



# The First Messenger

## JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

<b>First Outdoor Worship</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Summer Office Hours Begin</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Healing Service</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>

Volume 30

June 2021

Issue 6

### Summer Worship Hours have Begun!

Traditional Indoor Worship at 8:30 AM

Contemporary Outdoor Worship at 10:30 AM

SUMMER

### What's Inside?

Calendar	Page 14
Children's	Page 9
The Link <i>(WFLC Update)</i>	Page 11
Memorials	Page 12
Pastor Joe's Message	Page 2
Pastor's Lauryl's Post	Page 4
Parish Health	Page 7
Pillars	Page 6
President's Post	Page 5
Youth News	Page 10

### **Church Office Hours**

**Monday—Thursday**  
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

**Fridays**  
8:30 AM to Noon

**SUMMER  
HOURS**



# PASTOR JOE'S UPDATE

*Update from Lead Pastor Joe Skogmo*

I am struggling to understand my role as a pastor and community leader in terms of how to approach the current vaccine hesitancy in our Detroit Lakes area, our state, and our country. I will not say what I want to say perfectly, and ask for grace, but I must speak.

Sometimes there is a cultural maxim that is helpful for times of polarized opinions: "Agree to disagree." Depending on the issue, that can be a helpful "treaty" within passionate disagreement. And, depending on the issue, this can also be unhelpful. I am finding such a sentiment unhelpful when it comes to vaccine hesitancy, especially as Covid-19 risks life and death, matters of justice, and matters of economic stability.

If you are medically able and still hesitant to take the vaccine, I have a case to make if you're willing to listen.

Off the top, let me say that I appreciate that your hesitancy is likely rooted in your value for your own health and for the health of others. Your position of skepticism is almost certainly based on what you've heard, and stems from your caution to potentially do something harmful to yourself or your neighbor. In fact, I admire and applaud your skepticism. Critical skepticism is one of the healthiest rules of science, theology, and philosophy. With that said, again, if you are willing to listen, I have a case to make.

At this point the vaccines have passed through rigorous trials with flying colors. We are now five months into the vaccine rollout. There have been 1.67 BILLION vaccine doses administered around the world thus far<sup>1</sup>, and let me share that **the data on the safety and efficacy of the vaccine are in: this vaccine is safe. This vaccine is effective. This vaccine is available.** This vaccine is slowing the spread and devastation of Covid like nothing else to this point.<sup>2</sup> The sample size to prove this is massive.

This is one of the most critical, studied, vetted, and effective vaccines in human history. It's effectiveness rate against Covid in terms of blocking contraction of the virus would put it into the Hall of Fame of vaccines if there were such a thing.

Not only that, the vaccine's ability to enable the body to fight Covid upon contraction (in the exceptionally rare case of infection after vaccination) is remarkable. For instance, people who are vaccinated are 94% less likely to be hospitalized due to Covid than people who are unvaccinated. My friends, that is nearly a margin of error away from 100% efficacy.<sup>3</sup> That is a miracle of modern medicine. For instance, consider data from one research trial: "Of the 32,000 people who received the Moderna or Pfizer Vaccine...do you want to guess how many contracted a severe Covid case? One."<sup>4</sup> ONE.

With these data, I cannot in good Christian conscience say: "I agree to disagree". At this point of research and empirical data, that is like me saying "I agree to disagree" when someone tells me that water boils at 300 °F (water boils at 212 °F). We're talking about scientific proof and mountains of measurable, peer-reviewed, verifiable evidence, all accepted with consensus.

With that, I turn to our Scripture and Lutheran theology. From Levitical laws concerned with taking community health measures, to Jesus' intensely focused consideration for public health, to our Lutheran heritage which has been through its fair share of pandemics and epidemics, it is unequivocally clear that protecting the health of our neighbor and community is an endeavor to which our faith calls us. We are responsible for each other's health. That is biblically blatant. I would quote Scripture to prove it but I'd end up citing half the canon. Okay, fine, here: "Cure the sick" -Jesus (Matthew 10:8a).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/world/covid-vaccinations-tracker.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.wsj.com/articles/vaccines-appear-to-be-slowing-spread-of-covid-19-infections-11619615436#:~:text=Vaccines%20appear%20to%20be%20starting,2.7%20million%20shots%20each%20day.>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p0428-vaccinated-adults-less-hospitalized.html>.

