

*First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
A Member of the  
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod*







*Serving Christ by proclaiming Christ  
crucified in the  
Minnesota North District of the LCMS*

*Pastors Corner*

*For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Corinthians 5:14-17 NIV)*



*I have never seen a people so divided as now. I have never seen a people so volatile, angry, and hurting as now. We pick up our phones and read the morning headlines and we hear of more tragedy, death, division, and hatred bubbling over into the lives all people. Not just in the US but in the whole world. You would think that emerging slowly into the next phases of reopening after the pandemic would fill the mouths and minds of people with joy, but instead it is opening a gateway of mental illness, frustration, and abuse to flow into our communities at an overwhelming rate. Why? Because Satan is truly using this moment to drive a wedge in the hearts of all people to destroy relationships and have us turn on each other in anger. We used to enjoy our diversity, our varying opinions, our cultures, and marvel at the uniqueness of individuals. But now, our vision has been clouded with the sentiment of a cancel culture, skepticism, and indignation. We now see our differences as threats, reasons to lash out, and spew unthinkable messages, even to those we are to love the most in our families.*

*The world and our enemy loves to see us tear each other down; to think our opinions are the only correct ones and choose our pride over the humility and compassion towards others. That is why I truly hope that this Season of Easter you and I truly see the blessing that comes from the Cross and Tomb of Christ. Jesus, standing before Pilate made the statement that He came into the world to testify to the truth, to which Pilate retorted "What is truth?" (John 18:37-38) Of course we have heard many times the words of Christ as He describes Himself as the "way, truth, and life (John 14:6). This truth that Jesus came to*

*reveal, teach, and live out is not a matter of a world view, a philosophy, or a state of mind. It is the revealed truth of all mankind, what lies in our hearts, what we deserve, and in spite of it all, the will of God for each of us regardless of the temporal things that divide us. The truth of God, the events of Golgotha and the borrowed tomb reveal the truth of what unites us all, and the only thing that matters which should inform our lives. It is the reality that we all sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). We are powerless in the face of death. Our mouths are open graves and left on our own, we invent ways to hurt, shame, and exploit others and God (Romans 3:9-18). No one is righteous before God and all of this pertains to me and you as well.*

*I was recently reading an article that explored the motivation behind the horrors of history as humanity acted in the most inhumane ways towards itself. The article blamed a number of things, but at the end of the day, the cause is what lives in our hearts. We are dead in our trespasses, and we need intervention (Ephesians 2:1). That intervention comes in the way of the cross of Christ. When we were powerless against our own brokenness, Christ died for us. In the darkness of Good Friday, He shows us the one thing that unites us, it is our sin, the death we cannot fight off, and oppression of Satan that tears at our communities. In that darkness, the glory of God shines bright as it shows the magnitude of His love for all. That He would pay the price of our guilt, win us forgiveness, and freedom from this world's oppression and the assaults of Satan. More than that, with that empty tomb on Easter Morning, He would break the shackles of death and supply eternal life!*

*These events remind us that where you fall on the political spectrum does not matter. These events teach us that your printout from "23 and Me" does not capture the entirety of who you are, nor define you. It is not the color of your skin, how much money you make, where you call home, what your past holds, what age your driver's license says you are, or even your favorite pizza that gives rise to your identity. We regard no longer any one according to the flesh, according to a worldly point of view (2 Corinthians 5:18). You are a new creation. Your neighbor, who voted differently than you... is also a new creation. Your son who continues to struggle with addiction, is a new creation. 5 years old or 105 years old and all in between are new creations. Asian Americans, African Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, German, French, and those of us who draw upon fractions of all races in our genetic makeup, are all new creations. We are one in Christ Jesus. Male or female. We were once lost, without a God to pray to, but with Christ we are heirs to the Kingdom of truth. We had no hope, but now we share in an eternal hope found in the rays of eternal life that shine forth from an empty grave. We have an identity that remains forever, we are children of God, loved by Him, and never forsaken by Him.*

*It is with a joyous heart that I write my first article to you, my fellow heirs to the Kingdom at First Lutheran.*

*As I thought about what to write I could find nothing better to encourage us all with than what unites us. I will be praying that it is this unity that informs our future ministry together, how you see your estranged family member, the coworker that gets on your last nerve, or your child that continues to fall into mistake after mistake. Do not allow your heart to be redirected by the division and anger of the world but informed solely by the blood of the cross and glory of the resurrection. We will never come together focusing on what divides us but only by rejoicing in the truth that we are united by the love of God. Have this love compel us! Nothing else matters! To Him be the glory, forever and ever. Amen.*



