

July 2025

First Things

First Lutheran Church (ELCA)
Chosen by Christ. Empowered to Serve.



FEDERATED CHURCH *Sunday, June 29:* 9:30am Worship

FEDERATED CHURCH *Sunday, July 6:* 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion

FIRST LUTHERAN *Sunday, July 13:* 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion

FEDERATED CHURCH *Sunday, July 20:* 9:30am Worship

FIRST LUTHERAN *Sunday, July 27:* 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion

FEDERATED CHURCH *Sunday, Aug 3:* 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion

FIRST LUTHERAN *Sunday, Aug 10:* 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion

FEDERATED CHURCH *Sunday, Aug 17:* 9:30am Worship

FIRST LUTHERAN *Sunday, Aug 24:* 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion

FEDERATED CHURCH *Sunday, Aug 31:* 9:30am Worship

SENIORS ON THE MOVE



Country Consignments in Eagle Bend Tuesday, July 15

leaving the church parking lot at 10:00am

Cost is \$15 per person, plus pay-your-own lunch

Come and see where Barn Quilts were born! Spend the day with us as we travel to Country Consignments by Eagle Bend. In addition to the hand painted barn quilts, the “ole barn” is full of locally handmade creations! Antiques, collectibles, baby items, clothing, purses, bird feeders/houses, wood furniture, a wide variety of household items, handmade embroidered and quilted items, man cave items, and so much more!

We will have lunch (pay your own way) in the Alexandria area prior to visiting Country Consignments. Watch for the sign up sheet in the Narthex!

CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS

Save the date! Church without Walls to be held on Sunday, September 7th

Details and signups will be available in August

Thank you for responses already submitted to the Congregational Survey by the Evangelism & Mission Committee. Remember, your responses are helpful for future plans, and to possibly set up new group opportunities of service throughout the year. Please submit your completed survey soon.



Congregational Survey

How can we best serve our neighbors?

Focus: Church without Walls event and ideas for year-round service:

1.

2.

3.

We want to reach out to the world and share Jesus' love.

Please place in the offering plate as soon as possible on a Sunday morning, or email J. Mark Nesvig at nesvigj@yahoo.com

Thank you,
Mission & Evangelism Committee

REGISTER FOR Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 21 through Wednesday, July 23
8:30am to 11:30am
at Faith Lutheran Church, 108 W. 8th St., Morris

There will be an optional full day field trip to Luther Crest Bible Camp on Thursday, July 24 for those who have completed Kindergarten through 6th grade.

VBS is open to all Preschool (at least 3½ years old and potty trained) through 6th grade.

Register now using the QR code →



WELCA NEWS

WELCA/Women of First Meeting: A brief meeting will be held in the fellowship hall on Sunday, July 13 following the worship service to make decisions of support from the recent Pie Sale Fundraiser. All are welcome to attend.

WELCA SCHOOL KITS: While you are out shopping for school supplies for the next school year, please consider purchasing items to donate for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) School kits. ***This list of items needed is printed below.*** We will hold a Packing event on Sunday, September 7. The Sunday School students will be helping us pack these school kits in addition to Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits and Global Health Ministries Newborn kits.

Donations of used white sheets would also be appreciated. These are used for rolled bandages for Global Health Ministries. Also, used pillowcases of any color are needed. We use this to package Newborn kit items for GHM. Donation boxed will be in the church Narthex. Thanks for your help!

THANK YOU! A special thank you to Lacey Hoffmann who made and donated 180 baby quilts that will be donated towards our Lutheran World Relief and Global Health Ministries baby and infant packing event on September 7th. Truly Lacey loves quilting and supporting this important mission!

School Supplies for Lutheran World Relief

Believe it or not, school supplies will be on sale soon! When you are purchasing for your school supplies for your kids, please consider purchasing extra for Lutheran World Relief.

Donations of school supplies can be dropped off in the box in the church Narthex. Cash donations will also be accepted, but please leave in the church office.

Listed below are the items that will be put in each School Kit. **Please do not substitute any of the items, as we can only use what is listed.**

- ☐ Four (4) 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10½". No loose leaf paper
- ☐ One (1) 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ☐ One (1) pencil sharpener
- ☐ One (1) pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- ☐ Five (5) unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, secured together with a rubber band
- ☐ Five (5) black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink), secured together with a rubber band
- ☐ One (1) box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ☐ One (1) 2½" eraser

Coffee Hour is served in the fellowship hall before the worship service on Sunday mornings. The **PEACE Service Group** is on the schedule to serve coffee hour during the month of July. Those in the Kindness Service Group are: Judy Bluth, Emilie Brustuen, Dennis & Natalie Ketterling, Doug & Sharon Ehlers, Rob & Peggy Jergenson, Heidi & Neil Suess, Kent & Erica Swenson, Dorwin & Millie Tschetter, Jamie & Rochelle VanKempen, Jill VanKempen. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office.

Lunch Bunch meets on Wednesday, July 2 at 11:30am at Pizza Ranch in Morris. Order from the menu; pay your own way. All are welcome to join us!

