



People of God,

We've made it to the sixth month of the year. Much has happened in our lives together and in our world since January 1, and we continue to hold onto the promise of God's redeeming work through Jesus Christ. This Summer, I invite us to lean into each day, to be present and mindful of the world around us, whether we are at home or away. And to come together as God's people in worship as we do life together in these coming months.

We will soon be approaching the longest day of the year at the Summer Solstice. As someone who likes to fill my days with as much as possible, this time of year gives me the space and time that the long, cold Winter nights do not. It's also a time of year that reminds me even more of the need to slow down, to breathe, to pay attention to how I am feeling as the world keeps spinning. I receive these reminders in subtle ways like sitting in silence in my backyard on a warm evening, taking in the sounds of wind blowing through the leaves, birds singing, and squirrels chattering away. I also receive a reminder to tune into myself in movement—through walking or running or hiking outside, listening to how my body is feeling on a given day and learning to respond accordingly. Nature provides a grounding place for me, especially when the days get long, life gets busy, and stress shows up.

Summer is also a transient time for many of us, whether that happens through shifting work schedules, extra time off, vacations or cabin trips, camping or traveling to visit loved ones. We likely won't see as much of each other in these next few months as we do during the Fall, Winter, and Spring, but that doesn't mean we aren't connected. We remain united in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, who moves more freely than we can imagine! It is with this in mind that I invite you into a Journey together this Summer. As you come and go from Church each week, notice how God is showing up in your everyday life. Enter into a space of curiosity on how and where the Holy Spirit may be moving among us, in our world. And come to church to hear stories of people who have done the same in their lives, namely Jesus and the Disciples as they journeyed throughout Galilee and Judea. We will gather together this Summer and share our stories, our experience, our God-encounters each week through reflection and art on Sunday mornings. We will also gather on occasional Wednesday evenings for a grill out followed by worship around the fire pit outside. Bring a friend or two while you're at it to invite them to share in this Journey together.

There is much more happening at church in the month to come. Please look closely at the calendar for ways to engage in our community in addition to worship. I give thanks to God for the Journey we have shared and for the Journey we are about to share together in the months to come!

Bon voyage, Pastor D.J.



Farewell from Vicar Yvonne, Intern

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace, love and joy, from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Following conversation with the Grand Canyon Synod's Assistant to the Bishop, it has been determined that I have fulfilled the requirements of internship for my candidacy committee and will be finishing my internship on June 7, 2025. I give thanks to God for the work we have done together, the space you have provided for me to learn and grow, and the joy of connecting with you.



Your long history of commitment to raising up future leaders of the Church is so clear and I will forever hold you in my heart and lift you up in prayer in the years to come. Thank you for the myriad opportunities I have been given to serve and learn from you. You have given me such affirmation in my call to ministry by witnessing me learn the ELW liturgy, preaching on a regular basis, teaching you or your children, welcoming me into your community and homes, and holding me in your care.

Friends, the Holy Spirit is in our midst, always working through our imperfect actions, guiding our hearts, our words, and our spirits in the way of love, patience, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, mercy, and abundant grace. As Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 3:16, "Surely you know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you!" (Good News Translation) When things change, we know God is with us; we see God at work in the midst of it all.

Being your intern has been a privilege; getting to know you and yours has been a joy.

Christ is with you; surely, and always!

-Vicar Yvonne Godfrey-Roesel

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

LOOKING AHEAD



Enrollment Open! First Lutheran Vacation Bible School - July 21-24!

It's time to enroll kids in VBS via Good Earth Village website

link: <https://goodearthvillage.org/kenyonwanamingo2025>

VBS is open to the community. All kids, grandkids, cousins, friends, are welcome. Same as last year we are requiring a \$50 fee per child to reserve the spot. As long as the child attends, that money will be returned to the family. If any families have hardships that make this fee a problem, they should reach out to Bryana Lothert. FLC members please send \$50/child Retainer fee to FLC Youth (check) or Venmo @Bryana-Lothert.



June Stewardship Challenge: 1 Month/100# donations to the Kenyon Food Shelf. Donation boxes located in the Narthex, handicap, and office door entrances.



Sunday June 1st at 10 A.M First Lutheran Women

First Lutheran Women are Meeting (aka FLCW) in the Joy Room. All invited!



Wednesday, June 4, 6 pm AND Wednesday June 25 - Outdoor Gather/Worship - On the East Lawn

Bring Your own Lawn Chair.



Thursday, June 5 First Lutheran 'Pop-Up Shop' at Farmer's Market To support our Organ Repair Fund.