*Your soon to be Pastor,  
Pastor Lovejoy*

### **From Pastor Breitbarth and Janelle**

*To the Faithful members at First Lutheran, as I finish serving the Lord here in Grand Rapids, I'm feeling frustrated, sad, and happy. My frustration comes in that I cannot adequately put into words my thoughts and feelings about leaving. Sad because I'm leaving after our 10 ½ months of having been Blessed with the ministry here at First Lutheran. Sunday mornings won't feel that same, as we would leave our house by 6:50 am Sunday morning to arrive in time for Worship Services. Happy as Janelle & I rejoice and give thanks to God for providing an extremely gifted young man to serve as your Pastor.*

*With the Covid virus, this vacancy has been challenging. Challenging in that I haven't been able to visit those members who are homebound. Yet it has given me more time to do sermon & confirmation preparation.*

*I continue to rejoice in God's promise that "that for those who love God all things work together for good"(Romans 8:28). Coupled with the preceding words, "we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words" (Romans 8:26).*

*I'm trusting in God's promise and guarantee "that for those who love God all things work together for good".*

*You have been a huge Blessing to me and Janelle as I pray that we have in various ways been a blessing to God's People here.*

**Pastor Steve & Janelle Breitbarth**

**FAREWELL From Pastor Bill and Sue: *After nearly 48 years living and serving in Grand Rapids, Sue and I are moving away to a new home in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. We have looked forward to this move for quite some time. It brings us much closer to three of our daughters and their families. The extra bonus is that the Lord opened the door for our “dream house” on one level.***

***We bid you farewell as we make this transition. This is a two-way expression, meaning that we hope the good people at First fare very well under the guidance and care of Pastor Lovejoy. We have been praying that very good days are ahead for your ministry in this community. At the same time we hope you will pray for us to fare well in our new venture. We will be separated by a few more miles, but First Lutheran will always have a special place in our hearts, as will Grand Rapids.***

***If you are ever in the Detroit Lakes area, stop by or give us a call. We would love to keep in touch. Our new address is: 885 Balsam Blvd. Detroit Lakes, MN. 56501 and my cell # is 701-936-1161.***

***God's blessings to you. Fare well in the grace of God.  
Pastor Bill and Sue Zeige***

***BEST WISHES***

**FROM ALL OF US AT FIRST LUTHERAN!**

# Mark your Calendars

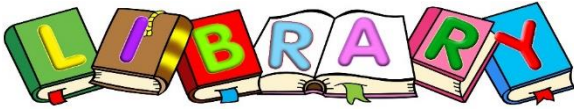
*Installation Service  
for  
Pastor Lovejoy  
Will Be Held  
Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>  
at 3 Pm.  
Please Plan To Attend.*



## **ASSIMILATION COMMITTEE**

- **The Board of Elders is reforming an Assimilation Committee. Duties of the committee are:**
  - 1. Responsibility of planning ways to assimilate new members.**
  - 2. Responsibility of assuring that visitors are welcomed, helped to feel comfortable, and encouraged to return.**
  - 3. Giving new membership kits with information on the history, beliefs, mission and opportunities for study, service and companionship in the church.**
  - 4. Preparing a brochure or flyer with information for visitors about the church.**
  - 5. Conducting orientation sessions for new or prospective members with the church's staff.**
  - 6. Posting photographs and biographical sketches of the new people for others to see.**
- **If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Matt Pellinen at (218) 360-2578.**





## LIBRARY CORNER FOR MAY 2021

Greetings to our gentle First readers. We're happy to announce that we've received a donation of new books and DVDs from our Library AngelZ. Also, books have been purchased with the yearly donation from LWML in memory of members we've lost. The new books will be processed in May and you will find them on the 2020-2021 book shelves. There is a 3-ring binder available on the round table that has the book reviews from the First Fruits Newsletter. Tiny Books have been placed on the shelf above the DVDs for quick access and a quick read if time is short. As always, there is a need for more book reviews. So please take a moment to share your thoughts with us about the books you read. – *Janie Carlson, Darlene Baltus and Shela Cline*

**MOMS' NIGHT OUT**, a DVD located at Adult DVD MOM. All Allyson and her friends want is a peaceful, grown-up evening of dinner and conversation. Any parent with small children can understand the situation, right? A long-needed mom's night out to enjoy high heels, adult conversation and food not served in a paper bag from a fast-food eatery. Husbands will take care of the kids; doing their share of parenting just for approximately three hours. **WHAT CAN GO WRONG?** You name it and it happens! Wow, what a hilarious movie! – *Reviewed by Darlene Baltus.*

Another new book from 2020 is **MORE THAN WE REMEMBER** by Christina

Suzann Nelson found at 813.6 Nel. An intertwining of two lives, Addison Kilbourn and Brianne Demanno, her neighbor, shows us how each person coming into our lives is so important. Addison's husband is involved in an accident that he doesn't remember and Brianne, once a counselor, discounts her faith in herself. Can they rise from the past and move forward as they were meant to be? Lots of human emotions! – *Reviewed by Darlene Baltus.*

