

### A NOTE FROM PASTOR JENNIFER ROSE

Dear Friends,

Borning Cry - ELW 732

"I was there to hear  
your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you  
are old.  
I rejoiced the day you  
were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you  
were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you  
well;  
In a blaze of light you  
wandered off  
to find where demons  
dwell."

"When you heard the  
wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you  
on;  
You were raised to  
praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now be-  
long.  
If you find someone to  
share your time  
and you join your hearts  
as one,  
I'll be there to make  
your verses rhyme

from dusk 'till rising sun."

In the middle ages of  
your life,  
not too old, no longer  
young,  
I'll be there to guide you  
through the night,  
complete what I've be-  
gun.  
When the evening gently  
closes in,  
and you shut your weary  
eyes,  
I'll be there as I have al-  
ways been  
with just one more sur-  
prise."

"I was there to hear  
your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you  
are old.  
I rejoiced the day you  
were baptized,  
to see your life unfold."

Famous Lutheran com-  
poser John Ylvisaker,  
composer of "Borning  
Cry" as well as a number  
of other treasured  
pieces of music in our  
hymnal, has entered hos-

pice care in these days.  
Ylvisaker has been a  
treasured asset to the  
wider church and to  
First Lutheran.

"Borning Cry" is about  
the life of the baptized -  
from the perspective of  
God. God is there when  
we are born - God is  
there all along the path  
of life - God is there as  
we die.

These words have  
touched me at different  
seasons of my life for  
different reasons. Singing  
these words at a funeral  
for a dearly beloved saint  
of the congregation, I  
think of the vast magni-  
tude of the life they have  
lived and the way God  
has nurtured that person  
for their entire life. Sing-  
ing these words at the  
baptism of my children, I  
think of the vast prom-  
ises God is making - to  
love them forever.  
WOW! What a gift.  
Sometimes yet too, as I

hear these words, I hear  
them sung by God to  
me, and am filled with  
that same sense of un-  
bounded love, this time  
coming to me straight  
from God. You may  
have similar or different  
experiences with these  
lyrics.

So, read the lyrics again.  
As you read them, hear  
God saying the words to  
you because, truly, this is  
a song God sings to each  
of us. What a gift it is to  
receive God's amazing  
love! And we thank God  
for the "just one more  
surprise" that God has in  
store for each one of us!

Living in God's love,

Pastor Jennifer

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR: KELSEE MACINTOSH-ELLIG

Kelsee Macintosh-  
Ellig is the new  
Children's Choir Direc-  
tor at First Lutheran.  
Originally from Bismarck, ND, Kelsee  
graduated from the Uni-  
versity of North Dakota  
and the University of

North Dakota School of  
Law. She and her husband,  
Joe, moved to Fergus Falls  
five years ago and have a 4  
-year-old daughter and  
two Labradors. Kelsee  
practices law in Fergus  
Falls. She officially joined  
First Lutheran four years

ago and although she's a  
"newer" member, the First  
Lutheran tradition has long  
standing in Joe's family  
since he grew up in Fergus  
Falls and his grandfather,  
Chris Preus, was a long-  
time pastor here.  
Welcome Kelsee!

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## OCTOBER WORSHIP THEMES

### October 2 "Faith for the Future"

Text: Luke 17: 5-10

Jesus said some things about the power of faith. We need to realize that faith is a gift. For some reason we seem to find that hard to believe. Faith does not come because we are smart or just plain determined. It's God's special way of giving us power for the here and now.

### October 9 "Real Gratitude"

Text: Luke 17:11-19

When only one out of ten lepers who were healed by Jesus return to express thankfulness, Jesus asks where other nine are. Do we take the good things in life for granted? How can we grow in appreciation for the world God created and in gratitude for each day?

### October 16 "Changed By God"

Text: Luke 18:1-8

In our readings today we hear about the power of persistence when we relate to God. When we pray, does God hear our prayers? How does God respond to our prayers? Today we return to God in honest, repentant prayer and ask for God to come and change our hearts.

### October 23

"Righteousness Revealed"

Text: Luke 18:9-14

Who is in and who is out? We quickly find as we read the texts today that when we try to draw those lines of "in" and "out" for God, we quickly find God on the opposite side of the line as we'd expect. Our God goes beyond human expectation - and loves us beyond our comprehension.

