

# The First Word

August 2019

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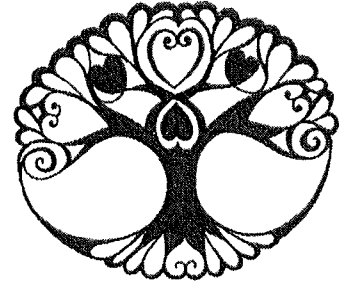
## STAFF

Pastor — Julie Rogness  
KAI Intern Pastor — Sara Martin  
Admin.Asst— Annette Thunhorst  
Accountant — Julie Dyrdaahl  
Custodians — Dave & Betty Redfield  
Keyboard — Annette Thunhorst  
Organ — Tammy Hanson  
Youth/Family — Carmen Nesseth  
Missionaries — Stephen Deal,  
Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke,  
Karen Anderson  
Partner Cong — Ilongero  
Lutheran, Tanzania



First Lutheran Church—  
Kenyon MN

## Ice Cream, Stretch & Compassion



I recently returned from a mission trip to Guatemala. This was my third trip to this amazing place that trains young women to care for the earth and empowers them to attend school. I could go on, but this is about ice cream, being stretched and showing compassion.

Rob and Tara are the directors of the ministry called Community Cloud Forest Conservation. Rob has big issues with ice cream. He has been known to jump off the moving bus to purchase ice cream for a group. This year we stopped at the usual ice cream stop on the way from Guatemala City to Coban. I chose a cup of mango ice cream. Mmmm yummy!

A few days later we were making another ice cream stop. Rob announced you can get ice cream, but it must be in a sugar cone. Ugh, I thought, I like mine in a cup. Why a sugar cone? Well because there is no plastic to throw into the trash.

In July I met with the good people who set up communion. We had a meaningful discussion about recycling. There are things we recycle that don't belong in the recycling that clog up the machines. The news that China is no longer taking our recycling. Rob's comment about sugar cones stretch me in new ways concerning plastic and compassion for the Earth.

My stretch since coming home from Guatemala is to be more mindful of limiting my consumption of plastic. It is hard to do! Even when I went to put my recent purchase of an ice coffee container in the garbage, I woke up to the truth it came in a plastic container with a plastic straw.

The Psalmist proclaims in chapter 65, *"You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it. You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops. You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance. The grasslands of the desert overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness. The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing."*

We know this right?! I am challenging and stretching myself even more to see the beauty of God's creation by showing more compassion in the choices I make. Will you join me?

*Pastor Julie*

### MISSION STATEMENT OF FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*"Through God we are creating a vibrant, welcoming faith community, embracing all, providing harmony among generations, while lending compassion locally and globally."*

## **First Lutheran Church Council Meeting - July 17, 2019**

**Present:** Pastor Julie, Bill Lewis, Amy Lee, Jill Berg, Don Herrlich, Sarah Hildebrandt, & Carrie Doehling

**Devotions:** Sarah Hildebrandt

**Approval of Agenda:** M/S Don/ Amy - Approved

**Secretary's Report:** M/S Amy/Bill - Approved

**Treasurer's Report:** As of June 30, 2019: Checking Account Balance - \$6350.80; Memorial Account Balance - \$525.00. M/S Jill/Amy – Approved

**Pastors Report:** 3 Sunday morning Worship Services, 3 Wednesday eve Services, Weekly planning for worship with Annette, Committee Meetings, Supervise Intern Pastor Sara - weekly meetings (An 8 year old was her supervisor in Guatemala, Sophia), Community Cloud Forest Conservation (CCFC) Guatemala with Intern Sara June 19-29, Friendly Visitor Training, Setting up for Communion Training, 10 Visits (hospital, communion and other), TEEM Partnership with a seminary student – visit, Helped some with Expedition Serve - Sarah's project.

**Looking forward:**

Wedding - Friday July 26, Madelyn Berks and Lamont Davenport

Intern Pastor Sara Martin's last Sunday will be August 25th. She will preach that day.

