



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@flcfc.org
www.firstlutheranchurchff.org

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

Dinner Church starts Wednesday, September 14th at 5:30

So, what is dinner church? Well, it's dinner. And church. Paired together like it was in the very beginning of church. Church is deeply rooted in the open table of God's love. We will share and eat dinner and have an informal worship that includes scripture, conversation, prayers music and the Lord's Supper. We will support one another in faith as we are fed physically and spiritually. More information to come in September's Messenger!

NEW FALL SCHEDULE

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Dinner Church
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders
6:30 - 7:45 p.m. Bell Rehearsal
7:45 - 8:45 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Confirmation!

Take note that confirmation starts on September 14th for 7th and 8th graders. More information will be sent out the middle of August. There will be weekly sessions from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. starting on 9/14. Friends are always welcome to join us. We will also need some parent volunteers. See Pastor Tiffany if you have any questions.

Celebration of JOY

The **Celebration of JOY** is spreading throughout the congregation and community!

Imagine what people thought when they created community and space for worship 150 years ago. Now, imagine how God will shape us for the next 150 years to come! The **Celebration of JOY** is contagious at First Lutheran Church. Hearing the faith stories from people Leonard Hatzenbuler and Sue Toso who spear-headed a fundraiser to fight cancer with a bake sale is inspiring. They raised over \$5,000 that went to our local Fergus Falls Cancer Center that takes such incredible care of many of our loved ones. The joyous generosity and sharing how the Holy Spirit was working through everyone here made an incredible impact on the larger community.

Continued next page

Worship with us in August

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

Services are also live-streamed on YouTube and on-air on KJJM 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.

Joint Fergus Falls ELCA mid-week (Wednesdays) Summer Worship Schedule on page 6

(Pastor's message continued)

The **Celebration of Joy** was felt at VBS- Vacation Bible School- where kids kept discovering how wild God is about them. Over 100 children gathered and experienced God's grace and mercy, love and friendship, joy and excitement that will continue to grow. This year VBS was offered at no charge as an outreach to the larger community. This was made possible because of your joyous generosity at the bake sale on July 25th that raised \$900 and counting. (Offerings still being accepted.)

The **Celebration of JOY** is being shared through Service Food Cards. These are being shared with people having a hard time making ends meet. "Mike" (not his actual name) came in and shared his story. He believes in God and has had more than his fair share of trauma in his life. While a \$50 grocery card doesn't solve everything, it does bring home a meal to share with his family. They also know there is a place for them at FLC to worship, learn, and experience God's love.

The **Celebration of JOY** continues with the 75+ luncheon on August 17th as we give thanks for the generations of leaders in our midst. Saying thank you face to face is an honor and a privilege. PLEASE bring your spouse, even if they are not 75 or older. Sustaining members remind us of God's generosity, experiencing God's grace, persevering in tough times, and celebrating milestones in our midst.

Special thank you to you and the many who help this **Celebration of JOY** continue! Thank you to the Archives Committee who meet every Tuesday, the helping hands that weed and care for our grounds, those who serve coffee and donuts on Sundays, the people who will be delivering Meals by Wheels the first week in August, those volunteers from VBS, the children who participated, and the bake sales, ushers, greeters, communion servers, acolytes, sacristans, audio and video streaming team, and prayer chain. We **celebrate the JOY** first shown to us in Jesus Christ. May we share this JOY wherever we go.

Joyfully,

Pastor Tiffany

The OWLS are headed to historic Bagg Bonanza Farms in Mooreton, ND!!

Monday, August 22, 2022

Bus loads at 11:00 a.m. from the lower level parking lot. Departs at 11:15am.

Hear the history of the Bagg Bonanza Farms, view a video, tour buildings, and have a home cooked meal.

Cost for First Lutheran Church members is \$30.00.

For non-members it is \$40.00.

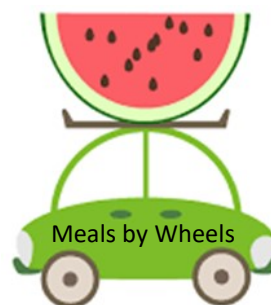
**Hope you can join us!
Sign up in the Narthex.**



**First Lutheran will be
delivering
Meals by Wheels
Aug. 1 to Aug. 5.**

**Sign up to help by
calling the office at
739-3348.**

Thank YOU!



