After the first time, your selected church will display as the default. Tap "Donate Now." Choose a fund and the amount to donate. Scan or enter your payment info.

Text the amount of your contribution to 855-976-6919 (this # is assigned to First Ev Lutheran).

Processing/transaction fees are charged for Electronic donations (ACH bank transfers are charged .6% plus 20 cents per transaction and credit/debit cards are charged 2.95% plus 45 cents per transaction.) Choosing the ACH bank transfer method is the most economical for FL, but we want donors to feel free to choose the option best for their particular situation. (If you wish to offset the processing fees, you can opt to cover this at the time of your gift.)

It's through the donations of every individual and family that we are able to carry on our work. You may also complete a paper authorization form at the Church office. Please contact Debi Ramirez, Business Manager, at 864-5522 or dramirez@firstglencoe.org with any questions and/or to get a paper authorization form. An e-Giving Instruction Sheet with more details for all giving methods is also available. This office is open weekdays from 8 am to 4 pm. We are happy to keep the doors open longer if we know you're coming in.....Just shoot us an email or give us a call.

First Edition Book Club



The First Edition Book Club will meet again in the fall. Watch the newsletter and bulletins for updates.

Lutheran Hour Topics for July

Each Sunday during July at 12:30 pm listen to the Lutheran Hour broadcast on radio station KDUZ 1260 AM. This month you will hear the following program broadcast topics:



July 5 "Unhelmed" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Are you living in the reality of life as it is right now, life as it will be, or somewhere in between? Based on Matthew 6:1-18.

July 12 "Perfection Welcomes Failure" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. God's perfect standards are exceeded only by His perfect patience and forgiveness. Based on Matthew 6:19-34.

July 19 "(Sermon Title To Be Announced)" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Sermon based on verses from Exodus.

July 26 "(Sermon Title To Be Announced)" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Sermon based on verses from Exodus.

Thank you for supporting these broadcasts with your gifts and your prayers. We have been blessed with sponsors through October of 2020. Call ahead to inquire about open Sundays available in 2020 and 2021.

The radio broadcasts are made possible through the support of LCMS congregation members in the KDUZ radio broadcast listening area. Congregation members can dedicate a sponsorship in memory of a loved one, in honor of a birthday or anniversary, or sponsor a broadcast as a service project by their organization.

The current cost for each broadcast is \$94.00. Contact Rich Streufert at 320-864-6884 or e-mail richstreufert@embarqmail.com with your sponsorship requests. Checks should be made out to "KDUZ Radio Lutheran Hour Broadcast". Send your checks to "KDUZ Radio Lutheran Hour Broadcast Supporters", % Rich Streufert, 1620 Knight Ave. N., Glencoe, MN 55336

God's Word provides the light we need. Psalm 119:105



Lutheran Night at MN Twins Cancelled

Although Major League Baseball will return at the end of July, play will begin without fans at Target Field. Hopefully we will again be able to attend as a group on Lutheran Night next season.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

WALKING IN HIS FOOTSTEPS

AUGUST 15th | 8:30 AM



Happy July birthday to honorary "Lutheran Women in Mission" Bernice Wolter, Lucille Kraemer, Marjorie Duenow, and Rhodella Engelman. A \$5 gift to "mites" (LWML Mission Grants) has been given in your honor.

Join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we welcome Missionary

Samantha Welch! Daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Welch, Samantha has just completed her very first year as a professional missionary! She is now home on furlough and speaking to various groups throughout the mid-west. She will tell us about life in Cambodia where there are only a few Christians. She will explain how she was **walking in His footsteps** at the Stronghold mission in Kampot where she brings the love of Jesus to disadvantaged children and their families through education, meals, and before/after school help programs.

Also speaking is former missionary Mary Kay (Schuft) Mages. She will reminisce about her experiences 25 years ago as a missionary at the Lutheran High School in Tisovec, Slovakia which was reopened after the fall of communism. She will also explain how she is **still walking in His footsteps** and how LWML is a good home for her missionary heart.

- Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Follow the 6 feet apart footsteps on the sidewalk as you make your way into the south entryway. Covid 19 precautions will be followed. **If you are sick, please stay home.**
- No food will be served in the building. You will receive a "Grab and Go" lunch as you leave.
- This event is sponsored by "Lutheran Women in Mission" LWML and First Ev. Board of Evangelism. There is no charge for this event. An offering will be received for Samantha's mission work in Cambodia. You will be encouraged to give generously – cash, credit card or checks. Make all checks payable to "McLeod Zone LWML."
- This event is appropriate for **teens and adults, men, and women**. ALL are welcomed. Invite your friends. Watch for the posters around town and advertising in local media. If you are uncomfortable being in the building, please watch the livestream on First Evangelical Lutheran face book. You don't have to be "on" facebook to watch.
- Replies to the church office are appreciated. (We want to be sure everyone gets a "Grab and Go" lunch!)

LWML CELEBRATION EVENT – MAYER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Because of health concerns, the regular District LWML convention has been canceled. In its place will be an LWML Celebration October 10 held at Mayer Lutheran High School. Exciting mission speakers, meaningful worship, and fun fellowship. (There will be no voting or business meetings.) You do not have to be an LWML member to attend.



Summer Ca\$h Campaign
July 1-31, 2020



McLeod Emergency Food Shelf Summer Ca\$h Campaign

During the summer, the usage of the food shelf increases and donations are down. During this July summer campaign, all cash donations will be increased with additional grant funds that are available through Open Your Heart MN and Hunger Solutions MN, making it possible for Minnesota food shelves (including

McLeod EFS) to restock and distribute fresh and frozen foods during this difficult time of year. You can donate online through your donation envelope (designating Food Shelf), the Give Plus app, through the church's website, or directly online at the MEFS website. Canned and non-perishable donations are also accepted; donation baskets will be at the church entryways.

DONATE



by mail

onsite

or

online

808 12th St E
Glencoe MN 55336

498 Hwy 7 E
Hutchinson MN



www.mcleodemergencyfoodshelf.org/donate

McLeod Emergency Food Shelf is tax exempt organization as described by the Internal Revenue Code under Section 501(c)(3). FEIN# 41-1470696. Donations are tax deductible as no goods or services are provided or exchanged for contribution. MEFS is committed to donor privacy rights and does not sell, trade, or share donor personal information without donor consent.

Library News

Non-Fiction

SEVEN from HEAVEN by Kenny and Bobbi McCaughey (with Gregg and Deborah Lewis). The Miracle of the McCaughey Septuplets. The doctors held their breath. Millions waited and prayed. And Kenny and Bobbi McCaughey agonized until the miracles started arriving. All seven of them.



From the tiniest (Kelsey: 2 pounds, 5 oz.) to the tubbiest (Kenneth: 3 Lbs.4 oz) and don't forget Nathan, Alexis, Brandon, Natalie, and Joel. These babies are the pride and joy of their proud parents and their older sister, Mikayla. Also from the small town that rallied to support the family to a breathless nation awaiting the news of a successful delivery, these extraordinary children had won hearts around the world.

Their story is not only of the history making births, but the support of the community of Carlisle, Iowa, and of the Christian faith of a family that captured the imagination of the nation and the world. Seven from Heaven recounts the true story of the McCaughey's and the events surrounding the births of the septuplets.

New Lunchroom Tables for FLS

Our current tables continue to be used; however, future replacements are on the horizon. They must be mobile and able to be folded up, fit through doorways, and easy to move and clean under. (No specific tables have been identified, but we are showing an example of a photo above.) We were extremely fortunate to find one "just like new" at an auction sale. We are not sure if that will happen again, but it is certainly possible. The price of a new 12' table is around \$1300. Please prayerfully consider making a donation!



We would like to extend a big **THANK YOU** to Jason Neubarth. Jason and his employees donate hundreds of man-hours to First Lutheran Church every year in the form of snow plowing and lawn care. We've been so blessed with his work and quick snow removal response when there are funerals or the early hours it takes to clear a way for us to get to worship on Sundays. Please extend your appreciation to him whenever possible. Board of Trustees



Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will soon be recruiting new board members for all of our Church Boards. These positions are to serve two-year terms beginning January 1, 2021. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents within our Congregation. If you know you'd like to join or know a person you think may be good for one of the Boards, please contact the office or any of the Nominating Committee members. Thank you. – The 2020 Nominating Committee: Deb Bargmann, Becky Edwards, Cindy Eggersgluess, Irene Grochow, Norene Schuette, and Dennis Wolter.



stay connected

We need your help to stay connected with everyone in our FL family!

