



Our Church

(309) 734-2106 office@flcmonmouth.org

Volume CXII Issue 7

JULY 2019

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them...

Genesis 1:27

There is an interesting tenet of faith hidden right in the very opening verses of our scripture. The tenet is that God created all humankind. This tenet is tucked in between God doing all sorts of other acts of creation and God resting on the seventh day. It is hidden on the sixth day of creation according to the poetry of Genesis chapter one, and yet within that poem more is said about God's creation of humankind than all the other acts of creation. God creates humankind in God's image, God creates humankind with gender identity, God blesses humankind with a special gift of dominion over everything else that was created.

This is a fascinating tenet because it tells us God created all people. God did not create some people and not others. There were not multiple gods who each created their own peoples. Nope, our scripture says the One and only God created all humankind, all in the image of God.

This is fascinating in that we can at a certain level recognize the truth that we have just one God in this universe, and we can and often do give thanks for God's wonderful act of creation, including the creation of people. But it is fascinating in that we often do not actually live as though we believe this tenet of faith.

If we lived according to the tenet that One God, the only God, the God known to us today as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, created all people then the following would be true:

There would be no one who is called "illegal." There would be no one who is called "alien." There would be no reason to divide humanity for purposes of power, or privilege, or dominance. There would be no discrimination by race or creed or gender identity or sexual orientation.

But sadly, in our world we do have people who are called "illegal" and "alien"; we do have people who are divided by power and privilege; we do have people who are oppressed by discrimination. Often the very same people who profess faith in the One God, the only

God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who created all people, are the same people who accept the status quo of human division.

Just as often, there are people who profess the tenet of faith that God did not just create the Hebrew peoples. God did not just create western society. God did not just create Caucasians. God created ALL people. These people recognize that this tenet is not simply hidden in the opening verses of Genesis but is echoed throughout both the Old and New Testaments.

How do we count ourselves among the people of faith who live this tenet in practice and not just by words? It begins by believing that walking in front of every person is a messenger of God who is boldly proclaiming: "This is the Image of God".

The refugee child separated from her parents and held in a detention center has a messenger of God standing in front of her boldly proclaiming "This is the Image of God".

The son being kicked out of his parents house for daring to declare he is gay has a messenger of God standing in front of him boldly proclaiming, "This is the Image of God."

The homeless vet, the drug-addicted newborn, the co-worker being fired for being transgendered, the hungry student at school who gets mocked for not having enough for school lunch, the black man being harassed for sweeping the sidewalk in front of his apartment, they all have a messenger of God standing in front of them boldly proclaiming, "This is the Image of God."

And so, too, do you. Standing in front of you is a messenger of God boldly proclaiming, "This is the Image of God."

Let's use this summer to practice seeing the messenger of God standing before us, boldly proclaiming "This is the Image of God." The more we practice seeing the messenger before us, the more we will be able to see the messenger standing in front of every person, every created and blessed child of God, each with his or her own messenger standing before him or her, boldly proclaiming, "This is the Image of God."

In Peace,
Pastor Jamie

WHERE IS PASTOR JAMIE?

July is a busy month, in a very different way from the normalcy of the school year and daily or nightly programs. So, there may be days you don't find Pastor Jamie in his office. Here are a few times he will be out.

July 4 - 6, Pastor will be attending the ordination of a friend.

July 15 - 22, Pastor will be on a family vacation

If you normally like to drop in to visit Pastor Jamie in his office, it is highly recommended you call first, as the times he is "in the office" he may be out doing home visits. Additional changes to Pastor's schedule will be listed in the weekly bulletins or upcoming newsletters.

Meet Pastor Katie - July 14th

Since Pastor Jamie's wife is also a pastor, she is not able to join our congregation on Sundays, and many folks have not had the chance to meet her yet. On Sunday, July 14th, you will have a chance. Pastor Katie will be here leading worship and preaching, and Pastor Jamie will be at Faith Lutheran Church in Wataga, preaching and meeting the folks there. Join us for worship and the coffee hour between worship to get to know Pastor Katie.

2nd Sunday Coffee Hour - July 14th

All are welcome between services (at 9:15am) for a time of refreshment and community. Invite your neighbors to join us too!