We plan to sell your home crafted items, produce, plants, baked goods, etc. Please price your items and let us know if discounted pricing is allowed. If needed, you can drop off items at the church prior. Heidi Haugen and Susan Hoversten will be sitting at the market on June 5. ☎ Call or text Susan with questions 907-854-5959. Excited to see all your talents!

First Ev Lutheran Church Council Minutes – May 21, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

Welcome and Call to Order: President Erica Aronson @ 6:02pm

Devotions: Carmen: Acts 11 Verse 17

Present: Pastor D.J. Chatelaine, Erica Aronson, Candy Herrlich, Carmen Nesseth, Brad Nesseth, Eric Hoversten, Amy Lee, Bryana Lothert, Chris Cordes, Oliver Bauer

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda with additions. Eric/Carmen/pass

Consent Agenda Items:

Secretary's Report: Reviewed as printed in the April Church Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: It was nice to see the heat bill cut in half last month! Attendance average in 2024 January through April was 63 and up slightly in 2025 to 65. Giving continues to run behind as compared to this same time last year. This is possibly due to the loss of many long-time members last year.

Pastor's Report: On-going visits to homebound folks, in Kenyon and outside of town. Continue to hear desire for visits from others in the congregation. **Kenyon Community Connections:** Open prayer on May 6th, KAIC: Intern Yvonne's last day will be June 7- this is a change from the initial plan. Will share a letter from the Seminary and her home synod with the congregation; attended fundraiser for Dax Eggert, attended spring middle school and high school band/choir concerts. Kudos to all involved: parents and students! Summer stretch registration is open until June 1. Participated in community Baccalaureate service at Gol: special shout out to Elsie Braaten for her musical leadership. **Confirmation:** Synagogue visit on May 10; wrapped up for the school year on May 14, in the process of sending out summer and fall information to families. **Synod Events:** Participated in First Call retreat on May 1. We still need 1 youth/young adult (under 30) to register for the Synod Assembly. **Life Passages:** Harlan Peters memorial service on April 26; Don Peterson memorial service on May 22. **Other:** Men's ministry bible study continues to meet; Wednesday night summer services begin on June 4; Leaning into "blended services" over the summer: music, translation, etc. Have asked high school musicians to provide special music too. Tharan Leopold to present on Sunday, September 14 about legacy giving; I am out of state June 12-17 (changed date so I can be here for the first day of summer stretch on June 11). April 17-May 22 Mileage (\$239.86) + other expenses (\$41.09). Total: \$ 280.95.

President's Report: Reviewed the FLC constitution with Amy and Tammy on 5/1; attended CRC WELCA conference on 5/3; Hosted the last day of Sunday school at Bell Creek Roller-skating.

Motion to approve the consent agenda including mileage and expenses: Amy/Eric/pass

Ongoing Items:

1. Organ Repair: Committee met on May 6th. We are still \$13,917 away from our goal. Planning "pop-up shop" to be at Farmer's market beginning 6/5; also exploring ideas for fundraising at Rose Fest in August. Council determined June 16th to be the best date for repairs to begin. Property & Management team is planning to remove the first 3 pews and the piano from the front, left side of the sanctuary.
2. Potential Trip to Colombia: Kathy Chatelaine will present on her recent visit to Colombia on Sunday May 25th. Will likely join together with other synod congregations.
3. Constitution Review: Erica, Amy and Tammy met on 5/1 and reviewed the entire constitution. Would like the council to discuss and decide on a few proposed changes. Council decided to hold a special meeting to be held on 6/18 at approximately 7:30 pm, following the regular June council meeting.

New Items:

1. Basement Water Issues: Discussion regarding the continued water issues in the basement education wing. There is interest in reaching out to a company who specializes in water issues for an evaluation.
2. Band Lessons: Claire Larson, high school band director, has reached out about using space in the church for high school band students to offer music lessons again. Pr. D.J. and Annette will work with Claire to set expectations and a schedule.

3. Parking Lot: Joanne Peterson has reached out asking for permission to use the parking lot for overflow car show parking for show participants during the August Rose Fest car show. Council agrees to allow this again on the south end of the concrete and the east gravel lot.

Youth Rep. Report: Most spring sports have finished up and playoff started; baseball finished with a 5-10 record, softball with a 8-9 record. The band and choir, including the jazz band and chamber choir, have hosted their spring concerts. The last elementary concert to be held in the Wanamingo school was held on 5/22. The last day of school for seniors is 5/21, last day for high school students 5/23, last day for everyone else is 5/27. Graduation will be on June 1st. State trap event will be June 9th.

