



# First Evangelical Lutheran Church – Glencoe, MN

## June 2020 Church Newsletter

“Sharing Christ Changing Lives”

### Finding Certainty in Uncertain Times

Since the middle of March, we have been living in a new type of reality. We've gotten used to hearing and saying a lot of words and phrases during this time. Among these are, “Global Pandemic”, “Social-Distancing”, “CoronaVirus”, “COVID 19”, “Quarantine”, “Masks”, “Six-Foot Apart”. The list could go on and on. Included in this list would certainly be: “Uncertain Times.”

We definitely are living in a time of uncertainty, and it is as troubling as it is perplexing. Who could ever have imagined a year ago, the world in which we have lived these past two and a half months? How do we make sense of it all?

Where do we go for sure direction in uncertain times? We have had it all along, of course. It is God's Word, the Bible! Just listen to what God Himself says about His Word, and its purpose for us especially right now in June of 2020:

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16). “For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit” (2 Peter 1:21). In other words, the Bible comes from God Himself. People did not make it up and His Word has many uses for us.

But, what's the main point of the Bible? These next three passages make that abundantly clear: “These things are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31). “You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me” (John 5:39). “And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself” (Luke 24:37). The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments all center in Christ, our Savior from sin and death. Jesus died to take the penalty for our sins on Himself and He rose again so that all who trust in Him have eternal life.

The Bible not only shows us the only way to eternal life with God, but it also gives us guidance for our everyday life here on earth: “Your Word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.” (Psalm 119:105) The 10 Commandments (Exodus 20: 1-17), as well as, the entire book of Proverbs are excellent places to go to when looking for practical guidance on living our lives day-by-day.

Simply put, the Bible is God's Word, not man's word. That's why it is always reliable. That is why it has stood the test of time. It is our source of certainty, especially in uncertain times because it teaches us all that we need for eternal life in heaven, as well as how to live our lives in this world right now. May God bless you as you continue to hear, read, and study His Word!

~In Christ, Pastor Dan Welch

P.S. In addition to “Portals of Prayer” and “My Devotions” booklets, the First Ev. Lutheran Facebook page offers you Bible study helps with devotions provided by Pastor Adelsen and DCE Tori Kidd. What's more, I am currently recording and posting daily 5-7 minute videos on every book of the Bible which I film at various locations in our church building to give you a better understanding of each book of God's Word.

### IMPORTANT UPDATE!

“I rejoiced with those who said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’” (Psalm 122:1)

Since I first wrote the following article for this month's newsletter (see below) several changes at the First Lutheran Church Council level, the Minnesota South District level, the State of Minnesota level, and the Federal level have occurred. The bottom line is this: We will be able to resume having public worship services at First Ev. Lutheran starting on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020. Thanks be to God! More details are available below in this newsletter, on the church's Facebook page, and on the entrance stands to the Sanctuary.

This is indeed an answer to many people's prayers, including my own. I am extremely excited and greatly look forward to seeing you back in worship. “I rejoiced with those who said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’” (Psalm 122:1)

However, I want also to be clear that if you have any reservations or misgivings about attending these services for health reasons, please do not feel that you are being compelled to come. I respect the conscientious decision held by individual Christians to hold off attending worship services until they feel it is safe for them to do so. I have this same respect for other Christian churches who are delaying their holding of public worship services until they feel it is safe for them to do so.

I have put much thought and prayer into the decision to resume public worship services, weighing the possible health risks versus the spiritual and mental health rewards. In the end, I truly believe that if we practice the proper health protocols, such as social-distancing, handwashing, using hand sanitizer, and more, that we can safely do this. God's blessings and peace be with you now and always!

~ Pastor Dan Welch



## **It's About the Care of Body and Soul**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

As human beings, we are both body and soul. First Ev. Lutheran Church's last corporate worship service was on Wednesday, March 18. Following that Lenten midweek service, no person rushed from their pew to go home. Everyone sat quietly and wondered "What's next?" First Ev. Lutheran never wanted to close, but we did out of care for our neighbor.

We closed because as Christ's Church, we honor His commandments. In the Fourth Commandment, we are to "honor your father and mother." This means that we are to fear and love God so that we honor our authorities. The authorities wanted to flatten the COVID-19 curve, so hospitals would not be over-run and we followed their advice. In the Fifth Commandment, we are to "not murder." This means that we are to fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body but help and support him in every physical need. We closed so we would not hurt or harm our neighbor.

As the Apostle Paul writes: "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God" (Romans 13:1). At the same time, there comes a time when the government can go too far. When that happens: "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). This is the case now, since our state government moved the "goal posts" from "flattening the curve" to we must have a vaccine. I hate to break it to everyone, but on the best year, the Influenza vaccine is only 50 percent effective.

