

The First Word

LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN LOVE
I CORINTHIANS 16:14

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In observation of 4th of July, the church office is closed Friday, July 3rd. Have fun and be safe! God's blessings to all.

First Lutheran Church Hayward, Wisconsin

From the Pastor's Desk



“I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.” -The Apostle Paul in ROMANS 7.

Let's talk about sin. Not what we have been watching on the news but about us and who we are. It is not something we want to admit to, sin, and it is not something that we can just have a casual conversation about.

I know the theological and existential answers about sin. Sin is our rebellion and mistrust of God because we are going to die – we are the only creature conscious of our own coming death and it makes us selfish and madder than hell.

The burden of sin is something that every human being bears. In one of scripture's greatest equalizers, Paul says it clearly: “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (ROMANS 3:23). When the Bible uses all it means all. For the generation that went through the Great Depression and World War II, there was no question that there was sin and that everyone had it. These two unifying events followed the Spanish Flu Pandemic and do not forget that Diphtheria, Rubella, Measles, Mumps, and Polio were regular visitors. They got through it with faith and hard work and cooperation and with an understanding that every single person has sinned.

When our country's founders realized that the Declaration of Independence had failed they constructed a document based on The Magna Carta coupled with what had been learned from human history, their own experience, and classical education – we call it the US Constitution. One of the brilliant concepts that this rare confluence of talent came up with was checks and balances. Sin cannot get enough power so one of the ways to keep sin in check is to divide the powers up and have them answer to each other. We have three branches of government (executive, legislative, and judicial) and each one answers to the other two. And then we have another branch, called the free press, keeping the governed aware and the powers aware that they are being watched. This is called accountability. The only thing that eradicates sin is dying but until then we all need to answer to somebody else. Accountability helps hold sin in check. Ideally, everyone's conscience would hold them accountable but who sees that working out well? Because of sin we all have to answer to each other to help keep sin in check.

It largely works. Just the knowledge that you might be audited and fined and go to jail keeps most people from cheating on their taxes. Not paying your fair share of taxes would harm your neighbors and ultimately your country. Having to report to the council usually makes committees actually meet and do their work. From top to bottom accountability is built into our healthiest systems. When we ignore accountability is when sin starts to reign and we can have dictatorships and cabals.

Even the forgers of the constitution recognized that they were not perfect and omniscient, had sin, and allowed for the constitution to be amended. The first amendment granted freedom of speech and freedom of assembly made establishing a federal religion illegal, ensured the freedom to worship, and the freedom of the press. Recognizing that it was mercenaries who committed many of the atrocities against average citizens, and who walked away when things were bad because it wasn't their fight, the constitution was amended to require a well-regulated militia made up of the people (the 2nd amendment is about the defense of the United States being conducted only by US citizens in a well-regulated fashion and that defense may never be outsourced). There have been 31 more amendments.

I witnessed the eroding of the concept of sin in my lifetime. It started with Holocaust deniers. Holocaust deniers picked up speed as those who defeated fascism lost steam. The World War II generation began to retire and go to Florida and Texas and Arizona and died at a rate of 1000 a day. And then those born after WWII, who really knew little about common suffering started saying that the Holocaust never happened. Even when they were reprovved for their misguidedness they simply went underground as technology allowed for small groups to find strengths in numbers. And when a group starts thinking like a herd there is no accountability. I noticed it in politics with the language of 'them' entering into common use – we the people got replaced with US vs THEM. When sin was talked about it became what they did or what they do because that is just like them. With the advent of websites and the creation of more channels, there became echo chambers for some really unhealthy beliefs and the US vs THEMness continues. And brings us where we are today.

Why did George Floyd have a fake \$20 bill? Sin. Why did a police officer have a choke-hold on George Floyd who had not resisted and why did three other officers watch? Sin. Why was this officer still a police officer after over a dozen violations? Sin. Why did the union protect him and the city government fail to fire him? Sin. Why did protests become destructive? Sin. Why did outside groups philosophically opposed to the protestors come in and cause havoc? Sin. Why did a bunch of white guys with AR-15s march on state capitol steps and demand the right to haircuts? Sin. Why did people treat compulsory mask-wearing as an infringement on their personal rights? Sin. Why has the gap between rich and poor grown at such an accelerated rate recently? Sin. How can US citizens commit violence upon US citizens practicing their 1st amendment rights? Sin. How come people are fired for having a conscience? Sin. How come soldiers are allowed to be on duty without their insignias marking them for who they are? Sin. How come some people have no conscience what-so-ever? Sin. How come people put their hands on Bibles and make promises and then refuse to abide by those promises? Sin. How come those given the responsibility of oversight stop doing oversight? Sin. How come people kneel before an altar and make vows in front of a whole bunch of witnesses and then do not keep those vows? Sin.

We have let our systems of accountability erode and we absolutely, refuse to accept that we have anything in common with each other. So we have nationalism and xenophobia and sexism and racism and classism.....and rage.

The reason I have us confess sin as a normal aspect of worship is that I believe that we cannot share the grace of communion if we do not acknowledge that we all share the same fear and anger that leads us to not be the people we should be. Sin cannot be eradicated in our lifetimes, though it cannot endure past the grave, but our best bet is in accountability. Our best bet to hold sin in check is to acknowledge that it is real and then set up a system of accountability. Call it checks and balances, call it having someone to answer to, call it middle management.

