

June 2023

First Things

First Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Chosen by Christ ~ Empowered to Serve

In the Bible, God often shows up to do something special at a dinner table. Abraham and Sarah hosted messengers of God with a savory meal at the Oaks of Mamre, where they were promised they would have a son, Isaac (Genesis 18). Elijah was fed by Ravens at the *Wadi Cherith* (I Kings 17:1-7). Jesus first sign (miracle) was at a wedding celebration and feast at Cana (John 2: 1-11). Jesus taught during meals. One of our two sacraments was instituted by Jesus himself during a Passover meal (see e.g. Luke 22:14). When we gather for the Eucharist, we do so as sinners and saints, equals in the eyes of God.

In our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) book, Hymn ELW #482, one stanza reads: “*As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.*” (v. 3). This is most certainly true!

When I arrived in Morris in December of 2017, we were strangers one to another. By God’s grace we are now friends. As I think back on my time with you, I recall many meals shared: around the Altar, at graduations, church potlucks, pancake feeds and fall dinners in the Fellowship Hall, meals in homes, and at downtown restaurants including the Common Cup Coffeehouse. The coffee hour with treats, meals, fellowship, banter, and storytelling have been rich. Along with the ministry we’ve partnered in. Truly a blessing. In worship, the Holy One has shown up and fed us with grace and forgiveness uniting us in fellowship. Our unity is celebrated in our diversity. We also join the cloud of witnesses who have gone before us, and who will come after us, as we have gathered for “Holy Communion.”

Isaiah the prophet speaks of a coming time when God will “make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines... and he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples... he will swallow up death forever.”

As I complete my call among you, I give thanks for the ministry we have shared. I give thanks for the “uniqueness” of each of you. I’m trusting that God, who began a good work among you (*and us*), will continue that good work among you in the days and years ahead. I’m thankful for all of these moments, and opportunities, in life and ministry. I encourage you to continue to meet regularly at the Lord’s Table in worship to commune together. Christ is the center. To share fellowship around coffee and dinner tables. And to proclaim and share the grace, mercy and justice of God that has called us together. See you soon...

In Good Hope,
Pastor Dan

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT PASTOR DAN!

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR YEARS OF MINISTRY AND SERVICE

JOIN US ON SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023

9:30AM WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH

FOLLOWED BY A MEAL AND CELEBRATION AT EASTSIDE PARK.

Grilled meat, salad, chips and beverage will be provided. If you are able, bring a dessert to share. Please bring lawn chairs for your family.



Church Without Walls: Sunday, September 10, 2023

Registration now open!

<https://forms.gle/aBeXvFhPngaArEgBA>

— Congratulations to our graduating seniors! —



Lydia Renae Fynboh

Parents: Greg & Naomi Fynboh

Future Plans: Concordia College in Moorhead to major in either Astrophysics, Music Business and Entrepreneurship, or Exercise Science with a minor in coaching. She will also be running on the Concordia Track & Field team.

High School Activities: Gymnastics, Basketball, Tennis (Captain, 2021 State Team Participant) and Track & Field (Captain, State Track qualifier in 2021 and 2022).

Madelyn Grove

Parents: Tim & Kristin Grove

Future Plans: University of Minnesota, Morris and major in Sport Management. She will also play basketball.

High School Activities: Basketball (all conference x3), Volleyball (all conference x3), Academic All State (volleyball), Track and field, choir, BPA, Student Council, Excel Award, and Honor Roll.



Samuel Elliott Just

Parents: Steve & Michelle Just

Future Plans: Electrical at North Dakota State College of Science

High School Activities: Football, Swimming and Robotics

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

- May 8 In memory of Judy Bluth's sister from Carol Day
- May 9 In memory of Jone Hoem from Cheryl Higgins
- May 10 In memory of Helen Kill from Cheryl Higgins
- May 20 In loving memory of Dale Crow from his family
- May 21 In memory of Eileen Kohlman from Emilie Brusuten
- May 22 In honor of Lydia Fynboh from Emilie Brustuen
- May 23 In honor of Madelyn Grove from Emilie Brustuen
- May 24 In honor of Samuel Just from Emilie Brustuen

- May 21 ELCA Lutheran Worship Hour radio broadcast (KMRS) given in memory of Chuck Seip

- ☐ **Coffee Hour** is served in the fellowship hall following the worship service on Sunday mornings. The *Peace Service Group* is on the schedule to serve coffee hours during the month of June. Please sign up on the church bulletin board across from the office. Those in the Hope Service Group are:

Rochelle Anderson

Judy Bluth

Emilie Brustuen

Terry & Jill Dybdahl

* **Doug & Sharon Ehlers**

Rob & Peggy Jergenson

Dennis & Natalie Ketterling

Tom & Heather Schneider

Heidi & Neil Suess

Kent & Erica Swenson

Dorwin & Millie Tschetter

Jamie & Rochelle Van Kempen

Jill & Steve Van Kempen

- ☐ **Lunch Bunch** meets on Wednesday, June 7th at 11:30am at Common Cup in Morris. Join us...all are welcome!
- ☐ **Social Hour at Legacy Living** is held each Wednesday at 2:30pm for residents and "friends." On the third Wednesday of each month, friends from First Lutheran supply the treats/goodies. Help may be needed occasionally....a batch of cookies or a cake; just something simple. All are welcome to join us anytime. If interested in helping out occasionally, contact Cheryl at 314-570-0700 or Marlene at 320-589-3879.
- ☐ **2023 KMRS Radio Broadcast** available dates are: July 9, August 20, October 1 and November 12. 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 Wednesday, June 21st.
- ☐ **Zipporah Bible Study** meets on Thursday, June 15th at 2:00pm in the church fellowship hall. Need to drop something off for the Zipporah group? Their church mailbox is located in the office waiting area.
- ☐ **Gatherings for Widows/Widowers** meets on Tuesday, June 13th at noon. Please join us for a time of friendship, conversation and time together for lunch. You are welcome to invite others to join you. Gatherings meet at 12:00pm (noon) on the second Tuesday of each month at Old #1 Southside. Order off the menu at your cost. Listen to KKOK 95.7 for any schedule changes.
- ☐ **Volunteers Needed!** Looking for an opportunity to serve at church outside of Sunday mornings? We are looking for assistance with baking communion bread, which is served on the first and second Sundays of each month, plus special occasions. Training will be provided! For more information, please contact Sharon Ehlers at 320-808-4500 or the church office at 320-589-3242.
- ☐ **Reminder!** If you or someone you know is hospitalized, in a nursing home, or home-bound and would like a pastoral visit or Holy Communion, please contact Pastor Dan at 320.894.3577 or the church office at 320.589.3242. Hospital and nursing home staff can not contact the Pastor or church office without permission.
- ☐ **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.venco.com.
- ☐ **RUSC Kinship Mentoring** is seeking adult volunteer mentors to spend at least four hours a month with a young person. All mentors are required to complete a screening process which includes an application form, personal interview, background check, and training session. Mentor applications can be found at www.rusckinship.org or by contacting their office in person at 215 Atlantic Ave in Morris, by phone at 320-585-7872 or by email at rusckinship@gmail.com.
- ☐ **West Central Communities Action** now provides Ready Ride which is a grant-funded program offering transportation services to those aged 65 and older. Drivers are volunteers. This program is also available to adults ages 18-64 who are on Medical Assistance. For more information about Ready Ride, please contact John Pryzbylski by email at john@wcmca.org or by phone at 218-685-4486 ext. 7038 or Brenda Larson at brendal@wcmca.org or by phone on 320-304-3458 ext. 7209.
- ☐ **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.



Vacation Bible School is in need of a volunteer to be the **First Lutheran representative!** This includes attending monthly meetings with the consortium of churches involved in VBS, securing First's financial contribution, and volunteering each day during the VBS experience. Please contact the church office for more information.

Vacation Bible School will be held at Faith Lutheran Church in Morris and is open to all students that have completed Kindergarten through 6th grade

Monday, July 17 through Thursday, July 20

8:45am to 3:00pm

Theme: Holy Loved. Wholly Loved.

Registration forms are available in the church Narthex, or registration can be done on Luther Crest website. At the list of programs, scroll down to 2023 July 16-20 Off-Site Day Camp and select Faith Morris Day Camp.

Seniors on the Move

also known as Senior Ministry

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, June 13!

Visit Joan Smith's Perennial Garden - Refreshments will be served

On June 13th at 1:30pm we will carpool to Joan Smith's farm to visit her perennial garden and meet her dog Tater. Joan, a member of First Lutheran, has written a delightful book called "I'm Too Cute to Be This Naughty!" which is about the escapades of her dog Tater and other past dogs. Hear Joan read some excerpts from her book and visit some of the areas Tater loves. Books will be available for purchase (\$15) if you wish, or you can call Joan at 320-589-2497 if you would like to read the book beforehand. If you are able, please bring a lawn chair. All are welcome to join us!