So, on the Ascension of Our Lord (May 21), the Church Council voted unanimously to resume Divine Services on Pentecost Sunday (May 31). This was such great news for Pastor Welch and myself!

As the news of resuming Divine Services made its way around Facebook that Thursday night into Friday morning, some onlookers may have thought: "It's too early! People will die!" If you are worried about this, you may continue to watch the Divine Services from home. But, remember, even before COVID-19 people died. Death isn't new. Death is the result of sin.

As of Pentecost Sunday (May 31), our religious liberty is restored and we all have a choice on how we worship the one true God. Now that the church is open, our first choice should be to worship together in the Divine Service. Plan "B" is to watch the Divine Service from home. This should continue to be the plan for anyone who is ill, showing symptoms of being ill, or has underlying health conditions. This being said, if you plan to remain at home and would like to receive the Lord's Supper, please contact me so I can add you to the shut-in list.

Our society and culture are focused on the body, but Jesus is focused on both body and soul. He tells us: "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:28). Through this COVID-19 pandemic, we have all become frustrated. For me, I am frustrated that I cannot visit sick members in the hospital. And, I cannot visit members in long-term care facilities.

Yes, I am only a phone call away, but it's much more than that, it's about being there. Even if I don't say a word, by being there, God provides comfort.

I have also become frustrated with the governor's executive orders. From the start, big box stores could be open, but not small businesses. Then, casinos, restaurants and bars were allowed to open, but not the church. All the while, the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod was urging the governor for a plan for churches to re-open. The District never heard back from the governor.

So in the absence of a timeline or any other assurances that churches would soon be able to reopen, the Minnesota South District and its sister district the Minnesota North District, along with the Minnesota District of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) and the Roman Catholic dioceses of Minnesota decided to move forward with opening churches against the governor's order on Ascension Eve (May 20).

Then on the Saturday afternoon of May 23, we finally heard from the governor. Upon the public pressure of many church bodies, the governor is now allowing churches to resume public worship on May 27, but with restrictions.

So, why would we open corporate worship? It's about salvation for the body and the soul.

This is why Pastor Welch and I never turned away anyone on these past Sunday mornings. You may have noticed that more and more people have attended our live streamed Divine Services.

This is why we offered small group services with Holy Communion each Sunday morning and on Maundy Thursday. Throughout all of this, I pray that this pandemic has exposed the true churches from the false churches. Yes, many LCMS congregations completely closed, but they all wanted to be open. They all closed out of fear from the government.

While that happened, many other Christian denominations wish to remain closed, and many churches have publicly acknowledged this fact. One church leader tweeted: "The President's call to return to in-person worship is reckless, divisive, dangerous... The church has not been closed these past months. The Body of Christ is connected and worshipping. Is it ideal? No." Another tweeted: "I reassert my earlier recommendation to the people and communities... that in-person gatherings for worship continue to be suspended, at least into June and probably longer. The church does not need to re-open."

Frankly, I pray that many churches do remain closed, since again, this is all about salvation for both body and soul. Most of the denominations that wish to remain closed – even after the governor is allowing public worship – preach the false doctrine of social justice in the place of Christ crucified and risen and His unchanging Word. I pray that this has been further exposed during this pandemic. Again, I pray that they remain closed in order to save some of their parishioners from eternal death, by hearing God's Word in places like First Ev. Lutheran Church.

At the beginning of May, I began asking the home shut-ins if they would like for me to physically stop in and give them the gifts bestowed in Holy Communion. I received a resounding "Yes!" Again, this is about salvation of both body and soul.

So, why can't we just continue with Divine Services on Facebook only? Luke tells us: "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). And Paul tells us: "Be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ" (Ephesians 5:18b-21).

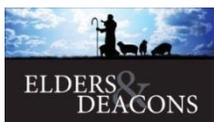
In other words, as Christians we are not to worship God by ourselves, but we are to worship God together in order to strengthen one another and build each other up. Even better than that, the Triune God comes to us in the Divine Service! He is there in the Means of Grace: Baptism, God's Word, and the Lord's Supper. So, we thank and praise Him together as we hear His Word and sing His praise!

For Lutherans, we are an incarnational church. Not every church is like us. We know that Christ comes to us as we hear the invocation "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," for which we remember that we are baptized into Christ. He comes to us as we hear His Word and it rightly taught. He comes to us as we receive His very Body and His very Blood in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of our sins and for strength in our weak faith!

In the Divine Service, Christ comes to us and we receive His gifts – eternal life, salvation, and forgiveness of sins – all by grace through faith in Christ alone! He alone strengthens both our body and soul!

This is why First Ev. Lutheran Church is resuming Divine Services! It is all about the care of both our body and our soul. It is all about the battle between eternal damnation and eternal life. For me, and I pray for you, I would rather live with Jesus and all the saints in the Church Triumphant, than face God's wrath. The Lord be with you always! To God be the glory! Amen.