**NOWHERE BUT UP** by Pattie Mallette with A. J. Gregory, FIC Mal. Justin Bieber is a well-known name but did you wonder about his life BEFORE he became a household name? Pattie tells us about her life growing up, young adulthood and being a mother to Justin. Her comment on the back of the book reads "It doesn't matter where you find yourself today – how broken, hurting, wounded, or ashamed you are. If God can help me find my way up, I promise, He can do the same for you." A book worth reading! – *Reviewed by Darlene Baltus.*

**THE INVESTIGATOR**, found at DVD Adult Inv. For anyone who likes a story about baseball, throw in criminal justice and a Christian message directed towards teenagers, this DVD is a great find. Besides all that, this was inspired by true events. A coach, teacher, and mentor in his search to help others, he found the truth within himself. – *Recommended by Darlene Baltus.*

**STUFF YOU GOTTA KNOW** by Minnesota author Guy Doud, 248.82 Dou. "Straight talk on how God helps with friendships and school and measuring up and parents and dating and bad grades and more. All the stuff you gotta know." I discovered

this gem while shelving books and found it to contain down to earth wisdom that parents of teens may want to share with their family. Actually, anyone who is looking for answers to “How do I know God’s will for my life?” “How do I share my faith without sounding

like a nerd?” “If God is love, why is the world so full of pain?” will find good stuff in this book! I highly recommend it. – *Reviewed by Janie Carlson.*

*Smiles are free so share them.*

## **Dear Members of First Lutheran Church,**

The pastor vacancy of First Lutheran will soon come to an end. Pastor Lovejoy has been moved by the Holy Spirit to accept our call to serve the Lord at First Lutheran.

We have been blessed to have Pastor Breitbarth and Pastor Zeige fill our pulpit during this time of vacancy.

You as a congregation have endured this time as generous stewards even during the pandemic shutdown. Bills have continued to be paid.

However, now we are faced with the journey of providing for a full-time pastor with moving expenses, housing allowance, family medical expenses and the Concordia retirement plan. The church budget will increase by 13%. How can we but praise the Lord, as He has blessed us, and consider an increase in our giving? God will continue to amaze us – we cannot out-give the Lord.

In all this, remember our mission of Sharing the Love of Jesus to continue to reach out to our members and the community. We all look forward to the time we can worship at 100% capacity safely.

*Doug Carlson,  
Board of Stewardship Chairman*



## The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

### LCMS Stewardship Ministry

#### Newsletter article – May 2021

St. Paul teaches us: “Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches” (Gal. 6:6). And again, he says: “Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel” (1 Cor. 9:13–14). In other words, ministers of the Gospel are supported by the offerings of those who are served by them.

And this is how the church lives even now. It is standard practice. But this deserves closer examination. For it instructs us not just *that* we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four little words: “In the same way ...”

St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel with the sacrificial giving of individual members on the example of the Old Testament people who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices. We’re to support the Gospel ministry “in the same way.” But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites?

Moses records this: “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always” (Deut. 14:22–23). The Levites were supported by the tithe, 10 percent of all the yearly yield of that which was harvested.

Does that seem like a lot? Does it surprise you that St. Paul instructs us that we are to support the New Testament Gospel ministry “in the same way?” If it does, ask yourself: Is the church’s job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites’ job in the Old Testament? Back then, there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham. In Matthew 28, Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations, and there are churches and ministries all around the world! How could we support this new Gospel ministry with anything less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

Of course, we are free to give more, for we have received more than those in the Old Testament. We have received the fullness of God’s revelation, the fullness of His salvation, and the fulfillment of everything that God promised to do. For we have received Christ, God’s own Son, in the flesh, who took upon himself our sins and in exchange gave us his

righteousness. The Father claimed us as his own in Holy Baptism. He gathers us together in the place where his name dwells to feast on the first fruits of the resurrection, the risen and living body and blood of His Son – our Lord Jesus. He reminds us that we are His, that all things are ours because we belong to Him. He blesses us here in time with physical and spiritual gifts.

In the same way – and in response to His fatherly divine goodness and mercy – we gladly give to those who proclaim to us “the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light.” For once we were not a people, but now we are God’s people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have indeed (1 Peter 2:9–10).



