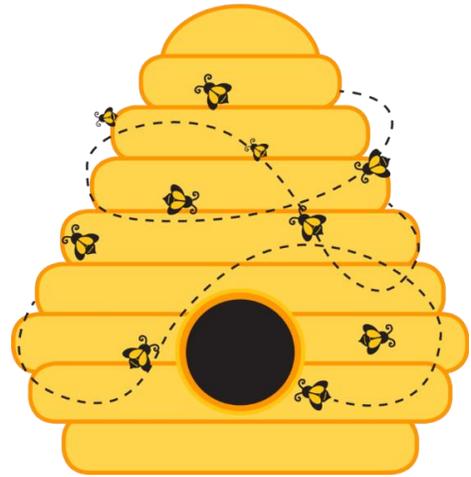


September 2021 Newsletter



Teamwork and Bees

Bees and teams was the theme of our devotions at a recent Worship and Evangelism meeting. The question was posed “What does God Say About Teamwork?”

In Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 Solomon writes: *“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.”*

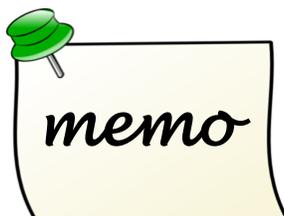
Do you like honey? I do! I love honey in tea, on cornbread and toast. I love candles that are made from honey. Did you know bees fly about 55,000 miles to make just one pound of honey? That’s more than two times around the world.



They were created by God to be a team. They live as many as 80,000 in a hive and together produce more than 80 pounds of honey each year.

As your pastor I am dependent on each of you to be part of the teamwork here at First Lutheran and in our community. However, sometimes I fail to be a good team player. And when I do it gets messy. I am working alone and not in harmony with the team. I am the one that falls and is dependent on someone to help me up and get back on the right path again. The truth is God created us to work together and support one another. When we do, we are truly the Body of Christ and that makes everything sweeter. Thanks for being an amazing team – the Body of Christ!

- Pastor Julie -



*No Outdoor Worship - Wed. September 1
See You On - Wed. September 8 at 6 pm
Under the pine trees*

Consider Making a Difference
through

**Lutheran
Disaster
Response**

For over two decades, the ELCA has maintained a presence in southern Haiti through support for agricultural and sustainable development work. To continue our engagement with those communities, **Lutheran Disaster Response** is collaborating with partner organizations in the communities to meet relief needs, including food, water, medical supplies and temporary shelter. In the future, other areas of support will include psychosocial care, water and sanitation, and creating sustainable livelihoods through agriculture and livestock. We also stand with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti as it assesses damage and impacts on churches and church life.

AND,

The 2021 wildfire season is devastating the western United States. A prolonged drought and extreme heat waves are causing wildfires to spread rapidly, which makes them difficult to contain. California is currently the hardest-hit state — the Dixie Fire, in Northern California, is already the second largest wildfire in the state's history, having burned over 505,000 acres. Tens of thousands of people are under evacuation orders, and hundreds of buildings have been destroyed.

The fires are not limited to California; more than 100 wildfires are now burning throughout 15 states. Smoke from these fires is carried across the country, a sign of the far-reaching effects of worsening wildfires.

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with synods and social ministry organizations in California and other western states to develop a coordinated response to the wildfires.

**US Wildfires and Haiti Crisis
Lutheran Disaster Response
Needs Our Help**

Your gifts will support wildfire survivors and people in Haiti. Give through First Lutheran and 100% of your gifts will be used in full, to assist those affected by Wildfires and the Haiti Crisis.

**Make your check out to First Lutheran Church
Put in the memo line LDR Haiti or LDR Wildfires.**

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is working with synods and social ministry organizations in California and other western states. Immediate needs will include food, necessities as well as emotional and spiritual care. LDR has been working for over two decades in Haiti to meet relief needs, including food, temporary shelter and more.

Thank You for Your Gifts!

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION — Intern Pastor Al Aakre

Dear Siblings in Christ,

My name is Al Aakre and I will be serving as your intern this coming year. I was born and raised in the La Crosse area where both of my parents taught in elementary schools. Coming from a family of teachers, vocational identity and education have long been a part of my value system. After graduating from Holmen High School, I attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where I studied history. Although I had long felt a call to ministry, it was only at Luther that I full-heartedly pursued God's place for me in this world and applied to Luther Seminary where I am now a student. It was also at Luther College that I met my beautiful wife, Kari—she studied English Education and will be completing her student teaching in Rochester this fall. We were married in June and have spent the summer “honeymooning” in St. Cloud where I am a temporary chaplain at the VA Medical Center. In my downtime, I enjoy all forms of woodworking (from hand carving to timber framing, I have tried it all!), canoeing, and learning any new skill that I can. I also have a deep fascination with historic church buildings, so please indulge my curiosity if I ask one-too-many questions. If you see Kari and I out on a walk or about town, please do not hesitate to say “hello.” We have never been known to turn down a cup of coffee.