*In Christ, Pastor Adelsen*



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

- Sunday June 7 8:00 AM- Mark Schmidt / Doug Dahlke  
10:30 AM – Dean Dahlke / Dave Hoese
- Sunday June 14 8:00 AM- Lester Schauer / Warren Willcox  
10:30 AM- Mark Schmidt / Rich Jannusch
- Sunday June 21 8:00 AM- Don Hepner / Doug Dahlke  
10:30 AM- Brian Schuch / Roger Schmidt
- Sunday June 28 8:00 AM - Lester Schauer / Warren Willcox  
10:30 AM- Dave Uecker / Brian Witte

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us," Hebrews 12:1

This is a verse that has been in my head all of quarantine. We have had to endure things that we never would have dreamed of. Things that we have looked forward to are rescheduled or canceled, and it leaves us feeling this weird sense of grief. As we hear about Covid, we are also surrounded by the reality of other illnesses, and hardships that we are also supposed to process during this time. Just know you are not alone going through your thoughts, frustrations, and prayers. We all want some sense of normalcy, and I pray that these summer months can bring us just that. As of right now it saddens me that we are "pausing" our summer youth programs until we know more of what is to come. Our VBS this year will look different as we will not have an in-person VBS. I am working the Christian Ed board to put our materials, crafts, games, and fun supplies to have available for pick up for the summer. Be on the lookout for those resources! I am praying for us all as we continue to make this journey together. Know that we at First Lutheran are praying for you all and look forward to when we can meet and give all the hugs, high fives, and handshakes. Blessings on your June!

*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 June 7  
8:00 AM- Chad & Jennifer Pokornowski / Jeri Ring  
10:30 AM – Melissa Adelsen / Bruce & Deb Bergmann
- Sunday June 14  
8:00 AM- Joan Wandrei / Lester & LaNaye Schauer  
10:30 AM- Robert & Sandy Rannow / Marilyn Vorbeck
- Sunday June 21  
8:00 AM- Neil & Cindy Eggersgluess / Dave & Betty Witthus  
10:30 AM- Janel Fischer / Jon & Mary Sellnow
- Sunday June 28  
8:00 AM- Loren & Charleen Engelmann / Bruce & Linda Donnay  
10:30 AM- Jeri & Claire Witte / Amy Welch

**First Edition Book Club**

First Edition Book Club does not have a meeting scheduled at this time. Further information will be included in the bulletins/newsletter when a meeting time is determined. In the meantime, as we all practice "social distancing" – keep reading! Especially the greatest book, our Bible!



## **ANGEL SEEDS**

The Abundant Table has been selected as the Angel Seeds recipient for donations received from April through June.

Abundant Table is a free Community Meal served at Christ Lutheran Church on the first Wednesday of each month for all in our community and surrounding areas. The meal served from 5:00-6:30pm and is open to families and children, elderly, and all seeking fellowship or in need of a helping hand. It is not only about the meals, but about building community. In addition, it is also about decreasing isolation and providing a coordinated but loving response to people in need.

Thank you for prayerfully considering donating to this important mission endeavor!



# GIVE+ Church

## **e-Giving**

Members & Visitors - It's easy to support FL with e-Giving. In just seconds, you can make a weekly offering, respond to an appeal, or pay for events, programs, and other activities.

- Give anytime, anywhere
- Donate to your favorite funds
- Make your gifts recurring
- Donations are safe & secure

Ways to e-Give:

1. Give online via: [www.firstglencoe.org](http://www.firstglencoe.org)  
(Click on "Giving" and then "Online Giving.")
2. Give Plus Church – Mobile App  
(Download the app and search for FL)
3. Text to 855-976-9619

If you would like help with any of the e-giving options, please call the church office. You'll see just how easy it is!



## **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.

## **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.



## **First Lutheran Cemetery Board**



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

## **Library News:**

### **Fiction:**

The Widows' Club by Joyce Livingston – Is Morning Glory Circle, a trendy upscale Nashville cul-de-sac, turning into Widow's Alley? The lovely widow Valentine Denay seems to have it all. Beautiful home, adequate finances, good looks, a great personality. Nearly every day she opens up her home for coffee with her dear friends and fellow widows. In addition, when Val's pastor asks her to organize the church bazaar, she willingly gathers her friends to help her. Laugh along with Valentine Denay and her troupe of widowed girlfriends and delight in their antics, resilience, and victories. A fun and unforgettable read.