<sup>4</sup> David Leonhardt, "Underselling the Vaccine," *The New York Times*, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

*(Continued from Page 2)*

As to Lutheranism, well, our theological heritage has quite a bit to say. Lutheranism itself was born in a plague – the Bubonic Plague (which, without a vaccine, peaked for five years [1347-1352] and “smaller outbreaks continued for centuries,” through Martin Luther’s time, and through at least the 1600s<sup>5</sup>). So, Luther himself had a lot to say from the Christian perspective on something like vaccines in a pandemic.

He also had something to say about people’s hesitancy to take particular safety measures and antidotes, and my friends, be ready, because in classic Luther-fashion, he doesn’t hold back. At that, I will let Luther speak for himself on this matter from his work titled “Whether One May Flee from a Deadly Plague”, written roughly 500 years ago:

[People] are much too rash and reckless, tempting God and disregarding everything which might counteract death and the plague. They disdain the use of medicines; they do not avoid places and persons infected by the plague, but lightheartedly make sport of it and wish to prove how independent they are. They say that it is God’s punishment; if he wants to protect them he can do so without medicines or our carefulness. This is not trusting God but tempting him. **God has created medicines and provided us with intelligence to guard and take good care of the body so that we can live in good health.**

If one makes no use of intelligence or medicine when he could do so without detriment to his neighbor, such a person injures his body and must beware...**It is even more shameful for a person to...infect and poison others who might have remained alive if he had taken care of his body as he should have. He is thus responsible before God for his neighbor’s death and is a murderer many times over.** Indeed, such people behave as though a house were burning in the city and nobody were trying to put the fire out. Instead[,] they give leeway to the flames so that the whole city is consumed, saying that if God so willed...

**No, my dear friends, that is no good. Use medicine;** take potions which can help you; fumigate house, yard, and street; shun persons and places wherever your neighbor does not need your presence or has recovered, and act like a man who wants to help put out the burning city. What else is the epidemic but a fire which instead of consuming wood and straw devours life and body? You ought to think this way: “...I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, **administer medicine, and take it.**”<sup>6</sup>

Folks, 54% of adults in Becker County are vaccinated. The supply is here and accessible. Based on all the above, I cannot help but that number this as a moral failure.

Sisters and brothers, with love and risk, I say that I do not agree to disagree. From the non-controversial, well vetted and accepted science, from the Old Testament to the New Testament, to the primary documents of Martin Luther himself, here I stand: for the love of your neighbor, if you are medically able, I am pleading with you from the bottom of my heart and from the heart of the Gospel, to get your vaccine and encourage others to do so.

Peace,  
Pr. Joe

P.S. If the scientific, the scriptural, and the Lutheran perspectives still don’t convince, let me add a fun fact from a patriotic angle for good measure:

Did you know that General George Washington chose to inoculate/vaccinate a critical mass of his army against small-pox? Check it out in this paragraph from the Library of Congress where you see some of Washington’s own poignant words on the subject of vaccines:

“On the 6th of January 1777, George Washington wrote to Dr. William Shippen Jr., ordering him to inoculate all of the forces that came through Philadelphia. He explained that: ‘Necessity not only authorizes but seems to require the measure, for should the disorder infect the Army . . . we should have more to dread from it, than from the Sword of the Enemy.’ The urgency was real.”

The urgency was real. The urgency IS real – for our community, for our country, for our world...for our neighbor.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.infoplease.com/math-science/health/diseases/epidemics-of-the-past-bubonic-plague#:~:text=The%20Black%20Death%2C%3F%20has%20existed,1352%2C%2025%20million%20people%20died.>

<sup>6</sup> LW 43: 119-138. (an electronic version of Luther’s full essay on Christians and pandemics can be found here: <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2020/may-web-only/martin-luther-plague-pandemic-coronavirus-covid-flee-letter.html>).