### October 30

#### **Stewardship Sunday**

Guest Preacher:

Nancy Eldredge Hess

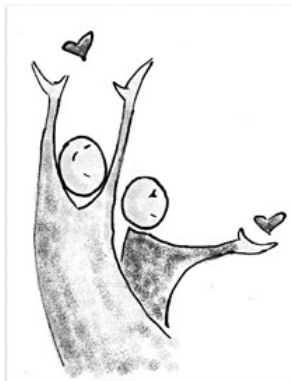
Text: Luke 10:25-37

In so much of life we are motivated by guilt. What would it be like if our giving in the church was motivated not at all by guilt – and motivated by joy? Today we learn about how God's joy overflows into each and every one of us. What happens when joy overflows?



## EXPERIENCING THE JOY OF GENEROSITY—STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY, OCT. 30, 2016

**I**n a couple of weeks, we will begin a stewardship emphasis titled Experiencing the Joy of Generosity. We believe this program will be a blessing to those who already are feeling the joy of being generous with the gifts God has given to them. Moreover, we sincerely hope and pray that



this effort will help many more experience the happiness that comes from giving faithfully and generously.

When we give to God through giving to our church and others, we encounter one of the true joys of being Christians. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). Have you ever wondered why you are left with such a joyful feeling when you are able to give a gift to your church or to help a person in need? The answer to that question may be rooted in us as Christians, who are created in

the image of God.

To be made in God's image means we are made to be givers. As a result, the act of giving helps us feel fulfilled as we reflect God's nature. Our Creator empowers us to give joyfully to our church and others.

Our pursuit for fulfillment and joy culminates in the discovery that we receive those things when, by God's grace, we respond with eagerness to God's directive to give. Like David, we exclaim, "But who are we...that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of

your own have we give you" (1 Chronicles 29:14).

**We will have a Stewardship Brunch between services on Consecration Sunday, October 30th. Brunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-11 AM. Please watch for a mailing with an invitation to attend this brunch.** We hope and pray that the emphasis of Experiencing the Joy of Generosity will be a blessing to you and your family.

Serving Joyfully,  
Logan Sonmor

CINDY LARSON

OCTOBER  
EVENTS

- Oct 2- 6th Grade Blessing in worship
- Oct. 9-2nd Gr. Milestone Class w/ parents
- Oct. 9— "Butterflies" 0-4yr olds
- Oct. 16- 2nd Gr. Milestone Blessing in worship
- Oct. 16-3rd Gr. Milestone Class w/ parents
- Oct. 16-Sunday School sings at both worship services
- Oct. 23- No Sunday School
- Oct. 30- 3rd gr. Milestone Blessing in worship
- Oct. 30- Stewardship Sunday Brunch for congregation. Please pre-register

**NO Sunday  
School on  
October 23**

# Sunday School News

OCTOBER 2016

**"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."**

**Phil 4:13**

We are in our second year with a new curriculum. The Sunday School uses a curriculum that coincides with the SPARK Bibles. Our students receive storybook Spark Bibles as Milestone gifts when they begin Sunday School at 3 years old. Again, when they become readers at 2nd grade, they are given a new edition of a Spark Bible. We are rotating our students through five workshops

that encourage students to explore a Bible story in depth. The workshop options for Grades Kindergarten-6th grade include Art, Bible skills and games, Cooking, Science and Video. This active hands-on model has been a fun and exciting change. The Preschoolers experience an in-room rotation with Storytelling, Art, Snack, Music and Games. They still attend "Butterflies" once a month with their

parents. Please note that the "Butterflies" now include Preschool 2! Parents, please come! Enjoy the fun and fellowship with other families!



**Thanks to all our  
Super hero teachers!  
With God's help we  
will have a terrific  
year!**

## October 30, Stewardship Sunday

### Sunday School will carry on!

Despite the activity in Fellowship Hall, we will still have Sunday School going on as usual! Families are invited to register for a brunch that day. The Stewardship Committee will be asking for an RSVP to

plan for enough food for everyone. Feel free to bring your children to the brunch and then bring your children to their Sunday school workshop after that. The students know how to find their class by looking at the hallway chart.







