



Our Church—This Week  
for April 15, 2024

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

116 S. B Street, Monmouth, IL 61462; (309)734-2106  
www.flcmonmouth.org; email: office@flcmonmouth.org



FIRST LUTHERAN MONN MOUTH  
@FLCMONMOUTH.ORG

### **Gathered by God, We Live Our Faith with: Compassion, Grace, Gratitude, and Joy.**

#### Our Staff

Pastor Jamie Gallagher  
prjamie@flcmonmouth.org  
Cell (630)200-3550  
Custodian  
Chris Algren  
Musicians  
Janice Algren  
Carolyn Kellert  
Preschool and Day Care Director  
Bobbi Nees  
(309) 734-5350

#### Congregation Council

President: Pam Van Kirk  
Vice President: Ray Golden  
Secretary: Diane Carlson  
Chip Algren  
Pam Best  
Brian Elliott  
Adam Sanberg  
Mark Shrader  
\*\* one seat remains vacant in honor  
of Evelyn Volz

Dear Friends and Family,

Thank you for all who came to share in the celebration for Trace as he was confirmed in faith. We had a beautiful service with his classmates at Faith Lutheran, Wataga on Sunday, April 7. Then yesterday, we affirmed his confirmation here at First Lutheran as he shared his faith statement and demonstrated his affirmation of baptismal faith in front of his home church. This faith milestone now enables Trace to enjoy the benefits of being an adult member of our church—the right to vote at congregational meetings and to serve on our various committees. It will be a joy to watch Trace continue to grow in faith and follow the call of Jesus to love God and to love our neighbor.

Next week Sunday, our congregation celebrates Scout Sunday. Read more about that later in this newsletter.

#### **Midweek Bible Study**

Join us for a midweek Bible story looking at the resurrection appearances in the four Gospels. The study takes place on Wednesday mornings at 10 AM in Pastor's study.

Did you know — Jesus doesn't make a resurrection appearance at all in Mark's Gospel? Did you know there are verses that were added by later writers to Mark's Gospel when someone thought Jesus should have a resurrection appearance?

Did you know in Luke the risen Jesus eats fish with his disciples but in John, the risen Jesus actually cooks the fish for his disciples?

Do you know which of the four Gospels ends with the risen Jesus ascending to heaven? Whereas the other three Gospels leave us on this cliffhanger of—so what happened next?

So many fascinating questions when it comes to Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, and John 20 and 21. Join us to learn more about how the Gospel writers conclude the story of Jesus.

**earth day**  
**earth church**

At LUTHERAN OUTDOOR MINISTRIES CENTER in OREGON IL

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20**  
**12:00PM-3:00PM**

**Special Event Includes:**  
Lunch  
Earth Church Celebration  
Forest Meditation  
Prayer Labyrinth  
Hiking

**Guest Leader:**  
Bishop Stacie Fidler  
Northern Illinois Synod

\$7 Per Person  
**REGISTER AT [www.LOMC.org](http://www.LOMC.org)**  
and for more information

**LOMC** 1974-2024  
Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center

Creation Care Subcommittee  
Northern Illinois Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**EARTH CHURCH**  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of God's glory.

## Lunch with Synod Staff

On Wednesday, April 17, you are invited to a “bring a sack-lunch” event to meet Bishop Stacie Fidler and the rest of the Northern Illinois Staff. This will be at First Lutheran Church in Galesburg (corner of E. Water Street and N. Seminary St). Gathering time is at noon. There is a time for fellowship, sharing the meals we bring, and hearing Bishop lead a short devotion. This is a great opportunity to get to know our synod staff and build connections.

## Semi-Annual Meeting

The May Semi-Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 19th at the end of worship. We will be electing a new member to council, we will be filling other committee positions.

It is a calling from the Holy Spirit to lead the congregation in these ways, a calling affirmed by the vote of the congregation. So, plan on joining us on May 19th.

We will also be honoring Graduates on May 19th. So far, the office is aware of Elise and Madeline Blaesing, and Heide Gallagher, as high school or college grads. Please let the office know if you have a graduate this year that we can celebrate.

**Southwest Conference Women of the ELCA**  
**Spring Assembly**  
**April 20, 2024**

“I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25:35-40

**Speakers**

**Diane Crook** - Hope House - Galesburg, IL  
A community service organization

**Cassy Greig** - Safe Harbor - Galesburg, IL  
A Family Crisis Center

Half of the offerings received will be given to NISWELCA  
Half of the offerings received will be given to Safe Harbor

Gifts in kind to the Hope House are:  
white washcloths, white tee-shirts, white socks (especially boys ages 6-18),  
toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar, and body soap.

