THE VOICE

of the First Lutheran Congregation

First Lutheran Church 401 7th Av SW Pipestone MN 56164

Phone: 507-825-5837

Website:

www.firstlutheranpipestone.org

June / July 2023

We are all one body, one spirit, compelled by Christ to share His Word and the promise of salvation. Matthew 28



The Shetek-Ondini Connection

One of the best ways the ELCA lifts up our global connection to brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world is through the Companion Synod Program. ELCA synods throughout the USA are paired with other Lutheran synods, both domestically and throughout the world. We are in Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA (SWMN), which includes congregations in Jackson, Cottonwood, Nobles, Murray, Rock and Pipestone counties, and our companion synods are Virginia (domestic) and the Southeast Diocese of the ELCSA, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (international). Every synod determines how they will celebrate and lift up the partnership, but most companion synods promote and sponsor travel between the locations, educational opportunities and the sharing of financial resources. Companion synods truly are a blessing for our church. More than just a synod here helping a synod in a less well-off country, the ELCA strives to promote mutual learning and accompaniment. In this model, everyone has something to learn, and everyone has something to offer to the relationship.

SWMN has a unique model where the 10 conferences within the synod are paired with 10 corresponding circuits in South Africa. Our Shetek Conference is paired with the Ondini Circuit, which encompasses 60 congregations and 12 parishes.

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What is the purpose of the Shetek Conference-Ondini Circuit partnership? We are walking together and partnering for the sake of the gospel to:

- Build mutual understanding and support as brothers and sisters in Christ across the globe from one another. We walk with our partners to teach, mentor, share our time, talents and financial resources with each other. We do this because of our love for Christ and desire to work together to learn, better lives in both countries, and broaden relationships.
- Learn from one another. We have assisted in creating sustainability in gardens and other projects in the Ondini Circuit that can help fund various needs, including assisting with pastor's salaries.
- Establish small-scale community agricultural projects in the Ondini Circuit for the health and well-being of their communities, in partnership with the Zamani Garden Project. This partnership is active, and projects are successful and continue to grow in two key locations. Expansion to other parishes is a goal. They are working together with several resources to enhance their projects and are working to become accountable and sustainable. They have told us, "You will not catch us sitting down!" The Circuit also responsible for the administration of the Kwazamokuhle Diaconal Center, which includes a special school for handicapped children.
- Help fund school uniforms for school children in the Ondini Circuit (a school uniform—warm and cold weather and gym clothes can cost \$100).
 - Assist in lay pastor training.
 - Assist with health and wellness groups including HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Diabetes to improve health.

People from Shetek have traveled to South Africa several times, learning about the activities, strengths and needs of that place. Likewise, South Africans have traveled to SWMN several times and participated in fellowship, worship and learning activities. In the past, the trips have largely focused on the agricultural practices of both places. Participants have learned about the techniques used in both cultures and communities.

Unsurprisingly, the COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating impact on South Africa, and the Ondini Circuit was hit hard. Many pastors and parishioners alike died. Others had no means to receive payment for their work and were facing harsh economic circumstances and even starvation. On top of this, there is flooding in the area, damaging homes, washing away gardens, and making a hard and difficult life more challenging.

The Ondini Circuit has been in the process of rebuilding and strengthening their church body. Just like in the SWMN Synod, they have a new Bishop, new Deans, and many of their pastors and deacons have moved to serving in new locations. Since this rebuilding process has been so significant, it has been decided that there will be no travel groups during this year between the two church bodies. Shetek Lutheran Ministries, however, will be hosting one young adult counselor from South Africa this summer, Sicelo Masando. We are investigating hosting our South African partners in 2024.

How do the Shetek Conference and the Ondini Circuit communicate? There is a Partnership Committee in each place that communicates with each other, and facilitates planning visits, as well as getting financial donations from Minnesota to South Africa, so it can be used where it is most needed.

How can we here in Pipestone help? We can:

- Pray for guidance and continued work in this mission partnership.
- Support the partnership by sending monetary contributions to the Shetek Conference Treasurer Carol Serfling. 100% of the money given goes directly into the partnership account to be used for designated projects. This will be our Noisy Offering for June.
- Have a representative from First Lutheran on the Shetek Partnership Committee.
- Support Mission Sundays.

On June 25th, we will celebrate "Uhambisano Sunday". Uhambisano means, "...walking together, joining in fellowship..." in the South African language of Zulu. We will be praying for our South African brothers and sisters, and they will be praying for their Minnesotan brothers and sisters. We will be praying for one another, for our bishops and other leaders, and that our relationship can grow stronger.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Pastor Ann, who will find answers. Thanks to Pastor Jeanette McCormick and Pastor Sara Tade for information that was used in this article.

