

FIRST NEWS

A monthly publication for the members and friends of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

JUNE 2022

June 2022 Time with Tom

Paul's letters called epistles go out to the churches some of which he personally had visited, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. With so many different people and different understandings of what Paul was teaching, it is not surprising they misinterpreted the truth he was trying to convey (Jesus Resurrection). To this day we have many faith and worship practices that proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and the love of God. We continue to argue over the details of worship; what is proper or not. In most churches we pray to the God who created the heavens and the earth. We profess a faith in the Son of God and the Spirit of God. We together believe in loving our neighbor and caring for the poor, the sick and the homeless and the imprisoned.

How we worship does not change the love we have for our God or for our neighbor. Who we love should not change how we worship. Matthew's gospel tells us; ³⁶Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? ³⁷He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the greatest and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." If all the laws and all the prophets hang on these two commandments it should tell us this is for all people who believe. Luke adds his understanding of Jesus' response; Jesus said; you have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." We know what we are supposed to do for our neighbor and what we should do as God's people, if we seek council in the scriptures and are looking for details about what is the right thing to do? The letters of Paul are sent to specific communities about specific issues or blessings. We may have some of the same problems as the people Paul was writing. But for truth and help we seek God, study the gospels and pray to the God of all. The God who created all and gives to all will come to us when we ask in Jesus name. Don't fall into the argument about how to worship or you may fall into the hands of the evil one who is waiting like a lion ready to devour his prey. God longs for a good relationship with each of us. God also longs for us to be in good relationships with each other. Look to the things we have in common and share the Good News of Jesus Christ so we too can be in Christ in all we do. The letters are for education and guidance, the gospel is for our proclaiming, spread the Good News to all people. How can we love our neighbor today? Be a witness of Jesus Christ to all. Amen, `Live in Peace and the God of Love and Peace will be with you! 2nd Cor. 13:11b

Pastor Tom Evenson

Our mission: First
Evangelical Lutheran
Church exists to
welcome people to faith in
Jesus Christ;
equip persons with a
faith that works in real
life; and
send us in service
into the world in
Jesus' name.

FIND THE CHURCH CALENDAR on page 9

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon. - Thur. 8 AM - 4:30 PM
Fri. 8 AM - 12 PM

320-693-2487
Email: firstoffice@hutchtel.net

<u>WEBSITE:</u> www.firstlitchfield.org

Council Highlights

"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS."

First Evangelical Lutheran Church Council 2022

PRESIDENT:

Corey Cervin

VICE PRESIDENT:

Karla Kadelbach

SECRETARY:

Dennis Gartner

TREASURER:

Andy Miller

TEAM REPRESENTATIVES:

Christian Education/ Youth & Family:

Joe Berube Abby Hemmingway Amy Nelson

Stewardship & Finance:

Betty Allen Karla Kadelbach Andy Miller Mike Langmo

Social Ministry/ Evangelism:

Betty Allen Joe Berube Meredith Elj Abby Hemingway Amy Nelson

Endowment/Memorial:

Corey Cervin Chuck Fenton

Property:

Dennis Gartner Chuck Fenton Gordon Burdick

Worship & Music:

Gordon Burdick Meredith Elj Mike Langmo

Personnel:

Corey Cervin

<u>First Evangelical Lutheran Church – Council Minutes</u>

Tuesday, May 17th, 2022

Our Mission: FLC exists to welcome people to faith in Jesus Christ, equip persons with a faith that works in real life, and send us in service into the world in Jesus' name. Council Membership:

2023: Betty Allen, Karla Kadelbach, Amy Nelson, Abby Hemmingway

2024: Dennis Gartner, Joe Berube, Gordon Burdick, Chuck Fenton

2025: Meredith Eli, Andy Miller, Mike Langmo, Corey Cervin

*All members present.

*Devotions: Mike Langmo

*Secretary report was approved

*Treasurer report was approved

*Pastors report:

Pastor Tom reported:

~The Co-op lay leaders continue to meet and discuss future organization possibilities and goals. Updates will be provided as other congregation lay leaders meet.

~MST 2024 efforts have only found 2 families willing to serve at this point. Pastor Tom would like to offer this to a wider age group to grow this group to 10 families willing to serve.

>Update: Trinity of Grove City has asked to get more information about the MST program.