## FALL SCHEDULE:

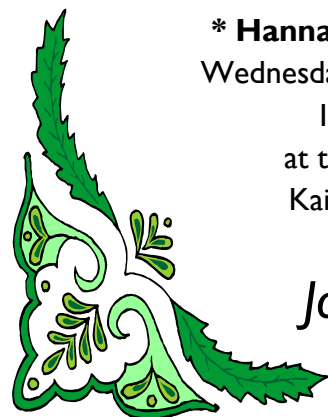
**\*WELCA Board**  
Does not meet in October

**\*Love Days Quilters**  
Every Monday  
9:00 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.  
Come for fellowship!

**\*Sarah's Circle** meets  
Wednesday, October 26th  
9:30 a.m.  
Pioneer Point

**\* Hannah Circle** meets  
Wednesday, October 26th  
1:00 p.m.  
at the Church  
Kairos Room

*Join us!*



## THANK YOU

Thank you to all who donated lovely purses filled with personal items. They were given as a physical offering at the Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Convention held in September.

Hundreds of purses filled the chancel of Calvary Lutheran Church in Perham, MN. They will be distributed to Someplace Safe offices in our area.

What a personal, thoughtful gift for women in need!

We sincerely appreciate your generosity!

WELCA

Check out the Kairos Room—is has a "new look". It has been painted by Lorri Holt and the WELCA Board has purchased and paid for new chairs! **Thank you Lorri & WELCA!!**

*Thank you*



**FALL 2016 Gathering:**  
**Conference 7 Women of the ELCA**  
Presents "My Journey Home"  
Guest Speaker: Valerie Sohl  
Breckenridge Lutheran Church  
301 6th St. N.  
Breckenridge, MN  
**Saturday, October 15th, 2016**  
Registration & Coffee: 9:00 a.m.  
Meeting & Program: 9:30 a.m.  
Noon meal and fellowship following

## CHRISTMAS GIVING TREES

The Christmas Giving Trees are coming! This is a wonderful, annual outreach program for First Lutheran. Each year, local organizations provide us with a list of "Christmas Wishes" ranging from personal items for their members or clients to items for the

organization as a whole. The items are collected at First Lutheran and then distributed to the groups the week before Christmas.

Someplace Safe and A Place to Belong are the selected organizations in 2016. Please contact Rick West at 218-

205-6963 or rick.west52@hotmail.com if you are interested in being a volunteer for this big project or becoming a member of the Outreach Committee. This is a great opportunity to serve others during the Christmas season.

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."*



Romans 15:13

## GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY—OCT. 9, 2016



Do you like to give your time to help others? We will be participating in **God's Work, Our Hands Sunday on October 9th** and working collaboratively with the other 4 ELCA con-

gregations in Fergus Falls to make a difference in our community! Opportunities will be available for all ages and ability levels! Look for more information at church about this great opportunity for the whole family!

*"Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands—  
O prosper the work of our hands!"*

PSALM 90:17

### OWLS (Older Wiser Lutheran's) UPCOMING EVENT:

Wednesday, October 19 "Camelot" @ Chanhassen Dinner

Theater: Coach bus loads at 8:45 a.m. from the lower parking lot at First Lutheran Church and will leave by 9:00 a.m. Cost per person is \$60—that includes dinner, show, tax and gratuity. Coach paid for by OWLs account. Plan to return to Fergus Falls around 7 p.m. No stops on trip home. Sign up and pay by check (payable to First Lutheran OWLS) before October 10th. Friends welcome! Call Margaret Kratzke with any questions @218-736-3697.

### It's not too late



to join the Adult Choir! We rehearse Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and sing in worship about once a month. Come be a blessing to the Lord by praising Him in song!

Dear friends at First Lutheran Church,

Thank you all for the wonderful celebration party you threw for myself, Mary Kay, and Kenny on September 18th. It was a wonderful meal and we so appreciated all the kind words, the video, and the very generous gift from the congregation, and, of course, the beautiful quilt from the quilting group.