First Lutheran Women of the ELCA

First Lutheran Women of ELCA will meet at Common Cup on Friday, June 16, 2023 at 1:00 pm. Discussion will be to make further plans for the year

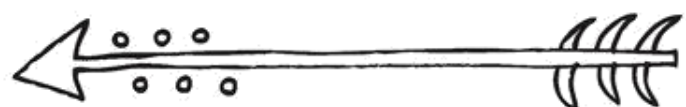
A hearty thanks to helper volunteers and to those who purchased pies! To date the net profit was \$1097, with five or six frozen pies left for sale. Eighty pies were made on 4/15/2023!

It is again nearly Rhubarb Time! If WELCA should plan a future pie fundraiser, they ask people to freeze rhubarb. Please pre-cut and label the number of cups in each container.

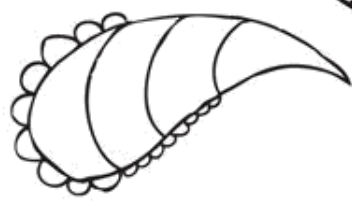
We ended the school year on a fun note with a Family Bingo event sponsored by First Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA with Thrivent funding. Thank you to the following who donated extra Bingo prizes: Sarlette's Music, Glen & Kahla Gillespie, Tim Grove/UMM, Dick & Suzanne Smith, Doug & Sharon Ehlers, Rose & Gary Wagner and First Lutheran Church WELCA. Special thanks to our Bingo callers Chase, Hannah, Jenny, and Sawyer.

I Can Do!

All things



THROUGH



CHRIST

who gives me
STRENGTH.

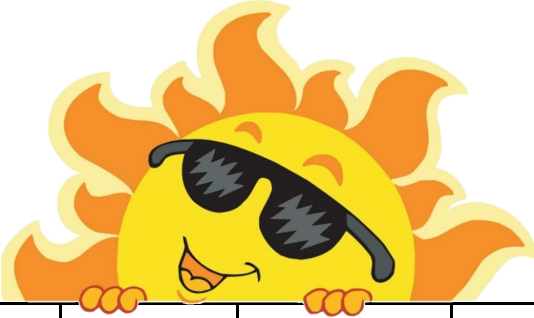


— PHILIPPIANS 4:13

June 2023

All worship services are in-person, in addition to being streamed live via Facebook and YouTube.

Recorded services available on our website at www.flcmorris.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 3:00pm Pastor at West Wind Village (worship)	2 10am-12pm Pastor at Common Cup	3 8:00am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran Church Council Retreat at Luther Crest
4 9:30am Worship HC 10:30am Coffee hour	5	6 11:00am Pastor's Text Study 6:00pm Property Committee Mtg	7 11:30am Lunch Bunch at Common Cup	8 8:30am Share & Care (quilting group) 10:00am Pastor at Skyview Plaza (worship) 6:30pm Worship & Music Meeting	9 10am-12pm Pastor at Common Cup	10 8:00am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran
11 9:30am Worship HC 10:45am Celebration and Meal at Eastside Park for Pastor Dan's retirement	12	13 11:00am Pastor's Text Study 12pm Gatherings for Widows/ Widowers 1:30pm <i>Seniors on the Move</i> Trip to Smith's	14	15 2:00pm Zipporah Bible Study in fellowship hall	16 1:00pm Women of First (WELCA) at Common Cup	17 8:00am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran
18 Father's Day 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee hour	19	20 11:00am Pastor's Text Study 7:00pm Council Meeting	21	22 8:30am Share & Care (quilting group)	23	24 8:00am Men's Bible Study at Faith Lutheran
25 9:30am Worship HC 10:30am Coffee Hour with Mission Kit Meeting	26	27 11:00am Pastor's Text Study	28	29	30	

Rita will be in the church office on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, but is available by email, phone call or text messaging (320.287.2384) Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

June Worship Servants

Sunday, June 4: 9:30am Worship HC

Ushers: Steve & Michelle Just Family

Lector: Cathy Anderson

Nursery: Amy Dougherty

Acolyte: Dane Dybdahl

Communion: Vicki Dalager (bread)

Comm Servers: Doug & Sharon Ehlers, Liz Harris

Video: Kyle Dougherty

TV slides: Wes Odello

Sunday, June 18: 9:30am Worship

Ushers: Dick Smith, Jon Ulrich, Scott Staples,
Michael Bjorklund

Lector: Lindy Ekola

Acolyte: Aaden Schultz & Brayden Carlson

Nursery: Vicki Dalager

Video: Dave Jungst

TV slides: Micah Ulrich

Sunday, June 11: 9:30am HC (lunch at Eastside Park)