<p>WANTED! Sarah Circle will be using an article from the March 2019 "Living Lutheran" magazine. If you have a copy of the magazine which you no longer need, please consider giving it to Sarah Circle. You may leave it in the church office. Thank you.</p>

THE KEY CARD DOOR ENTRY SYSTEM

The key card door entry system that was installed for the new security system is finally ready to activate, with a planned start date of Thursday, July 18th. There were a few delays while we waited out some technical issues. Those issues have now been resolved. Key cards for members are available in the office. Key cards for the preschool parents will be available from the preschool starting Monday, July 15th.

A key card is a small credit card sized gadget that when placed in front of the small black device on the education building entrances off the parking lot and off of South B Street will open the lock and allow you to enter the door. The key card for members will have access privileges from 7:30am to 10pm, Monday-Friday. It should be noted that for worship services and evening events the doors will be unlocked; you will not need a key card for entry during those times.

If you come to the door off the parking lot and do not have a key card, there is a bell-shaped icon on a touchscreen. Upon touching the icon, you will hear a buzz, and both the office and the preschool will be notified that someone is at the door. Wait a few seconds, then try the door. (The click of the door unlocking is rather quiet.) If no one answers, someone may have stepped away from a desk or no one may be in the office.

While drop by visits are always welcome, it is safest to call ahead to the church office to make sure someone will be in the office when you want to come by. Remember, Courtney's regular office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 8am to 1pm. Pastor Jamie's regular office hours vary, though generally you can find him in his office during the mornings, even on Wednesdays.

As with any change, we know there will be some getting used to this new system. The regular keys to the education building will still work, and can always be used for access. If you have one of these keys, you would not need a key card. If you want a key card, stop by the office and talk with Courtney. A limited number have been paid for by an anonymous donation.

Thank you for your patience as we discussed, chose our option, and waited for all of the technical issues to be resolved. Once this is running smoothly, we will be thankful that our preschool and daycare will be in line with modern safety standards.



MAIL RECEIVED



REMINDER

The last Sunday of the month is still designated Jamieson Center Sunday and any can or box food items can be left in the grocery cart in the back of the sanctuary or in the box marked Jamieson Center in the Fellowship Hall.

The need is great. All donations are very much appreciated.

Thank you.

The students at RAES (the Alternative School) are always very appreciative of the items brought in from our church. We will be putting the containers back out once school starts up again, and will let you know of any special needs. Thank you very much to all who have donated!

- Kay Lovdahl

WELCA would like to thank everyone who furnished cakes, cut cakes, helped serve and with the clean-up.

And a special thank you to the congregation who came to support our ice cream social.

- Diane Carlson



LET'S
CELEBRATE

CECIL IS TURNING 80!

JULY 13th | 11-3 OPEN HOUSE | FOOD & DRINK

LAKE WARREN SHELTER HOUSE

Cards and Well-Wishes Appreciated - No Gifts

Regrets only to ceckay@frontier.com

May 29th, 2019

Today our church served up a free lunch for the Monmouth-Roseville High School. They are on day one of finals. Tomorrow is the last day of school.

We served up 120 hot dogs, countless bags of popcorn and so many cookies and cans of pop.

Thanks to all the volunteers who made this day possible.



It is a great day to be a Titan!
Es un buen dia ser un Titan!



June 14th & 15th, 2019

Our pastor, Jamie Gallagher, and his daughter Heide, at our Synod Assembly talking about their roles in writing a resolution for gender equity and participation in Cycle to Synod, respectively.



Thanks be to God that the resolution was passed unanimously and that the cycling team made \$4,000 in the fight against world hunger. So proud to be a member of First Lutheran!!

- Pam Best

SECOND SERVICE TIME CHANGE

From now until...?

At its May meeting, the Church Council approved changing the second service time to 10 AM beginning June 2nd, 2019. The Church Council also approved not returning to 10:30 AM in the fall. The second worship time will remain 10 AM going forward.

8:15 AM worship will remain at 8:15 AM.