We will continue to Walk Together in Christ with our partners in the Ondini Circuit!

Pastor Ann

Christians Should Celebrate Independence Day Written by Douglas Leslie (Christian Ministry Alliance)

We live in a Christian sub-culture that will, invariably, chide anyone who exuberantly applauds and celebrates July 4th. They will scream and use their intellectual prowess to try and show that you really worship culture, white supremacy, nationalism, etc. Don't fall for it. It is a lie.

Like other federal holidays, July 4th should be celebrated with great joy and gratitude. Why? Because we are thankful for the sacrifice of those who have gone before us to blaze the trails and lay the foundations of what is arguably, the greatest nation to have ever been formed in global history. For this, every American should celebrate. Without that sacrifice, we would not be able to have

any of the freedoms this country affords its citizens, including those that, because of this sacrifice, allows others to boisterously proclaim disapproval. Every citizen, of every ethnicity, of every skin color, and sub-culture can celebrate that they can live in freedom.

If we cannot stop and celebrate Independence Day, then we cannot celebrate any other day. Christmas. Family birthdays. Memorial Day. Labor Day. Juneteenth. Martin Luther King Day. These all become days that CAN be seen as idolatry. But they are not. And neither is Independence Day.

Continued on next page >

Christians Should Celebrate....(cont.)

Our celebration is one of gratitude for the greatness of our country – although Jesus is greater.

Our celebration is one of joy for the privilege of living in the United States – although joy in Jesus is greater.

Our celebration is one of remembrance for those who gave their lives to secure our freedoms – although our freedoms through Jesus' death are greater.

Our Christian commitment to scripture and the holiness of God is not reduced to our expressions of gratitude for our country. If your church sings a patriotic anthem, sing wholeheartedly. It doesn't replace your worship. If your church does not take part in this manner, that is okay too. It does not mean your church is led by a religious Marxist. Our country is large and wide and deep with all sorts of approaches to holidays. We don't proclaim our joy and gratitude at the expense of our commitment to God. We simply express our celebration for the providence of the birth of our country.

Our ultimate commitment is to God and his kingdom. AND each year we pause on July 4th to celebrate the birth of our nation. It's okay to do so.





May 2023 Offering

Monthly Income Needed to Operate	\$17,800.00
Weekly Offering – May 7 th	
Weekly Offering – May 14 th	
Weekly Offering – May 21st	
Weekly Offering – May 28 th	

Now there are THREE METHODS to use Simply Giving:

- 1. Your church offerings can be made weekly, every other week, or monthly through electronic funds transfer from your checking or savings account.
- 2. Free Mobile Giving App enables your church offerings to be made securely from anywhere, with 1-tap. Plus, it's completely **FREE**!
- 3. Below is a Quick Response (QR) code. When you scan this barcode-like QR code image with a smartphone's QR decoder, it will instantly connect you to the mobile version of the church's web page.



If you need more offering envelopes, please stop into the church pick up another book.



First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes - April 12th, 2023

Members Present: Craig Thies, Pastor Ann, Thad Reinert, Cristy Appel, Ingrid Wielenberg, Mike Straw, Nicole Weber, Marit Sterud and Marah Lytle.

Call to Order: President, Craig Thies, called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

Devotions: Devotion was led by Ingrid W. Next month Cristy A. will lead devotion.

Treasurer's Report: Thad R. went over the bills and pointed out the Computers & Beyond and State Fund Mutual are our highest bills. Cristy A. made a motion to pay the bills and Ingrid W. 2nd the motion and it was approved.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed. Cristy A. made a motion to append the Secretary's Report to read "Shetek Camp (building fund): Council agreed to make monthly payments of \$550 for the next 2 years." Ingrid W. 2nd the motion and it was approved.

Pastor's Report:

- · Pastor Ann handed out her report for March and this was reviewed. Pastor will be doing Continuing Ed for Festival of Homiletics, May 15-18, in Minneapolis. May 14 will be a travel day, will need pulpit supply, a communion Sunday. Pastor is taking vacation May 19-28; worship team will do pulpit supply on May 21 and Ingrid W. will on May 28; neither are communion Sundays.
- · Pastor Ann is registered for Suicide Prevention Skills for Rural Ministry, through MN Department of Agriculture and MN Department of Health, zoom, 4 Thursdays April 27-May 18, 1.5 hours each session.
- · Council discussed getting a lower coat rack put in the Narthex for kids.
- · Council discussed doing Bible presentations in worship for grades 3 and 4. The Sunday School Committee is going to discuss ideas.
- · Council approved of a private baptism on 4/30/2023 Kaysan Lee Ilse.
- · Council approved Tom and Diane Dunn's request to become members.
- · Council discussed that the Youth Committee will work on a plan to help assist youth to go to camps.
- · Pastor Ann discussed a request from Sydnee Hubner for a donation to start a young adult ministry. Christy A. made a motion to donate \$200 from the general accountant and Mike S. 2nd the motion. The motion was passed.
- · Pastor Ann discussed that Farmers & Suicide reached out to talk about suicide prevention in rural ministry on a Wednesday night with LIFT and confirmation kids. Council is looking for more information and Pastor is going to discuss with other pastors in the area.
- · The Council reviewed Pastor Ann's upcoming date list, from her March report.

