

JUNE 2023



It's Planting Season! Where are You Scattering Seeds?

Kristine Hertsgaard Kincaid, Intern Pastor

Many of us scatter seeds in the spring, from farmers to gardeners, to those hoping this year will be the year we grow a green thumb. Through our efforts, we witness bountiful harvests, beautiful gardens, and struggling plants. In Mark 4: 1-20, we read the Parable of the Sower. We learn that we, too, are seeds. As summer comes, we continue to scatter and sow seeds. Nice weather leads us down the bike trail, to a cabin, camper, or another adventure. Wherever we go, we scatter and sow seeds. Our seeds include compassion, joy, creativity, and faith. This summer, all ages are invited to participate in growing and tending a pizza garden (see below).

Summer Worship Series – Planting and Tending a Pizza Garden

Wednesdays June 7, July 12, and August 2 - 6:00 pm

Gardeners know good soil doesn't just happen - it is the result of a gardener's work and love. God created us and Jesus came to teach us about love and plant the seed of love in us. We will explore this theme with Word, song, and activities. Worship will be from 6-6:30 pm and activities will follow.

Join us as we plant and tend a pizza garden over the summer. In June, we will plant the garden, in July continue to tend the garden. In August, we will make pizza, using our freshly grown herbs and produce. Bring your own chair. *Free will offerings to pay for the garden are welcome (approx. \$60).* For more information contact Heidi Haugen or Intern Kris.

Outdoor Altogether Worship

Wednesdays during the Summer, 6:00-6:30 pm

Wednesday night worship meets outdoors on the northeast side of the building. Bring your own chair for these informal services.

Summer Youth Ministries

Friends are always welcome to gather with us and it's always a good day to invite a friend.

- June 7, July 12, and August 2, 6:00 pm, Pizza Garden Worship
- June 7, 6:45-7:45 pm, gr 6-8, Water games and Devos
- June 15 and July 20, 4-7 pm, Farmer's Market
- June 28, 8:30 pm, gr 9-12, Campfire and S'mores – bring your own chair
- July 12, 6:45-7:45 pm, gr.6-8, Campfire and S'mores – bring your own chair
- July 20, 8:30 pm, gr 9-12, Campfire and S'mores

First Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting May 17, 2023 @ 6:00 PM

Welcome and Call to Order: President Chris welcomed our guest, Pastor Barb Streed from the SEMN Synod. Introductions were made.

Present: Chris Cordes, Erica Aronson, Tammy Fletcher, Carmen Nesseth, Cora Lee Monroe, Tanya Short, Brad Nesseth, Sarah Hildebrandt, Intern Kris Kincaid.

Devotions: Erica - A prayer from the book, "Jesus Listens" by Sarah Young.

Approve Agenda: M/S Carmen/Sarah to amend the agenda to allow Barb to speak before continuing our meeting, Approved. M/S Tammy/Tanya approve agenda as amended, Approved.

Pastor Barb Streed, Assistant to the Bishop for Call Process, SEMN Synod - With Pastor Julie retiring August 31, 2023 the council invited Barb Streed to attend our meeting and give us an overview of the Call Process. Congregations in the SEMN Synod participate in a Four Phase Call Process. Barb gave the council an overview of each of the four phases. Phase One consists of The Leave-taking, The Transition-time and Formation of the Call Committee. We were informed that Intern Kris would not be available to serve as Interim pastor or available for call due to the fact that she did her internship at First. From the time Pastor Julie retires until a new pastor is called First will be served by an Intentional Interim pastor. Throughout the Call Process council leadership will share and be transparent with the congregation. We ask the congregation to be in prayer regarding the call process seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Secretary's Report: Approve as printed in the Newsletter-M/S Cora Lee/Tammy, Approved. Received a "thank you" letter from Goodhue County Habitat for Humanity and All Seasons Community Services for donations given in April.

Treasurer's Report: We are doing well in staying within the *budgeted* expenses, yet, expenses are exceeding our giving. A small number of members continue to contribute a large percentage of current giving. Checking Bal \$10,618.82. Memorial Checking Balance \$525. Motion to approve, M/S Carmen/Erica, Approved.

Pastor's Report: No Report

Intern Kris's Report: *Community/Outreach* - attended several HS/MS events. *Ongoing pastoral care and visits* - (10), *Administrative* - staff meeting, internship committee, council, other committee meetings, *Leadership* - Intergenerational Fun Day, Confirmation, made caramel rolls with youth, letters of recommendation, Synod Assembly, text study, Preaching (3 Sun, 3 Wed, hosted/preached Baccalaureate), planning summer ministries, *Wellness* - Spiritual Direction, Spiritual Sketching webinar, Kate Bowler event, Luther Sem graduation, *Vacation* May 18 (.5), 22, 25.

Continuing and New Business

1. Long Range Planning update-see in committee reports
2. Ushers going forward-tabled until June
3. Camera update-Camera's have been ordered. Fette will install once they come in.
4. Funeral update-Fees associated with funeral planning has been updated on the Funeral and Memorial Planning Guideline and Worksheet for First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Committee Reports:

Youth Co-Reps - No report

FLCW-Workers provided bars and served a big crowd for Baccalaureate. Still hoping to have a summer get-together this summer. Will serve a light meal after the Kenyon School Monument Dedication on Saturday of Rose Fest. Still looking for 2 FLCW members for the Mission Justice Committee and 1 or 2 ladies to assume the leadership role of FLCW for 2024. Contact Candy or Cora Lee if interested.

