

Firs* Things

Living the unconditional Grace & Love of Jesus Christ



COMING IN SEPTEMBER...

September 2020

First Lutheran Church

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Watch your mailbox for exciting information about a challenge that will let you make a positive, long-lasting difference in the life and history of First Lutheran.

First Lutheran Website: www.firstlc.org



Living in God's amazing grace

Dear Disciples of Christ at First Lutheran,

With the jump start into fall activities beginning this month even tempered because of concerns with COVID-19, and hearing the experiences of parents letting go of their college students into an unknown future, I was reminded of an article my friend Kevin wrote years ago of parenting and faith statistics.

There is probably nothing more important to a parent than their children. Most parents would even jeopardize their own health and life for their children. But even though so many parents would die for their children, I wonder how many live for their children? How many parents live their life the way they want their children to live? Do you?

Some interesting statistics for you to know and think about:

1. If your parents worshiped with you regularly while you were growing up, chances are 80% that you will worship regularly, too.
2. If only your mother worshiped regularly with you, chances are only 30% that you will worship regularly.
3. But, if your Father worshiped with you regularly, chances are still 70% that you will worship regularly as an adult.

It seems obvious from these statistics that dads have a large role in the faith formation of their children. Our children want to know what is important in their parents' lives and they look at the way life is lived to prove what is important. If you stay home from worship to watch a football game, or go hunting, or work on your race car, or just sleep in there is nothing wrong or ungodly about that. But your children will see what is really important to you even if you tell them faith is.

Jake learned how to be a man from his father. He learned how to work hard. He learned how to fix cars. He learned how to hold a solid job and make money. But his dad never came to worship. Church was NOT important to his dad, and Church was NOT important to Jake either. So... when Jake was confirmed in 8th grade it was the last time I saw him in church. Jake had learned at an early age that worshiping the one you believe in was not something one needed to be focused on. There were other life activities that were more important. Is worship important to you? What is it you are teaching your children by example?

Maybe it is time that we parents sit down and take an inventory of what is truly important in our lives. Then we need to live out those values, if not for ourselves, we need to do it for our children.

God's peace and strong presence be with you and your family.

Pastor Tim

SEPTEMBER UPDATE:

Currently, we are continuing to provide online worship each week, and worship on Sunday in the church parking lot at 10:00 am (weather permitting). Our plan is to continue that pattern through September. A team has been organized, made up of staff and council members, to focus on our next steps in opening the church for indoor worship. Keep in mind it will not be like "normal" worship. Worship days and times, number of people, in fact how we worship will be very different than we are used to. Our hope is as the cold days of fall and winter come upon us, we will have a safe and meaningful option in place for you who are longing for indoor worship, and the necessary updated equipment to provide a simpler means of tapping/recording our weekly online worship.

Our Fall Faith Formation activities for youth and adults are put on hold for now. We are looking at a possible October startup date for Sunday school, KFC, and a modified confirmation program OR even waiting until after the first of the year. Our experience with COVID-19 over the next month will determine our next steps. We have learned to make too many plans too far into the future makes a mess of everything. We are being cautious and careful about the safety and protection of all our members and staff. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

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

(weather permitting)

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

Sept 1: Anna Foss, Cole Joersz

Sept 2: Kathleen Gunhus, Vivian Krier, Josh Rodewald, Paula Sullivan, Elinor Zielke

Sept 3: Ryan Gunhus

Mark Bailey & Jill Braaten, Randy & Linda Pavlak

Sept 4: Jake Atkinson, Janet Beckman, Randi Morgan, Audrey Watson

Sept 5: LuAnn Meochnig, Brady Nelson

Sept 6: Bev Bantley, Tanner Meincke, Brian Oelkers, Ava Wallerich, Charlie White

Randy & Lori Meincke

Sept 7: Allie Langhans

Bryan & Karan Smith

Sept 8: Doug Kliewer, Shirley Mickow, Jack Narum

John & Nancy Albright, Kevin & Kathy Tesch, Darrell & Carol Warneke

Sept 9: Don Foss, Sheila Kirkwood

Jim & Johanna Gates

Sept 10: Judy Bremer, Joe Morgan, Calab Tesmer

Phil & Dana Gartner

Sept 11: Kristen Kiecker, Nancy Rigelman

Rick & Val Janka

Sept 12: Margaret Rol

Josh & LuAnn Moechnig

Sept 13: Kim & Duane Boos, David & Janice Murray

Sept 14: Jan Johnson

Sept 15: Madeline Breuer, Jennifer Talbert

Bill & Sheila Johnson, Rick & Edie Sward

Sept 16: Marvin Blattner, Cole Dierickx, Heidi Hartzell, Edith Hoffman, Randi Kirchner, Deb Mickelson, Dan Steffenhagen

Sept 17: Alexis Eggenberger, Bob Krueger, JoAnn Leinen, Scott Lodermeier, Jim Menting, Fred Mohn, Evan Olson

Megan & Andrew Ahrens, Dale & JoAnn Leinen

Sept 18: Chris Ahrens, Brittney Wooding

Chris & Kari Weinrich

Sept 19: Zach Dudley, Derek Sogla, Jeremy Tesch

Jim & Christine Anderson, David & Kelly Pribyl

Sept 20: Mike Kohrs, Randy Pavlak, Heidi Schwer

Mike & Kim Bobb, Colin & Amanda Jackson, Tom & Valerie Kuchinka, Steve & Sandy Swan

Sept 21: Mark Matanich, Cheryl Mohn

Sept 22: Stephen Beckman, Ava Jolie Brunn, Janice Murray, Patty Svien, Addison Thieren, Tia Vikdal

Nathan & Michelle Larson

Sept 23: Reese Anderson, Carston Dammann, Elizabeth Diepenbrock, Jake Hartzell, Aaron Nelson, Laureen Swiggum, Skyler VanLoan

Mike & Barb Johnson, Dale & Carol Nibbe

Sept 24: Josh Matanich, Dennis Schumacher

Steve & Terri Breyfogle, Jeff & Terri Erickson

Sept 25: Jerry Benson, Rick Janka, Alex Ratz

Rand & Bonnie Conway, Shon & Molly Thieren

Sept 26: Kelly Pribyl, Marin Rodewald

Dawn & Denny Barwald, Wally & Susan Dailey, Stephanie & Mike Eggenberger, Bob & Paula Gielow, Dustin & Kimberly Meyer, Tim & Jenny Schlagenhaft

Sept 27: Lisa Alitz, Shelby Glander, Mary Kregel

Sept 28: Greg Berge, Cameron Ender, Alison Wallerich

Amy & Mark Matanich

Sept 29: Nancy Malcomson, Thoren Mangold, Virginia Plote, Tom Rasmussen, Cheryl Sprick Bremer, Galen Vetter

John & Audry Plote

Sept 30: Izaac Meyer, Brad Rigelman

Children's Ministry News



Hello families.,

Sunday School and KFC (Kids For Christ) will be holding off on starting any kind of programing until October. I would like to see how the start of school goes and check in with families to see where their comfort level is for the possibility of children coming back into the Sunday School area.

I will be sending a google form for families to fill out. Please take a few minutes to update and complete the digital form. Thank you! ~Heidi

Sunday School QR Code