President's Report:

· Fair Stand Update – Committee has plans drawn up by Pipestone Building Materials. Putting together prices. Musch Concrete giving up price to do concrete work. Mark's Electric putting together price. Griebel Construction hasn't quoted their price for construction.

We want to keep the project around the \$50,000 price. Cristy A. made a motion to proceed and stay at that price. Ingrid W. 2nd the motion and it was passed.

- · Craig T. is meeting with the insurance agent next Friday to get quotes on insuring the church.
- · Craig T. received a request to pay the Shetek Camp building fund with one payment. The council denied that request and agreed to continue to make monthly payments of \$550 over the next 2 years.

Vice-President's Report: none

Committee Reports - Round Table:

- · <u>Congregational Life</u> Ingrid W. Canaries game June 14th. If 25 tickets are purchased the Canaries will match with another 25 tickets. June 7th is the deadline. Ingrid W. made a motion to buy the 25 tickets for \$250 using funds from Congregational Life, Youth, and Sunday School. Cristy A. 2nd the motion and it was approved. Congregational Life is also working on a time & talent survey.
- · Worship Cristy A. discussing Pastor being gone, reviewing Lent and Easter, and making plans for summer.
- · Mission & Outreach Kristy H. none
- · <u>Property Management</u> Mike S. Fair stand is main concentration right now.
- · Adult Ed none
- · <u>Youth</u> Nicole Weber looking over background check information for chaperones and discussing the 2024 Youth Gathering that is in New Orleans.
- · Sunday School everything is going well, done May 10th.

Old Business:

· An e-mail was sent out to members for approval of the Food Shelf donation in order to get the match – donations were due by 4/9/23. Approval was given for a check in the amount of \$2000 by the following Council members on 4/7/2023: Cristy A, Ingrid W, Kristen B, Mike S, Marah L, and Kristy H. A check was written and picked up by Karen Hellie from the Food Shelf on 4/7/23. Nicole W. made a motion to make the budget donation to the Food Shelf automatic in the month of March each year so we can guarantee the matching funds. Ingrid W. 2nd the motion and it was passed.

New Business:

- · Council discussed the option of combining the Sunday School and Youth committees to make one committee. There would be one rep on the Council for this combined committee. The Sunday School and Youth committees will discuss.
- · Council discussed moving the Council meeting from 8:00pm to 7:30pm. Cristy A. made a motion to move the Council meeting to 7:30pm in May to see how it goes. Mike S 2nd the motion and it was approved.
- · Attendance numbers how can we improve our in-person attendance numbers and our Facebook views? This was tabled till next month's meeting.
- · Family Day every 3rd Sunday. This was tabled till next month's meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Marah Lytle, Secretary

Church News & Events



Through Baptism, we welcome:

Brenley Grace Kendall
into the family of First Lutheran on Sunday, June 11th.
Her parents are Brianna Woodbury & Jacob Kendall
Grandfather is Robert Woodbury

In loving memory of

Blake Edwin Olsen

August 31, 1993 - May 21, 2023
Blake's funeral was held here at First Lutheran
on Friday, May 26th, 2023
Blake is the son of Mark Olsen & Nancy (Yseth) Olsen



Ride with the Angels Blake!



VISITATIONS

If someone is ill or in need of a Pastoral visit, please call Pastor Ann or contact the Church office@ 825-5837. Please remember the following First Lutheran Church members in your prayers, send them a card, or stop to visit them.

Kay Buranen	. Good Samaritan, Pipestone
Carol FossGood Sa	amaritan – Prairie Creek, Sioux Falls
Darrell Foss	Good Samaritan, Sioux Falls
Joyce Kunz	Good Samaritan, Pipestone



First Lutheran Church is now a member of the Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce!

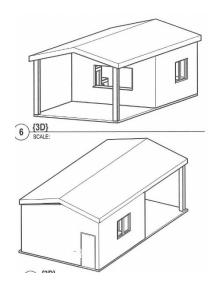
Check out the Chamber website for all of the events happening around Pipestone and the surrounding Communities.

We will also post church activities on the Commerce website in addition to our Facebook page and church website.