*To All of Our Mothers*



## **FIRST LUTHERAN LWML NEWS**

**First Lutheran LWML board decided to set a goal for our mites of \$600.00 this year. With the covid pandemic we have been unable to do some of the activities that we do to raise funds for supporting missions in our community and beyond. But we are still able to support our National and District mission grants through our Mite Offerings. Our Mites, no matter how small or large are very important to sharing the love of Jesus through mission grants that our District and National LWML have committed to.**

**The first Sunday of each month is designated as Mite Box Sunday. Offerings can be placed in the big Mite box that is placed on a stand just outside of sanctuary that Sunday or in the wooden box by the mailboxes at any time. Please feel free to take one of the small cardboard mite boxes home with you, if that works for you and return at your convenience. Thank you to the women and men of our congregation for their mite offerings.**

**Here are 3 of the 12 Mission Grants approved by our LWML MN North District**

### **GRANT 1: Orphan Grain Train (\$9,000)**

Throughout the world many are in need of food, clothing, water, medical supplies and equipment, and Scripture-based literature. Orphan Grain Train seeks to meet these needs by providing transportation for these items to show God's love and service to individuals throughout the world. Ninety-three containers of supplies went to people within the United States and to 24 different countries between June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019. Funding for this project will facilitate the shipping costs of these donated relief supplies

## **GRANT 2: Lutheran Island Camp and Christ Serve Ranch (\$10,000)**

Campers come to this camp for horseback riding, fishing, and fun, and leave with Jesus in their hearts. This is the desire of the staff that works to share the Word of God with these campers. However, the staff needs training to ensure they can handle emergencies, deal with conflicts, and listen to pain some campers have, and know where to turn in Scripture to share the Gospel message. This grant will provide funding to provide facilitators, training, and resources needed for the work in all camping programs.

## **GRANT 3: Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination (\$8,000)**

Jesus set in motion the Great Commission to proclaim His Gospel, but without workers, many are unable to hear the saving Gospel message. Through this grant, men at either of our seminaries will receive equal funding to help offset the expenses for their tuition. This enables these students to have less financial stress and to be able to focus on their studies without worrying about financial burdens.

**Dear Heavenly Father, Thank You for giving me all that I have. Bless these mites that I give back to You so that they can be used to spread the Good News of Jesus' love here and throughout the world. Amen**

**As of March 31, 2021 \$205.94 has been received in Mite Offerings.**

*Submitted by Theresa Howrey*

## **LWML IRON RANGE ZONE NEWS**

LWML Iron Range Zone, President Beverly Heinrich wanted me to send out a notice regarding our Iron Range activities. Due to Covid pandemic this last year we have not been able to have our normal activities. **We will not be having a Spring Rally**, but hopefully we will be able to meet in the fall. We will just have to wait and see. No date has been set for an executive board meeting at this time. Normally we have them in January/February and in August to plan our rallies and conduct any business. A notice will be sent out when a date has been set for the executive board meeting.

In the meantime we are still able to support our National and District Mission Grants through our Mite Offerings. Please continue to submit your mites to our district financial secretary.

Our mites, no matter how small or large are very important to sharing the Love of Jesus. The Lord will bless our efforts.

*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. (Jeremiah 29:11–12)*

Lutheran Women in Mission  
Serve the Lord with Gladness

LWML Iron Range Zone  
***Theresa Howrey, Secretary***





Visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) to schedule an appointment.

Or

Call Shirley at 218-999-4101 to schedule appointment.

Thank you for donating blood.

Publicity Comment:

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) enter Sponsor Code: First Evangelical Lutheran







## PREGNANCY CARE CENTER

Caring for Women, Men and Families

04/15/2021

We hope that spring opens up sunny days and new beginnings for you and your family! Over the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of this year, we have been able to continue to serve families in our area because of your help! We were able to come along-side 37 individuals and their families, 16 of which were new to our ministry. We provided 297 services, some of which included 196 Earn While You Learn/ Bright Course classes, 8 ultrasounds and 5 pack-n-plays. We are open to clients physically at the center and are still offering virtual services to clients who are unable to physically come to the center.

The staff and volunteers have been busy representing New Beginnings at various locations throughout our communities. We spoke at Sanctity of Human Life events and church services, kicked off our 2021 Baby Bottle Drive in several churches, held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Jigsaw Puzzle Competition virtually and had a team that participated in the Pond Hockey Championship. Be watching for us at other local events (like the Children's Fair)! Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 5K Your Way registration opens April 12, 2021. Please see our website or call the office if you are interested in participating, [www.newbeginningspregnancy.com](http://www.newbeginningspregnancy.com) or (218)-326-0404.

Items needed: Aldi's or Target gift cards for emergency needs.

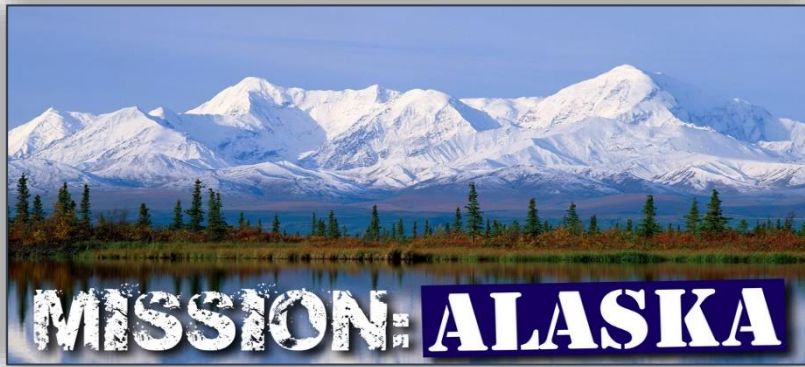
We want to say THANK YOU to all who contribute to New Beginnings Pregnancy Care Center and to the Thrivent members who designated Action Team Dollars, Choice Dollars and those who gave from their retirement funds! We also appreciate all the churches who have invited us to share and those who are giving through the Baby Bottle Drive. We very much appreciate all your support!!!

