



First Lutheran Church



2022

In-Person Worship Sunday at 9:30 am
Listen on the radio 1020 am or FM 97.7
www.channel977.com; PEG Access Channel 8
Livestream on YouTube, link found on website

402 South Court Street
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Phone: 218-739-3348 office@flcfff.org
www.firstlutheranchurchfff.org

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

But Jesus looked at them and said, "...for God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26b

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I cannot stop thinking about our students as we celebrate the end of a school year, attend graduation celebrations, empty out backpacks and put leftover school supplies away. Art projects, school pictures, clay sculptures, track and field ribbons, a year full of memories come spilling out at this time of year. This was suddenly interrupted at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas last week.

How do we respond in faith? A member of First Lutheran Church asked if we could have a prayer vigil. She shared it with a few others. Plans are now set 7 hours later! People are being invited to take up candles, prayers, and voices to let our children know we DO care about their safety and wellbeing. PLEASE come and bring others as we pray and participate in the healing of deep wounds.

Prayer Vigil for Uvalde, Texas

First Lutheran Church's Lower Parking Lot

(in case of inclement weather, the vigil will move inside)

Wednesday, June 1 at 6:00 p.m.

Bring a blanket or chair

ALL are Welcome

This summer sounds like a time for prayerful reflection and response in Fergus Falls and beyond. Let's consider kindness is contagious in every big and small way. We can help make it a reality that every child of every age knows they are Beloved and made in God's image so none will be left to even consider lonely, desperate, evil acts of violence. That is a possibility here in Fergus Falls. What's your idea today?

Here are some ideas people had in Texas immediately following the shooting.

- My name is Lacey, and I'm a mass shooting survivor. I'm also a network coordinator for the Disaster Distress Helpline. Our organization recently spearheaded a new online peer

continued next page

Worship with us in June!

Sunday worship with Holy Communion at First Lutheran at 9:30 am

Services are also 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.firstlutheranchurchfff.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.

See page 11 of this Messenger for Joint Fergus Falls ELCA mid-week Summer Worship Schedule!!

support community on Facebook—Survivors of Mass Violence (including any first responders, families, or friends). Additionally, there are over 30 well-trained peer supporters. We are here for you.

- If any family needs a place to stay close to San Antonio because your loved one was involved and transported this way, please reach out! Our guest room is yours. 💜
- I am a pastor who works with Pastors and Prayer Leader's from around the nation, and if you would like, I can assemble some pastors in Texas to come and minister to the families and loved ones.
- I am a trauma focused therapist who works specifically with children, adolescents, and adults who have been victim's of crime. I would like to offer counseling services for parents, family members, or surviving children who have been affected.

I don't have answers, but I believe in God's infinite power lived out through the Body of Christ. I believe that together, we can and will change the world for the better with Good News, Hope, Unconditional Love first shown to us through our Savior. Summer is a time we can deliberately talk about this and other things that hit home.

How about after worship once a month we have "coffee talk." The topic would be a current event and ways we can respond in faith. Let's try it **June 5th at 10:50 a.m.** after everyone gets their coffee and donut. **Meet** in the courtyard/patio area weather permitting/Kairos room as a back up. **First topic** is How to Respond in Faith to School Shootings? Reflecting and Responding after the School Shooting at Robb Elementary School and the Community of Uvalde, TX.

Meanwhile, we lift up our prayers, candles and voices on behalf of ones so innocent.

Looking for the impossible made real together in Christ,
Pastor Tiffany

PRAYER VIGIL FOR UVALDE, TEXAS

Wednesday, 06/01/22 6PM
First Lutheran Church- Fergus Falls, MN
Lower Parking Lot



All are Welcome
Feel free to bring blankets or chairs



First Lutheran Children's & Youth

SUMMER Activities

AUGUSTANA, FIRST, HOPE & ZION
LUTHERAN CHURCHES INVITE YOU TO
ATTEND

BUTTERFLIES

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"WILD_4_GOD"

MON-THURS | 25-28 | JULY

9:00-10:30 A.M.

