

First Lutheran CHURCH (ELCA)

200 East 5th Street, Morris MN 56267
320-589-3242
www.flcmorris.org



Chosen by Christ ~ Empowered to Serve

June 2021

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays at 9:30am

in-person worship and
broadcasted live on Facebook;
also available on our website
and YouTube channel

In Pentecost, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit which creates the church. I want to offer a few brief thoughts.

Sunday, May 23rd is Pentecost Sunday, and we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the early believers. The gift of the Spirit is understated and, in my estimation, under-appreciated by us Lutherans. A friend of mine told about how he walked a blind girl to their elementary school and back home every day of school from 2nd to 5th grade. In 6th grade she went to another school. He commented: "The Holy Spirit used a blind girl to teach me about the faith." Here we see an example of the Holy Spirit working in the everyday. This is so important. We believe God is at work in the "ordinary".

Further, Dr. Martin Luther wrote about the work of the Spirit in his explanation of "The Third Article: Sanctification". Here we listen to Luther, from the Small Catechism: Third Article of the Apostles' Creed: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Luther's Explanation: What does this mean? I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but **the Holy Spirit has** called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way **the Holy Spirit** calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true (my emphases).

The church is a spiritual reality, a mystery and miracle, called into being by the Holy Spirit, through God's Word and Spirit. It is not something of human origin but rather is "created" by God's Word and the Holy Spirit working in human hearts and minds. While the church is composed of ordinary people, we are called together for God's purposes.

In First Corinthians 12: 4-7, Paul writes: Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

So, mystery of mysteries, Holy Spirit calls us into community to be the Body of Christ. This does not mean we become alike, but rather, we maintain our individuality and our singular uniqueness as individuals, and the Holy Spirit uses these "gifts" -- our own individual uniqueness -- for the "common good" -- that is, to enrich the body, and to grow each of us in maturity as Christ followers. The church needs each of our gifts, our uniqueness, to be at our best! And we need one another to be "the church".

May the Holy Spirit continue to "call, gather, enlighten and sanctify us" and God's church.

Pastor Dan Belgum

Hi Church! I am happy for what God has accomplished this year in Element and Sr. High. During a pandemic and in the second year of Fusion. We have reached around 85 kids (and their parents) and 12 adult volunteers. We stayed as consistent as we could and showed up. The ministry of presence was the way of this year!



Element:

This picture is when we had a small group service project! (Kind of like Church without walls). The kids enthusiastically served our community in 6 different ways.

I met with the Pastors and had a good chat about the future of Element. Heard positives and things that need some improvement.

Our volunteers were celebrated on the last night! We are so thankful for the 12 adult volunteers that we had serving our youth.

I believe that we ended well!

Sr. High will be finishing out their Bible study of Mark. We have 4 sessions left.

We had a two hour nerf war the first Sunday of May. Everyone was dripping with sweat and laughing! A great community building event.

We have planned a service project on May, 23rd. We believe that to be like Jesus means to serve our world!



This summer I will be working on preparing for next school year. Finding curriculum for both ages, planning trips & retreats, and working on the schedule for 2021-22. We will have a few fun summer events here and there, so parents, be on the lookout for more information to come.

The Fusion Board will be doing the work of pursuing being a non-profit. We have scheduled a retreat in June for the board to work on by-laws, vision and policy for Fusion.

-Heather Black (June 2021)

FIRST THINGS

Support Missionary For A Day and honor a loved one ~ \$15.00/day

Pastor Alex LaChapelle is the pastor at Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation in Kenya, Africa. We continue to provide him with needed support through our Missionary for the Day contributions. Contact the church office to sponsor a day "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone. Address of congregation is: Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation, PO Box 34089, Nairobi, Kenya 00100 Website: www.nilc-nairobi.org

- May 1 In memory of Gary Brunko from Doug & Sharon Ehlers
- May 2 In memory of Avy Gray from Mary Krattenmaker
- May 3 In memory of Don Fellows from Arlene and family
- May 4 In memory of Gen Morrissey from Marlene Seip
- May 5 In memory of Brent Rosen from Emilie Brustuen
- May 6 In memory of Brent Rosen
- May 7 In memory of Brent Rosen from Cheryl Higgins
- May 8 In memory of Avy Gray from Cheryl Higgins
- May 9 In memory of Don Fellows from Arlene and family
- May 15 In memory of Janet Staples from her family
- May 16 In memory of Brent Rosen from Marilyn Smith
- May 17 In memory of Brent Rosen from Marlene Seip
- May 18 IN memory of Avy Gray from Marlene Seip
- May 19 In memory of Avy Gray from Allan & Elizabeth Harris
- May 20 In loving memory of Dale Crow from his family
- May 20 Happy Anniversary to Barry & Nancy Erdahl from Bernice Erdahl
- May 27 Happy Birthday Charli Erdahl from Bernice Erdahl
- May 28 In memory of Dave Minners from Allan & Elizabeth Harris

Choir Returns! Praise God, at long last, the adult choir will sing during worship on Sunday, June 6 and Sunday, June 20. We will gather in the sanctuary from 8:40-9:10 a.m. to rehearse a simple anthem which we will sing during the service. Please join us as we lift our voices together again!