Please remember to use Amazon Smile when you shop online! Thank you so much!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/03-0579091>

“Light shines in the darkness for the godly. They are generous, compassionate, and righteous.” Psalms 112:4 NLT

Amanda Jo Grovenburg and Kathy Metzger 218-326-0404  
[www.newbeginningspregnancy.com](http://www.newbeginningspregnancy.com)



## **ALASKA MISSIONS FOR CHRIST**

Neil Grunke has diligently been planning the trips during these challenging times of viral uncertainty. There are two teams- nine members total-scheduled to go in June, by God's grace, with the first team departing June 11. That group will go to Pt. Hope and Ambler, in NW Alaska. Team two will go to Chalkyitsik, which is about 150 miles NE of Fairbanks.

Team members have been gathering monthly for a while. Meeting activities include a mission-themed Bible reading, learning something of the culture and perspectives of the folks there, formulating the VBS curriculum, and trip preparation. VBS will be conducted at each location, as well as painting or fixit tasks at the local church building.

We thank God for the opportunity to teach His word of truth, light, and salvation through Jesus; the Word made flesh.

Please pray that the Lord of the harvest will bless our time there.

*Brad Bensen*

# Youth News

Do you have someone in your life that has made such an impact on who you have become? In 2012 at the Itasca County Fair my Mom and I were going around to the booths and she loves to cook. We happened to stop at the Pampered Chef booth, and she gave her information to the gal that was working. About a week later my Mom received the catalog in the mail with the specials that were going on. I had just finished school and my kids were 5, 4 and 2. I was sitting at the beach looking through the Pampered Chef catalog trying to decide what I was going to do with the rest of my life. I can remember my exact thoughts, what am I going to do now that I am done with school? I was a stay-at-home mom, and I had no goals, no plans for the future. I have always worked and staying home with my children was great, but I needed something for myself. My Mom made the comment, well why don't you become a Pampered Chef consultant? "Oh, No" was my answer. But as God worked on my heart I decided to reach out to Sandra Aldrich, the Pampered Chef lady from the fair.

I had so many questions as I really wanted to know what I was going to get myself into if I decided to join. She was patient with me and answered them all. She made me feel at ease as I was contemplating my decision. A few days later I saw on Facebook that she was giving away a golden ticket. This golden ticket was a free pampered chef kit. I thought to myself, wow that would be amazing if I could join for free. All I had to do was write her and tell her my plans as a consultant and what that would mean to me and my family. Well, she decided to give ME the golden ticket. I was waitressing at a local restaurant at the time and so the joke was that she saved me from that dark and dingy bar.

As I started my career as a consultant, she was my cheerleader. Sandra always had a positive attitude no matter what was going on in her life or the business. She always had a smile on her face. She was the one that helped me step out of my comfort zone and take chances. I owe a lot of who I am today to her. I recently found out that she lost her battle to cancer, but Heaven gained her soul. She lived her life for Jesus. Everything she did was to please Him. I have never met anyone so strong in their faith as she was with hers. Her family lived that same way. If there is a verse in the Bible that represents Sandra best it would be 1 Thessalonians 5:11 *Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

I have regrets for not being the friend that I should have been after I left Pampered Chef. I regret not staying more in touch with her. I thought of her often and she was in my prayers often. There were many times I thought about picking up the phone to call her, or write her a letter, or even stop at her house when I happened to drive by. But I never did.

If it were not for Sandra I would not be working in church work today. She made me realize that being a Christian is not something that we should be ashamed of, that it does not matter what other people think of us. God is for us not against us. She showed me that we need to make time for Jesus and not just let life pass us by. I was always astounded by her faith, her positivity, her happiness.

I cherished our friendship, but not when it mattered most to her, only when it was convenient for me. I have learned from my mistakes and I lean on Jesus when I realize my mistakes by asking for His forgiveness. I no longer am able to ask Sandra for her forgiveness for not being the friend I should have been, and I will have to forgive myself. Taking someone for granted is easy to do, it is difficult to put yourself out there and be a rock for someone else. None of us are perfect, but Jesus teaches us how to be good friends. 1 Peter 4:8-10 *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:*

Love one another earnestly, do not fear that you are going to do or say the wrong thing. Lean on Jesus when things get tough and do not run away from Him or your dear friends. Sandra changed my life for the better, I wonder to this day if she truly knew how much she impacted my life. I know she saw me slowly progress over the years, and in the meantime she never gave up on me.