AGES BIRTH-5 YEARS OLD AND
FAVORITE ADULT
(OLDER SIBLINGS ARE WELCOMED TO
ATTEND)

Hope Lutheran Church
1309 Stony Brook Rd
Fergus Falls, MN

RSVP TO KRISTY WICKLUND: 218-531-9544
OR ON THE PARTICIPATING CHURCHES'
WEBSITES

AUGUSTANA, FIRST, HOPE, & ZION LUTHERAN
CHURCHES INVITE YOU TO ATTEND:

Day Camp 2022 WITH LCBC!



JULY
25-28

8:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Ages 4 years-6th grade



Bible Study,
Fun Worship, Games,
Arts and Crafts, Community,
+ so much more!

Registration forms are available at the
participating churches and on their websites.
Please turn in registration forms to Augustana,
First, Hope, or Zion Lutheran Churches by
Sunday, July 3rd.

AT
**HOPE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

1309 Stony Brook Rd
Fergus Falls, MN

MORE Summer Activities on next page!

More First
Lutheran
Children's
& Youth

SUMMER
Activities

LET'S PLAY AT THE PARK

The first and third Mondays of the months in summer from 10:00-11:00, come out to the park with your littles to meet up with friends from First Lutheran Church. Kristy will be there with her littles. Feel free to invite your friends. Let's enjoy the summer and visit some of our local parks and let the children play!

Park Schedule

June 6— Athletic Park
June 20— Broadway Park
July 4th— No Park today
July 18— Grotto Park
August 8— Delagoon Park
August 22— Dr. Al Magnuson
Park (formerly NP Park)



NERF WAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

5:00 - 7:00P.M.

FELLOWSHIP HALL &

WORSHIP @ BETHELHEM

**Bring your own Nerf gun, or borrow one and
come for the fun.**

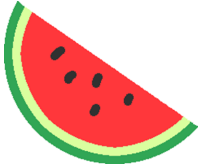


Join us at 6:15 at
Bethlehem for
Musical Notes and
Root Beer Floats



FLY K-6 Bowling on May 25 @ Northern Aire





Picnic
and
PLAY



Celebrating the last day of 2022 Sunday School on May 22!



GAMES!



More Picnic FUN!



FLY 7-12 Breakfast & Devos B-4 School



Welcome
New Members





Congratulations Class of 2022!

Owen Babolian Emilie Koch Desirae Maack
 Joseph Mau Madison Muchow Matthew Pajari
 Madison Puttbrese Rachel Sundeen Cole Wentworth
 Quinn Werner Morgan West



Graduates celebrated Sunday, May 22 at worship and after with cake!



**Thank You to
 the First
 Lutheran
 women who
 made the
 fleece
 blankets for
 our seniors!**



First Lutheran Church
2022 Senior



Cole Anthony Wentworth

Parents: Kristi Wentworth & Larry Goos
Activities: Football, Hockey, Baseball, Fishing League, and National Honor Society
Future Plans: Montana State University in Bozeman

First Lutheran Church
2022 Senior



Madison Lea Puttbrese

Parents: Christine Cooper
Activities: Technology Internship, Book Bunch
Future Plans: North Dakota State College of Science for Cyber Security

First Lutheran Church
2022 Senior



Matthew Pajari

Parents: Jason & Randi Resler
Activities: Swimming, Tennis, Boy Scouts,
Future Plans: North Dakota College of Science



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First Lutheran Church
2022 Senior



Quinn Thomas Werner

Parents: Kurk & Wendy Werner
Activities: Football, Hockey, Fishing Club, Hunting
Future Plans: North Dakota College of Science for Welding