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Steve & Karen Erlandson	7/12/1970	49 years
Julie & Michael Blaesing	7/24/1999	20 years
Wendy & Jeremy Anderson	7/2/2005	14 years
Karen & Bryan Heap	7/29/2009	10 years
Pam & Tom Best	7/8/2017	2 years



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Trudy Bergren	7/3	Cecil Lovdahl	7/17
Hal Tate Jr.	7/3	Mark Shrader	7/19
Marlene Moulden	7/8	Ron Manuel	7/20
Cohen Anderson	7/9	Patt Holland	7/21
Kris Champion	7/9	Jim Johnson	7/23
Reese Anderson	7/13	Barb Pearson	7/25
Jamie Gallagher	7/15	Konner Elliott	7/26



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Roger Bean, Josie Blake, Jeremy Bruce, Bev Coulter, Dave Erlandson, Graham Johnson, Kathy Bertelsen Keever, Steve Kerr, Bob Kerschke, Bill Root, Marjorie Smith, Max & Aileen Steele, Marjorie Swanson, Kevin Terpening, Gary Utter, Judy Wagy, Jenna, Danielle, Ila Roseberry, Bob Farm, John Wieting, Betty Gaskill, Nancy Dowell, Loretta Reynolds, Kathi Cruce, Cassie Jern & Family



If you have someone you would like included on the prayer list, please contact the church office. Let Courtney know whom you would like included, for how long, and if we can include their name on our website.

WORSHIP HELPERS – JULY 2019

Altar Care: Karen Erlandson

Altar Flowers: 7 OPEN, 14 Kay Lovdahl, 21 Carol Hanson, 28 OPEN

Acolytes

Sanctuary: 7 & 14 Trace Gallagher, 21 & 28 Nate Gallagher

Communion Assistants

Chapel: 7 & 14 Cecil Lovdahl, 21 & 28 Butch Johnson

Sanctuary: 7 & 14 Ted Hanson, 21 & 28 Paula Nuckles

Lectors

Chapel: 7 Rob Ravel, 14 Elaine Sander, 21 Kay Lovdahl,
28 Heide Gallagher

Sanctuary: 7 & 14 Sue Hanson, 21 & 28 Collin Nuckles

Ushers

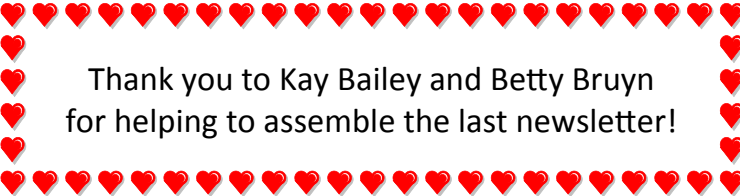
Sanctuary: 7 & 14 April Icenogle & Nancy Reynolds,
21 & 28 Dave & Kathy Erlandson

Visual Aid Assistants

Sanctuary: 7 & 14 Heide Gallagher, 21 & 28 Konner Elliot

WELCA Circles
JULY

<u>Sarah</u> <i>Potluck @ Church</i>	<u>Naomi</u> <i>Kathy Erlandson</i>
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Thank you to Kay Bailey and Betty Bruyn
for helping to assemble the last newsletter!

First Lutheran Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2019

(approved by Council June 18, 2019)

46 members present.

The meeting was called to order at 9:32am by Ben Sanberg, President of Council, followed with a prayer by Ben.

The following nominations were presented and approved:

Church Council - Warren Dobry, Linda McGuire, Evelyn Volz

Endowment - Jackie Heerwagen, Mike Jurgens

Nominating - Susie Jurgens, Judy Sanberg

Memorial - Ted Hanson

Capital Campaign was presented by Steve Erlandson.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45am

Ellen Shrader, Secretary

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2019

(approved June 18, 2019)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Ben Sanberg, followed with prayer by Pastor Jamie.

Present: David Bost, Raymond Bruyn, Diane Carlson, Jim Johnson, Connie Larimer, Ben Sanberg, Rose Sandstrom, and Pastor Jamie Gallagher

Absent: Steve Erlandson, Ellen Shrader

Old Business

- Pastor gave an update on the progress of the all Committee Bible study. He recommended waiting until after the new council is formed to determine how to proceed.
- Music Makers from Galesburg have evaluated the sanctuary sound system making recommendations about the location and style of the current speakers. Advice will be applied using our current band speakers hopefully eliminating the need to purchase more equipment.