First Lutheran **Children's & Youth** SUMMER **Activities**



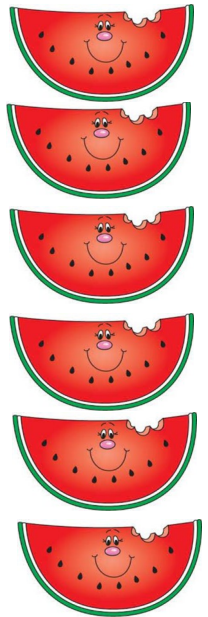
PLAY AT THE PARK

The first and third Mondays of the months in the 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

August 8– Delagoon Park

August 22– McKinley School Playground



LET'S COOL OFF WITH SOME **ICE CREAM** AT **UNCLE EDDIE'S**

August 23rd
5:30-6:30

FOR STUDENTS
GOING INTO
6TH & 7TH GRADE

FLY K-6 Lemonade Stand
Thanks for all who contributed!
We raised almost \$600 for
Service Food cards!



Some water fun on a
very hot day!



VBS Fun!





No WELCA Board meetings until September.
Hannah Circle will not meet in August.

NWMN Synodical Women's organization Convention will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls on September 16-17, 2022.

Please find registration forms on the Information Counter.

The deadline for registrations is early August!

---All are welcome!---

The Love Day Quilters gather each Monday from 9 am to 3 pm in the Quilting Room, as you are available during the day.

Please come and join in Mission and Fellowship!

We are currently working on Lutheran World Relief kits as well.

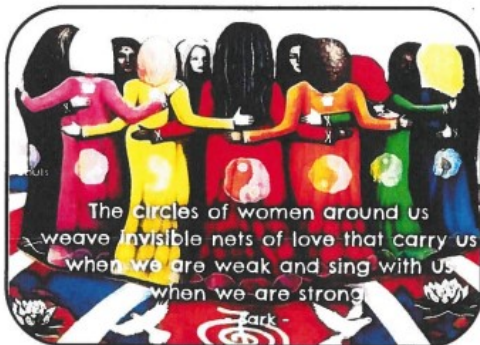
If you would like more information, contact Katie at 218 826-6791.



Women of the ELCA

Northwestern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization
Annual Conference
September 16--17, 2022

at Bethlehem Lutheran Church
102 W Junius
Fergus Fall, MN 56537



Theme: "Love One Another"

Guest Speaker: Jacqueline A. Bussie

Award winning author:

"Love Without Limits" & "Outlaw Christian"

John 13:34 "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Hosted by the Women of Conference 7 and 8.

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

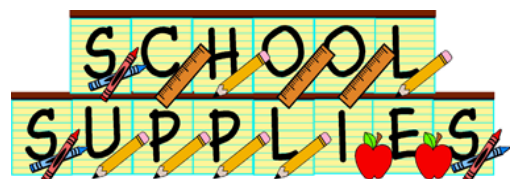
The quilters have made drawstring backpack style bags and the following supplies are needed for each

Lutheran World Relief School Kit:

- Four 8 1/2 x 11 inch wide-ruled notebooks (70 sheets in each)
- One 30 centimeter ruler (inches on one side, centimeters on the other)
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors
- Five ballpoint pens (NO gel ink)
- One box of crayons (16 or 24 count)
- Five pencils
- One Eraser

The help of the congregation is appreciated!

There is a collection basket in the Narthex.
Monetary donations are also welcome.



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

Join us on:



Root beer floats and Fellowship
following worship

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



Thursday Adult Bible Study at 10:30 is BACK!

Join us every Thursday at 10:30 am
(except for August 4 when study is
cancelled) in the Kairos room. We study
the upcoming scripture for Sunday and
discover how God's grace is present in the
Old and New Testaments. Everyone is
welcome, so feel free to bring a friend.