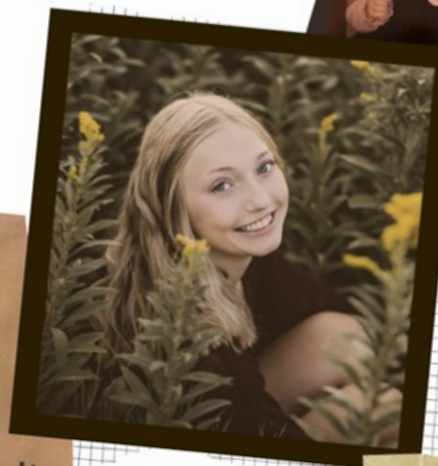
First Lutheran Church
2022 Senior



Owen Eric Babolian

Parents: Eric & Melissa Babolian
Activities: Football, Hockey, Track & Field,
Fishing Team
Future Plans: Concordia College in Moorhead

First Lutheran Church
2022 Senior



Madison Elizabeth Muchow

Parents: Sarah & Cory Donnay, Tedd Muchow
Activities: Gymnastics, National Honor Society,
Girl Scouts, Chamber Choir
Future Plans: North Dakota State University in
Fargo

First Lutheran Church
2022 Senior



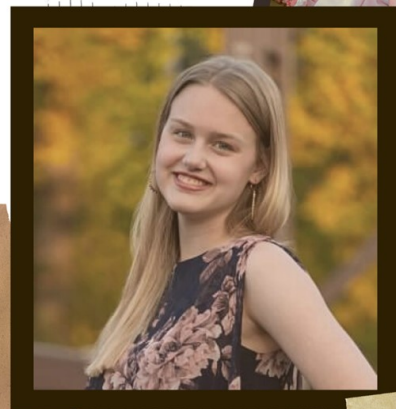
Morgan Jean West

Parents: Connor & Dani West
Activities: Tennis, Track, Guitar
Future Plans: North Dakota State University in
Fargo



Not pictured:
Emilie Koch
Desirae Maack
Joseph Mau

First Lutheran Church
2022 Senior



Rachel Iva Sundeen

Parents: Bruce & Tiffany Sundeen
Activities: Flute, Church Activities
Future Plans: North Dakota State University in
Fargo



No WELCA Board meetings until September.

Hannah Circle will meet on Wednesday, June 22 at 1 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Hannah Circle will not meet in July or August.

---All are welcome!---

Greetings from Luther Crest!

Women's Week begins June 26th. Theme for 2022 "Boundless God, Beyond Measure"

We will share the good news of God's love and mercy. If you are interested in attending Camp for just one day during Women's Week, a sign-up sheet with the date and more details will be available at the Information Counter in the Narthex.

Our Spring Gathering for Conference 7, NW MN Synod, hosted by First Lutheran Church WELCA on April 30th was a great success! We wish to thank all who planned, decorated, served, participated, and attended. Being together again after 2 years of COVID restrictions was a gift and we are grateful to begin again with our Spring and Fall Conferences at various churches in our NW MN Synod.

The Love Day Quilters gather each Monday from 9 am to 3 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!



First Lutheran won't have a team for the Relay for Life this year since the event will only take place in Perham. Instead, the First Lutheran team will sponsor coffee hour and a bake sale after worship on **June 19 and June 26**, with proceeds donated to the Lake Region Healthcare Cancer Center in memory of Karen Lundstrom. Please support this great cause!

The OWLS are back!

The OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans) will meet on June 8th at 12 noon. A lunch will be provided followed by a presentation by Ginny Paulson from the Riverside Lions Club on soft plastic recycling, including bread wrappers, cereal bags, bubble wrap & sandwich bags, to name a few. Following, we will discuss what you would like to do or go to as an OWLS group.

See you June 8th!