# LAURYL'S WORD

Update from Pastor Lauryl Ivers, Associate Pastor

Dear First Lutheran family,

**God has given us an earlier than expected reopening, and we can begin this season with a renewed delight in offering exceptional, generous and gracious hospitality, with a re-energized “culture of volunteering” to care for others at First Lutheran!**

People are saying, *“It’s so good to be back in church – we realize how much it means to be here!”* You may have noticed new people visiting us, and members we haven’t seen for a while, are back too. After a very wearying year, let’s take extra time to welcome guests and each other – at church, in the community, at the ball field, on the lake.....It’s good to be back! As we start anew, the FLC Hospitality Team welcomes your presence and ideas with us. We’d like you to join us in:

- reopening our Fellowship Coffee and Cookie time between services,
- creating a Welcome Station where visitors and members can talk with a volunteer about what’s happening at First Lutheran and learn how you can be involved,
- volunteering as friendly Greeters, ushers, worship assistants, readers, Sound Board assisting, Sunday outdoor set up (families can do this together as well as individuals)
- Inviting visitors and people you haven’t seen for a while to have coffee or cookies with you
- offering a hand in carrying coffee and cookies to a table, or refilling an empty cup for someone
- offering to help parents as needed with active youngsters in church
- finding ways to help visitors and new members feel at home at FLC
- finding ways to include those who are homebound, lonely and differently abled
- sharing YOUR ideas ♥

**Our next Hospitality Team meeting is Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 at FLC – join us!**

When I visited Zimbabwe, Africa, I was blessed to stay with an African family who were so generous in their hospitality to me – a stranger – giving me the best in their home, introducing me to their friends and activities at church, showing me the beauty of their country. After one long, full weekend of traveling and visiting my hostess, Ropah’s, family’s farm, staying in their expansive, comfortable mud/thatch home, helping them cook over their open fire.... we finally arrived, exhausted, back at Ropah’s home - to be unexpectedly greeted with Ropah’s husband, Stuart’s, visiting relatives. It was late in the evening, and though we were all tired, Ropah immediately began to prepare a feast to honor her guests, while Stuart entertained them in a special room their home. I tried to assist Ropah, and she explained that the customs of these guests were different than hers, and that we would not be allowed to enter the room without their explicit invitation. When she brought them the feast on a large tray, she had to kneel at the entrance of the room, until they permitted her to enter and serve them. All this she did, respectfully and lovingly, though they never spoke directly to her. Later they inquired about me and I was invited to be introduced and answer their questions. Ropah (a professional woman with her doctorate in pharmacy, as well as being a devoted wife and mother) never complained, and I marveled and learned so much from her exceedingly generous and gracious hospitality. Stuart complimented us later, saying his family were so impressed, which gave us all joy.

This kind of humble, generous hospitality is something I’ve found in other countries, and it’s what I think of when I remember Sarah and Abraham hosting their “angel messengers”, and the other Biblical stories of people giving their best to those who came to their homes. I’ve experienced respectful, gracious hospitality at First Lutheran – and I thank each of you for sharing your best now that we’re together again!

*Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. (1 Peter 4:9-10)*

Giving God thanks for all of you,  
Pastor Lauryl

# PRESIDENT'S POST

*Update from Vision Council President Steve Schantzen*

Howdy First Lutheran, I'm honored to be writing my first President Post as FLC's new Vision Council President. As most know we had our Annual Meeting at 9:30am on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was successful as we met our quorum and we're able to gather outside on a beautiful spring day. As part of our congregational responsibilities, we are required to meet to pass our annual budget, elect new members for Vision Council, and provide a comprehensive report of First Lutheran's organizations and committees.

FLC's Annual Budget was submitted and approved at the meeting, and a big thanks to Susie Reitmeier and Chad Carlbom (Treasurer) for putting everything together as it is no small task. The congregation voted on new members and officers to Vision Council and our Foundation Board. As follows are the new members/officers:

## **Vision Council**

**President** – Steve Schantzen (2021-2022)

**President Elect** – Nathan Olson (2021-2022)

**Secretary** – DeAnne Udby (2021-2023)

**Members at Large**–Tanner Duncan (2021-2024), Scott Sonstegard (2021-2024), & Carla Solem (2021-2022) who is filling Nathan Olson's remaining term

## **Foundation Board**

Shar Arvig (2021-2024)