Although John 3:16 will always be one of the most direct and impactful verses in the Gospel, my personal favorite comes right before it—*“And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.”* It is a reference to a time of suffering in the wilderness and God's act of healing. Just as the people suffered in the desert then, we suffer with Sin today. Just as the people merely had to glance to the Serpent; we merely have to look to Christ to be healed. It is a promise of hope for times that I feel hopelessness setting in.

I am looking forward to hearing where God is at work in your life and walking with you as you answer His call. *Al Aakre*

Hegre Lutheran Church– Annual Fall Swedish Meatball Supper

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Serving Take Out & Curbside Pickup Orders Only

From 4:00 to 7:00 PM

MENU: Swedish meatballs, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, coleslaw, cranberries, dinner roll, & dessert choice of Apple or Pumpkin.

Meal Cost \$15.00 (ea. meal is an adult sized portion)

Call Ahead or Text Orders by Friday, Sept 17 to Guarantee Meals

Please Include: number of meals, pick-up time & dessert choice

Beth Helgeson @ 507-330-4996

Drive-Up Orders also welcome the day of supper until food is gone.

Picnic tables available at the church for anyone to use.

Quilt Raffle Tickets also available for purchase: 1 for 1\$ or 6 for \$5

First Lutheran Church Council Minutes – August 18, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Welcome and Call to Order: Carmen Nesseth

Present: Carmen Nesseth, Bill Lewis, Cindy Lewis, Pastor Julie Rogness, Brad Nesseth, Tanya Short, Ben Short, Sarah Hildebrandt and Sandy Doehling

Devotions: Sandy on planting seeds of faith

Approval of Agenda: M/S Bill/Brad, Approved

Secretary's Report: M/S Brad/Tanya, Approved

Treasurer's Report: M/S Tanya/Sandy, Approved

07/31/2021: Checking Account Balance **\$3,560.72**, Memorial Account Balance **\$525**

Pastor's Report: Worship: Sunday Morning–4, Wednesday Evening Outdoor–4, Live streaming. Meetings: Council, Roundtable, Worship and Evangelism, EdYou, KAIC meeting, KW Cares meeting, Sam Lee – Eagle Scout award – attended celebration, attended Chief Lee's retirement party, Phone calls and in person visits, KAI event held at First–Pie and Cake auction and farewell to Lucas, Youth Events Thursday River Trip and Friday Pool Party, Visitation for Sherman Benson, Burial for Kathy & Bob Erslund at Lands Lutheran this Saturday, Aug 21, Farewell for Lucas from First Lutheran this Sunday August 22, Helped new intern move some of his belongings into a Sunday School Room and showed him the home they will be living in. Upcoming: Rally Day, Confirmation Classes, Confirmands–preparing for their Confirmation on Oct 31, Resource Fair at Fire Hall–KW Kares, Vacation Time August 26-September 1 - Pastor Chris Miller Leading Worship Sunday, Wondering about Lutheran Disaster Response-ELCA.

Continuing Business:

1. Opening of Church and Communion - discussion of increased Covid cases and Goodhue County at high risk. Area churches practicing restrictions for worship were noted. First Lutheran regards these conditions, yet will make no changes at this time.
2. KHS Monument Update - inspection passed and removal of dirt is expected by this weekend.

New Business:

1. Lucas Farewell - August 22 during worship and coffee fellowship following church.
2. AED - thoughtful discussion on the location, awareness, replacement parts and operation of the automated external defibrillator. Brad will contact Mike Aldorfer to request a demonstration during an upcoming coffee hour.

Committee Reports:

FLCW - did not meet. Candy Herrlich represented the ladies of First at the World Day of Prayer where approximately 30 local women attended and Lucas provided a thoughtful message. Funeral committees are in place and continue to assist with funeral receptions.

Youth Representative - School will resume September 7 and football is in session. Ben attended the Eagle Scout award ceremony honoring Sam Lee.

Worship/Evangelism - Worship/ Evangelism Committee: 8/10/21 Members present: Pastor Julie Rogness, Bill Lewis, Shari Quam, Tammy Fletcher Devotions by Tammy July Secretary minutes: Approved with corrections of changing date to 7/6/21 and copyright to read OneLicense. Discussion points: 1) Worship Components and Assisting Ministers- ● Discussion on the various setting options. ● Consensus is that going forward the service will incorporate singing liturgy twice a month ● Services will try to include a mix of more familiar hymns ("oldies") along with more contemporary music. ● Committee will gather a list of recommended hymns. ● Pastor Julie will try to establish a group of church members who are willing to participate as singing liturgists. If volunteers are not found, the Worship committee will again recommend to council to approve a stipend. ● Discussed ways for music to be displayed for online worship but will defer to Jim Braaten's expertise. 2) Rally Day is September 12th 3) Covid-19 Update. It was noted that there is a rise in positive cases in Goodhue County. A reminder to all members to follow safety best practices protocol and for unvaccinated members to please wear masks. 4) Fall Festival is October 3rd. Each committee will

be asked to bring a brunch item. The theme is Together Again. Next meeting: Sept 8th at 6:30 via Zoom or in person in Joy room. Respectfully submitted, Tammy Fletcher

Property and Management - did not meet, however, invites all to report any concerns to be addressed.

Stewardship – Meeting 8/12/2021 Attending: Tanya Short, Dave Kolsrud, Jim Fontaine, Ed Fletcher.

