

September 2024

Stewardship

by Carmen Nesseth, Stewardship Chair



What's the first thing you think of when you hear the word stewardship? Pledge cards and offering envelopes? Spread sheets and church budget? Giving so we can pay the bills? What I am learning this year is that Biblical stewardship is not about me first, my giving, my choices or my faithfulness, but about God's choices, God's abundance, God's gifts and God's wishes. It moves us from a once-a-year church budget emphasis to an emphasis on faith. It is through our faith in God that we are able to do what we need to do in order to expand His ministry. It is the Holy Spirit that gives us the guidance and strength to go about our everyday lives. It is the Spirit that works through us to show others what God is like...God is love.

God has made each of us a steward and has given us abilities and talents that are unique. We should use these to serve Him. ***"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."*** **1 Peter 4:10.** Each of us has been given a talent, skill, or money so that we can use these gifts to honor God. But sometimes people hold back these gifts. By not using their talent, skill or money in service to Him they are cheating God. Cheating Him out of what is rightfully His.

Using our ***time, talents and treasures*** are all part of Stewardship: sharing our ***time*** to put together kits for Lutheran World Relief, teach Sunday school, help with confirmation, acolyte, serve coffee fellowship, set up and or serve communion, drive someone to church, trim the bushes, mow the grass, shovel the snow, mop the wet Ed Wing floors, send cards, visit the homebound, pray for others, volunteer to help at the many events we host at church.

By using our ***talents*** to be a music director, playing bells, organ, and piano, play guitar, an instrument, sew and bake for others, be worship leader, lead a Bible Study, be a mentor, serve on council, God, through His Holy Spirit helps us and works through us to make all things possible.

It is giving of our ***treasures***, our offerings, that assist the church: paying the bills, supporting our missionaries, feeding the hungry, upkeep of the church building and grounds, help with synod and church wide needs. Giving is mentioned numerous times in the Bible. Whatever we have (money, property, recognition, gifts) come from a generous and loving God. The best way to repay Him is to give a part of our blessings back to him through our giving to the church. God himself does not need our gifts, after all He is God and everything belongs to Him already, but we offer with joy and thanksgiving what God has first given us - ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love.

Please join us on Sunday, September 8 - Rally Sunday

For a Stewardship temple talk, Cradle Roll Graduation, Bible to our 3rd Grader and Blessing of Backpacks. Stewardship Committee will present a Stewardship Giving Challenge to all members. Following worship join us for an outdoor (weather permitting) pancake feed, Sunday School registration, family games, face painting and fellowship time. *Carmen Nesseth*

First Ev Lutheran Church Council Minutes – August 21, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

Welcome and Call to Order: President Chris Cordes @ 7:03pm Devotions: Tammy Fletcher

Present: Chris Cordes, Erica Aronson, Candy Herrlich, Eric Hoversten, Amy Lee, Sherry Sathrum, Bryana Lothert, Carmen Nesseth, Brad Nesseth, Tammy Fletcher

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

Consent Agenda Items:

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

Treasurer's Report: Giving and attendance have been significantly down in July and so far in August, the lowest seen in years. Net income so far for 2024 (January through July) is \$-4595. The laptop and software used for First Lutheran's financials are outdate and need to be replaced. Tammy will present a proposal at a future meeting in hopes of beginning 2025 with new.

Pastor's Report: 2 Sundays; 2 Wednesday worship. 19 visitations including counseling/bereavement, pre-marital counseling, pastoral care, and office visits. 4 children's messages and attended National Youth Gathering. 6 meetings including council, Kenyon area internship committee, staff secretary, Lutheran Campus Center Board. Total mileage: 202. The month of July we celebrated the Sundays after Pentecost with Jesus going from this village to that village. We had Tom Ersland playing his guitar helping lead worship again. We blessed Luke Cordes as he went to the National Youth Gathering. We have had Wednesday worship and Cookout, with people coming. We continue the live broadcast for the services and are grateful to our tech team who makes this happen each week, we continue to average 50 views each week. I attended Kenyon Area Internship Committee luncheon meeting to talk about a pastoral question of the month with Brittany. I attended the National Youth Gathering as part of the Logistics Team. Also, the KAIC regular meeting to hear the news of another intern has been assigned. A request for \$500 for professional development for time spent at the national youth gathering was discussed. A motion was made to deny the request. Tammy/Eric/pass

Motion to approve the consent agenda and mileage Eric/Carmen/pass

Ongoing Items:

1. Website: Survey recommendations were shared with Margaret and edits/corrects were made. No further changes until a new pastor is employed and can be involved in the planning decisions for the future of the website.
2. Outreach and Activity Ideas: Stewardship committee continues to host a food drive and will begin seeking donations for Ruth's House; Rose fest activities such as movie night and quite display were enjoyed by many.
3. Call Committee: Looking forward to voting on 8/25. Reminder that only official voting members may vote. Carmen Nesseth will be chief teller, Sherry Sathrum will also perform as teller. Tellers will have a list of all current voting members.
4. Potential Organ Repairs: Council reviewed and discussed repair proposals. Agreed to move forward with a congregational vote (required due to the cost of the repair). Voting to be announced and occur later this fall.

New Items:

1. New Pastor Meet & Greet: Waiting until after the vote on Sunday 8/25 and input from potential new Pastor to plan further.
2. Rumor Mill: Council members are encouraged to joyfully celebrate all the changes and happenings at First Lutheran and help dissuade rumors.

Youth Rep. Report: not present, no report.