Les Perry (2021-2024)

I do personally want to make sure and thank the outgoing members who served both on Vision Council and Foundation board. Susan Busker and Mason Pender completed their terms this year on Foundation Board. Secretary Catie Herman and Members at Large Nathan Mork, and LeAnn Mouw also completed their terms on Vision Council this year. A special thank you to Jackie Buboltz who is completing her term as President for Vision Council. As most all of us have gone through challenging times this last year, Jackie has helped lead First Lutheran in calling two new Pastors and guiding our operations through this pandemic. Jackie has definitely gone above and beyond in volunteering many hours of her time in meeting these challenges, so again please extend a thank you to her if you see her.

In working to find members to volunteer this last couple months, I'm reminded that you as a congregation make this church work. We have the most dedicated staff, but we still need members like you to keep this church moving. The reliance on a single person or select few do not keep the doors open, and our generous hospitality available. We would not be able to operate if it were not for the time and donations each of you make, so I want to thank everyone for stepping up when called to serve on various committees or organizations. I also ask if you feel a call to help, we have many areas that need you.

A quick update as we now have made some significant changes in our Covid guidelines. Fully vaccinated people are no longer required to be masked, and Worship Services are open without RSVPs. I hope to see folks back in person, as being back in service this last Sunday and seeing all the smiling faces, is a reminder that God is here. I'm thankful that we have moved past many challenging times and are able to worship together again with minimal restrictions.

First Lutheran is in a strong position, considering all that has taken place, because of you as a congregation, God has let this church thrive. There are so many things that we have done as a church this last year, despite being shut down in a pandemic, that are noteworthy. The fact that we were able to expand as an Emergency Homeless shelter amongst a long list of others is a perfect example. Everyone has worked to be diligent with our budget as times were not certain, but God has let us flourish as a reminder that He is in control.

As I see First Lutheran and where we are going, I see a church that is a leader in our Community. Throughout this last year I've heard mention many times that we should check and see what another church is doing, or how we should do something based on what others in the community are doing. I see our First Lutheran Church, and I see a community looking at us saying "what is First Lutheran doing?!" I'm excited to lead Vision Council this upcoming year and want to thank you for this opportunity.

# Pillars

*Ministries that support our pastors and one another  
in faith growth through worship and fellowship.*



By, Mackenzie Hamm

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:**

I have been emailing out sign ups for **Ushering, Greeting and Reading on Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30**. If you do not have email and would like to help, please call the office and let me know and I will sign you up. I am always looking for help and want to make sure you have the opportunity to share your gifts!

If you are receiving these emails and feel like you are not able to help out with this ministry anymore and would like to be removed from the list, please reach out to me in the office.



Get outside and find someone who needs You! They are around closer than you think!

I would love to hear from you how someone has helped you in the past and how that impacted your life. Call me and let's chat!

*May you find your spiritual and divine gifts given to you and bless the world with them,*  
Mackenzie Hamm, Support Ministries Coordinator



# Parish Health

Denise Gaard ♦ 218-847-5656 ♦ denise@firstlutheranchurch.com

## **New COVID-19 Information and FLC Guidelines**

*As you all know there have been big changes in the national and state requirements and recommendations recently. The following are the current guidelines from MDH as of the day I write this (May 23, 2021):*

- \* **Fully Vaccinated** people are no longer required to wear face masks or observe social distancing indoors or outdoors, except for very large gatherings. People are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their final dose of vaccine – either the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.
- \* **Unvaccinated** people, including children, are not required to wear face coverings indoors or outdoors by state executive order, but are at risk for getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. The MDH and the CDC **strongly recommend** that anyone who is not fully vaccinated continue to wear face coverings and observe social distancing, indoors in businesses, public settings, and when around people from other households, as well as outdoors when social distancing cannot be maintained.
- \* Face coverings are required for all people on all public transportation.