One of the curiosities that have been proven to be true anecdotally and scientifically is that married people tend to be healthier. Why? They nag each other to make good choices – that's the truth. The people who love us want us to be healthy and do the right thing. I was in a freshman boys' dormitory – I know what happens when we think we have no one to answer to!

Sin is real. Deep down our fear and anger over death turns us into real jerks. We do not live in an era of more sin. But, arguably, we live in an era of inconsistent accountability. Until we humbly acknowledge that we ALL have sinned and we ALL need accountability nothing will be fixed.

In Christ ~ Pastor Joel Bacon

Council Notes

JUNE 2020

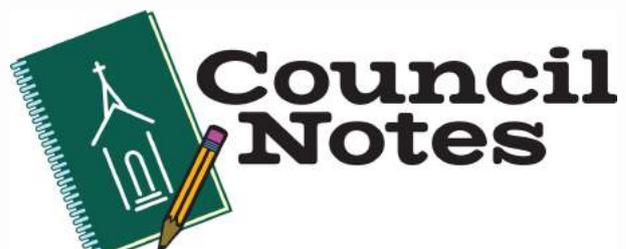
Council met on June 8 via ZOOM. I would like to lift up just three of the many items discussed.

The date of our summer semiannual congregational meeting has been set for July 26, 2020. The details regarding just where and how this will take place will be finalized at our July meeting. These details will be contingent on the situation with the virus and how we will be worshiping at the time, etc. We will be considering holding it outdoors in conjunction with our tailgate worship or perhaps inside with the proper safeguards. The plans will be finalized at our July 13th meeting. The main item on the agenda for this meeting will be the election of council members. We have four council members whose terms are coming to an end. Two of them are eligible to serve a second term and they have agreed to do so. A nominating committee has been appointed to solicit candidates willing to serve if elected.

Considerable time was spent on how to plan for starting some worship back inside our building. We had a special council meeting on May 26th at which time we voted to purchase the FM technology to facilitate our outdoor tailgate worship. It was decided at that meeting that we would begin the tailgate worship ASAP and continue that through August as well as continue the online worship. We also voted at that meeting to evaluate returning to some form of indoor worship at our August meeting. However, now at the regular June meeting, there was a considerable sentiment to consider indoor worship before that. Some time was spent talking about how that might work, etc. It was decided that we would conduct a review of this at our July meeting. Each council member is to do some homework and come prepared to offer plans and suggestions as to how to proceed. We all are longing to get back to “normal” but we know that there are some risks that have to also be considered.

As you might expect our church camp, Luther Park has been hit hard by the COVID-19 situation. They will be missing the entire 2020 camping season and all the revenue garnered from campership fees. They have communicated with their member congregations the need for financial help. We voted to respond in the following manner. First, our normal budget allocates \$225 per month to be sent to Luther Park. We have remitted the first six of those payments to date this year. We will make the last six installments early in one lump sum to get them some funds now when needed most. We will be communicating with our members this need and will offer the opportunity to participate in a special fund drive for the camp. We will approach the First Lutheran memorial and endowment committee and ask if they could provide some assistance. And fourth we will review our cash flow situation after we have finalized our participation in the government payroll protection plan to see if some funds that we will have saved by taking advantage of that forgivable loan program could be shared.

Bruce Schmidt, Council President



Stewardship Message

JULY 2020

There was a pastor whose congregation had slid into a pattern of poor giving and lazy faith who was at faith's and wit's end as to what to do. He watched TV too late one night and decided to try hypnotism. During the service that Sunday he dangled his grandfather's expensive, antique gold pocket watch and as he droned on and slowly swung the timepiece back and forth he casually said, "Give a ten dollar bill." To his amazement everyone zombielike reached into their wallets and purses and pulled out ten dollar bills and placed them in the plates. He was stunned and the treasurer was unusually more chipper that week. The next week he tried it again and at the critical juncture in the hypnosis said, "Volunteer." That whole week the congregation was alive with good works. Amazed, and bolder, the next week the pastor said, "Give twenty" at the critical point and it happened. Three weeks in a row! The pastor could hardly sleep that week as he knew he was going to command the giving of hundred dollar bills! Church in the black, a raise, a better car, there was no end to the plans he had for the sudden influx of faithful, church changing cash. So during the critical juncture in the service, as he droned and the watch swung, his mind of course wandered and daydreamed as the shopping cart in his brain kept filling with good things, and then he accidentally swung the watch too close to the pulpit and banged it against the front. "Oh crap!" he exclaimed. He is now bagging groceries at the Pik-n-Save.

I think many of us can remember church stewardship gimmicks to encourage giving. The best gimmick for giving is not a gimmick at all it is simply being the Church. When a congregation is active and doing good work, when worship and study are faithfully conducted, when the poor and downtrodden are treated with respect, when people are loved and hugged through the highs and lows of life, the generosity happens. It is my experience that congregations that are doing the right things never have to worry about giving. People give to things they trust and believe in.

