First Lutheran Church JULY 2021

In-Person Worship Sunday at 9:30 am Listen on the radio 1020 am or FM 97.7 www.channel 977.com; PEG Access Channel 8 Livestream on YouTube, link found on website 402 South Court Street Fergus Falls, MN 56537 Phone: 218-739-3348 www.firstlutheranchurchff.org office@flcff.org

Mission Statement: "As faithful disciples, we serve God and welcome all people with open hearts".

Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.



Romans 5: 20-21 (The Message translation)

We stand forgiven and joyful in God's grace. And that's not all: We throw open our doors to God and discover at the same moment that he has already thrown open his door to us. We find ourselves standing where we always hoped we might stand - out in the wide open spaces of God's grace and glory, standing tall and shouting our praise. Romans 5:2

The essential nature of God's grace is that it rules over sin and death in our world. While Adam's sin brought sin and death, Jesus Christ has brought life through his grace for all who are willing to receive it. Our old sinful life represents the rule of death through Adam. Our life in faith through Jesus Christ represents the rule of God's grace, kindness and love. As we turn our will and our lives over to the care of God, we can begin to receive the wonderful joy and forgiveness that He offers.

As we delight in the beauty and warmth of the summer season may we be humble and mindful of our direct line of access to God's abounding grace. One way to connect with God is to attend worship. If you have been out of the 'habit' of attending worship in person; we boldly welcome you to come again to see and to experience first hand God's redeeming grace and mercy. We celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion each week as a means of grace. Please come and join us!

Pastor Gretchen

Continuing in July and into August, Sunday worship will be at First Lutheran at 9:30 am.
Radio and YouTube coverage will continue.

Every Wednesday evening, we are invited to join Augustana for a simple meal at 5:00 pm, followed by 5:30 pm casual worship.

Vicar Lynn will lead a sermon series called *Living our Faith in 2021*.

Radio, YouTube and PEG Access available on Sundays

In-person worship is happening at First Lutheran at 9:30 am on Sundays. Services will continue to be live-streamed on YouTube and on-air on KJJK AM 1020 or Channel 977 FM97.7 at 9:30 am on Sundays. To access YouTube go to the First Lutheran website: www.firstlutheranchurchff.org. You can livestream or watch later. Our worship services are being aired on PEG Access Channel 8. The schedule does change, so be sure to check the website at http://pegaccess.com/channel8programming.html for current times.

First Lutheran Children's SUMMER Activities



FLY K-6 Lemonade Stand

Hot summer days, are perfect for lemonade!
First Lutheran Youth grades Kindergarten through
6th are invited to join Kristy on Wednesday,
July 21st from 4:00-5:30 p.m for a Lemonade
Stand. The Lemonade stand will be on
Court Street from 4:15-5:30.

All proceeds will go toward Service Food cards for people in need.

Wednesday, July 21st 4:00-5:30 P.M. Upper Parking Lot



Worship Buddies

On the church pew outside of the sanctuary, there are some stuffed animals. These animals are for your little ones to take with to worship. Sometimes, it is fun to bring a friend. I encourage you and your little



ones to pick up a worship buddy on Sundays and share your worship experience with these fun buddies.

TUESDAYS AT THE PARK

Tuesdays in the summer between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m., come on out with your child (ren) to NP park and join in the Fergus Falls Public Library's Summer Story walk and meet up with friends (both adults and children) from First Lutheran Church. Kristy will be there most Tuesdays with her littles. Feel free to invite your friends. Let's reconnect, meet some new faces, and let the children play!

Tuesdays 9:00-10:00 a.m. NP Park

STAY CONNECTED

Kristy Wicklund Director of Children's Ministry Kristy@flcff.org (218) 531-9544

Remind App:

Sunday School-text @flcss18 to 81010 First Lutheran Youth Kindergarten—6th grade (FLYK-6)- text @flyk6 to 81010



Who: Kids who finished 6-12 grades from First Lutheran, Hope, Zion, Augustana and Bethlehem

What & Where: A day at Valley Fair, Shakopee, MN When: Tuesday, August 11, 2021

Why?: for FUN!!!

- Bus will load in the First Lutheran Lower Level Parking Lot at 7:30 a.m. on August 11th.
- We will return around 10:30 p.m.
- \$45.00/per person, food and drinks at the park at own expense (can pack a lunch if you want). Stopping at McDonalds on the way home, supper is paid for by church.
- Bring sunscreen and swimwear/towel for waterpark.
- Sign-up required <u>before August 4</u> at your home church. Health forms and payment due August 4.



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Stay in Touch!



To contact Calie

Calie@flcff.org

Remind app text @fly79 or @fly10-12

to 81010; text or call 218 321-0970



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First Lutheran Photos!









FERGUS FALLS SUMMERFEST INDO 491

Kickoff for 150th Anniversary Celebration in 2022!



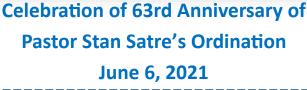














White Very Heartfelt Thanks!



Thank you for the flowers, music, coffee, cupcakes and the general warm welcome back to church life.

Special thanks to Pastor Gretchen for originating and expediting the June 6th celebration of the 63rd anniversary of my ordination.

Pastor Stan & Beverly

To: Luther Crest Partners & Supporters

On-Line Auction August 18—August 20

Thank you for making our ministry possible every year. Join us for the 2nd Annual Online Auction on Wednesday, August 18 through Friday, August 20, 2021 at www.luthercrest.org. Supporting the Online Auction gives Luther Crest an incredible boost to our future efforts. Contact Jody at 320-846-2431 or email or jodyj@luthercrest.org with any questions about this event. Thanks for your support of this event!