(Ushers: Al Harris, Tim Grove, Dennis
Feuchtenberger

Lector: Laurie Feuchtenberger

Nursery: Pam Wiese

Acolyte: Owen & Lilly Nesvig

Communion: Liz Harris (bread)

Comm Servers: Laurie Feuchtenberger, Judy Buro,
Millie Tschetter

Video: Mike Odello & Kye Suess

TV Slides: Chance Buro

Sunday, June 26: 9:30am Worship HC (Blue Hymnal)

Ushers: Bob Heck, Linda Holland, Judy Buro

Lector: Allyn Plattner

Nursery: Bobbie Siegel

Acolyte: Chance Buro & Grant Anderson

Communion: Sharon Ehlers (wafer)

Comm Servers: Emilie Brustuen, Tim Grove,
Ward Voorhees

Video: Steve Wagner

TV slides: Wes Odello

HAPPY
Birthday

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 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: Michelle & Steve Just
Dick & Suzanne Smith
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 21: Ryan & Summer Anderson
June 22: Jared & Britney House
Corrine & Gary Knochenmus
June 29: Tim & Kristin Grove
June 30: Ward & Carol Voorhees

Our Mission.....First Lutheran WELCA

Mission is our main focus. We try to collect supplies and send kits and quilts to Lutheran World Relief www.lwr.org and Global Health Ministries, www.GHM.org.

Share and Care Quilters meet the second and fourth Thursday mornings during the school year.

Information on the mission projects we support is found under the Members tab on the website. Please consider working on these projects at home, donating items/supplies, or helping the Share and Care Quilters.

The touch point dates of **June 25**, July 30, and August 27 will allow small group discussions to review progress and prepare for packing. We will meeting during coffee hour (10:30am) on these dates. Bring whatever you have shopped for or made. Ask questions, work together.

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Highlights: May 16, 2023

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports given to each council member. With an extra Sunday in the month of April, we kept up with expenses. \$1400 benevolence will be sent for June.

Pastor's Report: A written report was given to each council member. Highlights were:

- One additional delegate is needed for the Synod Assembly
- Council Retreat on Saturday, June 3 at Luther Crest; carpooling from the church parking lot.
- VBS Coordinator is needed
- God's Global Barnyard collected \$816.53

Committee Reports:

- Mission & Evangelism: working on scheduling project sites for Church without Walls on Sept 10
- Property: boiler system has been shut down. Property Committee asked the council's opinion of installing security cameras at each entrance. The council gave approval for them to go ahead and look into the cost of purchasing and installing security cameras.
- Education: last day of Sunday school on May 14; kids singing in worship on May 21. Sunday school teachers are looking into different curriculum to use next fall.
- Worship & Music: hymns have been chosen for the month.

Old Business:

- Second TV screen: council will check with Walter Biesterfeld and see when work can be started/completed.

New Business

- Interim Pastor: Tony has been in contact with the Synod office and will call again to obtain names of possible Interims. Discussion was held on possible lay persons to cover services if an interim isn't hired by mid June.
- Farewell Celebration for Pastor Dan's retirement will be held on his last Sunday (June 11). Worship at the church followed by a meal and celebration at Eastside Park.
- Next council meeting will be on Tuesday, June 20 at 7:00pm. Denise to give the devotion.

APRIL'S GIVING and EXPENSE

\$24,974.12 April Giving

\$24,189.09 April Expenses

\$93,375.00 Year-to-Date Giving

\$105,157.61 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

Sundays: 9:30am

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

Televised Services:

Tuesdays at 2:00pm

Federated: Channel 6

MediaCom: Channel 117

STAFF

Rev. Daniel Belgum, Pastor	danelgumblad@gmail.com
Heather Black, Youth Ministry Director	heatherblack.fusion@gmail.com
Laura Wiebe, Choir Director	wieb0043@morris.umn.edu
Rita Bye, Office Manager	office@flcmorris.org
Wyatt Vavra, Custodian	
Deb Mahoney, Organist/Pianist	

CHURCH COUNCIL

Tony Feuchtenberger	President
Cari Burnett	Vice-President
Denise Odello	Treasurer
Jackie Huebner	Secretary
LeAnn Dean	
Bob Heck	
Matt Hilbrands	