### **Non-Fiction:**

101 Simple ways to be Good to Yourself by Donna Watson, Ph.D. Sometimes we get so busy that we forget to notice what a beautiful world we live in. Such as: the smile of a child, the leaves turning gold or a rainbow promising hope. We forget to make our memories: The smile, the laughter, the thought, or the assortment of the things that make life worth living – simple ways to be good to yourself, to make life worth living. In Christ, we are a wonderfully unique and very special person and the ideas you choose are special because you are.

## The Train Is Coming!

Imagine standing on a railroad track with a train coming right toward you. Would you be scared? Of course, you would! Hopefully, you would have enough sense or physical strength to jump off the tracks.



Sadly, Satan can fill our minds with his lies that create fear, with the result that we feel life is nothing more than facing the danger from oncoming trains. We jump and jump, until one day our efforts are to no avail.

Yes, those are devilish thoughts. From the day the Lord claimed you as His own in baptism, you are headed to a destination. Washed in Jesus' blood, chosen for inheritance, you are destined for life in His new creation of a new heaven and new earth, the "home of righteousness." (2Peter 3) Your resurrected body will make you fit and ready for that great joy.

So, no, you are not staring into the face of an oncoming train. You are being led in the Savior's grace to the life He has prepared for you. (John 14) Because of this, life is not a reaction to the next threat but a purposeful look into the future, that has no end.

That purposeful living includes making specific plans, directed by the Lord in prayer. For the child of God, such plans include assembling a specific direction of the Lord's assets He has assembled under your control in your estate. These gifts will bless family (through inheritance) and ministry (through bequests), so that long after you are "home with the Lord" (2Corinthinas 5), His gifts will continue to bless, enabling others to know the love of Jesus. This is Christian gift planning.

LWML has a professional "Gift Planning Counselor" ready to assist you today, in person, by phone, or video conference. Go to [www.lwml.org/gifts-of-love](http://www.lwml.org/gifts-of-love) to learn more. Her assistance in planning a gift to your congregation, LWML, missions, other charities or your heirs is confidential and of no charge.

## Walking in His Footsteps

Please Come!

God-willing and virus-permitting, Missionary Samantha Welch will be speaking at a special mission event here are First Ev. Lutheran on Saturday August 15. We will hear about her first year of working with children and their families at Stronghold Mission of Christ in Kampot, Cambodia. We will learn how First Ev. supports her work there and about opportunities for individual donations. ALL ARE WELCOMED: men, women, young, old. Area congregations will also be invited. The event will also be live streamed on First Ev. Lutheran Face Book. Watch for further details in upcoming newsletters and the church bulletin. This event is sponsored by First Lutheran LWML, McLeod Zone LWML and First Lutheran Board of Evangelism. Safe CDC health precautions will be followed.

## 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.

Please take note again, the June LWML Minnesota South District convention has been officially canceled. Instead, the MN south district will be having a one-day LWML Celebration on Saturday October 10th. It will be held at Mayer Lutheran High School! More details to follow. God's blessings to you all of my LWML sisters in Christ, pray we are able to see each other soon!

*take note*

Stay safe ~ President Melissa

## National LWML Convention – Lexington, Kentucky Running the Race. . . Looking to Jesus

The 39th Biennial LWML convention "Running the Race. . . Looking to Jesus" will be **June 24-27, 2021** in Lexington, Kentucky. Opportunities abound for you to:

**WORSHIP** with your sisters and brothers in Christ!

**SHARE** the Good News with everyone the Lord places in your path!

**FELLOWSHIP** with "seasoned" friends while meeting new ones!

**ENJOY** doing God's work with LWML sisters and brothers in Christ!

**BRING** your family and friends to enjoy the Horse Capital of the World



Happy June Birthday to honorary LWML member Anna Mathews. A \$5 gift to LWML Mission Grants (mites) has been given in your honor.



## FLC Prayer Chain

We're always looking for new members to join our Prayer Chain! We have both a Phone Chain and an E-Mail Chain. You can join anytime. Participation as a member is simple, but so very powerful! The Bible says in Phil 4:6, "But in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be known to God." If anyone would like to join the Prayer Chain or make a prayer request, please contact the church office or one of the prayer chain phone numbers: 320-864-3892 or 320-238-2148.

## June 2020 Lutheran Hour Sermon Topics

Each Sunday during May 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:



Each Sunday during June 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:

June 7 "**An Undeserved Salute**" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Sermon on the Mount topic from Matthew 5:1-16.

June 14 "**What You're Getting Into**" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Sermon on the Mount topic from Matthew 5:17-20.

June 21 "**Powered by Touch**" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Sermon on the Mount topic from Matthew 5:21-32.

June 28 "**(Sermon Title to Be Announced)**" with Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Sermon on the Mount topic from Matthew 5.