~Visitation Pastor Mark continues to visit the less mobile members of the congregation and reports to Pastor Tom that his visits are going as expected.

~A virtual meeting of the Synod Assembly will be held at 9:00AM to 6:00PM Saturday June 11th. Four voting members are needed to attend.

~Pastor Tom led prayers for the local law enforcement gathering on Tuesday 05-17-22.

~There will be a slight change in the KLFD radio broadcast schedule. FLC will broadcast live on only the 4th Sunday of the month beginning in May.

>Update: This is still a work in progress. We will get updates as schedules get confirmed.

***Team Reports:

*Church Property:

~New phone system is installed and operating. Still a few items being worked out regarding the internet service.

~The planning of the construction of the Audio-Video work area was discussed. Coordination with the technology company to move the equipment is being planned. Beginning to get the plan detailed and working with a contractor to spearhead the project.

~Ceilings in the hallways, Old Chilstrom Hall, and entry are in progress.

~We reviewed an estimate on parking lot work and agreed to proceed with the project. The project will be divided into two portions. The south driveway will be overlayed with blacktop and the main parking lot will be patched as needed in 2022. The parking lot will be seal coated and re-striped in early summer of 2023 so it looks good for the 150th celebration.

~We picked up some free chairs for the Sunday School area from the Litchfield Schools.

~Jim Alsleben will continue to add items to our tracking sheet as needed.

*Worship and Music:

*Old Business (Worship and Music):

~Wednesday night services will be held at FLC beginning June 1st at 7:00 PM. This will be offered to all co-op churches but it will not be streamed on line.

~Summer worship schedule was discussed. Co-op Memorial Day service will be held Sunday May 29th at 10:45 at the fairgrounds in the Band Shell. FLC will be in charge of this service.

~There will be a service planned during the fair on August 7th.

*New Business (Worship and Music):

~Other summer Co-op Services were discussed / confirmed:

continues on Pg. 3

Finance

Total Income for the month of April 2022: \$39,319 Income as of April 2022: \$141,736 Expenses for the month of April 2022: \$33,620 Expenses as of April 2022: \$130,812

- > Sunday July 3rd, 10:45-Beckville Picnic grounds. Pastor Megan from Trinity will preach. The Cedar Creek Band will provide music.
- >Sunday September 4th, 10:45-Windmill Park in Grove City. Pastor Mark will preach.

>Offerings will go to the Food Shelf and Meeker Area Ministries.

~MST International 2024 was discussed. Lack of participation was the main topic. How to engage students and families and how to proceed in the future were discussed.

*Christian Education:

- ~Sunday School classes have been completed for the school year.
- \sim Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be June $5^{th} 7^{th}$ 5:30 to 7:30 at FLC. The curriculum has been decided upon and plans are in place.

*Endowment:

~The team met with Marc Terris from Merrill Lynch to review investment performance. Minor adjustments were discussed and were put in place.

*Old Business:

- $\frac{150^{\text{th}}}{150^{\text{th}}}$ Anniversary committee met in April and plans are moving forward as expected. The 150th celebration is scheduled for August of 2023.
- ~Co-op Lay leaders continue to meet and will be meeting with Beckville and Trinity representatives.
- ~Some new members will be joining on New Member Sunday May 22nd. Potluck was briefly discussed to confirm plans and availability of workers to set up and clean up.
- ~Follow up to the Second Pastor discussion took place. The Executive Team met with Pastor Steve Cook from the synod to get some questions answered. This was a very informative meeting.
 - >Update: since this meeting, Pastor Cook contacted Pastor Tom to discuss an opportunity for our congregation to work with the synod in planning a "shared position" to serve as a half time Pastor for FLC and a half time "Co-op Development" position. This would be designated as a "Specialized Pastor". There may be an opportunity to receive grant money to help with funding of this position. More to come in the near future on what the next steps would be to gain more information regarding this opportunity.