Thank you for your support you have shown First Lutheran, thank you for your patience with the kitchen remodel and with COVID and waiting for the lights. Thank you for your steady stream of support and encouragement.

This is a great congregation to serve.

In Christ,
Pastor Joel



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FOR SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS i.e. World Hunger, Luther Park, Lutheran World Relief, Malawi, ELCA Disaster Relief, etc., make the checks to "First Lutheran Church" with a memo notation of what they are intended for. Please do not include these gifts in the same check with your regular Sunday offering. All financial records are kept in the strictest confidence at the church office. Gifts to Habitat for Humanity and the Hayward Food Shelf should be sent directly to these organizations as these funds are not recorded on our financial records. The church office will assist in sending these gifts to the appropriate organizations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL
GIVING TO THE LORD'S WORK THROUGH
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Jeannette Siemers
Business Manager

FAITH, FELLOWSHIP & FUN



Bike Club

Bike Club is Back!!!
All ages welcome!

Join us every Monday at 6:30 pm for a casual, road-route bike ride. We will leave from First Lutheran parking lot at 6:30pm and return around 8pm.

Please sign-up by calling the church office or stopping by.

Tailgate Worship

Join us every Sunday at 9 am in the parking lot for "Tailgate Worship".

Bring your lawn chair, relax, and worship together!

Youth Hangout

Every Wednesday evening from
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm.

We will play Gaga, Volleyball, Wiffle Ball, Kickball, and the list goes on.

Bring your water bottle and come have some fun!

All ages of youth are invited.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Tuesday, July 14th @ 7pm

Where: Comfort of your home -
via Zoom

Topic: tbd (potluck)

Parent Squad

Tuesday, July 28th @ 6pm

Location *****

All parents are welcome! Bring your own beverage and a snack to share!

Country Capers with Jan presents



PORTUGAL & SPAIN: TREASURES ALONG THE GOLDEN DOURO

Departure Date

April 9, 2021 - April 23, 2021

Join us on this picturesque cruise & tour into the heart of the Douro Valley. You will revel in beautiful landscapes and verdant countryside, where roads lead to medieval hillside towns. Discover the cultural capitals of Spain and Portugal, including Lisbon, Madrid, and Porto. From town to country are 29 included sightseeing tours and Cultural Connections. We have fifteen days to learn about the economy and lifestyle of these beautiful countries. Please join us.

Contact:

Jan Wege at 715/634-8101, Email: muskymania@centurytel.net

Brochures are available in the church office.



Coffee For Sale:

We have the following blends of coffee available: Dark Roast Whole Bean, Dark Roast Ground, Medium Roast Whole Bean, and Decaf Ground. If you are interested in purchasing coffee, call the church office or stop in during office hours. 2 Sundays per month, coffee is available for purchase before/after worship services.

Kitchen Project:



There are a few things to finish in the kitchen but overall the kitchen project is done. We are training people on how to use the new equipment. Many thanks to the following people.

Kitchen Task Force

Nels and Betty Beckman – Co-chairman

Pastor Joel Bacon – Designated Representative for US Government grant

Jeannette Siemers – Financial and worked in applying for monies from the US Government grant

Alicia Austin – Grant writer

Cheryl Treland- Equipment

Jerry Rasmussen –Demolition and Construction

Bruce Schmidt – Managed the HVAC project

Pam Swanson – Cleaning out cupboards and organizing the new kitchen

Kay Sieh – Cleaning out cupboards and organizing the new kitchen

Karen and Steve Menke – members outside of the church

Ray Austin – Many things, painted walls and cleaned

Daryl Christenson- help get bids.

Jim Onarheim – Property chairman



Other people stepped forward and worked on the project. Besides thanking the people of the Kitchen Task Force the following should also be thanked: Arden Rasmussen, Pete Sievert, David Van Landschoot, Jim Hedin, Tyler Treland, Pat Olson, Linda Beck, Liz Dokkestul, Barb Jacobson, and the office staff – Carol Williamson and Tiffany Chipman. There may be others who stepped forward and did things in little ways that we don't know about. Thank you.

We also want to thank the groups who made adjustments during this time. Morning Study Groups, Cover Girls, Lenten Lunches, Youth, and Wednesday Night Supper. As the virus took over we were able to move ahead as we could not have anything going on in the church, so the workers could move along without interruptions. We also wish to thank all of you, members of First Lutheran for your support.

Not everything went the way we expected as there were pipes we weren't aware of until cabinets were gone, much larger HVAC hood than expected, and an attic already full of wiring, etc. So some changes had to be made but in the end, we have a new kitchen.

Again thank you for your continuous support.

Kitchen Task Force



Finding Blessings

A message from your Youth & Education Director

I was driving down to Lodi, Wisconsin for my psychological evaluation a few weeks ago. I was playing my top Christian playlist quietly in the background and just letting time go by. I bounced between thinking of youth ministry, my future with seminary and candidacy, and things I wanted to do this summer with my family. You know the mindless thoughts wandering during a solo road-trip. And then this song came on. One that I wasn't familiar with. About halfway through it caught my attention and I needed to restart it. The song was speaking to me in a way that some songs do.