It's time to plan ahead to consider sponsoring a broadcast this fall or in 2021. Because of COVID 19 we may not be able to meet this fall with a dinner and guest speaker from Lutheran Hour Ministries like we did in September 2019. The generous response we had at that dinner provided a major portion of the broadcast sponsorships for 2020. We currently have sponsors through August. The current cost for each broadcast is \$94.00. We do not yet know if the cost will increase in 2021. Thank you for supporting these broadcasts with your gifts and your prayers.

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.

Sponsors will be acknowledged on the Sunday of their dedication prior to the radio broadcast. All broadcasts are at 12:30 pm each Sunday on KDUZ, 1260 AM radio. All donations will be acknowledged by letter and sponsors will be advised of the date of their broadcast.

Contact Rich Streufert at 320-864-6884 or e-mail [richstreufert@embarqmail.com](mailto:richstreufert@embarqmail.com) with your sponsorship date inquiry or request. 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 the MN

### Twins

I think many of us are looking forward to watching the MN Twins! We are still hoping that Lutheran Night at MN Twins will happen as currently scheduled, however we will have to wait and see.



Tickets are reserved for the 7 PM game on Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> against the Los Angeles Dodgers. Seats are located in Section 217 at a cost of \$36 each. Bus transportation from First Ev. Lutheran Church in Glencoe will depart at 4:15 PM, at a cost of about \$12 per person. Please contact Cindy at 238-2148 or [eggsgluesscindy@gmail.com](mailto:eggsgluesscindy@gmail.com) to reserve your spot! All community members are welcome!

## Student Scholarships Available



### FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Edwin & Ella Ponath Education Fund scholarships are again available for the 2020-2021

academic year. All First Lutheran Church members with students enrolled in First Lutheran School are eligible for scholarships. Scholarship awards are based on financial need AND on the amount of available funds.

Application forms were mailed to all member students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 the last week of March. Forms must be returned by **June 15th** in order to be considered for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Questions on either of these scholarships should be directed to Debi Ramirez, Business Manager at (320) 864-5522 or [dramirez@firstglencoe.org](mailto:dramirez@firstglencoe.org) or Michelle Alsleben, FLS Secretary at 320-864-3317 or [malsleben@firstglencoe.org](mailto:malsleben@firstglencoe.org).

**First Lutheran School** also offers tuition aid. Anyone and everyone is eligible for this aid. The amount of the aid is calculated with a formula based on Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). Please turn in the page of your tax form 1040 that includes your AGI to the School office any time before the new school year begins. You may also include the Form 1040 with your Ponath application. You'll automatically be eligible for aid. Your information is treated with the utmost privacy. Any questions, please contact Principal Dean Scheele, School Secretary Michelle Alsleben, or Business Manager, Debi Ramirez.

## June 2020 News Thrivent Financial

### ✓Thrivent Choice

Thank you, Thrivent members, for continuing to designate your Choice \$. This past month, we received \$281 for FLC. Visit ([www.Thrivent.com/choice](http://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](http://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!

(This past month, the Action Team program was utilized to spread kindness in our community with May Day surprises and plants/flower beautification outside our church.)

### ✓Facebook page for Thrivent Network

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

### ✓Thrivent 2021 Wall Calendar

Plans for next year's Wall Calendar are already under way – and we need your help! The theme for our next calendar is "Gratitude." Gratitude is about focusing on what's good in our lives and being thankful for the things we have. Gratitude is pausing to notice and appreciate the things that we often take for granted. Research shows that regularly expressing gratitude makes us healthier and happier. As you reflect on your life, family, church, community, and the gifts you've been given by God, what makes you feel grateful? How do you express gratitude?

We're looking for original photos, reflections, Scripture passages, or photos of original artwork that capture this theme. For more info about how to submit entries and/or to pre-order the 2021

calendar, visit [Thrivent.com/calendar](http://Thrivent.com/calendar). The deadline for submissions is June 30, 2020.

### ✓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](mailto:TwinCitiesTMN@Thrivent.com) to sign up!

Cindy & Neil Eggersgluess - 320-238-2148 / [eggersgluesscindy@gmail.com](mailto:eggersgluesscindy@gmail.com)

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



## 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

[eggersgluesscindy@gmail.com](mailto:eggersgluesscindy@gmail.com)

Jeri Ring

864-4029

[jring8655@aol.com](mailto:jring8655@aol.com)

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864-6452

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Do you have something you are willing to share? Or if you do, but aren't sure how to put it together, just reach out to one of the PR team members. We would really appreciate your input!

Open your eyes and look for a person who needs a little time, a little friendship, and a little faith – someone to whom you can give the gift of being a mentor or a supportive friend. Is there a person in your life who would be encouraged if you let them know that you believe in them? It's easy to get self-consumed and run over by our to-do lists. And it's easy to make excuses if we feel we aren't well-versed enough in spiritual matters to mentor others. But in this Scripture, the Apostle Paul commends someone who helped others and gave them hope. All of us are capable of that.