Sara and Patrick's wedding in October

Pastor Chris Miller to preach October 15

Tim Bowman's Ordination on August 24th at 2 pm

VBS at Holden

New Intern Patricia Bjorklund begins Sept 1, Oct 6 will be her first Sunday here leading liturgy

**Thought:** When we ask people to call the church office regarding something, please share the details with Annette. Thank you.

### **Continuing Business**

- 1) Committee/Board Job Descriptions: Will be copied to give to each committee for their review.
- 2) Mission Support-ELCA and SE MN: Ongoing discussion.

### **New Business**

- 1) Treasurer Resignation: Motion to accept with "thanks" Kevin Krueger's resignation. M/S/ Bill/Jill – Motion to approve Don Herrlich in the position until the annual meeting in January 2020. At that time a treasurer will be elected to fill the remaining one year of the term. M/S – Jill/Amy – Approved
- 2) Intern Farewell: Intern Sara's last Sunday with us will be August 25. Coffee hour that Sunday will honor and recognize her time with us.
- 3) Misc. Synod Staff Farewell- August 27<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 pm at the Synod Office  
–Installation of New Bishop Regina Hassanally on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> @ St. John's in Owatonna @ 1PM  
–Bishop Delzer's Farewell Reception @ Our Saviors in Faribault on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 PM
- 4) Pancake Breakfast: Motion to approve Kenyon Boy Scouts use of church for their pancake breakfast on Saturday, August 17 (Rose Fest). First Lutheran Youth are welcome and encouraged to assist. M/S Bill/Jill - Approved

### **Committee Reports**

**Worship/Evangelism** - Date: 7/2/19 Members present: Tammy Fletcher, Pastor Julie Rogness, Shari Quam, and Sherry Sathrum

Volunteer list for readers, greeters, communion helpers and coffee servers is being passed around during church service. Exciting to see new names on the sign up list. Will continue

passing binder each Sunday. Friendly visitor training on July 11 at 6:30 p.m. Next meeting August 13 @ 6:00.

FLCW – Board did not meet in July, next meeting August 5.

Property and Management: No 'formal' meeting was held in July. Members have been getting together often overseeing and/or actively working on the following projects:

- Eave trough project on the Ed Wing has been completed.
- Phase 1 of the concrete project is now complete. Note: Phase 1 is 'totally' paid for. ***Phase 2 will begin shortly and congregation donations are needed. Please prayerfully consider your donation to this phase 2 work.***
- Some landscaping rock work has been done and a flower bed restored. Plans are to seed the lawn in early August.
- Members continue to 'tweak' the church sound system in order to try and benefit those who are having some degree of difficulty hearing during services.

Stewardship: Stewardship Committee will be serving strawberry shortcake during coffee hour on Sunday, July 28. All are encouraged to come for coffee and this "special" treat.

Youth and Education:

- VBS Wednesday, July 31 – Saturday, August 3 at Holden. Sarah Hildebrandt, Anna Bauer & Carmen Nesseth will be assisting.
- Sunday School 2019-2020 – In need of teachers for 4 classrooms, pre-K/K, grades 1-2, 3-4, and 5-6. Volunteers would be appreciated.
- Bev Emerson has stepped down from, Sunday School Superintendent.  
**Thanks for your service Bev.**
- Carmen will lead music for Sunday School. **Thank you!**
- Discussion Items: Youth summer activity (pool party) and a fall youth gathering.

Personnel Committee: Did not meet in July.

**Next Meeting Date: August 21, 2019 @ 6:30PM**

**Adjournment: M/S Amy/Jill - Approved**

**Closing with the Lord's Prayer**

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And coming soon...



FIRST LUTHERAN SENIOR CHOIR

FIRST REHEARSAL  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 at 7 PM

Warm up your voices and maybe  
look for your dancing shoes too!