Musical Notes AND **ROOT BEER Floats!**



Sharing Songs of Faith

Joint Fergus Falls ELCA

**2022 MID-WEEK
SUMMER WORSHIP**

Wednesdays at 6:15pm

June 8 – August 31

**Root beer floats and Fellowship
following worship**

June 8 – Hope Lutheran Church

June 15 – Zion Lutheran Church

June 22 – Bethlehem Lutheran Church

June 29 – Augustana Lutheran Church

July 6 – Augustana Lutheran Church

July 13 – First Lutheran Church

July 20 – First Lutheran Church

July 27 – Hope Lutheran Church

Aug. 3 – Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Aug. 10 – Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Aug. 17 – Zion Lutheran Church

Aug. 24 – Hope Lutheran Church

Aug. 31 – Augustana Lutheran Church

WEDNESDAY in the WORD



Wednesday in the Word starting June 8th!!

Each Wednesday, at 1:00 pm, we'll meet in the Narthex to look over the texts for the upcoming Sunday.

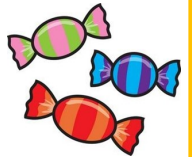
NO experience necessary!

Questions? Just ask Pastor Tiffany or Katie in the office.



Join us for the SUMMERFEST parade on Saturday, June 11th. Meet at First Lutheran at 4:00 pm for decorating, food, and to get shirts and candy for the parade. We will begin to gear up for the celebration of our 150th Anniversary! We will line up for the parade at 5:00 pm on Cavour Avenue. Please sign up for the parade at the Welcome counter or on our website, we will need to know your shirt size. Open to ALL ages!

If you would like to donate candy for the parade, please drop it off in the Narthex by June 10. Thank YOU!



Having some
FUN at
Bingo
Night
on May 16!

FRIENDS
& LAUGHTER

GAME NIGHT

BUNCO

A SIMPLE DICE
GAME



JUNE 28

7:00-8:30 PM

FIRST
LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP HALL



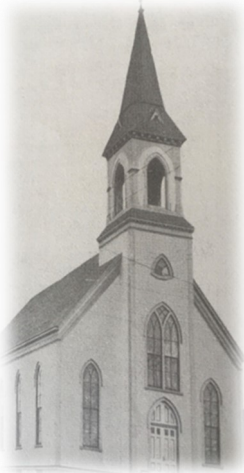
150 Years of Spiritual Growth

A monthly Messenger feature as we head towards the 150th Celebration of First Lutheran Church

First Lutheran Church 1872 - 2022

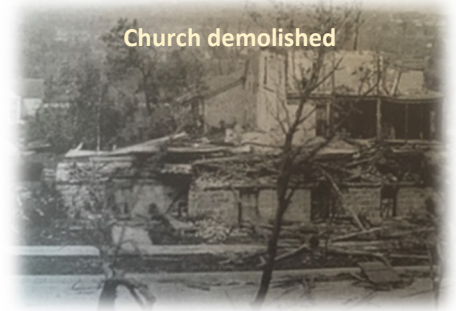
1919 Cyclone Destroys Church

(taken from "Blessed...to be a Blessing", the book published for the 125th anniversary of First Lutheran Church)



The devastating cyclone that struck Fergus Falls in 1919 touched the lives of all the residents. Fifty people were killed and over 400 houses, a quarter of the businesses, and all but two of 24 churches were demolished. The church and parsonage of First English Lutheran Church were victims of the cyclone that destroyed two-thirds of the town; forty-four city blocks.

The bell from the demolished church lay in the middle of the intersection of Junius and Court. Undamaged, the bell was retrieved and later hoisted into the tower of the new church built in 1920. All the parsonage furniture was blown away except Mrs. Ylvisaker's china cabinet.