The lyrics were speaking about darkness, sadness, and loneliness as being blessings from God. Asking the hypothetical questions of "What if Your blessings come from raindrops? What if Your healing comes through tears? What if the darkness is Your blessings in disguise?"

Well, huh. I was in a trance of thoughts. Emotions were flooding everywhere. I listened to the song about 3 more times, more engaged in thought and awe than before. How exact was this song at this exact moment in time!

For months we have been faced with sadness, darkness, loneliness and so much uncertainty. But, what if this time of trials and darkness is God's way of giving us blessings? What if the suffering and fear and darkness is God showing us our strength and love and hope. During this time we have learned how to connect with people in so many different ways. We have learned that we are strong enough to fight our battles. We love. We care. We pray.

Today, I know that God is listening. He is actively answering our prayers. He is opening our hearts and our minds. His plans are moving. He is creating. He is loving! There will always be darkness. There will always be sadness. It is during these times that we realize God's plan. So, enjoy your vacation while here on Earth. Embrace the moments, all of them! Take the rainy days to breathe and the sunny days to embrace. Let the teardrops fall so the new life can be born.

Remember, our time on earth is like a vacation. Our home is with God in Heaven!

By the way...the song is called "Blessings" by Laura Story. I highly recommend you listen to it! I know it will become a quick favorite for you as it was to me!

Many blessings-
Tiffany Chipman



Youth Ministries

9 Square In the Air

The youth asked for another fun game for our yard! This game is called 9 Square In The Air. It is built with PVC pipes and it is moveable. (Costs about \$300 for materials)

Our youth are selling campfire wood (by donation only) in the church parking lot. The youth have split and stacked the wood and it is up for sale! If you are in need of campfire wood, come pick some up and leave a donation! Once the funds are received we will plan a day/evening that we will build this.



Want to help donate??? We need 750 individually wrapped pieces of the following:

**Life Savers Kit Kats Mints Gum Starbursts Hershey Hugs
Hershey Kisses Snickers Tootsie Rolls Mounds**

Donations due to Tiffany's office by Monday, July 6, 2020.

Summer Splash 2020

Summer Splash continues for July with two new tasks! Thank you to everyone who helped during June's work times.

On July 9th all youth and families are invited to help put together 750 packages for Healthcare Professionals in our community.

We will meet at 10am and work in an assembly line set-up. Bring a sack lunch and let's enjoy a little fellowship after our work.

God's Work is in Our Hands!

Youth-to-Youth Mentoring

We are looking for 10-15 high school students to help our upcoming 9th grade students prepare and embrace high school. We will meet (tentatively) at the following times:

Wednesdays: July 22 & 29: 4-6pm ---Sundays: August 9 & 16: 11am-1pm ---Tuesdays: August 18 & 25: 9-11am

Confirmed times will be decided among the group.

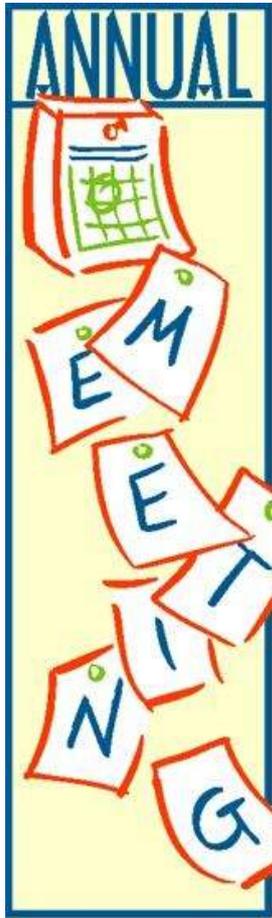
Time together will be around a meal and large group conversation. Please contact Tiffany Chipman to be added to the list.

Vacation Bible School

VBS has changed dates!!! First Lutheran will now offer Vacation Bible School the week of August 3 - 7, 2020. Days and times will remain the same; Monday - Friday 9 am - 12 pm.

Giving more time to come back into the swing of "normal" is our hope. For VBS to happen this year we need a minimum of 15 youth signed up for each day. This is open to ALL youth Kindergarten - 5th Grade (going by grades completed). Registration is online through the First Lutheran website.

All registrations are due by Monday, July 20, 2020.



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendar and be sure to join us for our July Meeting!
Sunday, July 26, 2020 at 10 am (following Tailgate Worship)*

- Vote for new Council members
- Discuss and approve annual reports
- Bring suggestions, comments, questions.

Be sure to be here!

Reminder...**all** high school students that are confirmed are voting members!
Let your voice and vote be heard.

*based on Council decision - meeting could be at 11am after regular 10 am worship.

*****Interested to be part of the leadership team? Names/Candidates are due to the Nomination Committee by Monday, July 6th. Contact the church office for assistance.*****

AN EVANGELICAL MINUTE *We Are Our Brother's Keeper*

One doesn't need to go far to understand that, socially, there is a "stirring" that has increased throughout our country and has even been felt abroad.

We know it began with the unseemly death of a black man at the hands of law enforcement. Once more, the troubling subject of racism rose to prominence before the people.

And with this situation, I could not, but, turn to my faith, whereby, knowing that even though racism is in many a heart; that is not how God sees things! He sees all of us as His children! Black, White, Indian, you name us. He does not discriminate.