Flat Sheets Needed! The Share & Care Quilters are in need of flat sheets for their quilts. Sizes of full, queen or king; no fitted sheets please. Sheets can be dropped off at the church office, or in the quilting room on the lower level.

Newsletter Deadline for the August newsletter is noon on Wednesday, July 23.

Zipporah Bible Study meets on Thursday, July 17 at 2:00pm in the church fellowship hall.

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: 2:30pm - 3:30pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays: 5:30pm - 6:30pm; Wednesdays and Fridays: 10:30am - 11:30 am. You can reach the food shelf at 320.589.7436.

Pastoral Visit If you or a family member are hospitalized and would like a pastoral visit, please contact the church office and a pastor will be contacted to visit you. Even though you may be asked your religious affiliation during check-in, the hospital staff can not share that information without you specifically requesting they contact your church.

Daily Grace Need an on-the-go companion for your faith journey? Just go to the Women of the ELCA website (www.womenoftheelca.org) and sign up for the "Daily Grace." Reflect, pray, and prepare for the day.



UMM WELCOME PICNIC

Volunteers are needed for the UMM Welcome Picnic on Monday, August 18th, afternoon and early evening. Volunteers are welcome to eat at the picnic. You do not need to volunteer for the entire time-frame. We wish to put friendly faces to First Lutheran Church at this event, which is meant to welcome students and faculty to the community.

Signing up to volunteer is easy! Simply follow this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/UMM-Welcome-Picnic-2025>

Stevens County Food Drop Tuesdays, July 8 and August 12

Morris Area High School Parking lot

Registration begins at 3:00pm and
ends at 6:00pm or when food is gone.

Donations to contribute to this event can be sent to
Stevens County Food Shelf, "Food Drop Program",
701 Iowa Ave., Morris MN 56267

Volunteers are also needed for this event.
Please scan the QR code below to help out.

Volunteers for Food Drop

Volunteers will be needed on Mondays, July 7 and August 11 (for food packing) starting at 1:00pm and going until the job is completed, and again on Tuesdays, July 8 and August 12 (for distribution) starting at 2:30pm, and is held at the Morris Area High School, 201 S. Columbia Ave., Morris. Come and go as your schedule allows. Sign up to volunteer at <https://ow.ly/lcC050W4Ohx> or with the QR link below.



JULY & AUGUST WORSHIP SERVANTS

SUNDAY, JULY 13 9:30am: Worship	SUNDAY, JULY 27 9:30am: Worship	SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 9:30am: Worship	SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 9:30am: Worship
Ushers: Dick Smith Dave & Lindy Jungst	Ushers: Steve Just family Dennis Feuchtenberger Michael Bjorklund	Ushers: Bob Heck Al & Julie Monroe	Ushers: Al Harris Judy & Chance Buro
Lector: LeAnn Dean	Lector: Lindy Ekola	Lector: Denise Odello	Lector: Allyn Plattner
Acolytes: Zoe Krosch Maddy Schneider	Acolyte: Abram Suess Kenzie Just	Acolytes: Aubrey Williamson Ashlyn Williamson	Acolyte: Abram Suess Kenzie Just
Communion Prep: (silver tray/wafers) Judy Buro	Communion Prep: (silver tray/wafers) Kahla Gillespie	Communion Prep: (silver tray/wafers) Sharon Ehlers	Communion Prep: (silver tray/wafers) Liz Harris
Communion Servers: Vicki Dalager Doug & Sharon Ehlers	Communion Servers: Liz Harris Ward Voorhees Emilie Brustuen	Communion Servers: Vicki Dalager Ward Voorhees Liz Harris	Communion Servers: Doug & Sharon Ehlers Emilie Brustuen
Video: Mike Odello	Video: Dave Jungst	Video: Mike Odello	Video: Tony Feuchtenberger
TV slides: Brenna Jergenson	TV slides: Connor Siegel	TV slides: Owen Nesvig	TV slides: Giana Feuchtenberger
Nursery: Pam Wiese	Nursery: Bobbi Seigel	Nursery: Jones Anderson	Nursery: Michelle Just
Accompanist: Suzanne Smith	Accompanist: Suzanne Smith	Accompanist: Jennie Odello	Accompanist: Deb Mahoney



HAPPY Birthday

July 1: Sharon Ehlers
 July 2: Justin Anderson, Cheryl Hawkinson
 July 3: Dorwin Tschetter, Al Watson
 July 4: Dolores Crow, Natalie Ketterling, Steven Sarlette
 July 6: Lori Anderson, Taylor Anderson, Reid Ketterling
 July 7: Laura Anderson
 July 8: Terry Erholtz, Dennis Fuhrman, Ben Staples
 July 9: Rich Buro
 July 10: Dustin Anderson, Jacoby Burnett, Brekk Huebner, Derek McFall-Boegeman,
 July 11: Shelley Beyer
 July 12: Todd Staples
 July 13: Brittany Harrison, Thomas Wulff
 July 15: Rebecca Holland
 July 16: Ardell Anderson, Gordon Dalseide, Brian Erdahl, Jacob Ulrich
 July 17: Charles Henrich Jr.
 July 18: Jennie Odello