Nowadays, people change cell phone numbers and email addresses even less than their physical mailing addresses. After all, their email address and cell phone is how they communicate with and access the most important people (family, friends, coworkers) and things (banks, social networks, bills, etc.) in their life. We rely on them more than any other communication channel. So, we don't change them much anymore. They are the new "home addresses."

Will you share your email address and cell phone # (and landline if you still have) with us please? We want to keep you updated and informed with all of our news and info. This will allow us to reach you in a cost effective and quick and easy way. What's next? Please email your info to Becky at office@firstglencoe.org. Also, if you know of fellow family/friend members, please ask them to do the same. Your info will be kept securely and used only for FL communications. Thank you for your assistance!

Glencoe Knights of Columbus

July Paper Drive

The dates for the July 2020 paper drive are Thursday, July 9th and Friday, July 10th from 3:00-7:00 PM and Saturday, July 11th from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. The drop off site is the upper parking lot of the St. Pius X Church across for the Glencoe City Center.



FL School Garden

Did you know that FLS received a \$3000 grant from Whole Kids Foundation? This grant will fund resources needed to grow and expand the educational garden on our school campus. It'll help our FLS students learn where their food comes from, as well as other vital lessons that come when children have access to a school garden.

Grant monies have been used to purchase garden tools and equipment, materials for new garden shed, mulch, fertilizers, fencing, raised beds, compost barrels, plants, seeds, etc. Garden Club members will plant, weed, and harvest the garden over the summer months. When school resumes, students' curriculums will incorporate lessons on 'home grown food to table' and much of the grown food will be used in our school lunch program." Under the direction of Principal Scheele and Sheila Scheele, School Garden Club members include: Lauren Betcher, Summer Blazinski, Kole Christensen, Cooper Foss, Erika Goche, Alexander Plath, Cole Plath, Grace Puckett, and Grady Schuft. We invite our congregation and entire community to stop by and check out the garden located on the NE end of the school campus. You'll see a wide variety of plants – cabbage (early and late), cucumbers, green beans, sweet potatoes, turnips, beets, peppers (anaheim, jalapeno, banana, green), eggplant, potatoes (pontiac red, kennebec, russet), onions (white, yellow), carrots, mustard greens, collard greens, tomatoes (roma, best boy, heirloom Cherokee), pollinator plants, and herbs.

Whole Kids Foundation has awarded funding for over 5,900 edible education gardens, investing more than \$12.3 million in Garden Grants, and benefitting 7.9 million students across all Whole Kids Foundation programs since 2011.

"We believe in the power of a garden as a learning space," said Nona Evans, president and executive director of Whole Kids Foundation. "Every garden grant creates an opportunity for kids to learn more about where their food comes from, gain a deeper understanding of the connection between what we eat and how we feel, and put all of that learning into action as they make daily choices for meals and snacks."

Gardens are becoming an increasingly common educational tool and for good reason: school gardens are shown to improved children's behavior and performance at school and improve their attitudes about and appreciation for the environment. Additionally, only two percent of children eat enough fresh vegetables and fruits, but children who have a hand in growing food are more likely to eat vegetables and fruits, and to be more knowledgeable about nutrition.



Pictured Above (Left to Right): Lauren Betcher, Cole Plath, Sheila Scheele, Erika Goche, and Alexander Plath



Pictured Above (Left to Right): Erika Goche, Cole Plath, Kole Christensen, and Alexander Plath

SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT:

The 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Sunday School class, along with their teachers, would like to thank everyone that donated to our Birthday Blessing Boxes and Toiletry Drive. Although the shutdown ended our donation drive early, and our ability to put together items as a class, we still had a few members that were able to complete these Mission Projects. Thanks to your generosity, and the use of Thrivent Action Teams, we were able to donate: 50 Birthday Blessing Boxes (each containing a cake mix, frosting, card, cupcake liners, candles or balloons and a party favor), 24 misc party items, 18 Care kits (each consisting of a bath towel, hand towel, wash cloth, shampoo, conditioner, body wash and a comb), 17 toothbrush/paste sets and 103 miscellaneous toiletry items to the McLeod County Food Shelf. This totaled 281 pounds of donations!