### **What does this all mean for First Lutheran Church?**

*We are asking all unvaccinated people to continue wearing a mask and observe distancing, at all times when at FLC.*

*We realize that not all people can receive the vaccine and we also know that there will be those attending services and activities at FLC who are at high risk. To provide the safest space possible for all people we need to continue with the recommended guidelines.*

*For those who are vaccinated, you do not have to wear a mask or observe distancing while at services and activities at FLC.*

*If attending a meeting or other event at FLC, please follow the meeting and event guidelines (refer to the guidelines on the next page).*

*We are asking everyone to please respect each other, whether we wear a mask or not. There are those of us who are vaccinated, cannot be vaccinated, or have chosen not to be vaccinated yet, and will be wearing a mask.*

*We continue to be a church that opens our doors to everyone, respects everyone, and shows love and acceptance of all.*

*Vaccinations are the best way to end this pandemic! Only 54% of Becker County, ages 16 and older, have received at least one dose of the vaccine. We encourage everyone who can get vaccinated, to do so, for your safety and for the safety of others.*

*As in the words of Bishop Bill Tesch:*

\*The vaccines are very safe. Serious adverse reactions occur at a rate of about seven out of 1,000,000,000 or 0.0007% according to the Mayo Clinic, and deaths are extremely rare. By contrast nearly 10% of the US population have contracted COVID-19, and nearly 600,000 have died so far. This means that your risk of serious COVID-19 illness is 100,000 times greater than your risk of serious side effects from the vaccine!

\*God IS protecting us through modern medicine, the minds of researchers and scientists, and the skilled hands of doctors and nurses.

*(Parish Health is continued on page 8)*

*More words from Bishop Bill,*

The values of “Faith, Facts and Love” will continue to guide us:

- We trust that God is faithful. Jesus will shepherd this church through this tumultuous time. God has called people into the vocations of medicine, research, and public health, and God is protecting us through the work of the people called to these vocations.
- We are guided not by fear, gut instinct, or what the church down the road is doing, but by the facts of the local case numbers and associated risk factors as determined by public health professionals and policy makers.
- We are guided not by our personal self-interest, but out of love for the most vulnerable among us. (NOTE: The good news here is that vaccination rates among the most vulnerable are very high throughout our region.)

The Minnesota Department of Health guidelines are reasonable. They are tailored to on-the-ground realities, and they provide a safe way for people to gather in person. The high rate of vaccination among the most vulnerable, coupled with mask wearing by those who cannot or chose not to be vaccinated, and careful consideration of local case numbers, should give people confidence that indoor gatherings can be safe.

## Updated FLC Guidelines for Sharing/Serving Food During Meetings and Events

Everyone may wear a mask per your comfort level. **Unvaccinated people are asked to always wear a mask and continue safe distancing when at FLC.**

- If sharing/serving food during the meeting or event, please prepare and serve in a safe manner.
- Those preparing the food should wash their hands and then wear gloves while serving.
- There should be no sharing of utensils. Food should be served as an individual serving and easily picked up by each individual.
- If you are wearing a mask, please keep your mask on until seated at your table. You may take your mask off when eating and drinking.
- Wear gloves when handling dirty dishes and operating the dish washer.
- Always wash your hands before and after using gloves.



Thank you, members of First Lutheran Church, for supporting me as a Voting Member at the 2021 Northwestern Minnesota ELCA Synod Assembly held (virtually) on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Assembly's theme "Wholly Devoted - Loving Jesus and Our Neighbor Every Day" was revealed in many, meaningful ways through the participants and examples of the church we all represent. The Assembly included a worship service, report from our synod bishop, Bishop Bill Tesch, two addresses from the keynote speaker, resolutions, business of the synod, and more. The keynote speaker was American theologian Willie Jennings, a highly regarded author, and a professor at Yale University. Willie Jennings led an excellent bible study on several verses in the Book of Acts in the morning, and offered a thought-provoking keynote address about how we see ourselves as Christians, in the afternoon.

As always, I found the Synod Assembly to be an enriching experience. I strongly encourage others to consider attending the Synod Assembly in 2022.

—Todd Gaard



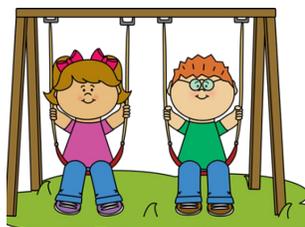
# Children & Family Ministry

By, Emma Duncan, Youth & Family Ministry Director



## Welcome Baby Dolly!

We are so excited to announce that our Youth & Family Ministry Director, Emma & her husband Tanner welcomed a baby girl, Dolly Ann Duncan, on Sunday, May 9. She joins her big sister, Cece. Congratulations Duncans! God bless your sweet family of four!