**8:30am - Registration & Breakfast**  
**9:00am - Program**  
Cost is \$5.00

Reservations are due April 15th  
and may be made by telephone to:  
Bethany Lutheran Church 309-334-2144  
or  
Barb McNeil 309-334-2383

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
380 W 3rd Ave  
Woodhull, IL 61490

## Jenny Lind Chapel Founders Day Service

You are invited to join Jenny Lind Chapel for their Founders Day service on April 28, 2024 at 4:00 pm. Bishop Stacie Fidler of the Northern Illinois Synod will be preaching.

The service will be held at the Chapel. It celebrates the 164th anniversary of both the Augustana Lutheran Church in America and Augustana College and Theological Seminary, and the 174th anniversary of the Augustana Lutheran congregation in Andover.

Terri Nelson will be the organist. The service will be recorded with the video being available here afterward.

The Jenny Lind Chapel is located at 740 6th Street, Andover, IL and is a historic site in Illinois.



## Easter

Sunday, March 31 to Sunday, May 19

### Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday is a day typically held in February near the anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. A Chicago publisher named W.D. Boyce traveled to England in 1909 and when he was lost in a fog, a scout came along and helped him. Earlier in 1907 Lord Baden-Powell had founded a Scout program in London. Boyce met with leaders of the London scout program and brought the concept home with him.

On February 8, 1910, Boyce officially launched the Boy Scouts of America. The program has gone through a few changes over the first 114 years. Today there are Cub Scouts for ages Kindergarten to 5th grade, open to boys and girls. Scouts BSA is what used to simply be called Boy Scouts, but today is a program for youth (boys and girls) ages 11 to 17. There is a Venturing program for older youth that focuses on connecting with a career field like a police or fire department.

### Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday this year at First Lutheran was delayed due to scheduling conflicts. But on Sunday, April 21, we will celebrate the Cub Pack and Scouts BSA troop that the church charters. During worship, the troop will present the flags and share a scout skit.

After worship the troop will hold a court of honor complete with a luncheon. During the court of honor, the scouts will receive awards they have earned, such as Merit Badges and Rank Advancements.

The court of honor will include a luncheon and all are welcome to attend.

### Worship Guild Members

#### April 21 — Easter 4th Sunday

Usher: BSA Scouts Troop 705  
Reader: BSA Scouts Troop 705  
Com Asst: Trace Gallagher  
Narthex Host: Linda McGuire  
Musician: Carolyn Kellert

#### April 28 — Easter 5th Sunday

Usher: Diane Carlson  
Reader: Chip Algren  
Com Asst: Gary Sanberg  
Narthex Host: Linda McGuire  
Musician: Janice Algren

#### May 5 — Easter 6th Sunday

Usher: Adam Sanberg  
Reader: Maddie Blaesing  
Com Asst: N/A  
Narthex Host: Linda McGuire  
Musician: Janice Algren

#### May 12 — Easter 7th Sunday

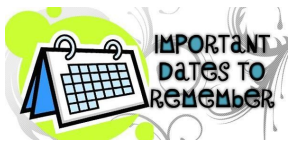
Usher: Steve Erlandson  
Reader: Paula Buban  
Com Asst: David Sandstrom  
Narthex Host: Linda McGuire  
Musician: Janice Algren



### Heide Gallagher Graduation Invitation

Pastor Jamie and family invites the congregation to celebrate Heide's college graduation on Saturday, May 11 from noon to 3 PM here in the church basement. Heide graduates from Northern Michigan University with a degree in secondary music education, and will be teaching this fall at Indian Creek School District in Waterman and Shabbona, IL





**Every Sunday**  
**9:30 AM Fellowship Gathering**  
**10:00 AM Worship**



*For corrections and updates, please call the Church office.*

Sunday, April 14th Easter Sunday 3  
 Sun, Apr 14 Celebration of Confirmation  
 Wed, Apr 17 10 AM Midweek Bible Study  
 noon, Lunch With Synod Staff  
 (see article)

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 Sunday, April 21st Easter Sunday 4  
 Sun, Apr 21 Scout Sunday, Court of Honor  
 following worship  
 Mon, Apr 22 3 PM Endowment Committee mtg  
 Wed, Apr 24 10 AM Midweek Bible Study

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 Sunday, April 28th Easter Sunday 5  
 Wed, May 1 10 AM Midweek Bible Study  
 Fri, May 3 to Sun, May 5, Pastor Jamie on  
 Vacation

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 Sunday, May 5th Easter Sunday 6  
 Mon, May 6 9:30 AM Sarah Circle  
 7 PM Building and Grounds  
 committee meeting  
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*Notice something missing from the calendar? Please contact the church office, and we will add it to next week's newsletter.*