FIRST LUTHERAN FAIRSTAND MEETING

We will have a short congregational meeting and vote on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>June 11th</u> immediately following our regular worship service. Information will be shared with members regarding the new building and a vote taken as required by our church by-laws. Please make a note to be there!

HELP NEEDED: We are also looking for a fairstand manager to manage our new building during the fair. If you are interested, contact Craig Thies or Lori in the church office for more details.



Are you ready for some baseball?! – Join us for a night of Faith, Family and baseball at the Sioux Falls Stadium (a.k.a. the BirdCage) on Wednesday, June 14th, game time is at 6:35pm.

We have FREE tickets available to anyone who signs up. You can sign up on the clipboard in the narthex OR scan the QR code to get signed up on SignUp Genius. Tickets can be picked up in the church office after Tuesday, May 30th.



Make sure to join us for Coffee Fellowship in the Narthex after worship every Sunday!! It's a great time to visit with visitors to our church as well as other members. If you would like to bring goodies to pass or help serve, there are sign-up sheets are in the Narthex or you can contact Lori in the office!!



Are you looking for a great gift idea for a wedding or even Christmas?

We have beautiful quilts and sturdy jean rugs for sale here at the church. The rugs and quilts are displayed in the Fellowship Hall so stop in and take a look! Quilts are \$40 and rugs are priced on their individual tags. Payments can be made to <u>FLCW</u> and put in the office mailbox.

DON'T FORGET THE CHURCH DIRECTORY!

If you have any pictures that you would like to share in the directory that you have taken at church activities, contact the church office. We would like to get more added so that we can print out some copies for those members who are not able to view it electronically. If you have been able to get the directory app on your mobile devices or your computer, you can print a copy of the directory any time.

If you have any questions or problems accessing your directory or printing out a copy, please contact the church office.





UPCOMING EVENTS at New Life Treatment Center:

- Friday, June 9th An alcohol-free barn dance, meeting and bonfire from 6pm 10pm at Diamond H Acres in Edgerton. Camping available call to reserve.
- Saturday, June 10th Horses to Horsepower Horse and wagon ride to Woodstock at 8:15 a.m. from the Pipestone Fairgrounds. Tractor Show in Woodstock with some prizes & trophies.
- Sunday, June 11th Outdoor church service at New Life Treatment Center with the Woodstock Community Church. Meal following the service.

DETAILS FOR ALL EVENTS are posted on the flyers hanging in the Narthex or check out their website: www.newlifetreatment.com/events



The Jasper ELC will be hosting VBS Day Camp from July 17th to July 20th from 1:00pm – 5:00pm for kids in grades 1–7. A team from Shetek Lutheran Ministries will be leading the camp. The theme of the camp is Holy Trinity, Wholly Love. Here is how to register:

- ~go to shetek.org and click the register tab.
- ~After you have logged in or created an account, enter JasperDay for the GHR id to register your child(ren).
- ~please register by July 7th.

Teen or adult volunteers are also needed, if you are interested – contact Kristen Brockberg or the church office.

Contact the church office for a registration form OR contact John Woodford.

Phone: 507-640-2472 Email: johndiane@redred.com



- > Registration: 2:30 pm
- > Shotgun Start: 3:00 pm
- > Price: \$75.00 per golfer Includes GOLF CART, green fees, meal, prizes and a donation to LMM

Friday, July 21st, 2023
Redwood Falls Golf Club,
Redwood Falls, MN

Registration Deadline: Monday, July 17th



Help Grow Leaders in Rural Ministry

Fund for Leaders Endowment

The SW MN Synod Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM) provides seminary tuition scholarships. Recipients will have an openness and commitment to future service in rural settings.

The profit from the LMM golf tournament goes into the LMM's Fund for Leaders Endowment to help grow leaders.

Donations to the LMM Scholarship Endowment Fund are appreciated even if you are not able to participate in the Golf Tournament.



Noisy Offering for April & May was collected for: **Lutheran Emergency Response**

The total amount collected thus far is: \$308.03.

Noisy Offering for June will be collected for the oNdini Circuit in South Africa. Thank you for your support of these important Outreach needs.

L.C.W News and Activiti

June 2023

Dear FLCW,

Welcome, summer! School is almost over; may the fun of summer activities begin!

FLCW was held on Tuesday, May 23rd with coffee and goodies (lots of rhubarb!) and discussion of the Salad Luncheon and summer activities.

Our Salad Luncheon served about 60 people and raised \$683.16. It appears that this event has had its day. We will be exploring something new for next spring. All are encouraged to ask others what their congregations are doing.