He loves us all and in turn, we are to love others. We are our brother's keepers though we may refuse to accept this; it is only right to do. Think about it. If Jesus died on behalf of all of our sins; then we have some things to do as His followers. Let us think on these things and pray for God's help to do what is right in His sight.

In Christ, Amen

Women of First Lutheran

Summer is here and our gardens are beginning to peek their little green head up through the ground. We are beginning to see the fruits of our labor. The seeds were planted in good soil. They were watered and we have kept the animals away and will keep the weeds at bay so that they won't choke the plants. And we wait with patient endurance for the fall bounty of our efforts. We make sure that we use Miracle-Gro and water the gardens faithfully. The seeds hold fast and dig deeper into the soil and spread out to bear the good fruit. We are like the seeds in God's Garden; we have trials and days when things don't come easy, we sometimes are broken by the world, but we persevere with the Miracle-Gro of God's word, the water of baptism holds us fast. God's word takes root and the seeds planted in us spread out in the good soil. Luke 8:15 says "As for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance," What good is a garden if we can't eat the produce. The same is true of us, what good are we if we don't produce or bear fruit. God's Miracle-Gro gives us grace and abilities to be fruitful and useful and we are His children and He sends us out to be His fruit from His Garden. He is our Father, the gardener, the true vine. John 15:4b says "For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me." Let's let our gardens grow, may we be the flavor and the freshness of the products that may brighten someone's day, bring encouragement to someone who is discouraged. We Christians are so needed now, we were planted in the good soil, watered, and fed with His Miracle-Gro. We are equipped to go and feed the hungry. Lead us, Father Gardener.

We are beginning to see the transition of "Safe at Home" to be "Safe at a Distance". We are to practice safe and smart measures. I have put out inquiries to the different Bible Study groups, and there is still a concern about moving too fast. I will let each group decide as to what is best for them. I know we are anxious to get together.

Jubilee will continue to Zoom, finishing out their series of DVDs with Seamless. And begin meeting in the fall (September)

Koinonia I believe will meet next week at the church following the instructions of Safe at a Distance. I hope all goes well.

Peace and Faith Hope and Love Circles: The consensus is to wait until fall (September) to resume the once a month meetings.

We are so blessed with the morning devotions, three different Zoom studies, and the Sunday morning service that we are being fed God's Word. Thank You First Lutheran and Pastor Bacon for all you do for us.

One of His Children, Linda Gordon FLCW Pres.



The Love of Our Altar

Eternal Candle Sponsors for July

Nels & Betty Beckman
Linda Gordon

In memory of our parents
In memory of Cal Gordon and parents

Please sign up on the Eternal Flame clip board if you wish to be a sponsor.
Please give Jeannette the sponsor funds when you sign up.

There is room for more Eternal Candle Sponsors, please sign up and let the office know.
Thank you!!!

Sanctuary Lighting Project

Goal: \$48,000
Funds: \$32,250.52

Sample of what lighting will look like -->



Lectionary Readings

July 5, 2020: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Preface: Sundays Color: Green

Prayer of the Day: You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: - Alleluia. Blessed are you, Lord of heav'n and earth; you have revealed these things to infants. Alleluia. (Matt. 11:25)

Readings and Psalm:

Zechariah 9:9-12 (The king will come in humility and peace)

Psalm 145:8-14 (The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8))

Romans 7:15-25a (The struggle within the self)

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 (The yoke of discipleship)

July 12, 2020: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Preface: Sundays Color: Green

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. The word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart. Alleluia. (Deut. 30:14)

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 55:10-13 (The growth of the word to accomplish God's purpose)

Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13 (Your paths overflow with plenty. (Ps. 65:11))

Romans 8:1-11 (Live according to the Spirit)

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (The parable of the sower and the seed)

July 19, 2020: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Preface: Sundays Color: Green

Prayer of the Day: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation - Alleluia. My word shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. Alleluia. (Isa. 55:11)

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 44:6-8 (There is no other God than the Lord)

Psalm 86:11-17 (Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11))

Romans 8:12-25 (The revealing of the children of God)

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (The parable of the weeds)

July 26, 2020: Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Preface: Sundays Color: Green

Prayer of the Day: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation - Alleluia. Many will come from east and west and will eat in the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia. (Matt. 8:11)

Reading and Psalm

1 Kings 3:5-12 (Solomon's prayer for wisdom)

Psalm 119:129-136 (When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130))

Romans 8:26-39 (Nothing can separate us from God's love)

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (Parables of the reign of heaven)

small groups



The Outreach Committee will resume meeting beginning on July 1st at 5:30 P.M. The normal meeting schedule for the committee is every 3rd month at 5:30. The group will meet in the Room 4. It is important that we revise the schedule for the projects that we have missed during the past several months.

We are a very small group and we are looking for new people to help with the projects we undertake. Examples include: Backpack/school supply collection, fair trade coffee sales, letters to visitors in church, paper products drive and assist with Operation Christmas, Wednesday Night Suppers and other church projects.

If you have a desire to serve on a small, but active committee, contact Carol Nelson at 715-634-2118 or Carol Knudson at 715-699-2386.