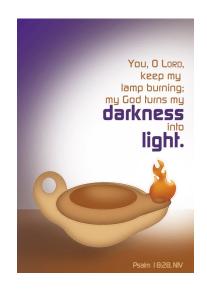
*New Business:

- ~National Night Out event was discussed. The date will be August 2nd and FLC will again try to set up in Central Park. Serving hot dogs, chips and water as we did last year.
- ~A discussion was held regarding the possibility of creating an additional team (or board) to oversee the MST program. This team would not be structured to do the work of MST, but rather to be a guiding sector to assist with planning and organization of the MST program. They could be hands on with planning as needed. As it stands now, a lot of the planning and organizing is done by Pastor Tom and a small group of volunteers. The discussion will continue at future meetings.
- *Prayer requests were taken
- *Closing prayer was heard and the meeting was adjourned
- *Dates to remember:
- *Coop services continue virtually on Sunday's at 8:30
- *In person services Sunday's 8:30 and 10:45 (Unless noted otherwise)
- *Memorial Day service Sunday May 29th at 10:45 at the Fairgrounds Bandshell

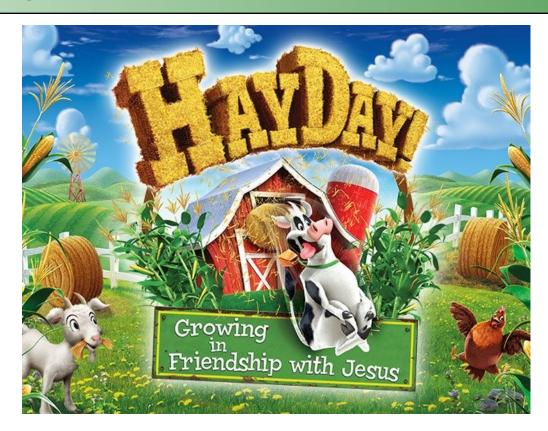
(No services at First Lutheran Church facilities)

- *Vacation Bible School June $5^{th} > 7^{th} / 5:30 > 7:30$ at FLC
- *Executive Team meeting Tuesday June7th at 6:30 PM
- *Team meetings Tuesday June 7th at 7:00 PM
- *Synod Assembly Saturday June 11th via Zoom
- *Confirmation Camp June 12th > 16th Camphouse, Brimson MN
- *Council Meeting Tuesday June 21st at 7:00 PM
- *Service July 3rd at 10:45 at Beckville Picnic Grounds
- *Service September 4th at 10:45 Windmill Park in Grove City
 (No services at First Lutheran Church facilities)

Submitted as un-approved minutes by Dennis Gartner



Youth Page



Vacation Bible School
For ages 3 yrs to 6th grade
@ First Lutheran Church Litchfield
June 5, 6, and 7
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Meal served at 5:30 p.m.
All Are Welcome
A link to the registration form will be on our Facebook page or register in person the first night of VBS



If you are interested in volunteering for VBS, please call the church office at 320-693-2487. Thank you!!

WELCONE Mew Members





Andrew (AJ), Nicole, Ridley and Melissa Geffre.



Matthew Jensen, with his fiancé, Samantha Larson, and Scarlette and Jasmine



Cindy Hill

Mission

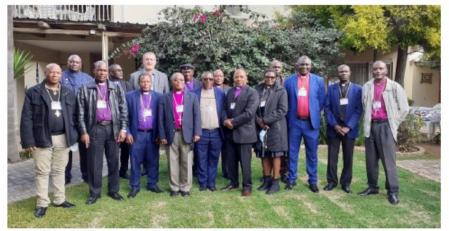
Dear friends.

Over the past two years, communities in Southern Africa have been hard hit by disasters including cyclones, floods, drought and the COVID-19 pandemic. Lives have been lost and livelihoods affected especially among the poor and most vulnerable.

With financial assistance from ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) the Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LUCSA) hosted a training workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa for bishops and church leaders from member churches in the region. The workshop focused on developing knowledge and competency regarding disaster response and psychosocial support. (The Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa is the subregional expression of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) with fifteen member churches across ten

countries.)

The theme for the conference was taken from Acts 20:28. "Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God." The bishops talked about the emotional and financial difficulties faced by their pastors and congregations



during the pandemic lockdowns and of the challenges, as bishops, of being a pastor to pastors when movement and in-person meetings, including funerals, were restricted and communication and income severely limited. The bishops also shared how they are learning new ways of communicating, meeting,

worshipping, serving and being church.