Committee Reports:

FLCW- Served the Harlan Peters funeral on April 26th. Four FLC Women attended the Cannon River Conference WELCA on May 3rd at Vang Lutheran Church. Presented gifts and quilts (from Love Day Ladies) to 6 KW seniors on May 18. Upcoming Event: FLCW meeting on Sunday June 1st following service in the Joy room. Considering possible fundraising ideas. Upcoming Love Days: May 22, June 12, June 26

Worship/Evangelism- Discussed summer services including Wednesdays (June 4, June 25, July 9, July 30 and August 13) with less formal, 30-minute service Will need to add communion server and greeter to sign up sheet. Brainstormed ways to increase involvement including prayer, hymn and Bible verse requests as well as a display board to celebrate God's presence, joy, inspiration. Will provide a cross with an activity/ invitation card as well as activities for Farmer's Market on June 4. Mother's Day (5/11) and Senior Recognition Sunday (5/18) are planned. Recapped Holy week with positive feedback regarding services.

Property and Management- Committee did not meet in May. The following matters were however addressed: All grass areas around the church including old school property were sprayed for weed control. A new outside shelf was installed on the exterior wall next to kitchen entrance. Mulch was placed around 6 of our newest trees on the property. A starting date of either June 9th or 16th has been proposed by Obermeyer Organ Company on the church organ project. The council has proposed June 16th. Reliable Heating & Cooling has scheduled a June visit to further evaluate our buildings aging boiler systems. The new drinking fountain and humidifier have both been ordered and should arrive soon.

Stewardship- Will promote the Organ Fund Pop up Shop at the June 5 Farmers Market. **June Stewardship Challenge: 1 Month/100# donations to the Kenyon Food Shelf. Donation boxes located in the Narthex, handicap, and office door entrance.** We have received messages from 2 of our missionaries.

Youth and Education- Made 44 pans of caramel rolls; end of the year party at Bell creek roller rink; VBS will be held at Depot Park July 20-24th, FLC will provide the food on Tuesday- volunteers will be needed; Will plan a pool party again this summer; Will host an outdoor movie for Rose Fest (8pm on 8/13). Interested in exploring the potential for a free library/blessing box. Next meeting on 6/4.

KAIC- Discussed the soup cook off and what to do with the possibility that we won't have an intern next year. There is a shortage of candidates. Would ask congregations to keep a line item in the budget for the following year, also proposed that congregations keep paying the fees throughout the year to re-build the reserve funds that have been used this year. FLC council discussed and agree to continue to pay based on what the committee decides at their next meeting on 5/27. Good news: former intern Brittany has accepted a call as Associate Pastor at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Mankato. Amy will send a card on behalf of FLC.

Long Range Planning/Personnel/Endowment/Committees- Personnel committee will provide Pr. D.J. a 6-month review. Endowment will meet next in July.

Next Meeting: June 18th Time: 6 pm

Devotions: Amy

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn Carmen/Chris/pass Time: 7:35 pm

Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Amy Lee, secretary

JUNE



SEASONS: 7th Sunday of Easter - Day of Pentecost - Holy Trinity - & After Pentecost (aP)						
1 <i>Easter 7</i> 9 Worship 10 Coffee 10 First-Women Meet in Joy Rm 10:15 Men's Ministry HS Graduation	2	3 12-1 Open Prayer	4 6 Outdoor Worship <i>On east lawn- bring lawn chair</i> 6:30 EdYou	5 7 AA 4-7 Farmers Market w/FLC - POP-UP STAND-Organ Fund Benefit	6	7 Vicar Yvonne's Internship Completed
8 <i>Day of Pentecost</i> 9 Worship <i>Noisy Offering</i> 10 Coffee	9	10	11 *Summer Stretch- Grade 6-12	12 1 LOVE DAY 7 AA	13 Pastor Vacation	14
15 <i>Holy Trinity</i> 9 Worship 10 Coffee <i>Father's Day</i>	16	17	18 *Summer Stretch 6 Council	19 7 AA 4-7 Farmers Market	20 <i>1st Day of Summer</i>	21
22 <i>aftr Pent L-12</i> 9 Worship 10 Coffee 10:15 Men's Ministry	23	24 7 KAIC	25 *Summer Stretch 6 Outdoor Worship <i>On east lawn- bring lawn chair</i>	26 1 LOVE DAY 7 AA	27	28
29 <i>aftr Pent L-13 or Peter & Paul, Apostles</i> 9 Worship 10 Coffee	30					



It is better to be a young June bug
than an old bird of paradise. Mark Twain

Whatever you are, be a good one. Abraham Lincoln



FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

309 FOREST STREET, KENYON, MN 55946

PHONE: 507-789-5261

E-MAIL: firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com

WEBSITE: flickenyon.org

June

Newsletter



| _____ |
Spring being
a tough act to follow,
God created
June
-Al Bernstein