Purls of Prayer

Prayer Shawl ministry will continue to happen individually or unofficial small group. Regular meeting times will start again in September.

Facebook is booming and let's keep it going!

Last 30 days:

249 Followers

***24% Age 65+

***22% Age 35-44

163 Average Daily Devotion Viewers

178 Average Worship Viewers

Share posts! Invite family and friends! Comment or like posts.



Cover Girls



Covers Girls (tie quilters) are not planning to meet during the months of July and August.

There is material available for anyone who desires to cut squares to make tops.

You may go in the quilter's closet at church to pick out your favorite colors to cut and sew quilt tops and/or bottoms. Many thanks to everyone who has been sewing at home.



Social Ministry TEAM

Fellowship Committee

Let's get meeting and planning! First meeting back is Wednesday, July 8th at 5 pm. Come with some fun ideas for our members and community!



Music & Worship

Music & Worship Committee meets on Tuesday, July 7th at 10:45am.

First Lutheran in now on Instagram!!!!

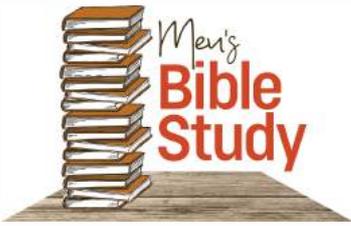


From inspiration to action shots - check out what is happening.

Follow us at

<https://www.instagram.com/flchaywardwi/>

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS



Men's Bible Study is back and studying *Prophecies!*
Every Tuesday at 8 am in Fellowship Hall.
Bring your own beverage and snack (if desired).
***physical distancing and face masks are practiced for safety.
***No food or beverage sharing at this time.



Koinonia (a weekly Bible study group for women) is back and studying *The Old Testament* via DVD series by Amy Jo Levine!
They meet every Tuesday morning at 8am in Room 4.
***physical distancing and face masks are practiced for safety.
***No food or beverage sharing at this time.



Online Bible Studies are available every Wednesday via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. Contact Tiffany in the church office for the link and password. We meet twice on Wednesdays. Both studies are **different**. Engage in both! Studies are at 10 am (Parables) & 7:30 pm (Lesser Known Stories)- every Wednesday!



Jubilee Circle has been meeting via Zoom the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 pm to continue our DVD series Seamless. We will not meet in July. We will complete our final session of the DVD series Seamless August 18 at 6 pm. It is undecided at this time if we will meet in person at church or via zoom one more time.
If anyone is interest in joining us, please contact Rhonda Passolt at 715-563-2502 or 715-634-1026 or passolt0826@yahoo.com.
All Are Welcome.



First Foodies:

Summer Meatloaf by Tiffany Chipman

Ingredients:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1 # Hamburger | 1/2 C Milk |
| 1 small onion (diced) | 1/4 C Ketchup |
| 2 cloves Garlic (minced) | 1 Tbsp Worcestershire Sauce (or Soy Sauce) |
| 1 sleeve Ritz Crackers (crumbled) | Salt & Pepper (about 1 tsp each) |
| 1 Egg | 2 tsp chopped fresh Parsley |
| 1/2 tsp Red Pepper Flakes | |

Glaze:

1/2 cup ketchup, 1 tbsp brown sugar, and 2 tsp Worcestershire sauce. Mix completely.

Preheat outdoor grill to 375 degrees. (This will cook over indirect heat, so a charcoal grill will need to place the charcoal for heating on the sides only).

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl. Mix well to fully incorporate. Form into a loaf, making the height about 2". Place loaf on Aluminum Foil and wrap tightly. Double wrap with foil to ensure it doesn't burn.

Place loaf on grill (Indirect Heat) and cook for 1 hour or until temperature reaches 160 degrees. Flip once (carefully) about halfway through. At the end of the hour, open the foil pack (enough to see the top of the meatloaf) and brush the top with the glaze. Let cook for about 20-30 minutes. Take off grill. Slice and enjoy!

This recipe pairs great with Baked potatoes (on the grill) and a fresh salad. Comfort food without the heat of the oven! Enjoy!



Have a recipe you would like to share???
Submit your recipe to Tiffany Chipman at
tchipman@firstlutheranhaywardwi.net



Weekly Community Suppers

If all goes as planned, on Wednesday, July 1st we will start up Wednesday Night Supper by doing carry-outs only. We will bring carry-outs to cars. We are looking forward to using the new kitchen and learning how to use the new equipment. We had a training session on June 24th. All of July we will have our Wednesday monthly leaders serving meals and we already have three groups signed up for August. If you like to learn about the new kitchen sign up for a Wednesday Night Supper and our monthly leaders will work with you.



Neighbors

Update on Colson & Dean Bjelland



Brittani Neumann Bjelland, daughter of Randy and Kris Neumann graduated from University of Nebraska, Omaha with her Doctorate in Pharmacy, this past May. Brent, Brittani, Colson, and Dean will reside in Lake Mills, Iowa where Brittani will be employed at CVS Pharmacy in Mason City, Iowa.