I was honored to be invited to be one of the presenters at the bishops' workshop. We learned about hazards, risk assessment, vulnerability, exposure, disaster preparedness, response and resilience. We explored our own experiences of loss and grief and general guidelines for psychosocial and pastoral support. We looked at some theological



resources to help "wounded healers" listen, manage stress and nurture healing and hope for those who have been traumatized.

Bishop Joseph Byumbwe of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi and president of LUCSA expressed appreciation to the ELCA for supporting and accompanying LUCSA and the bishops and church leaders of the member churches during this time.

Thank you for your prayers, support and your participation in God's mission locally and globally.

Yours faithfully, Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson ELCA Regional Representative - Southern Africa / Johannesburg, May 21, 2022

please visit ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving for Please visit my <u>fundraising page</u>. (Note: This fundraising page is set up for individuals' gifts only.) My blog page address is: https://southernafricanconnections.wordpress.com/ of a congregation or organization, behalf If you are donating on

Taken from: CELC

Ukrainian Lutheran Church

The year 1939 turned out to be a tragedy for the church. Leaders of the ULC were arrested and killed by the KGB, literature was confiscated, and a lot of faithful died in prisons and concentration camps. Pastor Mykhailo Tymchuk managed to emigrate to the USA, taking along a couple of confessional books. He had a dream to someday return to Ukraine and revive the Church. Unfortunately, he died in emigration. However, shortly before his death, he gave his blessing to representatives of the Thoughts of Faith mission society.

Since 1979, this mission society has started activity to revive the Ukrainian Lutheran Church, which was destroyed by the communist regime. At the same time, Thoughts of Faith, just as its predecessors did, promoted the course of the revival of Ukrainian independence.

Since Ukraine declared its independence in 1991, ULC congregations have been organized in Kyiv, Lviv, Ternopil, Kremenets, Zaporizhzhya, Sevastopol, Simferopol, Kharkiv, Mykolayiv, Kherson, Mariupol, and other towns in Ukraine. They are preaching the evangelical truth, following the example of Pastor Teodor Yarchuk and other church fathers. In 1996, the ULC Episcopate was officially registered. The church continues ancient evangelical traditions of preaching and the revival of Ukrainian spirituality. Young pastors, future preachers of the church, receive their education at the Ukrainian Lutheran Theological Seminary of St. Sophia, which is located in Ternopil, Western Ukraine.

The church is not involved in the political life of the country. However, through its educational, humanitarian activities and through the revival of spiritual values, the ULC contributes to the strengthening of the democratic Ukrainian state.

Church Body Statistics

Members: 2,500

Established Congregations: 24 Mission Congregations: 12

National Pastors: 18

SEED—The Bible often uses seeds as symbols of faith or God's Word. In the Old Testament, seeds also refer to offspring. Jesus said people who believe in him can perform mighty deeds with "faith the size of a mustard seed" (Luke 17:6, NRSV).

Many of Jesus' teachings use seed imagery; for example, in the parable of the four soils, he said the seed, God's Word, can grow only when people hear it, "hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance"

(Luke 8:15, NRSV).









Graduation Open House Gavin Nelson

Please join us at our home on Friday, June 3rd from 5:30-8:30 to celebrate! 710 Pleasant View Lane; Litchfield

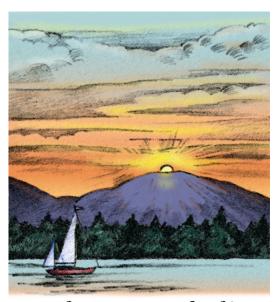
Graduation Party Celebrating Ben Blomberg

Saturday, June 4 9am - noon at the Blombergs 24835 608th Avenue



Holy Baptism

This baptism is the start to a wonderful and long lasting faith. Congratulations on this milestone!!



"The LORD make his face shine upon you ... and give you peace."