Calling all families with children newborn to 2 years old! On Sunday, June 6th following the 10:30 Outdoor Service, meet other families with kids the same age at the playground by the parking lot! Some activities will be provided! Pack a lunch and have a picnic!



# Youth & Family Ministry

By, Emma Duncan Youth & Family Ministry Director



# CONGRATULATIONS FLC GRADUATES OF 2021

- John Bergum
- Ryan Bergum
- McKenna Burhans
- Sammy Collins
- Kynna Erickson
- Dawson Fagerlie
- Jake Green
- Levi Gross
- Mason Hamar
- Jack Hines
- Jordyn Johnson
- Connor Opsahl
- Kaitlyn Peterson
- Gretta Schulberg
- Hayden Thilmony
- Emilia Turner
- Laken Weaver
- Caleb Wolf

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and our plans will succeed.*

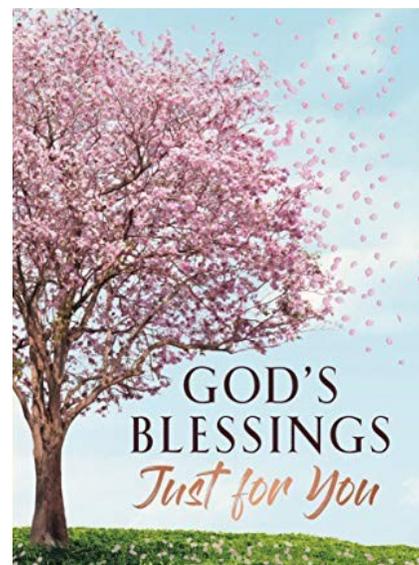
-Proverbs 16:3



# The Link

Update from the Women of First Lutheran Church—Written by Norma Smith

I am writing this on a beautiful sunny, breezy and quite warm day confident that summer has come to stay. God's earth is renewing its beauty, all the flowering trees, the smell of lilacs, and all the colors of flowers to enjoy. He touches our hearts and spirit each day with forgiveness to begin each day anew. God is Good—All the Time!



It has been such a blessing that all of a sudden the church has opened, committees, Co-Council and Circles can meet in person – And we can have lunch together as long as it is done safely! Masks are no longer required as long as vaccinations are complete, unless you feel more comfortable wearing one. However if you are not vaccinated you are urged to wear a mask. God has so graciously seen us through this pandemic which lasted much longer than anyone predicted!

There is going to be a LWR drive this year. Kits and Quilts will be assembled and packed on June 2. If you have anything at home to go please be sure they are to church by that time. Delivery to Wadena will be during the week of June 7. There are new quilt and kit pamphlets at church if you would like one.

A Fall Gathering will be planned - watch for details. NWMN Synod Convention is Sept 17 – 18 in Moorhead. Patti Cummins has volunteered to be our delegate.

Enjoy your summer! Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things. Robert Brault

God Bless each of you.

Norma Smith



Many thanks to Eric Sukke for designing and painting this beautiful sailboat for First Lutheran Church! Stop by the church and check out the beautiful design more closely!

(Pictured with FLC Members Holly Heisserer, Karen Bimberg, Madalyn Sukke, Pr. Lauryl Ivers and Adrienne Buboltz at the Sailboat Regatta held in late April 2021.)



# MEMORIAL GIFTS

*FLC acknowledges with grateful appreciation these memorials which have been received this past month.*

## AGAPE FUND

**In Memory of:** Jon A Horner  
Given by: Ardys Horner

## FOUNDATION FUND

**In Memory of:** Evelyn Peterson  
Given by: Friends & Family

## KITCHEN FUND

**In Memory of:** Don Hukee  
Given by: Fern Brown

## RADIO FUND

**In Honor of:** Evelyn Peterson  
Given by: Friends & Family



Donations for the Easter Appeal for our Companion Synod in India and Lutheran World Relief totaled \$635.33. Thank you all for your generous donations. All of us working together can make a difference.