*Carol Lozon, Director*

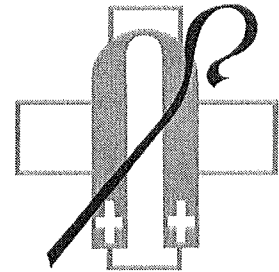
# Events in Our Church & Synod

**First Lutheran Pool Night**, – Wed. August 14, 6:30-8:30 PM.  
Open swim at Kenyon Pool. Games & snacks at Depot Park.  
All are welcome – friends too. Join us!



**Rosefest Pancake Breakfast** – Sat. August 17 AM  
Here at First Lutheran! Sponsored by Kenyon Boy Scouts  
with help from First Lutheran Youth.

**Bishop Delzer's Retirement Reception** – Sun. August 18, 2-4:30 PM  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 207 Prairie Ave SW, Faribault.



**Timothy Bowman Ordination & Reception** – Sat. August 24, 2 PM  
Faith Lutheran Church, 308 2nd St. NW, Dodge Center.



**Farewell & Sending for Intern Pastor Sara Bowman** – Sun. August 25  
at First Lutheran morning worship, with fellowship time to follow.

**Office of the Bishop – Staff Farewell Open House** – Tue. August 27, 3-5 PM  
Assisi Heights, Rochester.

**New Kenyon Area Intern Patty Bjorklund** - begins Sept. 1 (scheduled @ First, Oct. 6)

**Senior Choir Begins** – first rehearsal on Wed. Sept. 4 @ 7 PM

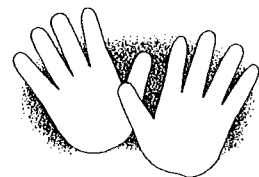


**Rally Sunday** – Sun. Sept. 8 - Sunday School Begins \*See below  
Blessing of Parking Lot



**Installation of Our New Bishop,  
Rev. Regina Hassanally** – Sat. Sept. 14, 2 PM  
St. John Lutheran Church, 1301 Lincoln Ave SE Owatonna.

**WELCA Fall Convention** – Sat. Sept. 21, 8 AM-4 PM  
Trinity Lutheran Church, 609 Lincoln Ave South, Owatonna.  
*Registration forms available from the Church Office*



**\*Seeking Sunday School Teachers for the upcoming Sunday School year which begins Sept 8th. Please contact Carmen Nesseth if you can help.**



## Small Wonders

"Blue Butterflies" is the title of a pretty little piece of music found in an old piano lesson book (c.1955). When I play it, I wonder what the composer meant to express. In music, "blue" often means 'singing the blues' or feeling sad, but this music didn't seem sad at all, so I continued to puzzle over it.

Imagine my surprise, when not long afterward, blue butterflies came to our yard to feed on white clover. The butterflies we saw were pale/almost white on the underside-wings but with topsides a light cornflower blue, and overall, about the size of my two thumbnails side by side. So remarkable! This prompted a Google search—offering this question/answer: "What does it mean when you see a blue butterfly?" Answer: "The blue butterfly is a symbol of spirit speaking through transformation and change. In some cultures, spotting a blue butterfly is thought to bring sudden good luck. Blue butterflies are also considered wish-granters. A blue colored butterfly is often thought to symbolize joy and happiness."

Now the music title seems perfect. Thank you, God for blue butterflies! ABT

### *from Intern Pastor Sara*

I can't believe this month marks the end of my internship in Kenyon. The time has honestly flown by, I have learned so much, and I know I will walk into first call more confident because of each one of you. I really don't like saying good-bye because it seems so final and so complete, so, as I leave internship, and make way for your next intern to come and learn just as much as I did--if not more, let's leave it at "I'll see you later." I have a feeling our paths will cross in the near future, whether that's at celebrations of many kinds, the fair in future years, a Synod Assembly or two, or being there to witness you and your children change the world. I have loved every minute of being with each of you, even with the little hiccups along the way, and wish I could stick around a little longer, especially since learning from each of you is far more fun than learning in a classroom. But, Intern Patty is coming, and just like you welcomed me and quickly got to know me, I know you'll do the same for her. Kenyon Area Internship, you will always be part of my pastor formation story.

