

First* Things



Living the unconditional Grace & Love of Jesus Christ

August 2020

First Lutheran Church

100 Peace Ridge

Lake City, Minnesota 55041

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Loren Prigge, Custodian

**Sunday Parking Lot
Worship Service
at 10:00am
(starting Sunday 8/2)
with Holy Communion.

(weather permitting)**

First Lutheran Website: www.firstlc.org

Regular Worship Schedule

5:30 pm Saturday

9:00 am Sunday



Living in God's amazing grace

To those waiting for everything to get back to *Normal*:

God is about something brand new among us. Do you not perceive it? Or maybe you do... and it **worries** you.

Don't forget what the Psalmist reminds us...

"I was young, and now I am old, but I have never seen good people left helpless or their children begging for food." Psalm 37: 25

WE Worry...we worry about everything under the sun. We worry what the weather will bring next. We worry if our kids will be safe. We worry if we will have enough money, and when we have it... we worry about what is the best thing to spend it on. We worry if we will be next to get cancer, the flu, a bad cold, a heart attack, or Covid 19. We even worry that some day we will learn that fat-free ice cream was fattening.

Our worrying lives filter into the life of the church as well. When will the church be open? Will people come to church the way they used to? How will we pay for this? Will we have to close the doors of our building? How can our church ever survive? Why doesn't God answer my prayers? Does God even care?

Max Lucado says it well when he asks.... "Honestly, now. Did God save you so you would fret? Would God teach you to walk just to watch you fall? Would God be nailed to the cross for your sins and then disregard your prayers? Come on. Is Scripture teasing us when it reads, 'God has put the angels in charge of you to watch over you wherever you go?' (Ps. 91: 11)"

I am not sure how God is going to take care of us and the communities we live in, or what opportunities we will find to work together as a community of many differing beliefs and perspectives, but I do know my worrying about it won't make any difference at all. And, if God is about something brand new among us... then God is going to make sure it happens in exactly the way God wants it to. You need not worry...it's in God's hands... as it always has been.

God's peace and strong presence be with you and your family now as always.
Pastor Tim Ehling

August 2020 next steps:

If you have been wondering what the next step plans for First Lutheran are in regard to Covid 19 and reopening the church building, here is what we know at this time:

1. For the month of August, we will be having parking lot worship on Sundays at 10:00 am with Holy Communion please wear a mask unless it is a health risk for you to do so. (weather permitting)
2. We will continue our online worship each week. A link to that can be found on our church website firstlc.org
3. The church building will remain closed for August. The church council is looking into acquiring the necessary supplies for cleaning and disinfecting the building once we do open the doors for inside worship. We are looking for a team of people who would be willing to disinfect the building after each small and/or larger group meeting. If you are interested in helping please contact Rob Nutt or Tim Thompson.
4. The church council is looking into acquiring the necessary equipment for live streaming and enhancing taping of our indoor worship. Special thanks to the team that has been meeting to make that happen.
5. Currently, we are not performing Baptisms (but hope to in the Fall) or indoor funerals. Graveside funerals with social distancing guidelines have been our practice.

Hope this is helpful for now. If you have any questions, please contact me at 651-345-5003 or 320-226-7074

Stay healthy and remember to take care of your neighbor.

Peace.
Pastor Tim

FINANCE BOARD

The duties of this board include budgeting, planning, and managing the resources and uses of funds related to the operation and missions of the Church. The Finance Board is comprised of no fewer than 6 members and holds regular monthly meetings.

The current Finance Board members are

Randi Kirchner, Chair	Craig Harteneck	Ernest Thompson
Chuck Bremer	James Kranz	Jon Gravenish
Luther Berkeland	Jerry Kari	Jeff Chestnut, Treasurer

We have been focused on four main areas:

1. Reducing the mortgage
2. Enhanced financial practices
3. Communicating about the finances of the church to members
4. Ensuring that all church funds are used to support the mission of the church

Area 1 . Reducing the Mortgage
Mortgage UPDATE

- Mortgage Balance: \$1,294,345
- Interest paid \$4,200
- Additional Principal Payment to principal:\$1,190
- Building Fund contributions are down. Please continue to contribute. Reminder that the mortgage is paid from the Building Fund.

We are committed to the goal of reducing the mortgage principal to \$1,000,000 by May 2022.

A bequest from a church member will be paid to the principal. We will update you with details next month. This challenge donation will be part of the pay down the principal campaign.

Task Force co-chairs, Mary Durst and Bruce Carlstrom, prepared a detailed history of fund raising in First Lutheran and a list of options for this Mortgage Campaign. The Stewardship Committee will use this information as they determine the best way forward to meet our goal of paying down the mortgage to \$1M by 2022.

Area 3. Communication

Jerry Kari has agreed to review the church Endowment Fund. He will be preparing updates to the bylaws and looking to invigorate this important part of our financial efforts at First Lutheran. If any members have an interest in this, please contact Jerry or any finance board member.

General Contributions: \$30,043.96
Building Contributions: \$8,330.00

GIVE ME

Lord, if I am ever able to become the disciple you want to be, then I need your help. Please Lord, give me the following...