If she made that big of an impact on me, think about all the other lives she touched and made a difference in. Do you know someone like that? Perhaps you are that person! Have you ever thought of how you can change someone's life by just believing in them? God puts people in our life for a reason, perhaps He has put you in the life of other people for a reason. Do not shy away from a situation you are uncomfortable being in because that is God working in both of your lives. Romans 8:28 *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*

You may be wondering what your purpose is. In Youth group we have been talking about our purpose and God tells us how to live our life according to His purpose. He gave us the ten commandments on things we should not do:

1. You shall have no other gods
2. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God
3. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy
4. Honor your father and your mother
5. You shall not murder
6. You shall not commit adultery

7. You shall not steal
8. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor

God also tells us in the Bible on how we should live our life and how to treat others by giving us the fruit of the spirit:

- |             |                 |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Love     | 5. Kindness     | 9. Self-control |
| 2. Joy      | 6. Goodness     |                 |
| 3. Peace    | 7. Faithfulness |                 |
| 4. Patience | 8. Gentleness   |                 |

How are you living your life? Are you sharing the love of Jesus with those around you by living your life according to the ten commandments and the fruit of the spirit? My prayer for you is that you will have an impact on someone in your life just as Sandra had an impact on my life. That is what being a Christian is about. In loving memory of Sandra Aldrich.

*Jessica Pellinen*  
*Family Ministry Program Director*



The Youth Gathering may seem so far away, but there is a lot of planning that goes into it. There is a page on our website dedicated to The Gathering. If you are unable to find the answer to your questions, be sure to reach out to me directly. We are estimating that it will cost around \$1500 per person to attend, please watch for upcoming fundraisers to help work or support the youth in this trip.



Looking ahead into the Summer we have picked a date for VBS. We enjoyed the one-day option last year and are going to do it again this year. Our prayer is to have it out at Gunn Park on August 11<sup>th</sup>. This is on a Wednesday. The space has been reserved, but it will be up to COVID if we can make it work or not. We will

need lots of adult help this year. The last three years the youth have been the primary



To All Of Our Youth Born In



## **SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**May 2**

**Mite Sunday**

**8:00 Traditional Service**

**9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study**

**10:30 a.m. Non-Traditional Service**

**May 9/ Communion/Mother's Day**

**Dimes For Missions**

**8:00 a.m. Traditional Service**

**9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study**

**10:30 a.m. Non-Traditional Service**

**3:00 p.m. PASTOR LOVEJOY'S INSTALLATION**

**May 16**

**Youth Sunday**

**8:00 a.m. Traditional Service**

**9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study**

**10:30 a.m. Non-Traditional Service**

**May 23/ Communion**

**Food Shelf Sunday**

**8:00 a.m. Traditional Service**

**9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study**

**10:30 a.m. Non-Traditional Service**

**May 30**

**8:00 and Traditional Service**

**9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study**

**10:30 a.m. Non-Traditional Service**

*“Sharing the Love of Jesus”*  
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - UNAPPROVED

APRIL 13, 2021

Present: Mary Buech, Greg Taylor, Dwight Kessler, Tom Lattimore, Greg Robertson, Brad Benson, Molly Goplin, Jessica Pellinen, Molly Bartel, Linda Urevig

Call to order: Tom L. called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

Opening devotion and prayer: Tom L. led us in devotion and prayer commenting on Pastor Lovejoy’s column in the Herald Review.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Consent Agenda (#2. Camp Scholarships for LIC added to New Business) and the Minutes.

Oral Reports of Boards and Committees

1. Boards of Christian Education & Youth: Report in Packet/Greg R.
2. Board of Elders: Report in Packet/Brad B.
3. Boards of Human Care & Missions: Report in Packet/Mary B. An additional \$75.00 had been given to the Food Shelf for a total of \$285.00.
4. Board of Stewardship: Report in Packet
5. Board of Trustees: Report in Packet/Greg T. stated that our insurance premium for the year will be \$5,100.00. The premium is less than previous years because we no longer have a parsonage.
6. AV Ministry Committee: Tom L. stated that the committee has not met. Several young people are being trained on the AV system with one adult helping them. They are doing a great job.
7. Revolving Trust Fund Committee: Greg T. stated that committee’s next meeting will be in June.
8. Wiebe Grant Committee: Greg T./No Requests
9. Direction and Planning Committee: Greg T. stated that there is not a new project since Strategic Planning was completed.

Family Ministry Program Director’s Report: Report in Packet/Jessica P.