"I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deaconess of the church at Cenchrae. Receive her in the Lord as saints ought to receive one another. And help her in whatever matter she may require assistance from you, for she has been a helper of many, including myself (shielding us from suffering)." - Romans 16:1-2

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](mailto: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!



### Polka Service

The Polka Service will be on Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### 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.



## What To Do About Coronavirus?

▶ Addressing the spread of COVID-19, the flu and other contagions



🙏 **Pray:** Spare Your people, O Lord! Preserve us from this and every illness. Give healing and strength to those who are sick, protect those who care for them, and grant us steady minds and calm hearts in the face of fear. You have borne our infirmities in this human flesh and purchased us with Your own blood. Keep us in this faith and embolden us in love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

✝️ **Keep Gathering:** It should be our aim to continue to hold regular, physical services while possible. Come if you are well; stay home if you are sick or at increased risk.

🗣️ **Keep in Touch:** Organize and know how you will communicate as a congregation, especially if an outbreak occurs in your area and event plans must be changed.

🧼 **Take Care:** Wise personal hygiene practices and simple precautions can help limit the spread of infection.

🏰 **Take Courage:** "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Ps. 46:1). In life we are comforted by the Lord's precious and very great promises; in death, we await the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

📺 **Stay Informed:** Look here for up-to-date Pandemic Preparedness and Worship Resources:

- [lcms.org/coronavirus](https://lcms.org/coronavirus)
- [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)



**Dear Friends in Christ at First Ev. Lutheran:**  
After thoughtful consideration, the decision has been made to hold the Divine Services this morning at First Ev. Lutheran at the regularly scheduled times of 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. As our world experiences anxiety and fear brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic, it is vital for Christ's Church to faithfully provide God's Word and Sacraments to comfort and strengthen us. The following precautions are being taken to limit exposure to the virus which include discouraging the shaking of hands; placing the offering plates at the entrances of the sanctuary; practicing continuous line communion; providing hand sanitizer at the south entrance of the sanctuary; and requiring those serving communion to thoroughly wash their hands before administering the sacrament. We will also be providing the service via Facebook Live on the First Ev. Lutheran Facebook page for those who choose to remain at home to limit their exposure. The print version of the sermon is available at the First Ev. Lutheran website ([firstglencoe.org](http://firstglencoe.org)).

We would ask that if you are experiencing coughing, fever or exhibiting any symptoms of illness to remain at home to limit exposing others.

**God's Blessings and peace be with you!**

**"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27:1)**

# Summaries from Our Boards and Committees



**Christian Education/Youth Board | May 13<sup>th</sup>**  
 No Summary Submitted

**Day School Board | May 5<sup>th</sup>**

As the school year comes to a close, Mr. Scheele and staff are preparing for some days and times for students to return and pick up any supplies. For our 8th graders, we are planning a Facebook Live Graduation with the details still being determined. Teacher appreciation was held this week- thank you to all of our teachers for your dedication and commitment! First Lutheran received roughly \$164,000 from the Paycheck Protection Program. Lastly, we are still waiting for an official number of students for the 2020-2021 school year. If you or anyone you know might be interested in enrolling their child at First Lutheran School- please contact the church office or Mr. Scheele.

**Board of Deacons | May 7<sup>th</sup>**

Motion made and seconded to approve the April minutes. Carried. There was discussion about the date for the confirmation service. Motion made and seconded to have the May voters meeting in the church. Carried. Motion made and seconded to keep part-time wages the same as last year. Carried. There was discussion about what the church services would look like when they resume. Pastors' reports were given. Attendance and communion statistics were reviewed. Budget comparison report was reviewed. Motion made and seconded to pay the bills. carried.

**Board of Evangelism**

The April and May in-person meetings of the Board were cancelled. Some Board business was handled via email between Board members for the April meeting so that the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year budget could be approved. Small palms for distribution to the children on Palm Sunday had been ordered in advance and were made available via DCE Tori to children by pick up from the East entryway. Some families' pictures of the children waving their palms were posted on the church's Facebook page. The March-April food shelf campaign was extended to the end of April with \$195 and 143 pounds of food donated to the McLeod County Emergency Food Shelf by First Lutheran members. Several upcoming events this Board assists with, are being planned tentatively, pending decisions about the ability to host larger gatherings. Some of these include a September Lutheran Hour Ministry dinner and speaker, assisting the

Lutheran Women in Missions' (LWML) group with their upcoming summer Rally, and the fall hayride. More information will be provided as the "unknowns" of group gathering strategies becomes clearer in the days ahead. At this time, the Board has its next in-person meeting scheduled for June 2nd.