Kaffi Ti was also discussed since numbers are dwindling for this event, too. It was decided to change the date to the FIRST SATURDAY in December. It will be held on Saturday, December 2, 2023. Promotion for this will have to be finished before Thanksqiving.

Pastor Ann delivered the 30 Personal Care kits and 10 quilts to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse when she traveled for her vacation. Thanks. Pastor Ann!

Next up for the kits are School Kits. Start shopping when the back-to-school sales begin - usually right after July 4th! Items needed are: 70 sheet notebooks, ruler with centimeters as well as inches, pencil sharpener, blunt scissors, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, ballpoint pens (no gel pens), eraser - 2 1/2". The backpack bags will be purchased separately. We have some items already. Notebooks are always what we need - 4 per backpack-200 for 50-we usually assemble 80 or so. They will be assembled after church in August.

Quilting continues in the summer on the second and fourth Thursdays at 9:30 am. (June 8^{th} and 22^{nd}). The five 2023 graduates received their quilts. The class of 2024 also has five members. They are all guys!

The Shetek Quilt Auction will be June 23rd-24th at Shetek. We donated 6 denim rugs. I have 3 quilts and a basket, as well.

A summer getaway was discussed. I will be looking into some options mentioned but I will keep you informed.

Note: that 'The Loony Lutherans' will be appearing at the Pipestone Performing Arts on July 23rd. They are a hoot!

See you in church!

Kristy

ENTHUSIASTIC DISCIPLESHIP

Don't work only while being watched, in order to please men, but as slaves of Christ, do God's will from your heart. Render service with a good attitude, as to the Lord and not to men.

Ephesians 6:6-7 Holman CSB

Will you walk with shortsighted people who honor the ways of the world, or will you walk with the Son of God? Jesus walks with you. Are you walking with Him? Hopefully, you will choose to walk with Him today and every day of your life. Jesus has called upon believers of every generation (and that includes you) to follow in His footsteps. And God's Word promises that when you follow in Christ's footsteps, you will learn how to live freely and lightly (Matthew 11:28-30).

Jesus doesn't want you to be a run-of-the-mill, follow-the-crowd kind of person. Jesus wants you to be a "new creation" through Him. And that's exactly what you should want for yourself, too. Jesus deserves your extreme enthusiasm; the world deserves it; and you deserve the experience of sharing it.

A PRAYER FOR TODAY

Dear Lord, You have called me not to a life of mediocrity, but to a life of passion. Today, I will be an enthusiastic follower of Your Son, and I will share His Good News—and His love—with all who cross my path. Amen

From: 365 Daily Devotions for Women

Shetek Happenings



- **Pulled Pork Dinner** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$10/person
- **Kids Activities**
- Hand-Quilted & **Machine-Quilted Quilts**

Join us for the 5K Pelican Fun Walk/Run

Saturday, June 24 • 8:00 a.m. \$15/person, \$25/family

Register online at shetek.org or call SLM at (507) 763-3567

Quilt Preview

Friday, June 23 • 5:30-8:00 p.m. Picnic Supper 5:30-7 p.m. \$8/person

Saturday, June 24 • 8:30-10:00 a.m. 2023 QUILTS & QUILT ITEMS CAN BE VIEWED ONLINE AT WWW.SHETEK.ORG



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (507) 763-3567

Auctioneers: Donna Gravely, Windom, MN • Dave Bosacker, Tracy, MN Visa, Mastercard & Discover accepted. Support provided by Thrivent Financial. ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS SUMMER CAMP MINISTRY

UNABLE TO NO WORRIES! Call or email a bid in ahead of time. (507) 763-3567 or email camp@shetek.org.

Members of our quilt committee will bid for you on the day of the auction. Bids must be in by

June 21, 2023.





Pre-Marriage Workshops

Saturday, September 30th, 2023

8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Shetek Lutheran Ministries

14 Keeley Island Drive; Slayton, MN

Congratulations on your upcoming marriage! Shetek Lutheran Ministries would like to be a part of helping you get your marriage off to a strong start, by offering you and your fiancée a chance to think about some key marriage issues, together with other couples also ready to get married.

You probably know that the state of Minnesota offers couples a reduced rate on the marriage license if they put in at least twelve hours of pre-marriage instruction. This day will qualify for eight of those hours. The other hours you will want to spend with your pastor in planning your wedding and talking about your specific relationship.

Some of the topics we will cover will include:

- ✓ Communication skills and conflict resolution
- ✓ Financial matters and budgeting
- √ The spirituality of marriage

You can see that this is <u>not</u> a "wedding fair!" We won't be selling wedding gowns, or offering services for catering, etc. The focus on this workshop will be on what happens <u>after</u> you say "I do," and how to keep your relationship healthy.