FLC Prayer Chain

New members are needed to keep our PRAYER CHAIN going! You can join either a Phone or an E-Mail Chain. Participation is

simple, but so very powerful! The Bible says in Phil 4:6, "But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God." Thank you to all of our current members for their commitment to prayer – to confidentiality, discretion, and listening to the Holy Spirit.

How does it work?

Phone Chain – Simply receive a phone call from another prayer chain member with a request. When you receive the call, write down the prayer request word for word as dictated to you. Pray immediately and then call the next person on your chain passing on the dictated info. If you are unable to reach that person, leave a message relaying the information. Continue phoning on down the list until you reach a person or the end of the chain.

E-Mail Chain – Simply receive the email from the prayer chain leader and pray immediately.

Have questions, want to join, or have a prayer request? Prayer requests are confidential and may even be made anonymously. Feel free to contact the church office or one of the prayer chain phone numbers: 320-864-3892 or 320-238-2148..



Stories of Faith

The Public Relations (PR) Team invites members to share their stories related to situations or events in which they experience God's love and providential care.

Cindy Eggersgluess 238-2148

eggsgluecsscindy@gmail.com

Jeri Ring 864-4029

jring8655@aol.com

Lynn Exsted 864-6452

lexsted14@gmail.com

Having recently come across a photo of former FLS teacher Della Wolf, I considered all the lives she touched and made a difference in. Students often remember teachers who were kind or funny or brilliant or passionate. They remember teachers who care about them. They remember teachers who were supportive or encouraging or saw something in them no one else did. They remember teachers who challenged them and made them think. I invite you to share your memories of Della (simply send an email to Cindy), and these will be published in next month's Story of Faith.





Financial Peace University **Returning in the Fall**

How have you been handling finances during

the COVID-19 pandemic? How were you handling your finances before the pandemic? Now, that you have received the government stimulus, what have been your plans for that money? Whether you want to prepare for income changes or reach your money goals, Financial Peace University teaches everyone how to pay off debt, budget, save money and give generously. Classes are set to begin on Wednesday, September 16 at First Ev. Lutheran Church. Financial Peace University is a ten-week course. For more information, including the cost to participate, please contact Pastor Adelsen.

July 2020 News Thrivent Financial

✓Thrivent Choice

Thank you Thrivent members for continuing to designate your Choice \$. This past month, we received \$90 for FLC. Visit (www.thrivent.com/choice) or phone 1-800-847-4836 and say "Choice Dollars." Have your Thrivent ID# handy. You can phone Mon – Friday from 7 am to 6 pm. If you would like assistance, please contact Cindy or the church office.

✓Thrivent Action Teams

A Thrivent Action Team is a simple, flexible way for you to bring people together to make a positive difference.....you might hold a fundraiser, conduct a service activity, or hold an educational event. Each year, every Thrivent member has (2) Action Teams to use!

Visit Thrivent.com/actionteam to complete an online application (minimum 3 weeks before your event). If you are unable to make your request via computer, you can phone Thrivent and make your request via Customer Service – call 1-800-847-4836.

When your project is approved, Thrivent will provide resources (Action Team Kit) to help plan the event, promotional items (including Thrivent T-shirts to increase your visibility), and seed money to cover promotional and material expenses (\$250 Community Impact Card).

EVERY Thrivent member is eligible to lead two Action Teams per calendar year. IF YOU'RE WILLING TO SHARE YOUR ACTION TEAMS, PLEASE LET CINDY OR BECKY KNOW! Involve others – it's all about your friends, family and community coming together to make a positive impact!



✓Facebook page for Thrivent Network –

Be sure to checkout and Like this Facebook page to stay updated on news!

✓ Thrivent – New Branding

Effective June 1, 2020, Thrivent launched a new brand. Over the next few months, you'll notice a redesigned website and a new logo. You can also expect digital-first experiences that will be more modern and intuitive, as well as new products and services to meet even more of your financial needs.

✓ Thrivent – Online Webinars

Be sure to sign up to receive e-mails regarding upcoming free educational events and other Thrivent opportunities. Contact TwinCitiesTMN@Thrivent.com to signup!