Motioned, Seconded, and Approved

- Minutes from April 9, 2019 Council Meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- Approved submitted committee reports
- Approved changing the second service starting time to 10am starting June 2 and continuing throughout fall and winter

Messages of Thanks

- Betty Bruyn and the Caring Hearts for planning and serving funeral luncheons for Kyle Terpening and Phil Larson
- Everyone who provided food for the funeral luncheons
- WELCA for flowers for Mother's Day

Pastor's Report

- Pastor will be gone June 11-13 assisting with Cycle to Synod program for NIS World Hunger Subcommittee
- Pastor will attend the Synod Assembly with Pam Best and Pam Van Kirk June 14 & 15

- Vacation Bible School is July 7-11 at the Methodist Church
- Pastor's Family Vacations – June 20-28 and July 15-22. Pulpit Supply needed for June 23 and July 21
- Pastor is considering a "Sunday Pastor Swap" so people will get to know his wife Pastor Katie.

New Business

- Semi-Annual Meeting May 19 at 9:30am will include election of council, nominating, memorial, and endowment committee members plus a report from Finance Committee.
- Reception for graduates will immediately follow the Semi-Annual meeting
- Parking Lot Lunch for High School on Wed, May 29. Support coming from Emerging Ministries Account. Volunteers for cookies and serving are needed.
- Worship and Music Committee is considering having a joint activity with the Chin Church in the fall.

Detailed committee reports are available in the office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32pm

Next meeting is June 18 starting with a meal at 6pm welcoming new council members and meeting at 7pm.

Rose Sandstrom, Secretary Pro tem

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH'S LEADERS

PASTOR

Jamie Gallagher

prjamie@flcmonmouth.org

(630) 200-3550

OFFICERS

President: Rose Sandstrom

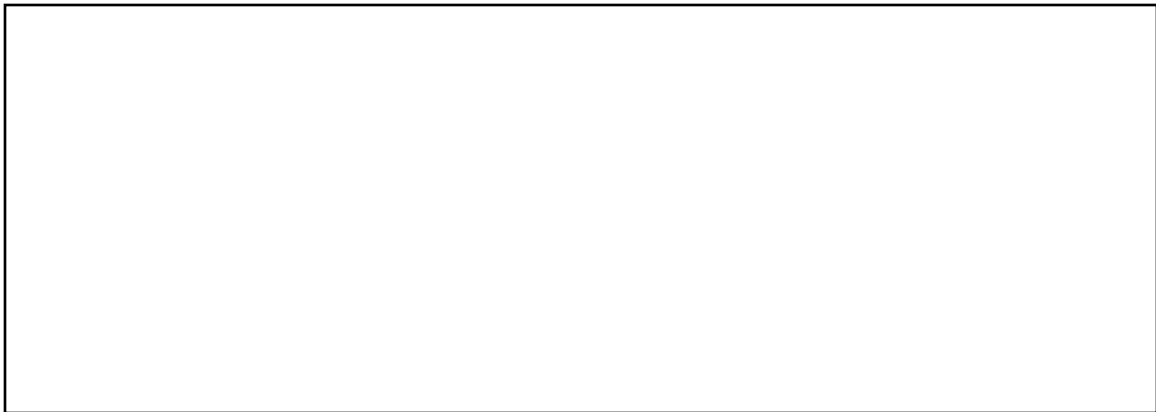
Vice President: Ray Bruyn

Treasurer: Gary Sanberg

Secretary: Ellen Shrader

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS (2019-2020)

Diane Carlson, Warren Dobry, Steve Erlandson,
Jim Johnson, Linda McGuire, Evelyn Volz



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
116 S B ST
MONMOUTH, IL 61462



DATES TO REMEMBER

Our Church

Jul 4 & 5 - OFFICE CLOSED

Jul 14 - Coffee Hour @ 9:15 AM &
meet Pastor Katie (Pastor Jamie's wife)

Jul 18 - Security System Activates

The deadline for the next newsletter is **NOON** on **MONDAY, JULY 22, 2019**. Please submit your articles by the deadline. Articles for submission to Our Church *may* be edited to fit the format. Whenever possible, please submit articles via e-mail (message text or attachment). Thank you!