Come and join us at camp on the shores of beautiful Lake Shetek. Directions and a printable registration form are available online also. You may also register online. Registration is only \$30 per couple. Included are rolls and coffee in the morning and lunch at noon. You don't have to be Lutheran to attend!

June 2023



14 Keeley Island Drive Slayton, MN 56172 507-763-3567 camp@shetek.org www.shetek.org

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers



Work at camp this summer! - shetek.org/work-at-shetek



Check out our quilts online at Shetek.org



Mark your Calendar

- June 11 First Day of Camp
- June 19 Golf Tournament 8:30 a.m.
- June 23 Quilt Preview 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- June 23 Picnic Supper 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- June 24 Pelican 5K Walk/Run 7:30 a.m.
- June 24 Quilt Auction 10:30 a.m.
- June 24 Pulled Pork Dinner 11:00-1:00
 Register at <u>shetek.org</u> or

Call 507-763-3567 for more information

Wish List

- 17 foot Aluminum canoe
- Vest style life jackets
- Office supplies reams of paper
- Good Vacuums
- Volunteers

Help send kids to Camp...Become a
Pelican Club or Timber Society member
today. Pelican Club members support
the ministry with a gift of \$100 - \$499 a
year and Timber Society members give
\$500 or more a year. Thanks for your
support!



A Message Christian Young People Desperately Need

Article from enjoyingthejourney.org

It is my privilege to speak to young people on a regular basis. I have to admit that they are my favorite group to preach to! You always know where you stand with teenagers. My heart is always stirred as I look into their faces and consider the potential in every one of their

More and more as I look into the eyes of Christian young people, I see a sense of apathy. Resignation. Defeat.

Could it be that the enemy has successfully convinced an entire generation that their world is too far gone? Their lives too insignificant to impact 7 billion people? The condition too bad for them to make a difference?

The devil is a liar. He always has been, and he always will be. And he is lying to a generation. Perhaps they will be the last generation that will have an opportunity to evangelize the world. At least they are the next generation in a long line of believers – a line that must not be broken.

We scold. We fuss. We plead and wonder why there is no sense of urgency.

To listen to most preachers, this is the *worst* time in history to be a young person. "Things have never been worse than they are now." Is it possible that we are simply contributing to an already discouraged generation?

~Goliath is too big.

~Experienced soldiers have settled in to "wait it out."

~The enemy army is too large.

~David is too young to turn the tide.

The "Saul syndrome" has crept in like a cancer and it is spreading quickly. Yes, "evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived" (2 Timothy 3:13). Don't stop – read on! The next verse declares, "But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and has been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them." We cannot keep our eyes on the rise of evil...or on ourselves. All eyes must be on the Unchanging One!

THIS GENERATION NEEDS HOPE! Not mere sentimental thoughts. Not lip service to orthodoxy. Not a history lesson from past generations. We must reaffirm what we know for sure:

- God's Word is still true!
- The Lord is still on the throne of the universe!
- The gospel still has power to save wicked sinners!
- The Holy Spirit is still with us!
- The Father still hears and answers prayer!

- The local church is still God's way of accomplishing His work in this world!
- Revival can still happen!
- The Son of God is still coming!

Bible hope is connected to what we know to be true. It is not wishful thinking! Another generation needs to embrace the truth and advance in hope.

Every week I talk to young people whose lives are being controlled by fear. No money. No direction. No certainty about the future. No faith. They desperately need the message that the Apostle Paul gave to a discouraged generation of believers in his day:

"Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and **hold** the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle. Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good **hope** through grace, comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work" (2 Thessalonians 2:15-17).

Some things never change. Young people need something to *hold* and something to *hope*. Deep beneath the complacency is a generation of young people wondering, "Is there not a cause?" Indeed, there is! And this is their time to fulfill it.



The Lord tells of the rewards for those who follow His laws. --Leviticus 26:3-20

Great Rewards

- Did God's rules tell the people how to live their daily lives?
 - a. Not exactly
 - b. Yes
 - c. No
 - d. The answer is unknown
- 2. How could God help the Hebrews with their crops?
- 3. Would the people have enough food to last from season to season?

- 4. How much food did God promise?
- 5. God also promised to drive something else away. Do you know what that was?
- 6. When God spoke about their fear, how much fear would they have?
 - a. They would always have some
 - b. They would have no fear
 - c. Their fear would be less
 - d. They would be more afraid than ever

- 7. What would God offer as a reward?
 - a. Money
 - b. A new knowledge
 - c. The return to the Garden of Eden
 - d. His favor
- 8. When the Lord asked the Hebrews to remember something about Egypt, what was it?