Cindy & Neil Eggersgluess - 320-238-2148 /

eggersgluesscindy@gmail.com

Linda Becker, Charles Jensen, Verna & Harold Kunkel, Pastor Mathison, Amy Welch – Your Congregational Volunteers



Allina Health Hospice Thrift Store is now OPEN. They will continue their usual hours of 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM Tuesday thru Friday. In addition, they are open the 1st and 3rd Saturday's 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Donations will be accepted during regular business hours! Call 320-864-8007 with any questions.

First Lutheran Church & School Web Site

A committee has been formed to begin investigating a new Web Site. Our current web site was set up 13 years ago and this platform is outdated. New website

technology will allow us to be properly seen on mobile devices, better organize info so we are more user-friendly, and to improve our "hit" ratio so we come up in more searches. The goal is to increase school and church attendance, excite and involve our members, and to engage the community.



Summaries from Our Boards and Committees



Christian Education/Youth Board | June 9th

No Summary Submitted

Day School Board | June 2nd

Thank you, parents and guardians, - your responses to our end of the year survey were positive and insightful. Our staff met to discuss end of the year items and appreciated the feedback. Moving forward, we will have more information about what Fall school procedures will look like closer to July and August. Playday will be held on May 14th, 2021 since it was cancelled this year. The crayfish boil will also be cancelled. Congratulations to our 8th graders who graduated!

Board of Deacons | June 4th

No Summary Submitted

Board of Evangelism

June meeting was cancelled.

Stewardship Board | June 2nd

Discussion was held regarding the 850 letters that were mailed to members and the results and feedback from it. Angel Seed donations for the next quarter will be going to the McLeod County Food Shelf. We reviewed the online giving data.

Board of Trustees | June 1st

The Board of Trustees met on June 1, 2020. The annual building and grounds inspection was done. A list of repair items was made and board members will perform as many items as possible. We are waiting for another roof repair quote. The second order of LED light tubes has been delivered. They will be installed by board members under the direction of Randy Bussler Electric when scheduling allows.

GET TO KNOW

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

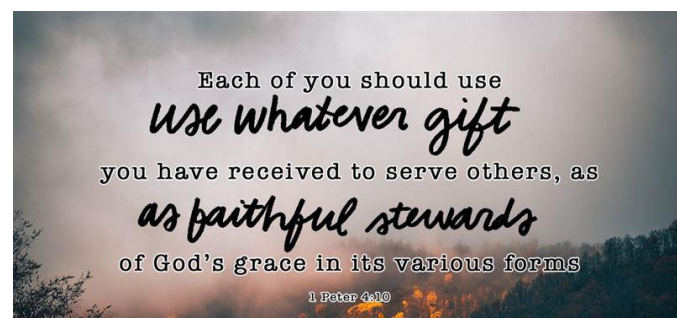
Purpose: Assist the pastors in maintaining proper decorum during worship services, assist the pastors in the work of church discipline, and make decisions for the spiritual life of the congregation.

Responsibilities:

- Attend monthly meetings of the Board; one member to attend monthly church council meetings
- Work at worship services on a rotating basis assisting with ushering, offerings, and communion
- Concern for the spiritual well-being of church members
- Review the needs, salary, and performance of the pastoral staff, music staff, and the DCE
- Prepare and submit an annual budget

Should you or someone you know have questions or concerns, please contact one of the board members listed below:

Dean Dahlke	510-4315
Don Hepner	612-655-0953
Terry (Lars) Ide	510-0519
Les Schauer	864-3666
Dean Scheele	952-250-1149
Roger Schmidt	864-6523
Brian Schuch	864-6614
Dave Uecker	510-1884
Brian Witte	320-300-8940