1. Planning for October 3 Fall Festival/Celebration.

We invite the following committees to assist in bringing food items for 75+ people:

- i. STEWARDSHIP—egg bake. WORSHIP—muffins/cinnamon rolls. EDYOUTH—fruit.
PROPERTY/MGMT—juice, milk, & would you please make coffee?
OTHER COMMITTEES OR VOLUNTEERS—any other food items.
Could FLCW provide- paper plates, paper & styrofoam cups, napkins, utensils?
- ii. Large Donation basket will be available for all donations; current expenses, local food cards, missionary fund, etc.
- iii. Small coffee/food donation basket will be placed on the potluck table.
- iv. The Stewardship committee is looking for 3 - 4 people to give short "Temple talk" during worship service, contact Jim Fontaine or Pastor Julie.

2. Discussion and update of current missionaries supported by First Lutheran and other ELCA churches.
See Fellowship Hall bulletin board for updates.

3. Next stewardship meeting Sept 9, 2021, 6:30 pm.

4. Tanya to attend council on August 18.

5. Small article on Fall Festival for newsletter will be sent to church office.

Respectfully Submitted, Tanya Short

Youth and Education - Members Present: Julie, Sarah H Sarah V, Anna, Amy. • OLD BUSINESS • RAFTING ON THE CANNON RIVER (5 youth, 3 adults) - \$25 per person - Repeat next year. POOL PARTY - Good turnout! - S'mores were a hit, thanks Scott V - Repeat next year. • Note from Julie- Keep the young kids engaged to keep them engaged as they get older. • NEXT SUMMER: Camping?; little kid outdoor movie night (popcorn machine). ELCA National Youth Gathering. • UPCOMING EVENTS - BIBLE CAMP (OLYMPIC THEMED) - 19 people total attended (including 2 helpers). David and Goliath - Helpers to lead younger kids in themed skits acting out the story. Ice cream sundaes as a snack. Crafts: Olympic torch, gold medal. Decorations: Sarah H to make Olympic rings (does anyone have spray paint or paint to color cardboard rings?). Games at the end. PIZZA 8/27 - Movie ideas? NERSTRAND in September. FALL DITCH CLEAN-UP, SERVICE PROJECT once a month for confirmation kids (Homeless or hospice kits, 100 sandwiches), FMSC, WINTER TUBING, CHRISTMAS SHOPPING- Set out a box for donations in the fall. • SUNDAY SCHOOL FORMAT (Julie) — Format-rotating stations, will vary week to week - Drama - Dwelling in the story - Video/media - Bible games - Music - Carmen (every other Sunday, every other week) - CDs to take home? - Memorize bible verses - Art - Cooking - Science - CURRICULUM: Water-4 weeks, Apostle Paul-4 weeks, Advent-4 weeks, Why Church- 4 weeks, Lent - 4 weeks. LEADERS/TEACHERS: Carmen potentially music, confirmation kids, talk to congregation to explain format and acquire volunteers. Break the students into groups depending on age. Sarah H sent out google form asking kids to sign up. 10 - 11 am. Sept 12 - Rally Sunday. Rotation Sunday School starting Sept 19.

Long Range Planning/Endowment/Personnel Committee/KAIC - Personnel Committee is constructing a custodial job description and will review healthcare coverage options for Pastor Julie as her husband Dan is anticipating his retirement. KAIC reported a successful event to honor Lucas, who gracefully took a pie in the face, raising over \$2,000 for the KAI program.

Next Meeting: September 15, 2021 @ 7:45 pm.

Devotions: FLCW member

Adjournment: M/S Tanya/Cindy, Approved

Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Doehling, Council Secretary

FALL STEWARDSHIP FESTIVAL

“Celebrating Our Members”

Our theme for the day is
Generosity and Gratitude

Sunday, October 3, 2021

Please join us for Worship & Brunch following the service

Brunch will be Provided by Church Committee Members

A donation basket will be on hand to receive your gifts toward the local food shelf, Lutheran disaster relief fund, current missionary support or area of your choosing.

We look forward to seeing you there!

September

2021



			1 NO Wed Worship	2 7 AA	3	4
5 9 Worship 7 AA	6	7	8 6 Worship	9 1 LOVE DAY 6:30 Steward- Ship 7 AA	10	11
12 RALLY SUNDAY 9 Worship <u>NowTheFeast</u> 10 Sunday Sch Welcome 7 AA	13 1:30 Literary Guild	14	15 6 Worship 6:30 Confirmation Orientation 7:45 Council	16 7 AA	17	18
19 9 Worship <u>SettingFour</u> 10 Sunday Sch 7 AA	20	21	22 6 Worship 6:30 Confirmation	23 1 LOVE DAY 7 AA	24	25
26 9 Worship 10 Sunday Sch 7 AA	27	28 7 KAIC	29 6 Worship 6:30 Confirmation	30 7 AA		

Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding.
Proverbs 3:13

If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all
generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you.
James 1:5

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

309 Forest Street, Kenyon, MN 55946

September Newsletter



**September ~
where fall and summer meet**

Will Wallace Harney