TWOIVE GIPIOES OF JUDAH SIMEON REUBER GAD NAPHTALI LEP ZEBULUN ISSACHAR JOSEPH MANASSEH BENJAMIN

Read Numbers 2:1-34, 13, 18:7, Judges 6, Philippians 3:5, Romans 1:1, and James 1:2. Answer the questions below.

- To which tribe did Joshua belong?
- 2 How many cities were the Levites given?
- 3 To which tribe did Paul belong?
- To which tribe did Gideon belong?
- 5 Which tribe received no inheritance of land?
- 6 Which tribe served as priests?
- Which three tribes camped on the north side of the tabernacle?
- Which two tribes of Israel were not named after sons of Jacob?
- 9 Which tribes settled on the east side of the Jordan River?
- 10 In James 1:2, to whom did James address his letter?



June 2023 Worship Assistants

Date	Worship	Reader	Acolytes	Communion Assistant(s)	Ushers *(captain)	Sound
6-4-2023 *Holy Communion	9:30 a.m.	Paul Johnson	Kendyl Houselog		*Dennis Peterson (cpt) -Cody Heidebrink -Terry Swenson -Dan Scotting -Ryan Wielenberg	Neil Johnson
6-11-2023 *Holy Communion	9:30 a.m.	Gen Velde			*Dennis Peterson (cpt) -Cody Heidebrink -Terry Swenson -Dan Scotting -Ryan Wielenberg	Brandon Willey
6-18-2023	9:30 a.m.				*Dennis Peterson (cpt) -Cody Heidebrink -Terry Swenson -Dan Scotting -Ryan Wielenberg	Neil Johnson
6-25-2023	9:30 a.m.	Cynthia Portz			*Dennis Peterson (cpt) -Cody Heidebrink -Terry Swenson -Dan Scotting -Ryan Wielenberg	Mike Straw
	Jı	uly 2023	Worsh	ip Assisto	ants	
7-2-2023 *Holy Communion	9:30 a.m.		Aubrey Brockberg		*Paul Johnson (cpt) -Dave Boucher -Matt McCorquodale -Dan Lee -Tom Erickson	Mark Zinnel
7-9-2023 *Holy Communion	9:30 a.m.	Paul Johnson	Zack Sneller		*Paul Johnson (cpt) -Dave Boucher -Matt McCorquodale -Dan Lee -Tom Erickson	Mike Straw
7-16-2023	9:30 a.m.	·			*Paul Johnson (cpt) -Dave Boucher -Matt McCorquodale -Dan Lee -Tom Erickson	Neil Johnson
7-23-2023	9:30 a.m.				*Paul Johnson (cpt) -Dave Boucher -Matt McCorquodale -Dan Lee -Tom Erickson	Brandon Willey
7-30-2023	9:30 a.m.				*Paul Johnson (cpt) -Dave Boucher -Matt McCorquodale -Dan Lee -Tom Erickson	Jason Weber



June Birthdays

6-1	Paul Henriksen		6-15	Toni Baartman Erin Musch	Harold Meyer Lane Wielenberg
6-2	Lori Crawford Lilah Harms Nancy Finzen Will Rops Marlys Winter		6-16	Teri Petersen	Mark Thode
6-3	Davia I	Kellen	6-17	Larry	Monke
6-5	Aubri DeZeeuw Jennifer Skyberg		6-18	Brad	Straw
6-6	Lorelai Johnson		6-19	Bailey Bouman	Larry Rieck
6-7	Gabe Horton Austin I	Wanda Mickelson Musch	6-22	Ashton Carpenter	Lennon Weber
6-8	Gregg Johnson	Brenda Kellen	6-23	Creighton Schroyer	
6-9	Robert Baerenwald		6-24		Daniel Larson Debbie Reinert
6-10	Carole Sommers		6-25	Ron	Capp
6-11	Wyatt Schaap		6-27	Kevin Enerson	Lincoln Watts
6-12	Colette DeSchepper		6-29	Cade Ba	aartman
6-13	Larry Harkema		6-30	Merrick Heidebrink	



July Birthdays

7-1	Ryne Gordon Kamryn Ilse	7-19	Chuck DeSchepper Hunter McKinney
7-2	Elise Kruger	7-20	Ashley Griebel Linda Hollingsworth Gail Johnson
7-5	Mardi Enerson	7-22	Kandis Hollingsworth Jim Schloendorf Maddie Thode
7-6	Denise Christensen Morgan Taubert Shelly Werner Nathan Wilson	7-23	Brea Alfson Dan Wagner Kason Weber
7-8	Matt Gunnink	7-24	Bill Olson Lisa Sneller
7-9	Kelsey Sneller	7-25	Brenden Kaffar
7-10	Jacey Burnett Jack Gordon Damian Skyberg	7-26	Anna Clark
7-11	Curt Ilse Bill Winter	7-28	Dave Dulas Nicole Hollingsworth
7-12	Courtney Ahlers	7-29	Maddox Biever Maverick Burtzel Cory Chaulsett Teri Klosterman
7-13	Bill Sorenson	7-30	Braxton Heidebrink Jessalyn Reinert Charlie Rops
7-15	Brantley Smidt Ryker Smidt Joe Henderson	7-31	Bill Leslie Jeff Werner
7-16	Mylee Weber		
7-18	Carly Burkard Eve Erickson Erin Gordon		