Also, over the past several weeks we have received many cards, personal words of appreciation and gifts from so many of you. Thank you and may God continue to bless all of you and the ministry of First Lutheran Church.

Love In Christ,

Saul, Mary Kay, and Ken Stensvaag



### COFFEE & CHOCOLATE



WOW (women of the word) invites you to a delicious event

on Sunday, **October 16 at 2:00 pm.**

Our speakers will be Jenny Stumbo of Stumbeano's coffee and Kristin Mohagen of Terroir Chocolates.

These local entrepreneurs will share their stories of "two of our favorite things"!!

Mark your calendars and join us for an afternoon of delightful decadence!





## **WELCA FALL CAMPAIGN**

### **“Coins, Cash & Checks Change Lives”**

Each Fall, the Women of First Lutheran Church reach out to each of you asking for financial support of Missions that are important to all of us. Therefore the product of this *Campaign* is Coins, Cash and Checks. The product of a generous culture is Changed Lives Locally and Around the World.

**We helped financially to Change Lives in these areas in 2015:**  
**KBRF Morning Watch, Jail Ministry, Lutheran Campus Ministry, A Place to Belong, Lutheran Social Services, Someplace Safe, Luther Crest, PioneerCare Foundation, WELCA Scholarships, OBA Scholarships, OBA Shule Funds, OBA Mama Naomi Clinic, Haiti Medical Mission, Haiti School Children(Soaring Unlimited) and Haiti Mission Fund(wells).**

You are asked to place your coins, cash or checks in an envelope marked WELCA Fall Campaign and either put it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office before the end of October. We are all called to Grow in Faith, to Support one another and to be Engaged in Ministry and Action.

**Thank You** for you generous Support of this Campaign. Because of your Actions, we will be able to help Change Lives again this year.



ARTICLE FROM LIVING LUTHERAN MAGAZINE, REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE OCTOBER 2015 ISSUE.

## 5 THINGS THAT HAPPEN WHEN YOU GET A NEW PASTOR

By: Tim Brown

Pastors and congregations live in transition. Congregants come and congregants go. Pastors arrive and pastors leave. In some context this is more common than in others, and it's worth noting that there is a vocational push these days to encourage pastors to stay with a parish for awhile. (For more on this topic, check out the "Slow Church" movement at [www.patheos.com/blogs/slowchurch](http://www.patheos.com/blogs/slowchurch).)

But even if a pastor stays for many years at a particular parish, it's more likely than not that at some point parishioners and clergy will experience the anxiety, pregnant joy and hand-wringing expectation that comes with calling a new minister.

So let's imagine that your parish has just said goodbye to a pastor, even one who is dearly beloved, and has now welcomed someone new. She's in, she's had her first Sunday, and now you're wondering, "What's next?"

Based on my experience, here are five things that happen when a new pastor arrives.

### 1. New people show up.

They will. The new pastor will speak to new people who don't know or remember the last minister, and they will make this new pastor their own. She is their pastor. When you talk about "Pastor

So-and-So's way of doing things," they won't know the reference. They will desire, and start, new traditions. They'll spark some change, even as they hope for and create friendships with longtime members who loved the way things used to be.

When a new pastor comes, so do new people. This transition will require the congregation to love Christ enough to welcome the stranger and risk taking a chance on new ideas from new people.

### 2. Some people will leave.

We don't like to talk about this, and we don't like to think about this, but it's true. Perhaps they're leaving because the previous pastor's departure gives them the freedom to also move on after being heavily involved. Perhaps they've been on the margins of the community anyway, and this allows them to step away quietly. Perhaps they're longtime members who just can't get on board with the new pastor and his way of doing things.

No community stays stagnant forever. There will be a temptation by the new pastor and the congregation to want to keep these people by hook or crook, but sometimes this just needs to happen for one reason or another. This particular transition will require trust, honesty and the ability for the congregation to love people enough to let them go if they

have to leave.

### 3. Worship will change.

Your previous pastor had that folksy charm. This new minister has a love of icons, pulpit preaching and wants to talk about moving that Saturday night service to Thursday night. Whatever the change may be, worship will be different. Sometimes this is welcome news, and sometimes this will cause deep anxiety.