Donations are needed for the FLC Radio Fund. If you would like to donate, a check can be sent to the church office or at the link below. Be sure to choose "radio fund" on the drop down menu. Another option would be to sponsor a Sunday radio broadcast in memory or in honor of a loved one for \$75. If you'd like to sponsor a radio broadcast, please contact the church office to set it up.



**TUESDAYS IN THE PARK COMMUNITY MUSIC SERIES** will be returning this summer! Starting on June 1<sup>st</sup> at the City Park, come and listen to the live music of The Becker County Dixieland Authority. Don't Forget to bring your lawn chair or a blanket. The picnic in the park is from 5:30-7:00 pm. Music will begin at 7:00 pm.

FLC volunteers are needed on Tuesday, July 20 to serve food for Music in the Park. Volunteers need to arrive at 5 PM and will help serve from 5:30 to 7 PM. Tim Eggebraaten is the musician for that evening and will begin at 7 PM.



**DRIVE UP COMMUNION SERVICES**—We will no longer be holding drive up parking lot communion. If you're not comfortable attending a service, please contact one of the pastors to schedule a time for one of them to come and give you communion at home.

# Update From Trinity Hope



## News from Trinity HOPE

*This is one of a series of articles which we make available each month to keep our supporters informed about our activities. Trinity HOPE, a not-for-profit charitable organization, raises funds and administers feeding programs that provide a noon meal for the hungry children who attend our schools in Haiti where the Good News of Jesus is shared daily.*

2024 Hunters Place, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122 ● admin@trinityhope.org ● (615) 394-4950

Web Page: www.TrinityHope.org ● Facebook: trinityhopehaiti

## **A Heart Led to Give**

*By, Lars Helland,*

*Mission Chairman at Eternal Shepherd, Seneca, SC*

The churches and schools in Haiti continue to exceed our expectations for growth. Trinity HOPE recently reached a milestone of feeding over 42,000 children throughout Haiti, and it is a blessing to be a part of that. Through Eternal Shepherd in Seneca, SC, we sponsor two schools in Central Haiti – Rocky Road and Pas Bonbon. In those schools, we feed over 300 children daily physically while nurturing their spiritual growth. That is equivalent to 55,800 meals a year!

Where does your help come from? Like many of you reading this, the first thing that comes to mind is Psalm 121:2, “My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.” Our Heavenly Father presents us with many opportunities to bless others and to share His work. I often share my experiences with those in my circle of influence. Recently, I was having lunch with a customer. Like most of my discussions, it turned to Missions and flowed right into the schools in Haiti and Trinity HOPE. As we finished our lunch, he (Robert) said he was interested in helping and wanted the contact information for Trinity HOPE.



*Rocky Road*



*Pas Bonbon*

I shared my contact, Keith Logan, with Robert, and quickly a contribution was made. At a cost of only twenty-five cents per meal, any donation has a significant impact in helping feed children. I didn’t ask Robert for any financial support; I merely shared my experience. His heart led him to give! Ten Robert’s each donating \$1,500 would cover 300 students for the school year. To God be the Glory!

Thank you, Trinity HOPE. You are blessed to be a blessing!