June Anniversaries

6-1	*Darrell & Carol Foss (Happy 65 th Anniversary Darrell & Carol!) *Dwight & Sheila Horton	6-15	*Tom & Sandi Newgard *Gavin & Lauren Smidt
6-3	Darrell & Cheryl Greenhoff	6-19	Scott & Marit Sterud
6-5	Ed & Janet Gustafson	6-20	*Jeff & Karla Carstensen *Jason & Lori Woelber
6-8	Gregg & Nancy Johnson	6-21	*Ray & Teresa Staatz *Bill & Jeanine Olson
6-10	*Dale & Sandy Roemmich *Ed & Judy Hansen *Jeff & Sal Griebel	6-24	*Paul & Kristy Henriksen *Dan & Melissa Scotting
6-12	*Nick & Jenn Weber	6-30	*Mike & Claressa Kent



July Anniversaries

7-6	∼Tom & Amy Willey ∼Kevin & Berit Wickland	7-14	~Robert & Teri Petersen ~Tom & Carly Erickson ~Kevin & Mardi Enerson
7-7	~Doug & Doreen Hansen	7-16	~Taylor & Tracie Skyberg
7-8	~Thad & Debbie Reinert	7-20	~Ryan & Ingrid Wielenberg ~Casey & Lacey Fritz



June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 ~1:30pm - P.I.M meeting	2	3
4 Trinity Sunday ~9:30am Worship *Holy Communion (live-streamed)	5	6	7 ~7:00pm - Church committee mtgs	8 ~9:30am– Quilting	Pastor Ann gone - Synod Assembly in St. Peter	10
~9:30am Worship *Holy Communion & Baptism - Kendall (live-streamed)	12	13 ~4:00pm- Worship Committee ~7:309m- Church Council (please note change of day)	~6:30pm – Faith & Family Night at the Canaries game	15	~ Graveside service – 2pm	17
Father's Day AAA ~9:30am Worship (live-streamed) ~Pastor Ann at Good Sam & Ridgeview (pm)	19	20	21	~9:30am- Quilting	~5:30 – 8pm - Shetek Quilt Auction preview and picnic. *Watertower Festival in Pipestone	24 ~10:30am - Shetek Quilt Auction @Shetek Lutheran Ministries Activity Center *Watertower Festival in Pipestone
Ondini Prayer Circuit Sunday ~9:30am Worship- (live-streamed) *Watertower Festival in Pipestone	26	~FLCW lunch / meeting TBD	28	29	30	

July 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
~9:30am Worship *Holy Communion (live-streamed)		* Happy * 4th of * July*	~7:00pm committee mtgs	~1:00pm – Food Shelf mtg ~TBA– P.I.M. meeting *Dutch Festival in Edgerton	*Dutch Festival in Edgerton	*Dutch Festival in Edgerton
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
~9:30am Worship *Holy Communion (live-streamed)			~7:30pm Church Council	~9:30am– Quilting	*Jasper Quartziter Days	*Jasper Quartziter Days
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
~9:30am Worship (live-streamed) Potluck following worship *Jasper Quartziter Days	Bible School	1-5pm @ Jasper E	LC in Jasper, 1	~Pastor Ann – OUT OF OFFICE @ Conf mtg		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
~9:30am Worship- (live-streamed)				~9:30am- Quilting * Pipestone Crazy	* Pipestone Crazy Days	* Pipestone Crazy Days
				Days		
30 ~9:30am Worship- (live-streamed)	31					

First Lutheran Church (ELCA) 4017th Avenue SW Pipestone MN 56164

Worship schedule:

- 9:30am Sundays at Church & live-streamed on Facebook
- Radio Worship Broadcast: 10:30am Sundays on KLOH 1050AM
- TV Public Access: Wednesdays @12pm & 5pm on Channel 3

The VOICE is produced monthly by First Lutheran Church (ELCA).

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Treasurer Thad Reinert

Financial Secretary Melissa Burnett

First Lutheran Church Women:

President Kristy Henriksen 825-3122

Treasurer Carol Johnson

Secretary Darlene Muller

First Lutheran Church Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month @ 8 p.m.