

Firs* Things



May 2020

First Lutheran Church

100 Peace Ridge

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Loren Prigge, Custodian

First Lutheran Website: www.firstlc.org

Regular Worship Schedule

5:30 pm Saturday

9:00 am Sunday



Living the unconditional Grace & Love of Jesus Christ

Dear Disciples of Christ:

Maybe you have noticed them...the farmers in the field... tilling the ground and planting the seed that will grow into something amazing and wonderful. I love this time of the year. It has so much hope and promise to it. It reminds me of the many celebrations of worship I have led over the years in the Spring. I called them a Service of Rogation ...a blessing of the seed, soil and water during worship. It is one aspect of our life-long stewardship of the gifts that God has blessed us with. Maybe you are wondering...what in the world is a Service of Rogation? And Why are we celebrating it in Church? Here is a little history of what, and why.

We frequently think of seedtime, planting, and prayers for an abundant harvest as the main emphasis of rogation, but the word "rogation" actually takes its meaning from the Latin word "rogare" which means "To Beseech."

This comes from 5th century France: after horrible natural disasters, the Bishop required the people to make a solemn three-day observance in order to atone for their sin; the observance consisted of three main parts:

1. The people were to petition God for forgiveness of their sins.
2. The people were to petition God for protection from further calamities.
3. The people were to petition God for bountiful crops.

Over the years, rogation lost its penitential air and became festive. Present traditions include "blessing of the fields" with processions through local fields, a singing of the litany, and offering prayers for God's protection and favor. The rogation service often includes a celebration of Holy Communion.

The spiritual lessons of rogation have also developed over the years: God and humanity cooperate in the creative processes of agriculture. Tilling and care of the soil are tasks and privileges given by God. The life-giving power of the sown seed depends on God's goodness. These relationships result in a bountiful harvest.

You may not be a farmer or have anything to do with farming in your life. And yet, by God's spirit and strong presence in our lives we are planting seeds and growing in faith and life all the time. We give thanks for and bless the gifts that God has graciously showered upon us before they have grown to maturity as an act of faith for what we know.... **God will provide all that we need.** Maybe more than anything a Service of Rogation reminds us of God's presence in our lives that sustains us, and the many ways God has already blessed us with gifts before the harvest has come.

God's rich and abundant blessings grow in you and your family now as always.

Pastor Tim Ehling

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to all who have taken whatever measures you need to continue your financial support of our church. Your response has helped our church to remain financially stable while continuing to follow our mission to our church and the community.

For those that would like some help to change their method of giving to an electronic basis, please feel free to contact me for assistance, of course you may continue to mail your giving envelope by attaching postage.

Jeff Chestnut – Treasurer

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Bob Polk Scholarship

Bob Polk, a long time faithful member of First Lutheran Church who died in July 2015, has generously given money for a scholarship to support a student who is going into a medical or health related career. Applications for this scholarship are due by June 1, 2020.

In accordance with the wishes of Bob Polk and his family this \$1,200 scholarship is to be awarded to a deserving student who is a confirmed member of First Lutheran Church and who plans to enroll or is presently enrolled in an undergraduate 2 or 4 year college, university or technical school educational program in a medical or related health care program.

The application requirements include: High School or college GPA of 3.0, acceptance into a 2 or 4 year accredited college, university or technical school for preparation for a medical or health related field, completion of the application form, personal statement and release of student records form. Financial need will also be considered.

Candidates can reapply for up to 4 years during their undergraduate study. Scholarship applications can be obtained from the First Lutheran Church office. Completed applications can be returned to the First Lutheran Church office by June 1, 2020. The scholarship will be awarded by July 1, 2020. Questions, contact Patty Svien, svien65@hbc.com.

Youth Ministry Happenings

Due to the current stay at home order, Confirmation Sunday and Senior Recognition Sunday have been postponed until the fall. Dates are to be determined. In the near future, we will be working together with parents to choose a date that will be suitable for families.

Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village in June will be decided within the next week. All participating families will be notified about this decision. If camp is cancelled, families will receive a full refund of their \$150 deposit.

As of May 1, the high school summer trip to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp in Colorado is still on. Participating families should be receiving direct email communications from RTLCL. If you have not received this communication, please contact Melissa Ackermann and the info will be forwarded so we can all stay in the loop.

It has been so hard to see the lives of our students upended by this public health situation. **We know there are so many meaningful experiences they're missing out on. As the caring adults in their lives, it's important for us to love them through their disappointment and let them feel the sadness.** Pray together. Wait together. We can also work to reassure them that we can derive hope and strength from God during difficult times, reminding them that our God is faithful and good.