# June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>30</b> <b>Sunday Schedule</b> <i>Outdoor Worship Begins</i> 8:30a Traditional Online Wshp 10:30a Outdoor Contemp Wshp	<b>31</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> 5:00p Al Anon, Library	<b>1</b> 9:00a Office Staff Mtg 9:00a AA, Library 9:30s Rebecca Cir, Din Rm 2:00p Rachel Cir., Lounge 5:00p Crisis Center Mtg, Zoom 6:00p Worship Team Reh	<b>2</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study 9:30a LWR Kit Prep, Rec Rm	<b>3</b> 7:30a Women's Bible Sty, Lib 11:00a Worship Planning 4:00p Hospitality Team Mtg	<b>4</b> <b>Summer Office Hours Begin</b> <b>Open Fridays</b> <b>8:30 AM—Noon</b>  12:00p AA, Library 12:00p Prayer Team	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>Sunday Schedule</b> <i>Communion</i> 8:30a Traditional Online Wshp 10:30a Outdoor Contemp Wshp	<b>7</b> 5:00p Al Anon, Library	<b>8</b> 8:30a Quilters, Rec Rm 9:00a Office Staff Mtg 9:00a AA, Library 5:00p Crisis Center Mtg, Zoom 6:00p Worship Team Reh	<b>9</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Sty, Hol Inn. 2:00p Constitution Mtg	<b>10</b> 7:30a Women's Bible St, Lib 11:00a Worship Planning Com 4:00p Personnel Mtg, Din Rm	<b>11</b> 12:00p AA, Library 12:00p Prayer Team	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <b>Sunday Schedule</b> 8:30a Traditional Online Wshp 10:30a Contemporary Worship	<b>14</b> 5:00p Al Anon, Library	<b>15</b> 8:30a Quilters, Rec Rm 9:00a Office Staff Mtg 9:00a AA, Library 5:00p Crisis Center Mtg, Zoom 6:00p Worship Team Reh	<b>16</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Sty, Hol. In. 10:00a Ecumen Worship	<b>17</b> 7:30a Women's Bible Sty, Lib 11:00a Worship Planning	<b>18</b> 12:00p AA, Library 12:00p Prayer Team	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>Sunday Schedule</b> <i>Communion</i> 8:30a Traditional Online Wshp 10:30a Contemporary Worship  	<b>21</b> 5:00p Al Anon, Library	<b>22</b> 9:00a AA, Library 5:00p Crisis Center Mtg, Zoom 6:00p Worship Team Reh  <b>Staff Development Retreat</b>	<b>23</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study 11:00a Worship Planning	<b>24</b> 7:30a Women's Bible Sty, Lib  <b>Staff Development Retreat</b>	<b>25</b> 12:00p AA, Library 12:00p Prayer Team	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b>Sunday Schedule</b> <i>Healing Service</i> <i>Baptisms</i> 8:30a Traditional Online Wshp 10:30a Contemporary Worship	<b>28</b> 5:00p Al Anon, Library	<b>29</b> 9:00a Office Staff Mtg 9:00a AA, Library 5:00p Crisis Center Mtg, Zoom 5:00p Vision Council, DH 6:00p Worship Team Reh	<b>30</b> 6:30a Men's Bible Study	<b>1</b> 7:30a Women's Bible Sty, Lib 11:00a Worship Planning	<b>2</b> 12:00p AA, Library 12:00p Prayer Team	<b>3</b>



## **The First Messenger**

First Lutheran Church  
912 Lake Avenue  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
Volume 30 Issue 3  
Non-Profit Organization

The First Messenger is published monthly and mailed to the members and friends of First Lutheran Church. The purpose of this publication is to inform the congregation of church activities and upcoming events. Articles for publication are to be submitted to the church office by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### **Office Hours:**

#### **Winter Hours**

(Labor Day to Memorial Day)  
Monday—Friday  
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

#### **Summer Hours**

(Memorial Day to Labor Day)  
Monday—Thursday  
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM  
Fridays  
8:30 AM to Noon

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f1c@firstlutheranchurch.com  
www.firstlutheranchurch.com

### **Vision Council**

Chairman: Steve Schantzen  
Vice-Chairman: Nathan Olson  
Secretary: Deanne Udby  
Treasurer: Chad Carlblom

Chris Malecka, Scott Sonstegard,  
Tanner Duncan, Carla Solem, Carol Lee,  
& Kari Stattelmann

### **Foundation Board**

President: Les Perry  
President-Elect: Steve Glunberg  
Secretary: TBD  
Treasurer: TBD

Shar Arvig, Dan Berg, Patti Cummins,  
Ariene Buboltz, & Sue Schaffer

## **Congregational Staff**

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### **Bell Choir Director:**

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### **Missionary Pastor:**

Rev. Chandran Paul Martin

**Worship is broadcast on KDLM-1340 AM and on  
93.1 FM Radio each  
Sunday Morning at 10:00 AM.**

**Worship is also webcasted on the church website  
[www.firstlutheranchurch.com](http://www.firstlutheranchurch.com).**

**Worship is also broadcast on T.V. on Saturdays at 9:00 AM  
on Arvig Cable channel 14.**