Worship/Evangelism- Summer Church worship theme-Pizza Garden. Kris has planned theme and services. Needs help 6/7 and 8/2. Summer Book Read: Book is "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger. Book discussion at Lacey's Restaurant on Sunday, August 13 @ 4 pm with appetizers. All are

invited. Summer Outreach themes for Farmer's Market: June 15: "I Am God's Dream" with making of mirror. July 20: Sunflower theme, will ask high school kids to help. August 17: Prayer cube. Will also have bookmarks with First Lutheran Church's schedule/activities. Summer music: Will contact possible musicians. Tanya has created a schedule accessible to all to add names to. Book discussion tabled until next meeting.

Property and Management - Boyum Tree Service trimmed trees on north side of church. Water cleanup in lower level of the Ed Wing.

Stewardship -No Report

Youth and Education – Did not meet in May. Raised almost \$600 for youth summer ministries, with the support from a Thrivent Grant. (THANK YOU!) Last Day of Sunday School - 5/21. Belle Creek Roller Rink 11-2. Summer pool party-Friday in July, date TBD. Summer bible camp- discussing options.

KAIC-No report

Long Range Planning - Met to hear a 3rd party proposal to purchase and develop a parcel of our church property. After giving consideration declined the request.

Endowment and Personnel Committee-did not meet.

Next Meeting: June 21, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Devotions: Sarah

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn, M/S Carm/Sarah & Tanya, Approved Time: 7:35 p.m.

Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Carmen Nesseseth, Secretary

- Other Seeds to Sow -

Pastor Guy Redfield - Pastor Guy Redfield is celebrating the 40th Anniversary of his Ordination as Pastor in the Lutheran Church. On June 4th at Chetek Lutheran Church, Chetek WI, during the 9 am worship service he will renew his vows taken 40 years ago.

At First Lutheran, we plan to have a special prayer at our morning worship on June 4 for Pastor Guy in remembrance of his service to our congregation. [1997-2003] You are also welcome to send your greetings to Pastor Guy, addressed to:

Chetek Lutheran Church, Pastor Guy Redfield
PO Box 625, Chetek, WI. 54728
pastorcheteklutheran@hotmail.com

Greetings from Marcy - "The party is over. I celebrated most of a week to turn 100. I want to thank all who came to visit. It was good to talk to you in person. Thanks to all who sent cards with thoughtful greetings. When Helen Aase heard of it, she wanted to come to see me, and she did. To hold her hands was a meaningful moment. I praise God for each of you. I recall wonderful memories of times attending church activities with you. With God's love and blessings, I send you my gratitude." Marcy Kvitem.

Card Shower - For Kevin Estrem and Debbie Swanson Estrem who were married at First Lutheran on June 5th in 1973. This year is their 50th anniversary but they won't be able to celebrate since Debbie has MS and isn't able to get around. Her relatives would like to honor them with a card sending event. It is a surprise for them, so if you know them, try to send your card so they will receive it close to June 5th. Their address is: Kevin and Debbie Estrem, 5613 Brennan Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80923

Pizza Garden - Donations Requested - Outdoor worship will include planting and tending a pizza garden this summer. We will plant the garden Wednesday June 7, tend it over the summer, and make pizza with toppings from the garden on August 2. At this time we seek \$60 in donations for the plants and potting soil for the pizza garden. If you are interested in donating any of this amount, please indicate Pizza Garden with your donation. Questions? Check with Heidi Haugen or Intern Kris.

Honoring Vivian Samlaska - Jars on the Narthex counter honor Vivian Alice Samlaska, 8/12/2019 – 5/8/2023. Wear a Bracelet in Vivian's honor — Youth & Adult sizes available. Freewill donations will be greatly appreciated. All proceeds go to the Samlaska Family.

Get ready! Read! A Summer Book Read is being sponsored by Worship / Evangelism Committee. The book is "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger. Book available for reading at the Kenyon Library or On-Line (i.e. Kindle, etc). To purchase your own, check with retailers or booksellers of your choice. Book discussion is scheduled at Lacey's Restaurant on Sunday, August 13 @ 4 pm with appetizers.

From Pastor Julie – *Dear Council and Congregation. It is with both sadness and joy that I announce I will be retiring on August 31, 2023. I have loved being here twice! I know that I have not accomplished as much as I had hoped ... I was your COVID pastor. I am proud of the very creative ways we did things in new ways: drive-by communion, pre-recorded and online worship, Christmas Eve outside...just to name a few. As you move forward, please know that you are always in my heart and prayers. Blessings! (signed) Pastor Julie L. Rogness*



2023

*Wednesday Outdoor Worship
Begins June 7
BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR!*

[aP = Time After Pentecost]

				1 4-7 Farmer's Market 7 AA	2 11 Celebration of Life-Vivian Samlaska	3
4 Holy Trinity 9 Worship 10 FLCW Board 7 AA	5	6	7 9 Organ Tuning- *date change 6 Worship; Plant Pizza Garden 6:45 Water Games & Devos	8 1 LOVE DAY 7 AA	9	10
11 aP-Lect 10 9 Worship 7 AA	12 5:30 Worship/ Evangelism	13	14 6 Worship	15 4-7 Farmer's Market 7 AA	16	17
18 aP-Lect 11 9 Worship 7 AA	19	20	21 6 Worship 6:30 Council	22 1 LOVE DAY 7 AA	23	24
25 aP-Lect 12 9 Worship 7 AA	26	27	28 6 Worship 8:30 pm Campfire & Smores	29 7 AA	30	



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JUNE

Newsletter



IT'S TRUE...

June is busting out all over!

This popular 'catch' phrase is a song title from
the musical CAROUSEL BY RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN
LISTEN TO IT ON YOU TUBE!