Special Gifts Received in June

Duane & Norene Schuette (In Memory of Laverna Mackenthun)	\$15	FLS
Family & Friends of Laverna Mackenthun (In Memory of Laverna Mackenthun)	\$100	FLS
Dorothy Dahlke (In Memory of Roger Becker)	\$20	FLS
Rose Miller (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$10	General Fund
Ervin & Delores Sickmann (In Memory of Merle Schlueter)	\$20	Debt Reduction
Kenneth & Virginia Adams (In Memory of Walter Hermerding)	\$10	FLS
Dale & Linda Duenow (In Memory of Roger Becker)	\$10	Street Assessments
Family & Friends of Vernetta Brinkmann (In Memory of Vernetta Brinkmann)	\$500	FLS – Lunch Tables
Norman & Carol Dose (In Memory of Norma Domras)	\$20	FLS
Norman & Carol Dose (In Memory of Lois Herrmann)	\$20	FLS
Joan Wandrei (In Memory of Lois Herrmann)	\$20	Senior Choir
Sid & Joanne Samuelson (In Memory of Lois Herrmann)	\$10	Street Assessments
Alan & Brenda Birkholz (In Memory of Lois Herrmann)	\$20	Debt Reduction
Marlin & Cherrie Grack (In Memory of Lois Herrmann)	\$10	FLS
Children of Gene Remund (In Honor of Gene Remund on Father's Day)	\$60	General Fund
Larry Stepien (In Remembrance of Larry & Donna Stepien's 73 rd Wedding Anniversary)	\$730	General Fund
Elmer & Yvonne Schuette (In Memory of Marcella Cohrs)	\$20	Roof Repair
Richard Cohrs (In Memory of Marcella Cohrs)	\$100	Debt Reduction
Family & Friends of Marcella Cohrs (In Memory of Marcella Cohrs)	\$478	Debt Reduction
Harriett Berge (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$20	General Fund
Dale & Sharel Hoops (In Memory of Lois Herrmann)	\$15	Street Assessments
Doris Jungclaus (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$10	Debt Reduction
Doris Jungclaus (In Memory of Roger Montgomery)	\$10	Debt Reduction
Melvin & Arlene Raduenz (In Memory of Erma Pagel)	\$10	General Fund
Melvin & Arlene Raduenz (In Memory of Marlys Raduenz)	\$10	General Fund
Edwin Brelje & Dorothy Voigt (In Memory of Lois Herrmann)	\$20	Debt Reduction
Rhodella Engelman (In Memory of Lois Herrmann)	\$10	General Fund

First Lutheran Financial Report

2019-2020 Financials: July-May (YTD)

GENERAL FUND INCOME (July-May)

	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Offering Envelopes	730,575.65	817,911.32
Thrivent "Choice" Member Elections	7,832.00	9,367.00
School "Keep It Happening" Fund	1,945.00	2,991.00
School Tuition	<u>162,827.13</u>	<u>136,845.92</u>
	\$ 903,179.78	\$ 967,115.24

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES (July-May)

	<u>Last Year</u>	
Staff	858,170.93	799,893.61
Employer Payroll Expense	1,395.76	7,355.44
Buildings	84,201.33	83,698.28
Operations	33,404.55	37,678.13
Interest on Line of Credit	<u>874.00</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>
	\$978,046.57	\$ 928,625.46

2018-2019 MISSIONS & ANGEL SEED OFFERINGS:



\$ 16,822.50	\$ 17,392.50
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May 31st GENERAL FUND INDEBTEDNESS:	(\$314,402.28)
Last Year's May 31st General Indebtedness:	(\$230,178.29)



July 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ALTAR GUILD WORKERS: Charlene Engelmnn 238-2298 Ardeen Graupmann 238-2313 Nelda Klaustermeier 864-3475 			1	2 7:00 PM - Deacons	3  Church Office Closed	4
5 8:00 AM - Divine Service w/ Communion 10:30 AM - Divine Service	6 6:30 PM - Trustees	7 9:00 AM - Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Evangelism 7:15 PM - Day School Board	8 9:30-10:45 AM - Fun & The Son	9 7:00 PM - Cemetery Board	10	11
12 8:00 AM - Divine Service 10:30 AM - Divine Service w/Communion	13	14 9:00 AM - Staff Meeting 9:30 - 11:00 AM - TWEENS 6:30 PM - Christian Ed / Youth	15	16 6:30 PM - Church Council	17	18
19 8:00 AM - Divine Service w/Communion 10:30 AM - Divine Service	20	21 9:00 AM - Staff Meeting	22	23	24	25
26 8:00 AM - Divine Service 9:30 AM - KDUZ Radio Broadcast 10:30 AM - Divine Service w/Communion	27 6:30 PM - Endowment Committee August Newsletter Deadline	28 9:00 AM - Staff Meeting 11 AM to 12:30 PM - Common Cup Diaper Distribution at City Center	29	30	31	Aug. 1