Burgers, Beverages and Blessings starts again on Wednesday, June 2nd! Join us each Wednesday at 6:30pm at the Fireside in Morris. All are welcome and invited!!

Donate with Venmo! You can quickly and easily make donations to First Lutheran through Venmo. Not familiar with Venmo? (it's a safe and easy way to transfer money) Check out and download the app on your smart phone (available for Android and Apple) or check out their website at www.venmo.com.

Stevens County Food Shelf supplies a 5-day emergency or supplemental food package to residents of Stevens County. There is no fee for this service, but clients must provide proof of residency. The food shelf welcomes people's donations of food to support our community. Monetary donations are also very helpful in purchasing food supplies. The Food Shelf is located on the corner of 7th Street and Iowa Ave and their hours are: Mondays: 2:30-3:30pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 10:30-11:30am, Thursdays: 5:30-6:30pm. You can reach the food shelf at 320.589.7436.

Baby Blanket Ministry There is a need for more baby blankets for our baptismal baby blanket ministry. Blankets can be sewn or crocheted, and are needed for both boys and girls (gender neutral blankets work great too!) Blankets can be dropped off at the church office.

Thank you Your kindness at this time is more deeply appreciated than any word of thanks can ever express. Thank you to all who sent cards, donations and prayers. —The family of Brent Rosen

The Miller family would like to take a moment to express our gratitude to the entire First Lutheran community as we begin our transition out of Morris. If you are not aware, Brad has accepted a position on the music faculty at the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University beginning in the fall, where he will conduct two touring ensembles (Chamber Choir and Men's Chorus), lead the artistic team for the annual Christmas concerts, and teach choral conducting. Ana will continue teaching at UMM, commuting two days a week (please pray for good weather). Our new church home will be Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Saint Cloud, where Brad recently accepted a position as the adult choir director. Please come and visit (and sing in the choir!). We are really excited to start this new chapter, but it comes with a lot of different emotions, including mourning. We have loved Morris, the university, our students and colleagues, and this church community, and we will miss you dearly. You welcomed us with open arms in 2014 and have walked alongside us, steadfastly, as we have grown in our faith. It certainly "takes a village," and we will always be grateful for this loving, supportive, and caring community. May God continue to bless you and this congregation. —With sincere gratitude, Brad and Ana

Soap Drive—Lutheran World Relief Commercially wrapped soap needed! This soap is used over-seas for schools, hospitals, clinics, households and refugee camps. This is an ongoing drive, so please continue to donate. A collection basket is located on the table in the lower Narthex area.

2021 KMRS Radio Broadcast dates are: July 18, August 22, October 24, November 21, December 24. Help support the ELCA Worship Hour by sponsoring a broadcast (\$65) in memory or in honor of a loved one. Contact the church office for more information.

Newsletter Deadline for the July newsletter is noon on Tuesday, June 22.

CDC New Covid-19 Guidelines and First Lutheran Church Policy with Commentary 5.14.2021

First Lutheran Church provides a place of worship for everyone, vaccinated and unvaccinated. As you may know, the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations were updated on May 14, 2021. With guidance from the CDC's recent findings and published policies here are First Lutheran Church's guidelines for worship and activity in a group, until further notice.

1. If you are fully vaccinated, that is, two weeks after your second COVID shot for a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or two weeks after the single Johnson and Johnson vaccine, you do not need to wear a mask in worship or in the church. However, you may still wish to do so, just to use more precaution; and/or, especially if you have a compromised immune system.
2. If you are not fully vaccinated you pose a risk to yourself and the general population. You are responsible for your own personal health. However, in the worship setting with many people, you also may impact others' health and well-being. So, we as a church would appreciate your wearing a mask if you are not vaccinated.
3. The vaccine is safe and effective and available to everyone over age 12.
4. At present Stevens County has vaccines available. Check with your health provider, or, vaccines are now available on a "walk-in" basis at Thrifty White Pharmacy, Morris.
5. As before, if you are not feeling well, or have been exposed to anyone who has COVID within the previous two weeks, we ask you to please stay home.
6. We will continue to practice social distancing in worship at this time.