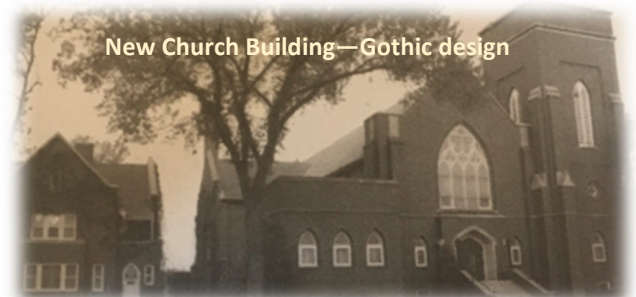
A special meeting of the church Board of Trustees July 18, 1919, centered on the question of what the future would hold for the congregation left without worship space and a home for its pastor. Buying a house for the parsonage and putting a temporary roof over the church basement were ideas that surfaced during the meeting. Although the house purchase did not occur, the trustees acted quickly on preparing to clear the wreckage by asking for help from able-bodied men and boys. A temporary roof was set across the exposed church basement. The damaged parsonage was eventually sold and a new house constructed.



During the winter of 1919-1920 the congregation worshiped in the Cozy Theatre; one of the few surviving downtown structures. They also held joint services with Bethlehem Lutheran, also homeless, at the Park Region College. A schedule

of services, some of which were conducted in English and others in Norwegian, was set during a joint meeting of the leaders of Bethlehem and First English churches on October 6, 1919.

An estimated one thousand people attended the new church dedication and 50th anniversary on November 26, 1922, at First English Lutheran Church. According to the Fergus Falls Daily Journal issue of November 27, 1922, the "magnificent church edifice" was filled to overflowing with many people unable to gain admittance to the worship service. The forenoon service was "both fitting and deeply impressive," according to the Journal article. Clergy participation far outweighed any other congregational event held to date. Dedication of the new church, a Gothic design, was the focus of the morning service. Although the church building was completed almost a year prior to the dedication service, the event was postponed in favor of holding it on the church's 50th anniversary. An evening service that same day focused on the church's 50th anniversary.





The Worship Corner
by the Worship &
Music Committee

The Altar Guild is responsible for the changing of the paraments in the chancel, caring for the pastors' albs and stoles, preparing the elements for communion and placing the flowers on the altar each week. Some of this work is done outside of Sunday mornings, but you are welcome to participate in any way that is convenient for you! If this is a way that you feel called to help, please contact the office or Harriet Wicklund, Worship and Music Chair.



Welcome to Mary Bjorgum Johnson! Mary will be a part-time office assistant, starting June 1 !

Scholarship forms for the Foundation Scholarship (anyone attending or planning to attend a Lutheran college) are available in the office. Please return the form by August 1. Thank you!



**THE TIME TO
GIVE BLOOD
IS NOW**

Red Cross Blood Drive on
June 28 from 1 to 7 pm
Fellowship Hall

Sign up to donate by calling
1-800-733-2767 or go to
RedCrossBlood.org
Sponsor Code :
Fergus First Lutheran

Volunteers needed for registration and the snack table. Please contact Katie in the office if you can help.
739-3348

CHECK IT OUT...

FLC



The FLC Library continues to be refreshed with new books for children and adults. Summer is a great time to both check out the library and check out some books! Here is some book reading inspiration from two of our library committee members:

"I can't pick a favorite book, but I can tell you a couple of my top authors we have in the library. Anything by Bob Goff—he is inspiring in the way he approaches life. His relational teachings and story telling style makes you feel positive and don't we all need more of that? Karen Kingburry is a fictional novelist who has a gift of making you feel like you have become friends with her characters. We have a couple of her new books that would be perfect for a light beach or vacation read".

Jen Enstad-Petersen

Holy Hot Mess

By Mary Katherine Backstrom

"Mary Katherine Backstrom uses humor and personal "hot mess" stories as evidence of God's work in her life in her book "Holy Hot Mess". She shares both hilarious and vulnerable stories about faith, friendship, motherhood, marriage, and depression. This uplifting and relatable book reads as though she's writing to a friend - you! You don't want to miss out on this one, so stop by the First Lutheran Library to check it out (literally)!" Vicki Berdan