**Board of Stewardship | May 5<sup>th</sup>**  
 No Summary Submitted

**Board of Trustees | May 4<sup>th</sup>**

The Board of Trustees met on May 4th, 2020 at 6:30 PM. We approved the 2020-2021 budget. There have been more LED bulbs ordered using the rebate dollars received from the last purchase. We denied a request to rent space to a driving school. WE received a quote for the flat roof repair and are waiting for a second one. The church annual building inspection will be done at the next Trustee meeting. Extra summer custodial staff is hired.

## 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



## First Lutheran School Flames Flash ~ June 2020



### Please Pray For:

- Those families that are considering sending their children to FLS that they might be led to realize the importance of a Christ centered education right here in Glencoe.
- An end to the virus and the pain it has caused.
- All the people who are traveling this summer that they may reach their destinations safely.
- The people in our area who are without a church home that they may be moved by the Holy Spirit to find a church that fulfills their spiritual needs and that we might be courageous enough to share God's Word with them.
- All of the farmers in our area that they may be safe and that they might have good weather for planting.

### Thank You To:

- Everyone who volunteered this year, whether for field trips, classroom activities, or other needs. We really appreciate it!!
- Debi Ramirez for her hard work in keeping track of our school and church's finances.
- Glenn Cohrs for tilling the school garden.
- Our wonderful parents for the support they have given to our teachers during these trying times.
- Gary Schauer for his hard work on the garden shed and the school windows.
- Louie Tessmer and Loren Engelmann for the work they did installing the new sinks in the girl's restroom.

### Calendar Notes:

- May 27-28      Faculty Meetings
- July 4            Independence Day
- August 17       Teachers report
- September 1    1st Day of school (tentative)

### \$200 for Free

As summer approaches please consider our building FLS incentive. First Lutheran is offering \$200 to any school or church family who recommends a family to First Lutheran and that family registers a child, or children, for this school year. If you get two families to register, you get \$400! Spread the good news that First Lutheran School is a great place to learn about God's love and the awesome world he has given to us!

### Some Important Dates for Next Year

The school board has approved next year's calendar. The following are some important dates; September 1-first day of school, September 4-September 7 no school, October 15-16 MEA no school, November 26-27 Thanksgiving break, December 16 Children's Christmas service, December 23-January 3 Christmas break, January 18 no school MLK day, February 15 no school Presidents' day, March 8 no school, April 2-5 Easter break, May 14-Playday (First Lutheran School is hosting this event) May 228 last day of school. A complete calendar will be made available at a later date.

### The Cost of Education

As we look to close out another school year, we want to thank the members of First Lutheran Church for the continued financial support of our school. It's obvious that FLC sees their school as their largest mission project and has for over 135 years. The cost to educate a single student is over \$6000 a year. While some of this is paid through registration fees, tuition, gifts, and fundraising, the majority is paid by FLC. With this in mind, it's easy to see that our church donations and decisions made at voters' meetings directly impact our school. We want to encourage FLC member parents to be actively involved in the mission of our church as well as our school. We also want to remind members to give to FLC that through the grace of God our school may continue to be a blessing.

### Ongoing Fundraisers

We are collecting: Box Tops and Country Hearth labels. Our last check was for over \$200 from the Box Tops program and we usually receive a large check from our Coborn's receipts that are now done automatically through More Rewards. The Kwik Trip milk caps program has been discontinued.

### Happy Summer

The faculty and staff would like to thank all of our FLS parents for allowing us the privilege and honor of teaching your wonderful children both in the classroom and virtually! We hope and pray that as they were a blessing to us, our instruction might be a blessing to them. We hope that they would keep their Savior close to their heart this summer and throughout their lives. We pray for God's protecting hand over all of you and look forward to the beginning of another year (after a refreshing summer break) of "Nurturing Spiritual and Academic Growth" this coming September!

His Peace ~ FLS faculty and staff.

## First Lutheran Financial Report

<b>GENERAL FUND INCOME (July-April)</b>	<b><u>2019-2020</u></b>	<b><u>Last Year</u></b>
Offering Envelopes	\$619,988.31	\$606,893.71
Thrivent "Choice" Member Elections	7,551.00	9,096.00
School "Keep It Happening" Fund	1,720.00	2,766.00
School Tuition	<u>149,629.82</u>	<u>121,413.84</u>
	\$778,889.13	\$740,169.55
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES (July-April)</b>		
Staff	\$768,174.67	\$727,594.62
Employer Payroll Expenses	1,043.55	6,776.88
Buildings	70,811.02	73,382.37
Operations	29,099.61	30,391.29
Line of Credit Interest	<u>772.00</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>
	\$869,900.85	\$ 838,145.16
2019-2020 MISSIONS & ANGEL SEED OFFERINGS:	\$14,800.50	\$ 13,700.50
April 30th GENERAL FUND INDEBTEDNESS:	(\$265,379.19)	
Last Year's April 30th General Indebtedness:	(\$219,843.28)	