First Lutheran Church Council

THIS N' THAT

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Worship services are currently being held in-person. In the event that worship services are changed to "on-line only," an announcement will be made, along with posting the information on our website. Those scheduled for Video and TV slides will need to help as scheduled, whether it is in-person or on-line only.

Sunday, June 6 9:30am Worship

Ushers: Steve & Michelle Just family
Communion: Judy Buro
Acolyte: Owen Hentges & Tyler Schneider
Lector: LeAnn Dean
Video: Mike Odello
TV slides: Ward Voorhees

Sunday, June 13 9:30am Worship

Ushers: Bob Heck, Karen Bolling, Tim Grove
Acolyte: Madelyn Grove and Jazlynn Hilbrands
Lector: Allyn Plattner
Video: Tony Feuchtenberger
TV slides: Steve Wagner

Sunday, June 20 9:30am Worship

Ushers: Al Harris, Paul Grove, Scott Staples
Communion: Sandy Grove
Acolyte: Sam & Isaac Just
Lector: Lindy Ekola
Video: Dave Jungst
TV slides: Steve Just

Sunday, June 27 9:30am Worship

Ushers: Skip Maanum, Steve Van Kempen,
Brian Erdhal
Acolyte: Charli & Corrie Erdahl
Lector: Ward Voorhees
Video: Steve Wagner
TV slides: Judy Buro

Lunch Bunch meets the first Wednesday of each month. Please join us on Wednesday, June 2nd Pizza Hut at 11:30am. Create your own pizza or join in the "homemade buffet! All are welcome!

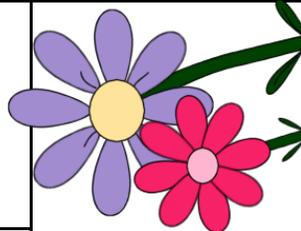


- June 2: Scott Erdahl
- June 3: Deanna Rosen, Madelyn Siegel, Jon Ulrich, Everett Van Kempen
- June 4: Amy Dougherty
- June 5: Deb Decker, Gary Wagner
- June 7: Jen Buchanan, Ann Erdahl, Kent Swenson, LaVonne Watson
- June 8: Heather Schneider, Morgan Wevley
- June 9: Jean Anderson
- June 10: Eric Buchanan, Marian Thraen
- June 12: Lydia Fynboh
- June 13: Evelyn Warnes
- June 16: Denner Dougherty, Joleen Hanson
- June 19: Bobbie Jo Staples
- June 20: Sandy Grove, Corrine Knochenmus, Jim Thraen, William Peterson, Zayne Plattner
- June 22: Audrey Anderson, Rebecca Nemmers
- June 23: Connie Anderson, Karli Siegel
- June 24: Sherry Anderson, Lana Burnett
- June 25: John Huebner
- June 27: Olivia Morris-Durkee, Jeanne Richards

Happy Anniversary

- June 1: Arnie & Verna Sharstrom
- June 4: Heather & Brad Krosch
- June 6: Dick & Suzanne Smith
Michelle & Steve Just
- June 7: Katie & Craig Knochenmus
- June 8: Greg & Julie Thymian
- June 9: Steve & Jill Van Kempen
- June 10: Jim & Marian Thraen
- June 11: Skip & Vicki Maanum
- June 17: Adrienne & Matthew Hilbrands
- June 20: Molly & Cody Krosch
- June 21: Ryan & Summer Anderson
- June 22: Corrine & Gary Knochenmus
Jared & Britney House
- June 29: Tim & Kristin Grove
- June 30: Ward & Carol Voorhees

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>8:40am Choir 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>2:00pm Synod Assembly</p>	<p>11:00am Pastor's Text Study</p>	<p>11:30am Lunch Bunch at Pizza Hut</p>	<p>12:00pm Friedman's Fables study (Gathering Room) 1:30pm Mission & Evangelism Mtg</p>	<p>9:30am Synod Assembly</p>	<p>12:00pm Friedman's Fables study (Gathering Room) 2:00pm Synod Assembly</p>	
<p>8:40am Choir 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion</p>	<p>11:00am Pastor's Text Study</p>	<p>8:30am Share & Care (quilting group)</p>	<p>8:30am Share & Care (quilting group)</p>	<p>12:00pm Friedman's Fables study (Gathering Room)</p>		
<p>8:40am Choir 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion</p>	<p>11:00am Pastor's Text Study 12:00pm Newsletter articles due</p>	<p>8:30am Share & Care (quilting group)</p>	<p>8:30am Share & Care (quilting group)</p>	<p>12:00pm Friedman's Fables study (Gathering Room)</p>		
<p>9:30am Worship</p>	<p>11:00am Pastor's Text Study 7:00pm Church Council Meeting</p>					