Give me **courage** to live each day for you.

Give me a **thankful heart** ready to praise you.

Give me **wisdom** to make good choices.

Give me **faith** that is ready to follow you anywhere.

Give me **patience** as you help me become the person you want me to be.

Give me a **humble heart** eager to serve.

Give me **your hand** so I won't get lost.

Give me **some to love** and who will love me.

Give me **hope** for the future.

Give me **your love**.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Prayer Connection...Mary Nelson, firstlutheranprayerconnection@gmail.com or phone: 651-212-0144.

Friends and Family...Sheila Johnson, Kris Chederquist, Barb Gifford, Maria & Lee Schultz, Orville & Joyce Hegseth, Denny & Karen Richardson, Jerry Narveson, Dean Kirkland, Nancy Herron

All service men and women...Justin Fuchs, Nathan Fuchs, Peter Schliep, Matt Sikkink, Ethan Meyer, Chris Breuer, Monty Vikdal, Alyssa Zuehl

Our Missionary in Chile...Karen Anderson

Nursing Home, Home Bound & Assisted Living...Linette Meincke, Roger Helgerson, Wendell Olson, Violet Stinson, Mary Hallenberger, Marv Nelson

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Aug 1: Walter Dailey, Liv Kozlowski

Aug 2: Colin Fritz, Jason Meyer

Aug 3: Sue Benson, KayLee Eichelberger, Valerie Kuchinka

Kristy & Robert Keim, Duane & Robyn Meixner, Jerry Narveson & Charlotte Roe, Lyle & Lise Papenfuss

Aug 4: Nick Majerus, Josh Oeltjen

Aug 5: Cindy Ebert, Destiny Tesmer

Bruce & Trissa Wallerich

Aug 6: Luke Hartzell

Aug 7: Mike Ackermann, James Craig, Johanna Gates, Nate Martin, Kinley Reese

Craig & Cari Kohrs, Karen & Denny Richardson

Aug 8: Natalie Gnotke, Beth Knudsen, Bryan Smith

Greg & Heidi Berge, Bob & Kathie Majerus

Aug 9: Diane Eckhart

Aug 10: Chris Matzke, Trisynda Stuve-Gravenish, Martha Weinrich

Aug 11: Carter West

Aug 12: Dawn Anderson, Jean Durgin, Mary Mund

Josh & Marin Rodewald

Aug 13: Larry Kehren, Toni Krier, Jeffrey Roach

Jim & Carol Dollar

Aug 14: Charley Belden, Molly Fitterer, Alex Joersz, Sheila Johnson

Glenn & Heidi Hartzell

Aug 15: Juston Anderson

Jake & Teresa Atkinson, Kris & Mac Baird, Justin & Kimberly Foss, Al & Lisa Peters

Aug 16: Addison Ahrens, Dennis Johnson, Isabell Sievers

Aug 17: Reid Gastner, Thomas Stevenson, Stewart Talbert, Hannah Weinrich, Joe White

Duane & Claudia Howard

Aug 18: Alexis Ebert, Anna Olsen

Paul & Patti Tackmann

Aug 19: Mary Brandt, Valya Urbach

Aug 20: Christina Quy

Luther & Melinda Berkeland

Aug 21: Kylee Ferguson, Violet Stinson

Aug 22: Maci Blue, Travis Heitman, Alex Holmgren, Dale Nibbe

Dale & Ann Nelson

Aug 23: Rachel Bowe, Jim Cobb, Adison Cole, Kimberly Foss, Kevin Tesch

Whitney & Josh Rolbiecki

Aug 24: Nicole Nadeau

Jeff & Janet Chestnut

Aug 25: Parker Atkinson, Brittany Bauer, Kassie Campbell, Arland Nelson

John & Sherry Earle

Aug 26: Kadarina Foss, Chelsey Mandlekow, Isaac Sulflow

Aug 27: Linden Iverson, Raymond Krier, Scarlett Meyer, Winifred Stretton

Rick Bremer & Cheryl Sprick

Aug 28: Diane Fuchs, Sofie Irwin, Randy Klipfel, Jenny Schlagenhaft

Dean & Joanne Flugstad, William & Ashley Olson

Aug 29: Brandon Bauer, Christopher Breuer, Jonathon Dittfach, Rylee Stoltz, Erica Wallerich, Kari Weinrich

Chuck & Judy Bremer

Aug 30: Amy Frank, Jennifer Gunhus

Pat & Linda Cummings

Aug 31: Bernie Dudley, Coleen Fowler, Tyler Frank, Adeline Tackmann

Mark & Deb Grimley

Children's Ministry News



August 3-7, 2020

**With GOOD EARTH VILLAGE is
cancelled due to Covid-19.**

As new guidelines come out, I will be trying to plan some fun family gatherings for all of our members. Watch Facebook, the website, and email for updates.

Stay strong, stay healthy, and stay positive!
We can get through this!

If you need anything, please reach out.

Blessings,

Heidi