The old adage that a pastor should never change anything in the first year is not wisdom. While no pastor should tailor services solely to his or her preference, worship will evolve somehow to reflect the strengths of the presider.

The community will have to be honest with one another and the new pastor while not being obstinate or obstructionist. After all, worship is more about God than the individual in the pew or the body in the pulpit.

### 4. New life will spring forth

It will. Probably in unexpected places. The new pastor will be his or her own hopes, ideas and energy to new and existing programs and projects. New life will certainly spring up. The congregation must be adaptable, embracing these new sprigs of life and harnessing this energy to spur on ministry in other areas.

### 5. You will love each other, by God.

This last one is the most important, of course. When given the time and space to be free and honest with one an-

other, and when they are intent upon living together in community, the congregation and pastor will, by God, love one another. Since that is the second greatest commandment, it should be a priority.

If gossip, hard hearts, unrelenting egos and ambition get in the way, this fruit of the new relationship will surely wither or the vine. But when we give each other the authority and space to welcome new people, let people go, embrace godly change and encourage new life, love will grow and flourish and infect the church like a mustard weed, allowing the gospel to take root.

The call of the church is not just the pastor's, and the church is not primarily the parishioners'/ It is God's call; it is God's church. We just enjoy the responsibility and joy of stewarding both. This, then, becomes the role of the pastor and the congregation when a new call is taken: stewardship. Both must look to steward well—not by force or by ego, not by demanding uniformity or being unwilling to change, but by seeking out the God who draws people together so they might go out in mission for the life of the world.



# October FLY News



## Fly K4 & Fly 57

### Schedule

(4:30 pm-5:15 pm)

**October 5** Fly 57

**October 12** Fly K4

**October 19** NO FLY  
(MEA Weekend)

**October 26**

**Halloween Party**  
for grades K-7!  
Wear a costume  
and get ready for  
a good time!

## Senior Fly Schedule

(Grades 8-12—  
8:00-9:00 PM.)

**October 5** SR Fly

**October 14** SR Fly

**October 19** No Fly  
(High School  
Football Game)

**October 28**

6:30 PM-7:30 PM

### Costume

**Challenge:** Come  
in costume as a  
Bible Character  
(don't tell anyone  
who you are!) We  
will enjoy eating  
Pizza together.  
Bring \$5 for  
pizza.

## Halloween & Donuts

Do you know where Halloween came from? Did you know that it has some roots in early Christianity? Halloween is shortened from "All-hallows-evening," the eve of All Hallows Day, which is now known as All Saints Day, which is November 1st each year. Kids celebrate Halloween each year with costumes, parties, and tricks. But what are they celebrating?

Halloween has its origins in the ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain.

Traditionally, the festival was a time used by the ancient pagans to take stock of supplies and slaughter livestock for winter stores. The ancient Gaels believed that on October 31, now known as Halloween, the boundary between the alive and the deceased dissolved, and the dead become dangerous for the living by causing problems such as sickness or damaged crops. The festivals would frequently involve bonfires, into which bones of slaughtered livestock were thrown.

Costumes and masks were also worn at the festivals in an attempt to mimic the evil spirits or placate them.

Yikes, right?! These aren't traditions that are well taught today, but it is interesting, isn't it? So where did the tradition of

Trick-or-treating come from? From the English Catholics we get begging from door to door, the earlier form of "trick-or-treating." Children would go around, begging their neighbors for a "Soul Cake," and when they received this cake, they would say a prayer for those neighbors' dead. Instead of knocking on a door and saying the threatening, "Trick-or-treat," children would say: "A Soul Cake, a Soul Cake, have mercy on all Christian souls for a soul cake!" While Soul Cakes were originally a type of shortbread, it is said that a clever medieval cook wanted to make Soul Cakes designed to remind people of eternity, so she cut a hole in the middle of round cakes before frying them, (round = eternity) thereby creating donuts!

In our church today, we don't pray for those who have gone before us. We know where they are—our Christian faith gives us confidence that those who have departed are with God and in peace today. But these ancient traditions are a part of our Halloween celebrations. And hey—what better excuse do you need to have a donut?

See you in church,

*Pastor J. J. J.*