Numbers 6:25-26, NIV



Baptized: Sunday, May22, 2022
Ella Ruth Eberling

Parents: Tanner and Samantha Eberling Sponsors: Stephenie Jimenez & Stefano Miranda

JUNE 2022 Calendar

JUNE 2022

8:00 a.m. BREW – FB Live 2:00 p.m. Worship at Meeker 5:30 a.m. Worship Team Mtg. 6:30 p.m. A Chapel 6:30 p.m. Exec. Team Mtg.
4.200 a.m. BREW – Chilstrom 5:30 p.m. NA – Chapel 7:00 a.m. BREW – Chilstrom 7:00 p.m. Worship/Chapel 7:00 a.m. BREW – Chilstrom 7:00 p.m. Staff Mtg. 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Hope for the city food distribution 7:00 p.m. Staff Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Church Council 7:00 p.m. Church Council
7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion in Chape 8:00 a.m. BREW – Chilstrom 6:30 p.m. NA – Chapel 7:00 p.m. Worship with Communion in Chape

June Serving Group & Birthdays

JUNE 2022 SERVING GROUP	Diane Housman
Chairs:	Cecile Hoyer
Howard & Laurie Koehn	Eric & Kayla Hulterstrum
Steve & Jackie Kraushaar	John & Katie Hulterstrum
	Harold (Hal) & LaVonne Huso
Andy Hoffmann	Rocky & Karla Hyberger
Donald & Mary Hokanson	Derek Isaacson
Barb Holmberg	Dan & Brenda Johnson
Iris Holmgren	Daniel & Robin Johnson
Mark & Jayne Holmgren	Dan E. Johnson
	David & Myra Johnson
	Gladys Johnson
	Gordon & Darla Johnson

June Ushers 8:30 a.m.

Jerry Johnson - C

John Carlson

Jason Michels

Steve Durkee

Desiree Birch





Ashley Christopherson Weston DeWolf Douglas Forster Christina Haas Leo Ludowese Carol Muske Randall Reinke

JUNE 2

Madison Hacker Richard Heath Robert Sackett

JUNE 3

Kalle Cervin Shannon Manning Stacy Sandstrom Elizabeth Schmidt John Schmitz Susan Steinhaus Breanna Whitcomb Merry Schmidt

JUNÉ 4 David Johnson Kyle Rueckert

Chris Thompson JUNE 5 Jadyn Deitchman

Clarissa Miller JUNE 6

Taylor Draeger Esmerelda Giang Barb Piepenburg

JUNE 7

Aaron Fitzloff Travis Miller Timothy Nelson

JUNE 8

Whitney Rick Carol Rowell Lillian Scheuermann Ruthann Sutter Izavella Wagner

JUNE 9 JUNE 10

Casey Birch Jesse Birch Kristine Grotto Quinten Whitcomb Shane Zeppelin

JUNE 12 Lydia Asmus

Keith Fredrickson **JUNE 13** Karen Frank

Jordan Hanson JUNE 14

Julie Fredrickson Sandra Gabrielson Robert Powers Brad Silverberg

JUNE 15

Barbara Keller Julie Ross Douglas Sherwood

<u>JUNE 16</u> Michael Watts

JUNE 17

Logan Bailey Tanner Eberling Richard Fiting Esmerelda Giang Gerry Klimstra Lucas Miller

Janet Nelson JUNE 18

Devin Alsleben Jodi Findley Dr. Daniel Johnson Kelly Lemmer

Justin Thoma JUNE 19

Brooks Dengerud Abbigail Adams Emily Gaulrapp

JUNE 20

Sylvia Baumgartner Lisa Hover Ashton Nelson Tyler Peterson Mason Quast Charisse Triche

JUNE 21

Daniel Carlson Gary Cervin Brooks Nelson

JUNE 22

Benjamin Blomberg Erick Hanson Russell Kronbeck

JUNE 23

James Anderson II Robert Frank

JUNE 24

Delzelle Busse Aubrey Gabrielson Ryan Hawes Jayden Hoecke Lana Johnson Judy Quale

JUNE 25 JUNE 26

John Carlson Anna Durkee Jennifer Madsen Nickolas Peterson

JUNE 27

Allison Hoffmann Mark Holmgren JUNE 29

Rebecca Eli Lacy Jo Johnson Mike Klabunde Alexandra Stewart JUNE 30

Lori Ballard Mitchell Eli Kaleb Hanson Shirley Kronbeck Aliza Laidlaw Jeremy Sanden