Questions? Just ask Pastor Tiffany or Katie
in the office 218 739-3348

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Thursdays at 10:30 am**



**Reminder: Men's Bible Study on
Monday, August 8 and Monday,
August 22 at 7:00 am in Kairos Room.**

FIRST LUTHERAN LADIES

at

Uncle Eddie's



**THURSDAY, AUGUST 18TH
8:00 P.M.**

**JOIN US AFTER YOUR
SHOPPING DOWNTOWN FOR A
COOL TREAT!**



**Thank you, Pastor
David Strom!**

On August 28th, Pastor Strom
will officially retire! Come to
worship to hear him preach
and celebrate with he and his
family following worship in the narthex. We
are grateful that he (and Laurie!) will
continue to be a member of First Lutheran
Church, lead Men's Bible Study as a
volunteer and lead Worship Band when
Anne Taylor is in Norway.

**THANK YOU
WE APPRECIATE YOU
PASTOR**



Synod Road Trip!

The Northwestern MN Synod Staff is coming to Fergus Falls. Everyone is invited to attend on Tuesday, August 23rd at Hope Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls on 1309 Stony Brook Road. A light meal and conversation will begin at 5:30 p.m. We can anticipate some updates from the ELCA Churchwide Assembly that is held earlier in August 8-12.

ELCA Churchwide Assembly

August 8-12 from 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

We encourage you to follow the larger church assembly that is posted on <https://www.elca.org/cwa-2022/Schedule>. Sessions will be broadcast online. If you are not a tech type person, but are interested in viewing the sessions, please contact Pastor Tiffany and she can have sessions set up on a computer at church.

The First Lutheran Church Praying for a CURE for Cancer Team (Previously Relay for Life)

would like to thank First Lutheran members for their generosity. Whether you said a prayer, had a kind thought, donated baked goods or gave a donation. Your generosity helped raise \$5000.00 to give to the Fergus Falls Cancer Center.

This donation was given in remembrance of Karen Lundstrom.



Thank you, Your Praying for a Cure Team



Recognition Luncheon

First Lutheran celebrates its members who are 75+ years old! *

You are invited to a luncheon as we celebrate our members who are 75+ years old* during this 150th Anniversary year of First Lutheran Church.

*note: spouses who are not 75+ are welcome too—it will be a festive celebration!

Wednesday August 17 🌸 *11:00 am to 1:00 pm* 🌸 *Fellowship Hall*

Menu: pulled pork, coleslaw, angel food cake & strawberries

This will be a wonderful time to visit & share memories of First Lutheran Church.

Remember to RSVP by August 10 by signing up in Narthex or calling 218-739-3348

We hope you can join us!





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

Growing up in The Parsonage at First Lutheran church—Memories from Janet Preus

My family moved to Fergus Falls in February of 1947: Rev. Christian and Dorothy, and children Tony (Anthony), Jonathon and Madelyn. My sister Betty (Elizabeth) was born in March not long after we arrive. I was born two years later, and Margi (Margaret) came along a few years later.

We lived in the Parsonage next door to the church, so we always had people coming and going. There was always someone who joined us for dinner after church on Sundays. Dad would stand in the back of the church greeting people as they left, and he would pick someone to invite for dinner. When mom would come home after playing the organ at the church service they would already be there. It was often a surprise to us as to who would be joining us for dinner.

Having the church right next door could be handy for other reasons. I wanted to surprise my mother, I think it was, with a birthday cake, so my friend Jane and I made it in the church kitchen. That was fine, until we lifted up the mixer – while it was running – and fluffy, sticky white frosting went everywhere! Jane's mother helped us clean it up.

I had a rather ideal childhood. Everyone knew me by name, and it was as if we had this larger “family” right next door at the church. Our backyard included the courtyard of the Parish House (it is what is now known as the choir room wing), where we raised baby ducks and chicks in the spring. It was also a great place to present play performances and dances for whoever we could get to watch.

I thought it was fun to have the church right next door. We would go see the secretary and visit the custodian. He was always so nice to us. We really didn't get in much trouble at the church because if we misbehaved, we were embarrassing our parents, and everyone knew who our parents were.

Mom played the organ at church and would often practice in the evening. In nice weather, with the windows open, we could hear her playing, and I think it was comforting to know just where she was.

There was a committee that looked after the parsonage to make sure it was maintained properly. I remember when they decided the kitchen needed to be remodeled. The committee worked closely with mom to plan and execute with her preferences kept in mind.