Pastor’s Report: Report in Packet

Financial Secretary’s Report: Report in Packet/Molly B.



YTD income 2021: \$69,148.05

YTD income 2020: \$70,866.23

Treasurer's Report: No Report

As of:

General Fund Chkg: \$

Building Fund Chkg: \$

Mortgage loan balance: \$

Revolving trust fund Chkg: \$

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept oral and written Board and Committee Reports.

Correspondence – None

Unfinished Business

1. Strategic Planning Update – Greg T./Four sessions were held. Committees and completion dates were set. Next year we can look back at what has been done, what things have worked and what has not.
2. Church Needs/Wish List Update – Some items mentioned were: Baptismal Font, Stand-around tables in Foyer for coffee, Computer Monitor for AV Equipment, DVD Player for Sanctuary.
3. Survey Committee Update – Dwight K. had designed the Survey Form that could be emailed, mailed or available in paper form at the church. Jessica would look at the possibility of having an email form that could be filled out and returned online.
4. Assimilation Committee Update – As per the Elders' minutes, a committee will be formed and will report to the Board of Elders. Matt P. will put an announcement in the pre-service slides and also ask the congregation who they think would be good members for this committee. A meeting with the committee will be held prior to the next Elders Meeting and Matt P. will report back to the Council at the May meeting.
5. Building Maintenance Evaluation/Plan Update – Greg T. stated that the Trustees did a walk around inside and outside the building. There are immediate cosmetic and small projects that we can do ourselves and larger projects that we can plan for, such as the siding on the Education Wing and window rot.

New Business

1. Motion to approve the Stewardship Board's payment of \$945.26 for 2022 offering envelopes  
From One-Write.

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to authorize the payment of \$945.26 to One-Write for the 2022 offering envelopes.

2. Camp Scholarships for LIC – A servant week at LIC will be held in June. The cost per person is \$375.00. Jessica P. will look at how many would be going and what the financial need could be. She will bring this information back to the Council at the May meeting.

Caring and Sharing

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35PM

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted, Linda Urevig, Recording Secretary

## COMING EVENTS

May 4<sup>th</sup> – Board Meetings 6:30PM or as decided by each Board

May 11<sup>th</sup> – Council Meeting 5:30PM

## ***Letter From The Beaudoins In the Ukraine (Our Missionaries)***

February and March have been busy months for us. With the start of the Lenten season, quarantine lifting a bit, and our students inviting friends to class our days fly by. The progress the students have been making is impressive. They have been more diligent about coming to class and doing their home tasks. There has also been more student participation in the lessons. The adults seem to enjoy the games more than our younger students. Classes are filled with laughter and joking. At the end of the lesson, they all bang on the tables. This is the custom instead of clapping. Seeing their faces and the confidence growing in them makes us feel so good. God and faith have been coming into the discussions. We have both been asked “Why are you teaching in Ukraine?” We answer that God brought us here. That usually opens a whole discussion.

There have been birthday celebrations after services on Sundays. These are filled with laughter, food, sweets, and stories. We've had three celebrations this month. The congregation gathers, toasts the guests of honor celebrating their birthdays, and then we eat. After we eat everyone watches a film about Jesus and the apostles. It is a series and quite good. The episodes bring up points for discussion from the congregation members. We enjoy these opportunities of fellowship with the congregation. Sharing these moments has brought us closer to the people we serve. Now we are asked to go shopping, or out for coffee. When we see our members around town, they come over to greet us. Vigorously they shake our hands and say “hello” and “how are you” in English. This gives us encouragement and has forged some very strong friendships.

We have two new programs in the development stage. One is an English class centered around cooking. One week we will prepare an American dish and the next week someone from the group will teach the class how to cook one of their favorite dishes. The second is an English speaker's discussion group. Each session we will speak on three topics. There has been interest in this group. The members want to practice while we are in the United States for home service. This way their English-speaking skills would not atrophy while we are away.

Humanitarian aid is one of our focuses for the mission going forth. Members of the congregation have expressed that they would like to provide mercy aid to the community. The congregation already supplies patients in the hospital with clothes that have been donated. There is an interest in expanding this to the homeless and elderly. We were approached about using the cooking class to feed those in need. We could do this by having the cooking class participants hand out meals on their way home from the class. These along with the Orphan Grain Train program are goals for the coming months. We would need volunteers from the congregation to fill out the paperwork that powers the supply of food and goods to the area. The congregation is very active and we don't believe that getting volunteers will be an issue.

We are looking forward to the coming months of fellowship and faith as Easter approaches. We will have been here for one year on March 13th and the time has flown by!

We are excited about the summer camps, new programming, and reaching out to the community in the coming months.