## Special Gifts Received in May

Mopsy Karg (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$15	Street Assessments
Lucille Kraemer (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$20	General Fund
Family & Friends of Donna Stepien (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$10	FLS
Family & Friends of Donna Stepien (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$230	Street Assessments
Charles Jensen (In Memory of Roger Montgomery)	\$20	General Fund
Mark & Cheryl Schmidt (In Memory of Roger Montgomery)	\$20	Street Assessments
Frances Downer (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$10	FLS
Elmer Luehrs (In Memory of Family)	\$100	Street Assessments
Alan & Brenda Birkholz (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$20	Debt Reduction
Alan & Brenda Birkholz (In Memory of Laverna Mackenthun)	\$20	Debt Reduction
Children of Barb Remund (In Honor of Barb Remund on Mother's Day)	\$60	General Fund
Clara Witthus (In Memory of Marcella Cohrs)	\$10	General Fund
Mark & Cheryl Schmidt (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$20	LWML
Chad & Jennifer Pokornowski & Family (In Memory of Roger Montgomery)	\$20	FLS
Family & Friends of Laverna Mackenthun (In Memory of Laverna Mackenthun)	\$25	FLS
Family & Friends of Roger Montgomery (In Memory of Roger Montgomery)	\$25	FLS
Family & Friends of Donna Stepien (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$25	FLS
Dale & Linda Duenow (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$20	Street Assessments
Dale & Linda Duenow (In Memory of Roger Montgomery)	\$10	Street Assessments
Family & Friends of Donna Stepien (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$10	Debt Reduction
Lanette Grenke (In Memory of Roger Becker)	\$15	General Fund
Duane & Norene Schuette (In Memory of Donna Stepien)	\$20	Street Assessments
Don & Darlene Dammann (In Memory of Walter Hermerding)	\$200	FLS
Darlene Matuska (In Memory of Walter Hermerding)	\$20	FLS
Veryl & Marlys Jungclaus (In Memory of Walter Hermerding)	\$20	FLS
Harvey & Elaine Becker (In Memory of Roger Becker)	\$20	General Fund
Family & Friends of Christopher Uecker (In Memory of Christopher Uecker)	\$20	FLS

# June 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																																									
 <p>1  </p> <p>6:30 PM - Trustees</p>		<p>2  </p> <p>1:00 PM - Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Evangelism Board 7:00 PM - Stewardship 7:15 PM - Day School Board</p>	<p>3  </p>	<p>4  </p> <p>7:00 PM - Deacons</p>	<p>5  </p>	<p>6  </p> <p>Rental - Fellowship Center</p>																																																																																																									
<p>7   BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY</p> <p>8:00 AM - Divine Service w/ Communion 10:30 AM - Divine Service</p>	<p>8  </p>	<p>9  </p> <p>1:00 PM - Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Christian Ed / Youth</p>	<p>10  </p>	<p>11  </p>	<p>12  </p>	<p>13  </p> <p>11:00 AM - Funeral</p>																																																																																																									
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<p>21   FATHER'S DAY</p> <p>8:00 AM - Divine Service w/ Communion 10:30 AM - Divine Service</p>	<p>22  </p> <p>July Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>23  </p> <p>1:00 PM - Staff Meeting</p>	<p>24  </p>	<p>25  </p>	<p>26  </p>	<p>27  </p>																																																																																																									
<p>28  </p> <p>8:00 AM - Divine Service 10:30 AM - Divine Service w/ Communion</p>	<p>29  </p>	<p>30  </p> <p>11:00 AM-12:30 PM - Common Cup Diaper Distribution at City Center 1:00 PM - Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>Church Contacts:</b> 925 13th St. E. Glencoe, MN 55336 320 - 864 - 5522 <a href="mailto:office@firstglencoe.org">office@firstglencoe.org</a> <a href="http://www.firstglencoe.org">www.firstglencoe.org</a> <a href="#">Like us on Facebook!</a></p>	<p><b>School Contacts:</b> 1015 14th St. E. Glencoe, MN 55336 320 - 864 - 3317 <a href="http://www.firstglencoe.org">www.firstglencoe.org</a> Principal: Mr. Scheele <a href="#">Like us on Facebook!</a></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">2020 MAY</th> </tr> <tr> <th>SUN</th> <th>MON</th> <th>TUE</th> <th>WED</th> <th>THU</th> <th>FRI</th> <th>SAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2020 MAY							SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">2020 JULY</th> </tr> <tr> <th>SUN</th> <th>MON</th> <th>TUE</th> <th>WED</th> <th>THU</th> <th>FRI</th> <th>SAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2020 JULY							SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT								5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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