You are all in my prayers. Be healthy. Stay Safe. ❤️

Melissa

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

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

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

Peace Corp...Jeffrey Mund

Our Missionary in Chile...Karen Anderson

Nursing Home, Home Bound & Assisted Living...Linette Meincke, Dwight Pierson, Tom Gagnon, Roger Helgerson, Wendell Olson, Violet Stinson, Mary Hallenberger, Corrine Johnson, Marv Nelson

Couples getting Married...Natalie Schlaghaft & Anthony Armellino

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

May 1: Ronald Hooge, Richard Martin, Lindsey Morgan, Jake Suckow, Deb Tiedeman
Doug & Carolyn Kliewer

May 2: Ashton Wieck

Mark & Pris Converse, Douglas & Anne Pflaum

May 3: Thomas Nutt, Gail Schmit, William Webster

May 4: Amy Rogness

May 5: Anna Johnson

Cory & Nikki Wurst

May 6: Ava Olson

Aaron & Missy Ferguson, Sean & Tarri Gnotke, Lawrence & Patty Svien

May 7: Daniel Bignell, Debra Grimley Bremer, Kayla Langhans, Bill Otto, Whitney Rolbiecki

Dick Sitta & Mary Durst

May 8: Jimmy Anderson, Jennifer Durgin, Phil Gartner, McCabe Heise

May 9: Miranda Dudley, Cassidy Dudley, Mike Eggenberger, Katie Gilman, Mike Sprick, Jane Webster-Urbach, Nancy Wilking

Erica & Matt Hoops, Raymond & Delane Krier

May 10: Nick Albright, Sig Anderson

May 11: Dick Fowler, Nathan Fuchs, Lisa Harmon, Carol Schmidt

Nick & Candace Dudley

May 12: Karen Heise, Val Janka, Ramsey Meyer

Tom & Mary Jane Rasmussen

May 13: Debra Harteneck, Sandy Libor

Richard & Janice Shequen

May 14: Kris McCarthy, Randy Meincke, Chelsey Smith

Josh & Jacquie Stoltz

May 15: Matt Berlin, Cedric Larson, Robert Rasch

May 16: Heath Oeltjen, Thomas Proud, Sandy Swan

May 17: Rick Bremer, Trudy Roach, Jo Ann Thompson

Bruce & Liz Carlstrom, Jim & Bobbi Craig, Tanner & Megan Meincke, Dave & Becky Schultze

May 18: Jodi Belden, Zane Schmidt

Mike & Carrie Griebenow, Sheri & Jeremy Sommer, Ernie & Jo Ann Thompson, Tina & Darin Wallerich

May 19: Al Blattner, John Kirkwood, Charlotte Roe, Dale Sogla, Deann Windhorst

May 20: Brooklyn Gates, Madelyn Gates, Brooke Geary, Bruce Lichtblau, Mark Lutjen

May 21: Eunice Blattner, Cindy Boehlke, Britton Cobb, David Harms, Linnea Harvey, Luke Janke, Bill Johnson

Jim & Kathy Rodester

May 22: Margaret Beckman, Amanda Jackson, Arley Krier-Jacobson, Dick Sitta

Kit & Tim Busch, Fred & Cheryl Mohn, Paul & Staci Oliver, Troy & Kathi Soden

May 23: Brad Harmon, Lauren Meyer, Kael Nibbe, Tyler Pribyl

May 24: Chase Moechnig, John Mortenson, Alicia Prihoda

Ed & Anne Towey

May 25: Robert Keim, Holly Powers, Brenik Rolbiecki, Sara Thompson, Diane Walters-Keyport, Randy Zanto

Kenny & Judy McEwen

May 26: Beth Krehbiel, Rachel Nelson, Amy Roberson, Brent Urbach

May 27: Rebecca Gagnon, Douglas Plaum, Mary Lee Stevens

Liz & Rich Alitz, Pat & Cindy Ebert, Dwight & Shirley Pierson

May 28: Jason Banks, Austra Hultstrand, Carey Kopp, Axel Nilsson

May 29: Tyler Chestnut, Megan Harms, Constance Sylak

May 30: Andrew Bleed, Lorraine Heitmann, Jackie Lodemeier, Troy Soden

May 31: J. David Johnson, Scott Knudsen, Don Mueller, Cory Powers

Children's Ministry News



Ages 3 years old—6th grade are WELCOME.
Please contact Heidi Berge if you are interested in having your child enroll.

Classes for Sunday School

Please watch your email for a weekly lesson from me! If you are not receiving it, please let me know. I hope we can be back together soon! ~Hugs—Heidi

Wednesdays during
the school year
3:00-5:00 PM

Look for my emails!
Please let me know if
you need anything!
Blessings~ Heidi

*Kindergartners—6th
Grades are WELCOME!*



August 3-7

12:00PM—3:00PM (M-Th)

9:00AM—12:00PM (F)

\$15 per child

GOOD EARTH VILLAGE will be leading again this year!