Senior Dining Menu

utheran Social Service	June 2022	Š	Senior No
	Wednesday, June 1st	Thursday, June 2nd	Fr
Call ISS Meals to order/change	Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce	Roasted Turkey w/Gravy	
כמון בסס ועוכמום גם סו מכון כוומון פר	Romaine Salad w/Dressing	Mashed Potato	
320-693-6203	Tropical Fruit	Peas	Crea
Interpolation City Comment	Texas Toast	Dinner Roll/Margarine	
(Titch)leid Site-Leave Message)	Dessert	Dessert	

amy Cucumber Salad

Bun

Pineapple Dessert

lutrition Services riday, June 3rd BBQ Pork on

		Desert	Desacit	Desert
		Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Monday, June 6th	Tuesday, June 7th	Wednesday, June 8th	Thursday, June 9th	Friday, June 10th
Orange Chicken	Goulash	Ham & Turkey Chef Salad	Pepper Steak/Liver	Fish Patty w/Tarter Sauce
Brown Rice	Peas	Bread Stick	Mashed Potato w/Gravy	Bun
Oriential Vegetables	Tropical Fruit	Fresh Orange	Carrots	Cheesy Hashbrown
Mandarin Oranges	Garlic Bread Stick	Dessert	Dinner Roll/Margarine	Baked Beans
Dessert	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Dessert	Dessert
Low Fat Milk			Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Monday, June 13th	Tuesday, June 14th	Wednesday, June 15th	Thursday, June 16th	Friday, June 17th
Chef Choice entrée	Ham w/Raisin Sauce	Roast Beef	Sausage Egg Bake	Baked Ziti
vegetable	Au Gratin Potatoes	Mashed Potato w/Gravy	Broccoli	Mixed Vegetables
vegetable/fruit	Peas	California Normandy	Cinnamon Apple Sauce	Peaches
Bread	Dinner Roll/Margarine	Bread/Margarine	Homemade muffin/coffee cake	Dessert
Dessert	Dessert	Dessert	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk		
Monday, June 20th	Tuesday, June 21st	Wednesday, June 22nd	Thursday, June 23rd	Friday, June 24th
Chicken Fried Steak w/Gravy	Baked Chicken	Lasagna	Chicken Salad on	Beef Chili w/Beans
Mashed Potato w/Gravy	Baked Potato w/Sour Cream	California Normandy	Crossiant	Romaine Salad w/Dressing
Green Beans	Italian Blend	Peaches	Coleslaw	Corn Bread w/Margarine
Bread/Margarine	Bread/Margarine	Breadstick	Tropical Fruit	Pears
Dessert	Dessert	Dessert	Dessert	Dessert
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk
Monday, June 27th	Tuesday, June 28th	Wednesday June 29th	Thursday June 30th	
Chicken Chow Mein	Swedish Meatballs	Creamy Chicken	Pork loin	
Brown Rice	Scalloped Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes	Candied Yam	
Oriential Vegetables	Carrots	Peas and Carrots	Broccoli	
Mandarin Oranges	Bread/Margarine	Bread/Margarine	Bread/Margarine	
Dessert	Dessert	Warm Fruit Crisp	Dessert)
Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	Low Fat Milk	

Approved by Donna Dunlap RD, LD his service is funded in part by a contract from the Area Agency on Aging with funding from the Federal Older Americans Act through the Minnesota Board on Aging. Additional funds are provided by the State of Minnesota, United Ways, local communities, and other adult contributions.

Posted menu is regular diet. Diabetic, sodium, and fat restricted diets available upon request. Regular menu provides average of 700-800 calories. If you are interested in learning about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, please call 1-800-488-4146.

SNAP or EBT Payment is accepted

320-693-6203

Memorials & Thanks

A gift was given to the Church Library in remembrance of my mother Elva Shea and her mother Betsy Johnson from Carol Rowell.

Gifts were given to the General fund in memory of Shirley Gorman, Chuck Eberhard's sister, and Paul Evenson, Karen Eberhard's brother, by Carol Dragt, Jerry and Lana Johnson, Mike and Kris Nelson, and John and Jo Carlson.

Gifts were given to the General fund in memory of Pastor Tom's cousin's family by Paul and Sue Lemmer, and Carol Dragt.

A gift was given to the General fund in memory of John Miller by Paul and Sue Lemmer.

Gifts were given to the General fund and Meeker Area Ministries in honor of Bob Kadelbach's 90th birthday by Jim and Elaine Lenhard, Einar Lundin, Mike and Kris Nelson, Kirk and Dorothy Lundin, and Jerry and Lana Johnson.