The Bjelland, Neumann, and Treland families would again like to thank First Lutheran Church for all their prayers this past year during the pregnancy and birth of Colson and Dean. The boys were born 3 months premature and around 2 pounds. They are now thriving! God's blessings to each and every one of you.



Celebration of Life: Edith (Edie) Vallem



Edith Louise Louis was born January 31, 1930 in Hayward, the daughter of William "Bill" Henry and Letitia Ann (Edwards) Louis. She attended school in Hayward until 1942, when the family moved to Indiana. Edie returned to Hayward in 1948 where she met her soul mate Raymond (Ray) Arthur Vallem. They were married on January 15, 1949 and enjoyed 55 years together. Together they raised six children. Edie was the maternal head of five living generations. She was a devoted wife and mother who loved to travel, volunteered for church functions, Scouts, and 4-H. She was also a member of Hayward Piece Makers Quilt Guild and ALCW group. Additional hobbies included sewing, painting, jewelry making and baking. Edie is survived by her children, Elaine (Charles) Grainger, Paul (Jackie Hargett) Vallem, Irene (Chuck) Graves, Judy Hooker, and daughter-in-law, Emily Hunt Vallem. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray; and two sons, Lawrence and Craig.

A Celebration of Life for Edith (Edie) Vallem is scheduled for Saturday, July 18, 2020, from 2 pm - 4 pm at First Lutheran Church. Edie's famous Raisin Cookies (dad's favorite) will be served along with some other desserts, coffee, and water. Weather permitted the reception will be outside.



Class of 2020

Graduation Ceremony: July 16th

Congratulations again Class of 2020. We are proud of you!

Connor Abric

Anya Bacon

Mason Chipman

Jakob Shaw

Tommy Tiffany

Jake Torstenson

Social Media

Check out our First Lutheran Church Website at: <http://www.firstlutheranhaywardwi.org>

Giving Options:

We have several online ways to contribute to First Lutheran Church ministries.

Give+ Mobile

The Give+ Mobile app offers you a way to make convenient credit or debit card donations quickly through your Android or Apple phones.

The Give+ app is free, secure and easy to use. Simply go to the App Store and search for "give plus Church" to download and start donating today.

Automatic withdrawal from your banking account. You may set the amount of your contribution, the date, the frequency. Contact the office for more information.



<https://www.facebook.com/pg/firstlutheranhaywardwi/about>



"Day 1" Radio Ministry



"Day 1", a voice of mainline Christian Churches, presents messages by clergy representing mainline Christian faiths, including those of the ELCA. Peter Wallace, host for each broadcast, facilitates discussion with clergy on timely topics. This radio ministry reaches our shut-ins, visitors to the area, and others for whom regular worship and Church affiliation are not a part of their daily lives. The cost per broadcast is \$30. We have First Lutheran members sponsor the "Day 1" weekly segments on radio station WRLS-FM (92.3). These segments air at 8:30am every Sunday. The sponsorship of a broadcast may be in honor of a person, or special occasion, or in memory of a loved one and is open to all.

Day 1 Sponsors:

June 14 in memory of Don Harms by Judy and Family

June 28 in memory of Doug Wikum and Bill and Diane Weinstock by Jane and Family



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

We are a Church that is deeply rooted—and always being made new.

If anyone is in Christ...

We are deeply rooted. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is still comparatively new as a Church body, and yet our roots are much deeper than our 25 years together. The taproot of our life extends through the histories of predecessor Churches in the United States, through the formative witness of the 16th century evangelical reformers and their confessional writings, to the Scriptures and the word of Christ. Our life is in Jesus Christ. We are deeply rooted in his word of forgiveness and the promises of God's steadfast love and mercy. The word of Christ dwells in us richly. God nourishes us as one body in Jesus Christ with companions from around the globe who meet us at Christ's table of grace.

...there is a new creation

We are being made new every day. In Jesus Christ we are not unchanged. What God does in Christ is as radical as the death and resurrection of baptism, where new creatures in Christ rise to live "no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them." God is bringing that new creation to life among us in the ministry of reconciliation. In that service we no longer see each other as we did before. We are no longer strangers, competitors or enemies to each other. We are beloved companions in one body, restored to a communion where the rich diversity of our experiences, wisdom and abilities serve the common good in Christ. The new creation in Christ rises to life among us every day.

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday
8:30—4:00
Friday
8:30—12:00

Weekly Bulletin:

If you would like to submit information for the weekly bulletin, it is due to Tiffany Chipman by 12:00pm each Wednesday

First Word:

ALL ARTICLES for the First Word newsletter are to be sent to Tiffany Chipman by 4:00pm on July 18th for the August First Word



Phone: 715-634-2141

Contact Us:

Mail: P.O. Box 346
Hayward, WI 54843



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Organist
Volunteer Coordinator

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beckyverson@charter.net
ptreland@gmail.com

Our Caring Prayers:

Care Centers:

Aspen Acres
10214 Rock Creek Rd
Hayward, WI 54843

- *Irene Ahrenkiel*
- *Mel Friske*

Care Partners Assisted Living
15497 Pinewood Drive
Hayward, WI 54843

Hayward Health Center
10775 Nyman Avenue
Hayward, WI 54843

- *Liz Webber*

Country Terrace
10260 White Birch Lane
Hayward, WI 54843

Water's Edge
11044 N State Rd 77
Hayward, WI 54843

Care Center:

- *Irene Byerly*
- *Ralph and Carol Cornell*
- *Vi Jacobson*
- *Colleen Moreland*
- *Paul Pedersen*

Assisted Living:

- *Clare Jacobson*
- *Karen Luebke*
- *Dennis Marquardt*
- *Gene Nelson*
- *Joyce Zaspel*

Please Pray For:

Barbara Williamson
Jane Wikum
Emily Hutchison
Dean Schleeter
David Grothe
Brandt Lee
Kari Costa
Nathan Gerber

Chronic & Long-term Illness:

John Jaeckel
John Bihun
Ranee Bihun





JULY
Birthdays



Reuben Groehler
 Art Dittmann
 Lucille Ackley
 Karen Churitch
 Peggy Johnson
 Dorene Snider
 Bill Olson
 Susan Nymo
 Whitey Gilbertson
 Betty Beckman
 Sandy Klevgard
 Carol Gustafson
 Randy Schwartzhoff
 Jan Hubbard
 Dale Schleeter
 Dean Schleeter
 Pete Sievert
 Connie Mills
 Keith Sengbusch
 Ken Schmock
 Kathy Freese

Dee Arnold
 Maran Bacon
 Mark Beckman
 Brett Poppe
 Marc Strapon
 Kathy Kisch
 Mike Bratley
 Jenna Schwartzhoff
 Kelly Froemel
 Nick Mast
 Jocelyn Olson
 Amber Al-Moghrabi
 Steven Marksman
 Sabrena Kopp
 Caitlyn Beckman
 Kaelan Anderson
 Tommy Tiffany
 Liesl Eckstrom
 Jack Wolfe
 Xander Larson
 Tanner Poppe

Benjamin Larson
 Sadie Campbell
 Liam Aldoff
 Emma Blinkwolt
 Aria Al-Moghrabi
 Kyler Schlapper

**HAPPY
 BIRTHDAY**



JULY
Anniversaries



Bradley & Kelly Archambeau
 Daryl & Krista Christenson
 Tom & Mary Doig
 Whitey & Donna Gilbertson
 Gib & Jean Purtell
 Gary & Barb Romstad

HAPPY
Anniversary
DAY

Craig & Nicole Schlapper
 Bruce & Carol Schmidt
 Jim & Jane Schobel
 Keith & Gail Sengbusch
 Robert & Arlene Simons
 David & Kim Stevens

2020 July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	Jun 30	1	2	3	4
			7:30am Online Devotion 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5:30pm Youth Hangouts 5:30pm Outreach 7:30pm Zoom Bible Study	7:30am Online Devotion 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	Office Closed 7:30am Online Devotion	7:30am Online Devotion
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8am Online Worship 9am Tailgate Worship	7:30am Online Devotion 6:30pm Bike Club	7:30am Online Devotion 8am Koinonia 8am Men's Bible Study 10am Staff Meeting 10:45am Music & Worship	7:30am Online Devotion 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5pm Fellowship Committee 5:30pm Youth Hangouts 7:30pm Zoom Bible Study	7:30am Online Devotion 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	7:30am Online Devotion	7:30am Online Devotion
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8am Online Worship 9am Tailgate Worship	7:30am Online Devotion 5pm CC Exec Meeting-Library 5:30pm Congregational Council 6:30pm Bike Club	7:30am Online Devotion 8am Koinonia 8am Men's Bible Study 10am Staff Meeting 7pm Theology On Tap	7:30am Online Devotion 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5:30pm Youth Hangouts 7:30pm Zoom Bible Study	7:30am Online Devotion 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	7:30am Online Devotion 6pm Friday Night Movie	7:30am Online Devotion 2pm Edie Vallem Visitation
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8am Worship* 9am Tailgate Worship* 10am Worship*	7:30am Online Devotion 5pm Youth Committee 6:30pm Bike Club	7:30am Online Devotion 8am Koinonia 8am Men's Bible Study 10am Staff Meeting	7:30am Online Devotion 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5:30pm Youth Hangouts 7:30pm Zoom Bible Study	7:30am Online Devotion 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	7:30am Online Devotion	7:30am Online Devotion
26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
8am Worship* 9am Tailgate Worship* 10am Semi-Annual Meeting* 10am Worship*	7:30am Online Devotion 6:30pm Bike Club	7:30am Online Devotion 8am Koinonia 8am Men's Bible Study 10am Staff Meeting 6pm Parent Squad	7:30am Online Devotion 10am Zoom Bible Study 5pm Community Supper 5:30pm Youth Hangouts 7:30pm Zoom Bible Study	7:30am Online Devotion 8:30am Many Hands Day 6pm Spirit Within 7:30pm AA	7:30am Online Devotion	

2

3

Notes

***Tentative worship schedule. Clarification based on Council meeting (July 13, 2020)**

Worship With Us!
Online Sundays - 8am
Tailgate Sundays - 9am
Regular worship tentative to start
weekend of July 19, 2020
Everyone is Welcome!

10680 Main Street
Hayward, Wisconsin
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P.O. Box 346
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