Apr 16 Nate Gallagher  
 Apr 18 Chip Algren  
 Apr 20 Diane Carlson  
 Apr 20 Warren Dobry  
 Apr 20 Rachael Nuckles  
 Apr 23 Rob Ravel  
 Apr 25 Dave Erlandson  
 May 6 Andrew Youngquist  
 May 7 Jacob Ide  
 May 8 Sophie Shrader  
 May 16 Shelly Golden  
 May 19 Carl Hamberg  
 May 22 Linda Ellison  
 May 22 Lorene Nelson  
 May 25 Heide Gallagher  
 May 26 David Sandstrom  
 May 27 Charlotte Sanberg  
 May 28 Nancy Reynolds  
 May 31 Dean Sandstrom  
 May 31 Tammy Slater  
 Jun 2 Susie Jurgens  
 Jun 6 Rose Younquist  
 Jun 11 Wendy Anderson  
 Jun 22 Denise Mann  
 Jun 30 Colin Nuckles  
 Jul 8 Marlene Moulden



May 5 Brenda & Craig Jones  
 May 6 Connie & Chuck  
 Larimer  
 May 21 Ted & Sue Hanson  
 June 1 Rodger & Linda Ellison  
 June 4 Gary & Judy Sanberg  
 Jun 7 Dennis & Becky  
 Terpening  
 June 8 Ben & Jenny Sanberg  
 June 11 DeeDee & David Yez  
 Jun 12 Neal & Jackie  
 Heerwagen  
 Jun 14 Doug & Kathi Cruce  
 Jun 14 Rich & Nancy Hanson  
 Jun 15 Rob & Tammy Ravel  
 Jun 19 Stan & Diane Carlson  
 Jun 23 Mike & Susie Jurgens  
 Jun 23 John & Pam VanKirk  
 Jun 26 David & Kathy  
 Erlandson  
 Jun 26 Gary & Jan Martin  
 Jun 30 Chip & Janice Algren  
 Jun 30 Warren & Marlys Dobry  
 July 2 Jeremy & Wendy  
 Anderson  
 Jul 8 Tom & Pam Best  
 Jul 12 Steve & Karen  
 Erlandson

## Prayer Requests

Linda Ellison, Ila Roseberry, Kathi Cruce, Dean Sandstrom, Emily Agema, Gary Eyer, Cecil Lovdahl, Janet Lowe, Brian Elliott, Hannah Taylor, Carol Hanson

*Please let the church office know any updates that are needed to our prayer list.*

## Our Vision & Purpose



For 2024

January, WIAR, \$515

February, Kiwanis Club, \$433

March, ELCA World Hunger, \$499

April, Special Olympics

May, Recharge Center

June, St. Jude Run (Wendy Anderson)

July

August, LWR School Kits

September

October

November

December

## Vision and Purpose Giving

Throughout April, we will be supporting the local Special Olympics. On Sunday, April 14, we had a special presentation during the announcements from a member of our local Special Olympics. This was rescheduled from April 7.

Remember, our Endowment Fund provides \$100 to each month's Vision and Purpose Giving AND ALSO provides an additional matching amount up to \$150 in giving by members to that month's Vision and Purpose Giving.

Our donations outside of our congregation demonstrate our gratitude to God for all that we have first been given.



ELCA World Hunger

### Weekly Devotional



“Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” - Luke 24:32

When you think of shared ministry, there are probably a few images that come to mind. You probably first think about a congregation that is too small to afford its own pastor, so a neighboring church has to share. You probably imagine a pastor who is torn between two places, and two congregations not getting the full attention of their pastor. These myths about shared ministry persist, even as we have very positive examples of shared ministry right here in our midst.

For example, did you know we share ministry with our neighbor churches in town for the annual VBS? Or that we work together with congregations across Monmouth to support ministries at Jamieson Center, Strom Center, and the Recharge Teen Center? Did you know we shared confirmation ministry with Faith Lutheran in Wataga, two pastors working together to lead 5 youth and their families into a deeper relationship with the Lord? Do you know we are in a shared ministry called Synod, with 120 other congregations across northern Illinois, accomplishing ministry in powerful ways that we could not ever dream of accomplishing alone? These are just some examples of shared ministry that already happen in our daily ministry.

Shared Ministry also can mean two or more congregations partnering in mission more directly with sharing pastoral or other office staff. In these situations, the congregations in the partnership are not receiving a part-time pastor, nor are they paying for a part-time pastor, nor is this ministry near closing, nor are they close to merging out of existence. In Shared Ministry, or Cooperative Ministry, or an older term “Parish” Ministry, each congregation is receiving a full time pastor, is a full time ministry site, and provides ministry in ways that may not have been able to happen if they remained alone.

Shared Ministry is something to be explored in the near future for First Lutheran Church. Even as we have recently named a new mission statement, and are seeking to build our congregation with that mission, we may have to consider what strengths can come from sharing ministry in a new way with a neighboring congregation. This discernment is only at the beginning, and is far from being realized. But we begin with alleviating fears, we begin with hopeful and yet unexplored opportunities before us. And we begin renewed in a shared call from Jesus to love our God and love our neighbor, a call that we all share in the waters of baptism. Peace, Pastor Jamie