Committee Reports:

FLCW- Thank you to the many volunteers for successfully helping sell hot dogs, chips and beverages at the stand on Saturday August 17th. The Love Day Ladies organized and hosted a quilt display during Rose Fest also on August 17th. 49 quilts, 8 baby quilts, and 10 Afghans were displayed. 81 quilts were brought in by many wonderful, talented women. A 3–4-gallon plastic dispenser for lemonade was donated to FLCW. Will give support as needed for Rally Sunday on September 8th. Upcoming Love Days at 1pm: 8/22, 9/12, 9/16, 10/10, 10/24.

Worship/Evangelism- The worship committee did not formally meet in August. Our outreach for August was free children's crafts at Aug 15 Farmer's market. We would like to know how we can help support Rally Sunday events.

Property and Management- A 2nd proposal for upgrading the church organ has now been received from Obermeyer Organ Company of Burnsville. It too proposes to pull out and essentially rebuild the organ over a period of 3 months. Representatives from both companies are quite amazed that the 70-year organ is still in relative working order but feel the rebuild is long overdue. The thunderstorm on July 13 may have been the reason both cameras used to record Sunday services recently failed. Both have been repaired by the manufacturer and are now back in place and in proper working order. Thank you goes out to Steve Johnson for coordinating and working with Fette Electronics to make this happen. Suppressors have also been installed in order to reduce the chance of similar damage in the future. Was brought to our attention that Route 60, the company that installed and performed maintenance on our boilers and mini-splits is no longer in business. The committee is considering options to replace the service provider for any future necessary work in the church.

Stewardship- Food Shelf donations continue through August. Still working on membership update forms. Stewardship Challenge and Pancake Feed following worship on Rally Sunday, Sept. 8. Sunday, September 15 is Community Rally Day Worship with local ELCA Churches at Holden Park. Seeking supply donations for Ruth's House in Faribault. Lists of items will be posted on line, and around church prior to September 15. There have been inquiries about the missionaries we support.

Youth and Education- Luke and Elsie attend the National Youth Gathering and had a great time. They will share with the congregation and Sunday school class about the event. A pool party was held and had a great turn out and fun had by all. The outdoor movie event was held inside due to weather but had GREAT turn out. Popcorn, cotton candy, pop/water were the most profitable items. Planning for Rally Sunday on September 8th, Sunday school, and children's singing during worship every 4th Sunday of the Month. Seeking Sunday school teachers and fundraising ideas.

KAIC- Our new Intern, Yvonne, will start in Sept. She and her husband are moving here from CA and have found a place in Northfield. Chris Cordes has been in contact with this year's intern mentor, Pastor Chad Christenson in West Concord. There has been discussion about the intern's role in each church. The church council discussed where we could use the intern services, and will let Pr. Chad know. This could be visitation, Bible study, confirmation, funerals. Council would like entertain a meeting with the KAIC representatives in the future. The use of our church office was discussed, Pastor Chad has asked for space in Kenyon due its central location. The KAIC Pastors and Intern would like to meet at First Lutheran on a monthly basis.

Long Range Planning/Personnel/Endowment/Committees- no reports. The personnel committee met to review an offer package for the potential Pastoral call.

Next Meeting: September 18, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

Devotions: Carmen

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn Amy/Eric/pass Time: 9:18 pm

Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Amy Lee, Secretary

FIRST LUTHERAN RALLY SUNDAY

Worship -
Cradle Roll -
Third Grade Bible Presentation -
Blessing of Backpacks -
Sunday School Registration
Pancake Feed -
Stewardship Challenge
Outdoor Family Games -
Face Painting -
Fellowship -



COMMUNITY WORSHIP & LUNCH AT HOLDEN



With Local ELCA Churches

10:30 AM SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15
HOLDEN PARK OUTDOOR SERVICE

Bishop Hassanally Leading Worship
Rain or Shine

Worship & Lunch at Holden Park
COUNTY 30 BLVD, KENYON

In case of Rain – moved to Holden Church

Bring a lawn chair
Positively impact others:
Bring Supplies to Donate
Benefiting Ruth's House:
<https://ruthshousemn.org/>

COMMUNITY POTLUCK LUNCH NEEDS ...

Desserts /&/ Serving Help

TO SIGN UP: Call Church/Leave Message, E-Mail, or Sign Up Pg at Church

Ph: 507-789-5261 E-Mail: firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com



September 2024



1 15 aftr Pent Lec.22 9 Worship Pastor Wall 10 Coffee	2	3	4 NO WED WORSHIP	5 4-7 Farmer's Market 7 AA	6	7
8 16 aftr Pent Lec.23 9 RALLY SUNDAY Pastor Wall <div>SEE INFO on PAGE 2</div>	9	10	11	12 1 LOVE DAY 7 AA	13	14
15 17 aftr Pent Lec.24 10:30 COMMUNITY WORSHIP / LUNCH AT HOLDEN PARK w/Bishop Hassanally	16	17	18 7 Council	19 4-7 Farmer's Market 7 AA	20	21
22 18 aftr Pent Lec.25 9 Worship Pastor Barb Streed 10 Coffee	23	24 7 pm KAIC	25	26 1 LOVE DAY 7 AA	27	28
29 19 aftr Pent Lec.26 9 Worship Pastor Wall 10 Coffee	31					



LOOKING AHEAD

Tue, Oct 1 Arrival of our new Pastor David Chatelaine
 Thur, Oct 3 Last Farmer's Market
 Sun, Oct 6 Installation of Pastor D.J. at Sun.Worship
 Sun, Oct 27 Reformation Sunday – CONFIRMATION

May God be merciful to us and bless us, and cause his face to shine upon us.

PSALM 67:1