### *Thank You*

Wow! Thank you to all of you who helped make Expedition Serve a huge success! With 30 kids participating and over 30 volunteers helping out in different ways, I can honestly say it wouldn't have been possible without each of you. The students (and their adult helpers) made a huge difference in the community from doing several projects at KW Elementary and Middle School, cleaning two sections of ditches, helping with several projects in and around the Dale Cemetery, and helping out at the Sunset Home and Gunderson Gardens. The list of projects these students were given was long, and they finished each project as well as found time to get to know one another better. I think the highlight for each of us was visiting with the residents at the Sunset Home and singing happy birthday to one of the women. It is reasons like this that make me so excited about the future of our church. Again, thank you to all those who made the three days possible and a special thank you to all the students that did such amazing work!

Kenyon Area Intern Pastor Sara



Meet Our Next Kenyon Area Intern -- Arriving Sept. 1 -- Her first Sunday at First is October 6

*From Patty Bjorklund*

I am so excited to soon begin my internship with you all! While I currently hail from the Twin Cities, my roots are in east-central rural Minnesota and I look forward to returning and rediscovering the beauty and sincerity of rural/small town life, to the land and the people of the Kenyon area. I look forward to hearing your stories; of life, of faith, of community and learning how these stories might shape my future ministry for the church.

I bring with me a lifetime of service to the church as a minister of music, first as an avocation while a small town public school vocal music teacher in the early days, then as full vocation as I sought my graduate degree in church music later on. What I thought to be the culmination of my church career -being called and installed as a Minneapolis Synod rostered ELCA deacon April of 2014 – turned out to be a stepping stone to the future. God had more plans for me. As I carried out my duties as deacon (an office of “word and service”) it wasn’t long before the call to ordination as a pastor took hold of my soul and put me on the path to ordination. I “retired” from music ministry to fully concentrate on my studies and future role for the church. I marvel at this joyous and challenging journey thus far, relying on the Apostle Paul’s words in Romans: *We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.* Rom. 28:8, NRSV

Along for this ride are my husband of 36 years, Arlen, and two adult sons Dan, who is married to Sarah, and Scott, a senior at UMD. We’ve lived in South St. Paul for the past 24 years, where we are avid Minnesota sports fans, (especially the Golden Gophers) and nature enthusiasts. I serve on the South St. Paul School Board. Baking, gardening and fixing/restoring things are passions of mine. I hope to someday learn the art of rosemaling and to play the harp.

Peace and Joy, Patty Bjorklund

## **Southeastern Minnesota Synod WELCA Fall Convention**

**Called  
+  
To Serve**

Trinity Lutheran Church  
609 Lincoln Avenue South  
Owatonna, MN

# Saturday, September 21, 2019

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*Registration & Coffee, 8 – 9:15 am • Business Session I 8:15 (Sanctuary)  
Gathering, Music, Welcome 9:15 • Morning Presenter Jo Marie Morris “Jeremiah Program”  
Churchwide Message Karen Voris • Morning Presenter Habibo Haji*

---- LUNCH ----

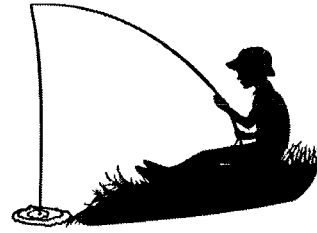
*Afternoon Presenter Pastor Kevin Doely “Laugh for Life” • Business Session II 2 pm  
Installation of Officers by Churchwide Representative • Closing Worship 3 pm*

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**Registration Fee \$25; Registration Form Deadline Sept 2, 2019; Diane Linbo 507-634-6602; Qstns  
Contact: Kay Hodge 507-634-7192, Judi Mickelson 651-764-3575 or Linda Sandborg 507-835-2881**