June

COUNCIL MINUTES

First Lutheran Church Council Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 27, 2021

The April meeting of First Lutheran's Church Council met by teleconference through Zoom on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 and was called to order by Eugene Anderson at 7:05pm. Present: Eugene Anderson, Tony Feuchtenberger, John Dosedall and Jackie Huebner. Absent: Jason Reed, Allyn Plattner and Peggy Jergenson. Staff present: Pastor Dan Belgum and Rita Bye. A devotion and opening prayer was given by Pastor Dan.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from March 30, 2021 were read to each council member. No corrections or additions.

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports were emailed to each member. No discussion was held concerning the reports.

Pastor's Report: A written report was emailed to each council member.

Communications: Heather Black and Lonnie Anderson joined the council meeting at 7:30pm for an update on Fusion Youth Ministry and Element (confirmation). A number of area youth are actively involved in both junior high and senior high groups. Lonnie spoke briefly on funding and working on becoming a 5013C non-profit organization.

Committee Reports:

- Property Committee: chalking of the control joints should be completed this week. Discussion was also held about the condition of the sanctuary roof and the possible need for repair.
- Mission & Evangelism: Community Garden was discussed and possibly having the Olivewood available for purchase through the church's website.
- Stewardship Committee: the committee will be using "Stewards of God's Love" the same as last year.

Old Business

- Memorial/Donation gifts: the Task Force met and discussed some possibilities to the council.
- Council Treasurer Position was discussed.
- Community Garden: the ground has been tilled at Carole Johnson's with planting to happen sometime in May. Discussion was held about youth helping. Emilie Brustuen, Nick Milbrandt and Doug & Sharon Ehlers will be organizing/overseeing the garden. Tony made a motion to offer financial support of up to \$500 for plants, supplies, etc. Jackie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business

- Camperships: Luther Crest, Green Lake Bible Camp and other area camps are offering in-person camps this year. The church has some dedicated funds to help defray the cost of attending camp. Scholarship funds are also available directly from the camp itself. Tony made a motion that First Lutheran will pay half of the campership fee for our youth to attend summer camp. Seconded by Jackie. Motion carried.
- Faith Lutheran has contacted Pastor Dan about assisting as 'Acting Pastor' while they seek an Interim pastor or new settled, called pastor. Discussion was also held about their request for Pastor Dan to fill in for funerals, baptisms, communion services, etc. until an interim pastor or new called pastor can be hired. It was the consensus of the council to allow Pastor Dan to take on the duties he feels is needed to help Faith Lutheran Church.
- Calvary Lutheran Church in Willmar has requested a copy of our Church Constitution and Bylaws to use as a guide for updating their own Constitution. A copy will be mailed them a copy of our constitution.
- Singing in Worship: Discussion was held about allowing singing of hymns during worship. CDC guidelines indicate that "softly" singing is acceptable with face coverings/masks. The council decided to adopt this guideline and start singing during worship again.
- Video Equipment: Tony is looking into the possibility of adding/updating some of the equipment. He will get a quotes.
- Next council meeting: Tuesday, May 25 at 7:00pm

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16pm followed by The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Bye, Recording Secretary; approved/edited by Tony Feuchtenberger

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Morris, MN 56267
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Worship Schedule

Sundays: 9:30am
broadcasted via Facebook Live;
also available on our website
and YouTube channel

Televised Services:

Tuesdays at 2:00pm
Federated: Channel 6
MediaCom: Channel 117

STAFF

Rev. Daniel Belgum, Pastor	danelbelgumblad@gmail.com
Heather Black, Youth Ministry Director	heather.kill14@gmail.com
Rita Bye, Office Manager	office@flcmorris.org
Wyatt Vavra, Custodian	
Deb Mahoney, Organist/Pianist	
Brad Miller, Choir Director	bamiller@morris.umn.edu
Rheanne Kline, Contemporary Director	rheannekline@gmail.com
Pastor Alex LaChapelle, Missionary	

CHURCH COUNCIL

Eugene Anderson	President
Tony Feuchtenberger	Vice-President
	Treasurer
	Secretary
Jason Reed	
Peggy Jergenson	
Allyn Plattner	
John Dosdall	
Jackie Huebner	