July 20: Ian Grove
 July 22: Mason Williamson
 July 23: Kendra Buro, Joel Harrison
 July 24: Beckett Reese
 July 25: Genevieve Plattner
 July 26: Damien Warner
 July 27: Carole Johnson
 July 28: Robi Bowman, Durgin Decker, Tyson Grove, Connor Siegel
 July 29: Thomas Holland
 July 30: Jon Amundson, David Nelson
 July 31: Rhonda Lair, Greg Thymain

HAPPY Anniversary

July 1: Jon & Shana Ulrich
 July 6: Cheryl & Keith Hawkinson
 July 8: Dennis & Laurie Feuchtenberger
 July 9: Matt & Cari Burnett
 July 18: Brian & Ann Erdahl
 July 20: Eugene & Cathy Anderson
 July 23: Bob & Vicki Dalager

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						5 8am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran
		1 11am Pastors' Text Study 2pm Worship & Music Meeting	2 11:30am Lunch Bunch at Pizza Ranch in Morris	3 <i>Rita on vacation July 2nd thru 7th</i>	4 <i>Church office closed</i> 	
6 9:30am Worship HC at FEDERATED with coffee/Fellowship following	7	8 11am Pastors' Text Study 12pm Gatherings for Widows/Widowers at Old #1 3pm - 6pm Food Drop at MAHS	9	10	11	12 8am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran
13 9:30am Worship HC at FIRST with fellowship following 10:30am WELCA meeting in fellowship hall	14	15 11am Pastors' Text Study 7pm Council Meeting	16	17 2pm Zipporah Bible Study in fellowship hall	18	19 8am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran
<i>Rita on vacation the entire week of July 13th</i>						
20 9:30am Worship at FEDERATED with Fellowship following	21 8:30 - 11:30am VBS at Faith Lutheran	22 8:30 - 11:30am VBS at Faith Lutheran 11am Pastors' Text Study	23 8:30 - 11:30am VBS at Faith Lutheran 12pm Newsletter Articles Due	24 8:30am - 4pm VBS Day Trip to Luther Crest	28	26 8am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran
27 9:30am Worship HC at FIRST with fellowship following	28	29 11am Pastors' Text Study	30	31		

All worship services are streamed live via Facebook (Morris-First Lutheran Church) and YouTube (First Lutheran Church - Morris MN). Recorded services available on our website at www.flcmorris.org

Rita's summer work hours: Monday through Wednesday, with in church hours on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. In the event of an emergency, she can be reached by phone call or text (320-287-2384) any day of the week.

SUPPORT MISSIONARY for the DAY

June 29 ELCA Lutheran Worship radio broadcast given by Jim & Marian Thraen in honor of their 73rd Wedding Anniversary

You can sponsor the missionaries of the ELCA for \$15 per day. You may give this in memory, or in honor of someone. Contact the church office for more information, or to sponsor at date.



CHUCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: June 10, 2025

Committee Reports:

- **Education:** no report
- **Property:** no report
- **Mission and Evangelism:** no report
- **Worship and Music:** no report

Old Business:

- The Call Committee held an initial meeting
- First's church council members have held and continue to hold conversations with the council members of Federated Church and Faith Lutheran

New Business:

- Rita will be on vacation July 2-7 and the week of July 13
- an offering of \$100 will be made to the SW MN Synod for the Synod Assembly
- discussion was held on pastoral compensation for the summer
- Next council meeting on Tuesday, July 15 at 7:00pm. Devotions to be given by Naomi

Treasurer's Report:

- Building Maintenance expenses were up for the month of May due to the replacement of the office phones and the sanctuary ceiling fans.

MAY'S GIVING and EXPENSE

\$18,293.75 May Giving

\$24,269.42 May Expenses

\$92,678.14 Year-to-Date Giving

\$101,986.44 Year-to-Date Expenses

First Lutheran Church
200 East 5th St
Morris, MN 56267
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit #83
Morris, MN

First Lutheran Church, ELCA

200 East 5th Street

Morris, MN 56267

Phone: 320-589-3242

website: www.flcmorris.org

email: office@flcmorris.org

Facebook: Morris-First Lutheran Church

Worship Schedule

SEE SCHEDULE ON CALENDAR

Broadcasted live via Facebook and
YouTube; recorded services
available on our website.

Televised Services:

Tuesdays at 1:30pm

MediaCom: Channel 8 or 117-2 (*digital*)

STAFF

Pastor

Rita Bye, Office Manager office@flcmorris.org
Wyatt Vavra, Custodian
Deb Mahoney, Accompanist

CHURCH COUNCIL

Allen Monroe	President
J. Mark Nesvig	Vice-President
Naomi Fynboh	Treasurer
Matt Hilbrands	Secretary
Bob Dalager	
Elizabeth Harris	
Bob Heck	