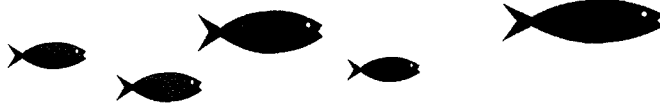
LOVE OFFERING for the Convention will go to Rachel’s Light in Owatonna, a homeless shelter for women and children. Their goal is to promote a safe and pleasant communal living environment and provide each resident with the opportunity to work towards self-sufficiency, independence and greater self-worth. We will help with *bathroom items, i.e. soap, toilet paper, keenex, lotions, shampoo, shower curtains, gift cards to Target, Walmart, HyVee.* There will be a display from Rachel’s Light to answer any questions you may have.

# Hello, August 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				←----- Vacation Bible School @ Holden -----→ July 31 thru August 3 Program @ Holden: Sun., Aug 4		
<b>Hymnal Supplement Service</b>						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA		9:30 Morn.Circle Bible Study	6:00 Worship	7:00 AA		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA		6:00 Worship/ Evang. Comm.	6:00 Worship 6:30-8:30 Pool Party	11:30 Round Table 7:00 AA	←----- KENYON ROSE FESTIVAL -----→	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee 7:00 AA		Court Services	6:00 Worship 6:30 Church Council	7:00 AA		2 pm Tim Bowman Ordination
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:00 Worship 10:00 FAREWELL FOR SARA 7:00 AA		6:30 Internship Committee Potluck	6:00 Worship	7:00 AA		

**Hymnal Supplement Service - Sept 1**

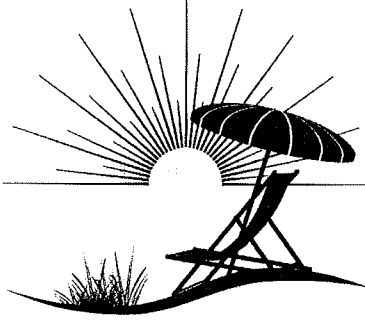


# The First Word

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
309 Forest Street  
Kenyon, MN 55946  
(507) 789-5261

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Kenyon, MN  
Permit No. 20

*\*Change service requested*



*Sometimes, simply by sitting  
the soul collects wisdom.*

ZEN PROVERB



## ~ ~ Thank You, August Volunteers! ~ ~

### **AUG USHERS**

Les Eggert, Chr.  
Jason Quam, Chr.  
Steve Boyum  
Jay Fogelson  
Dean Musgjerd  
Todd Angelstad  
David Floren  
Mike Hope  
Dan Quam  
Richard Ellingsberg

### **ALTAR CARE**

Mary Danielson-Gates  
Carmen & Brad Nesseth  
Sue & Ken Wold

### **COMMUNION SET-UP**

8/4: Tammy Fletcher &  
Pat Schreiber  
8/11: Larry & Carolyn Walker  
8/18: Ben & Phyllis Greseth  
8/25: Carmen Nesseth

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS, COFFEE, ACOLYTES**

#### **AUG 4**

GREET Wendy & Josh Lorfald  
READ Tammy Fletcher  
COMM Ed & Tammy Fletcher,  
Josh Lorfald  
COFF Wayne & Marie Spidah  
ACOL Julia Dahl, Corrie Born

#### **AUG 11**

GREET Dan & Shari Quam  
READ Ruby Hagberg  
COMM Dan & Shari Quam  
Holly Lexvold  
COFF Harris & Heidi Haugen  
ACOL Ben Short, Jakob Kirchmann

#### **AUG 18**

GREET Ben & Phyllis Greseth  
READ Dan Rogness  
COMM Dan Rogness,  
Larry & Carolyn Walker  
COFF Ben & Phyllis Greseth  
ACOL Norah & Stella Rechtzegal

#### **AUG 25**

GREET Sherry Sathrum  
READ Kaia Lehman  
COMM Larry & Kaia Lehman  
x  
COFF Don & Candy Herrlich  
ACOL Will VanEpps, Alex Lee