Gifts were given to the General fund in memory of Monte Fibranz, Desiree Birch's brother by John and Jo Carlson, and Gary Smith

Special Thanks

Thank you to the quilters for the beautiful quilt. I look forward to bringing it with me to college. It will be a good reminder of the support I have received from my church family. Thank you, Greta Hulterstrum

Thank you for your thoughtfulness of cards, gifts, phone calls, and visits during my hospital stay and recovery. It's been a long haul but I see better days ahead. Everett Hantge

Thank you to everyone who so willingly helped serve in May. You are so appreciated! The Lord loves a cheerful giver and so do we! Sue Hein, Bob and Norma Hall



Coming soon...MST-USA 2023 will be selling pre-sale tickets to the Meeker County Master Gardeners Garden Tour!!

This year's Garden Tour will be on Tuesday, July 12 and will include

6 different gardens!!

Tickets are \$10 and will be available for purchase in the church office.

Contact Martha Christensen if you have any questions (320) 981-0354 and thank you for your support of MST-USA!!

Get Your Tickets!

WELCA MINUTES May 19, 2022

WELCA met on May 19, 2022, in Chilstrom Hall with Betty Allen calling the meeting to order. The purpose statement was recited.

Pastor Tom gave the devotions. The secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurer Karen Eberhard handed out copies of the treasurer's report. Discussion was on the remaining \$125 in the Harvest Offering Fund. Flowers of Mercy has started delivering flowers again, so it was decided to send them the remaining \$125. Also, all the extra vases that have accumulated in the church will be given to them. A donation to the SW MN Women's Conference of \$200 will be mailed to them. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Marilyn Swanson made a quilt for the Green Lake Bible Camp Auction in July. We asked that she bring the quilt to the next meeting so the WELCA members get a chance to see her work.

Betty thanked our church for setting up the weekly donations to Meeker Area Ministries (MAM). The apartment building that MAM currently rents is being sold. A grant was applied for and there was a delay in processing the application. An extension was given by the seller until the end of May to see if the grant would go through. A donor stepped forward and purchased the building and gave it to Meeker Area Ministries along with extra money to fix some plumbing issues. This is just one example of how God is working in our community!

May is Mental Health Month. Our program was a discussion of all the different types of mental struggles people face. We hope that people will not be ashamed to ask for any type of help they need. We also talked about Caregivers and their need for a break from their 24/7 care. Offer to stay with their loved one—even if it is just for an hour or two to give the Caregiver a well-deserved break. We have to educate people as to how they can help those who struggle with mental health. It is NOT something that we can tell them to "snap out of it." It doesn't work that way!! LEARN how to help!!

Barb Loch will be the speaker at our June 16th meeting.

The Lord's Prayer was recited and the table prayer was given.

Dessert was served by Jackie Kraushaar and Sue Lemmer

Respectively submitted, Sue Lemmer, Secretary

WELCA June 16, 2022 1:30 P.M.

Guest Speaker:

Barb Loch - Meeker County Auditor Discussing elections and voting regulations. All are welcome. Bring a guest!



Worship Schedule

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

7:00 p.m. Worship w/Communion in Chapel

Sunday, June 5, 2022

8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour 5:30 p.m. Youth Vacation Bible School

Monday, June 6, 2022 5:30 p.m. Youth Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

5:30 p.m. Youth Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

7:00 p.m. Worship w/Communion in Chapel

Sunday, June 12, 2022

8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour

Wednesday, June 15, 2022 7:00 p.m. Worship in Chapel

Sunday, June 19, 2022 * Father's Day

8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

7:00 p.m. Worship w/Communion in Chapel

Sunday, May 26, 2022

8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

7:00 p.m. Worship w/Communion in Chapel



Local Cable Public Access TV Schedule: Sun. 11 a.m. Encore Presentation COOP Mon. 11 a.m. Encore Presentation COOP Tue. 11 a.m. Encore Presentation Sun. FLC Wed. 11 a.m. Encore Presentation Sun. COOP Thur. 11 a.m. Encore Pres. Sun. Trinity G.C. Thur. 3 p.m. Encore Presentation Sun. FLC Friday 11 a.m. Encore Presentation Sun. Zion

Special dates in June

- Pentecost, June 5, 2022
- Trinity Sunday, June 12, 2022
- Flag Day, June 14, 2022
- Father's Day, June 19, 2022
- Juneteenth, June 19, 2022
- First day of summer, June 21, 2022



On Pentecost, we remember when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus' disciples. As they gathered in Jerusalem 10 days after Jesus' ascension, they saw tongues of fire, heard rushing wind and began speaking in many languages. Because the disciples could then share the good news with all the pilgrims assembled for the Pentecost festival, the occasion marks the birthday of the Christian church. That day alone, about 3,000 people devoted their lives to Christ.