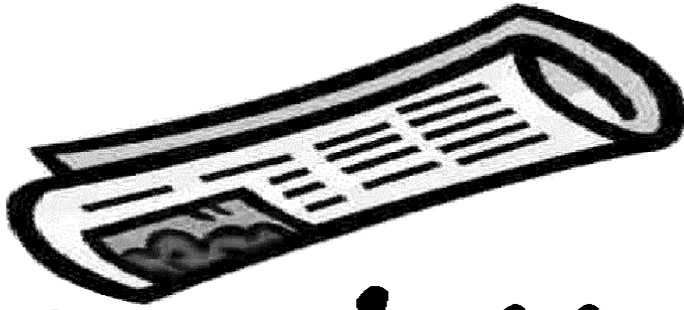
Thank you for your support! May God bless you and may the joy of the Resurrection fill your lives and hearts.

Special Thanks to the Sunday School at St. Paul's Lutheran church in Laurium, Michigan for mailing out our newsletters. Thank you! We couldn't do this without all of you!

*God's peace and blessings.*

*Kipp and Tamara Beaudoin*





# Newsletter

***Please Have June 2021 Newsletter  
Articles to Shirley***

***By May15<sup>th</sup>.***

***Newsletter will be published and  
Sent out on or about May 26th.***





# CHILD LOSS SUPPORT GROUP



There is nothing more devastating than losing a child. Connect with a community of people who have also experienced the same pain and are navigating a journey from grief to hope.

A safe and supportive environment that provides an opportunity to share experiences and coping strategies. Please know there are zero expectations of you in this group, you do not need to share or commit to anything. If you would like to join us to explore whether this group may be something you are interested in, please do.

*Held on the First Wednesday of Every Month*

*7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.*

*Community Presbyterian Church*

*703 N Pokegama Ave*

*Grand Rapids, MN 55744*

For questions or additional information, please contact:  
Ryan Miskovich at 218-259-9862 or [ryanmiskovich@yahoo.com](mailto:ryanmiskovich@yahoo.com)  
Kathleen Blake at 218-398-2271 or [Kathleen.blake48@gmail.com](mailto:Kathleen.blake48@gmail.com)  
Angela Boyd at 218-259-9000 or [angietwwboyd@gmail.com](mailto:angietwwboyd@gmail.com)





**Extra! Extra! Extra!**  
**Read all about it!**  
Lutheran Island  
Camp hires new  
year-round Program  
Coordinator, **Julia**

**O'Laughlin.** She graduated from Concordia, Seward Nebraska with a degree in Communications with a YOUTH MINISTRY MINOR. We will also have the benefits of her pre-Deaconess theological training. While Julia is not a stranger to Minnesota nor to the Island, it is easiest to describe her camp experiences as eclectic. Her desire is to serve and continue the ministry that has been a blessing to campers for over 50 years. She looks forward to visiting with returning campers and meeting new campers during this season as we celebrate the "God of Wonder".



God truly is the author of all things of *WONDER* and we trust that you are able to pause enough to stand in the light of that very wonder. This season is an opportunity for us to look upon the Wonder of the Resurrection and let it impact our daily life. May we all benefit from a sense of renewed awe as we gain greater understanding of the the significance of this season leading to Pentecost.



### "God of Wonder"

"You have multiplied, O LORD my GOD,  
your wonderous deeds and your thoughts  
toward us; none can compare with you! I will  
proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more  
than can be told."

Psalm 40: 5

218/583-2905

[info@islandcamp.org](mailto:info@islandcamp.org) [www.islandcamp.org](http://www.islandcamp.org)



# God of Wonder Lutheran Island Camp

*"Nourishing the whole person for joyful,  
Christ-centered life and service"*

June 11—13 Little Lamb /Sheep — Beginner Horse Camp — Performing Arts  
June 13—18 Classic Camp I — Horse Camp I  
June 18—20 Little Lamb /Sheep — Beginner Horse Camp — Wonder of Science  
June 20 —25 Classic Camp II — Horse Camp II  
June 25 —27 Little Lamb /Sheep — Child/ Adult Horse Camp — Wonder of Art  
Jun27-Jul 2 Classic Camp III — Horse Camp III  
July 2 — 4 Little Lamb /Sheep — Beginner Horse Camp  
July 4 — 9 July Family Camp  
Jul 11 —16 Camp Indian Head  
Jul 16 —18 Little Lamb / Sheep — Beginner Horse Camp  
July 18 — 23 Splash Camp I — Horse Camp IV  
July 23 — 25 Little Lamb/Sheep — Beginner Horse Camp  
July 25 — 30 Classic Camp IV— Horse Camp V  
Jul 30 —Aug 1 Little Lamb /Little Sheep — Child/Adult Horse Camp  
Aug 1—Aug 6 August Family Camp  
Aug 6—Aug 8 Little Lamb /Sheep — Advance Wrangler

**Calendar of Activities  
Summer 2021  
at Lutheran Island Camp.  
Submitted from: LIC newsletter.**