Golf Scramble August 9

You are invited to support the 20th Annual Luther Crest Golf Scramble on August 9, 2021. This is a 1 day event, and in honor of the 20th anniversary of the event, we have set a goal of raising \$20,000.00 this year. Your participation and generosity make an impact on our programs, staff and facilities. To help Luther Crest as a sponsor, to donate a prize or to register a golf team go to luthercrest.org and fill out the registration form before July 16th.





First Lutheran Women Ladies Night @ Fergus Brewing 1683 Ottertail Drive, Fergus Falls



Thursday, July 8 6 to 9 pm

We hope you'll join us to reconnect and visit as we begin to gather again as members of First Lutheran Church.

For more info, contact Kristy @ 218 531-9544.





Every Wednesday at 5:00 pm meet at Augustana Lutheran for a light meal, followed by 5:30 pm casual worship. Vicar Lynn's sermon series will be Living our Faith in 2021.

- July 7 God Gives Us A Lifetime Warranty
- July 14 God Like Rough Edges
- July 21 God Factored in Our Foolishness*
- July 28 Stop Thief—Take my Checkbook

*Communion will be available on July 21.

Hope to see you there!

MANNA & MERCY



New Senior Bible Study,

Manna & Mercy,

begins Thursday, July 1.

No fee, no need to sign-up ahead of time.

Meet in the Kairos Room every Thursday, beginning July 1 at 10:30 am.

We hope you'll join us!

Vicar's Thoughts.....

Apostle Paul writes, "For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine." Romans 1:11-12

Happy July!

June was just plain weird. August-like weather of 90's for days on end. June is typically our wettest month — and we have had little rain. I am starting my second year of internship and I'm just now starting to meet many of you. And we are now navigating a new phase of the pandemic. (I cannot tell you how often I've thought, "where is my mask" as I walk into a store....)



Last month, I introduced Mission Jamaica, a short-term "vacation with a purpose" mission experience. Mission Jamaica works with a program similar to Habitat for Humanity at various sites throughout Jamaica, assists at an orphanage for disabled Jamaican children, provides basic medical clinics and other projects as needed.

Mission Jamaica provides a way for us to love and serve our neighbor as Jesus taught us through His love and service to others. The trip combines a service project with time for reflection and spiritual rest. It allows a person to experience an international mission field that is close to home yet far enough away to immerse into another culture for a week.



I will be holding an informational meeting during fellowship (10:30 am) on Sunday, July 18th for anyone who is interested, curious or has questions.



One other thing, you are truly invited to my wedding on August 28th. We will be married at God's Acres, a 35 acre park (36051 Co Hwy 74, Battle Lake). While we are providing a meal, we are also hosting the event as a potluck. So let's fill the park - We would like this to be a community celebration! Come and enjoy God's creations – nature and love. Casual dress. Rob and I welcome you into our lives just as you made us feel welcome in your lives at First Lutheran.

Questions? You can call/text me at 218-321-0967 or email me at Lynn@flcff.org. Excited to serve Christ alongside you,

Vícar Lynn



You are invited to join us on a "Vacation with a Purpose"

February 5-12, 2022 as we travel to Montego Bay, Jamaica to participate in Mission Jamaica's opportunities at West Haven Children's Home, or J'Abode in building a home. We will have an information meeting on Sunday, July 18th at 10:30 (during fellowship).

We don't know the final cost of the trip, but it is estimated to be around \$2,200. A \$150 per person deposit registers you for the trip. If for some reason the trip is postponed due to COVID, refunds will be given.

Brochures are located outside the office.

Please attend if you are curious/ interested/ thinking about attending the Mission trip to Jamaica!

Passports are required and this year it appears that Jamaica will require Covid vaccinations.

Any questions contact Vicar Lynn at 218-321-0967 or Lynn@flcff.org.



Few would be surprised that Number 1 on our "Hymn Hit List" is Amazing Grace, written by John Newton in 1779. Newton, by his own admission, was a wretch. He was a slave trader, a rebel and immoral man, a torturer and as far from grace as anyone could be. At age 11, Newton was captured by the adventure of the high seas. His dream became a nightmare. He lived a hard life, but God got his attention. In 1748, his ship was nearly wrecked in an intense storm. In the middle of the storm, he fell to his knees and pled for mercy and grace. God's grace saved John Newton and he wrote the hymn years later

while serving as a pastor in Olney, England. During America's Second Great Awakening in the early 19th century, this hymn was used at revival services and camp meetings. It's lyrics still inspire and instruct us about the reality of God's amazing grace. Find the hymn on page 779 of our Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.





No Board meeting in July.

Hannah Circle will begin again in September.

More info to come.

Special Thank You to all who attended our WELCA Gathering on June 16! We had a good conversation and real joy in being together again to share ideas for our Fall Gatherings.

The Love Day Quilters meet each Monday
from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
in the Quilting Room.
If you would like more information, contact Katie at
218 826-6791. We hope you will come and see what we
do, then think about joining us!
ALL ARE WELCOME!





Meals by Wheels July 12—16

Please contact Jennifer by text or phone call (701-238-0276) or via email (77jennifer@msn.com) to let me know of your willingness to help/preferred routes/dates of availability.

Thank You!



Executive Committee

George Mathison, President Leslie Flugstad, Secretary David & Lorri Holt, Co-VP Suzanne Demuth, Treasurer

Council Members

Jennifer Frank, Outreach Michael Wicklund, Discipleship Leslie Flugstad, Finance Harriet Wicklund, Worship Alison Koch, Youth JoAn Whitlock, Fellowship Tara Wagner, Education Tedd Steenbock, Property Kris Werner, Membership