Like the Holy Spirit, Pentecost is important and relevant today. As theologian Henri Nouwen writes, "Without Pentecost the Christ-event — the life, death and resurrection of Jesus — remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now."

MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, June 18, 2022 5:00 p.m. **Holy Word Theater, FLC**

Please join us for a good movie and popcorn.

Please bring your own beverage.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY:



*Our members known to be in the military are:

Staff Sgt. US Army, Zachary Olimb, Vicenza, Italy, grandson of Edna and Martin Oldenburg, Vern and Lil Madson; Master Sgt. Austin Kleinschmidt, 934th Airwing, Minneapolis, son of Kipp and Lynette Kleinschmidt; Staff Sgt. Matthew Wiechmann, stationed at Fort Drum, NY; son of Virgil and Jamie Wiechmann; Major Troy Thomas, Severance, CO, nephew of Valda Thomas and Mike and Gaylene Thomas;

<u>Eric Kammermeier</u>, active duty United States Navy, son-in-law of Mike and Beth Boyle; <u>Airman 1st Class John Rogers</u>, Misawa Air Force Base, Japan. Grandson of Janet and Jim Lange.

Welcome Home! to those of you who now have returned to the States. Thank you all for your service

GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING: Lutheran Social Services

Sharing God's kingdom

When Jesus, in the Nazareth synagogue, read from Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news" (Luke 4:18) and declared the prophecy fulfilled, "all spoke well of him" (v. 22). But when he then said God's favor was not *just* for Israel, they grew angry. How quickly we can change our minds about leaders — sometimes in the span of a short sermon! Yet Jesus simply meant that God's grace is so plentiful we can share it without fearing that if others benefit, we won't.

It's been said you can't share light without some falling on your own path. Ministers can't baptize new followers of Christ without getting wet themselves. And neither will any of us miss out on the kingdom of God if we opt to share it with others — both in and beyond our community, people similar to and different from us.

What is Jesus challenging us to do right now? If it's something that benefits others, we'd do well to peel off from the angry mob (vv. 28-29) and think again. Perhaps not just a human being but the Spirit of the Lord is announcing good news in our hearing today.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

Please keep our shut-in members in your prayers,

Meeker Manor: Mary Klosner, Lois Rusch

Emmaus Place: Mae Brehmer Gloria Dei: Janet Lundin

Litchfield, in own home: Jutta Goodrich, Darlene Miller

Lakeside, Dassel: Martin and Edna Oldenburg





Be still, Receive God's Love, Embrace God's Word, Welcome the Day. B.R.E.W.

meets every **Tuesday moming at 7:00 a.m.** with Pastor Tom for coffee and fellowship. Join us!!

FIRST NEWS is a monthly publication of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 703 S. Sibley Ave. Litchfield, MN 55355

Please send submissions to: The Church Office by June 15th

For the NEXT ISSUE: July 2022





Address Service Requested



Ministry Staff:

Tom Evenson, Pastor firstsr@hutchtel.net

Heidi Thoma, Education Coordinator heidithoma3@gmail.com

Judy Berglund, Office Manager firstoffice@hutchtel.net

Sara Rick, Bookkeeper firsttr@hutchtel.net

Carol Heath, Financial Secretary firsttr@hutchtel.net

Bea Devereaux, Organist, Senior Choir, and Bell Choir Director

Carol Dragt, Director of Music, Non-Traditional

Kipp Kleinschmidt, Media Director firstmedia@hutchtel.net

Scott Nelson, Custodian

Joel Ramthun, Custodian

First Lutheran Church Office: 320-693-2487

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Starting June 1, 2022

Sunday Worship Service: 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Service: 7:00 p.m. in the chapel