As a pastor, I think Dad saw himself truly as a shepherd. He made a point of meeting people one on one and inviting them to church, and I'm sure he liked being that kind of pastor. He and mom also did a lot of entertaining, inviting new members over once a month, and including current members so they could get to know each other. I thought it was fun sitting on the steps in the hallway and listening to them visit.

Continued next page

When dad needed a break, he would sometimes wait for me to get home from school and take me to a nearby lake for fishing, or we'd head to Fossen Woods for picnic. His "preacher's holiday" was going to our lake cabin, a hunting trip to Wyoming, or fishing in Canada.

I liked being in choir, Sunday School, confirmation, and Luther League. It was just what everyone did. But when I got a horse in my teens and learned horse shows were usually on Sunday afternoons out of town, I had to get a special excuse to miss Luther League so I could take my horse to a show. That was a really big deal. Confirmation and graduation gatherings were always important. Mom always made sure we had "our day," and Dad was always present for the family party. A special occasion usually meant Mom would make me a new dress, and I still remember exactly what my confirmation dress looked like.

I remember all of this with great fondness. My parents never complained of all the people coming and going. I just thought everyone lived like this!



150th "Celebration of Joy"

We have exciting plans for our 150th Anniversary this fall!

- * Wednesday August 17, 11am-1:00pm, 75 years old and older Luncheon at First Lutheran
- * Sunday October 2, 2:00pm. Dan Aune will play a special Organ Concert.
- * Saturday October 8, 2022 will be a Family Activity Day for members at Thea's Pumpkin Patch.
- * Sunday October 9, 9:30am, 150th Anniversary service with special music and lunch afterwards. Pastor Curt Rotto will be preaching.

We will also have various guest preachers throughout the coming months:

August 14: Madeline Trosvig *(child of the congregation)*

September 4: Pastor Keith Anderson *(child of the congregation)*

September 25: Pastor Liz Eide *(child of the congregation)*

October 9: Pastor Curt Rotto

October 30: Pastor Jeff Fitzkappes *(child of the congregation)*



The Worship Corner

by the Worship &
Music Committee

Each week, we hear lessons from God's word that connect us to the pastor's sermon and draw us closer to the Lord and His longing to have relationship with us.

Lay readers or lectors are needed each week for this purpose. The lector may be an adult or a youth. If you can read, you are welcome! If this is a task that you think you can do, please contact the office or sign up in the volunteer book at the information counter. You are most welcome!



LECTORS



**Hosanna Handbells begins rehearsals Wednesday,
September 7, 6:30-7:45 p.m.
We welcome new ringers!
Note new time!!!!**



Executive Committee

David & Lorri Holt, Co-Presidents
Leslie Flugstad, Secretary
Rick & Linda West, Co-VP
Leonard Hatzenbuehler, Treasurer

Council Members

Michael Wicklund, Discipleship/Outreach
Leslie Flugstad, Finance
Harriet Wicklund, Worship
*Youth
JoAn Whitlock, Fellowship
Tara Wagner, Education
Tedd Steenbock, Property
Kris Werner, Membership
Steve Fitz, Personnel

* Notes open positions on the Council.
Please contact Council President if interested.

Madeline Trosvig is our Guest Preacher August 14!

Madeline Trosvig is the daughter of Jeani and Tom Trosvig of First Lutheran Church. She is 21 years old and is entering her senior year at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, double majoring in Religion and Classics. When she's not on campus, she works at Spirit



of Joy Lutheran Church, where she has been the Coordinator of High School Faith Formation for almost two years! Madeline is pursuing a career in ministry and hopes to further her education after completing her time at Augustana. She remembers feeling her call to ministry during her time at First Lutheran Church as a teenager.

The community of First embraced Madeline's call and showed tremendous support as she discerned her future, which she is forever grateful for.

**The church council will meet on
August 9th at David & Lorri Holt's
home for a potluck and meeting at
6:00 pm.**



**150th Committee Meeting at 5:00
pm at David & Lorri's home
on August 9th also.**

Thank you, Steve Hosch!

Thank you to Steve Hosch for over 36 years of service to First Lutheran Church. His stewardship of this house of God is inspiring.



His retirement party was held on Sunday, July 31st.



Thank You Steve!

*We wish him every blessing on
this new chapter in his life.*