



February

Our Church—This Week
for the week of
February 8, 2021

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

116 S. B Street, Monmouth, IL 61462; (309)734-2106
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FIRST LUTHERAN MONN MOUTH
@FLCMONMOUTH.ORG

Our Staff

Pastor Jamie Gallagher

prjamie@flcmonmouth.org
Cell (630)200-3550

Secretary

Angela Bradley-Volz
office@flcmonmouth.org
M, T, Th, F (8 am to noon)

Custodian

Chris Algren

Musicians

Janice Algren
Jamie Reynolds

Preschool and Day Care Director

Bobbie Nees
(309) 734-5350

Congregation Council

President: Rose Sandstrom
Vice President: Doug Cruce
Secretary: Diane Carlson
Warren Dobry
Steve Erlandson
Ted Hanson
Jim Johnson
Linda McGuire
Evelyn Volz

Dear Friends and Family,

We are looking forward to resuming our in-person worship this Sunday, February 21st at 9 AM. Please remember to stay home if you are sick or have been in contact with someone who has been sick. Masks are required. Social distancing between family units will be expected. Attached with this email is the flyer that states other things to expect when you attend worship.

The weather is supposed to clear up by this next weekend. If there is a weather related issue that causes us to cancel worship, we will use our robo-calling system and notify the entire congregation as soon as possible.

Winter has been rather harsh the last two weeks. I haven't remembered getting this much consistent snow since I lived in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. But it is winter, and we take what we get. Keep warm. Stay inside as much as possible. And remember, warmer weather is coming.

Our Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday, Feb 17: 3 PM Online Bible Study
Worship video link will be emailed

Sunday, Feb 21: we resume in-person worship at 9 AM

Wednesdays, Feb 24, Mar 3, Mar 10, Mar 17, Mar 24:
7 PM Online World Hunger Bible Study

Sunday, Mar 28: Palm Sunday Worship, in-person, 9 AM

Thursday, Apr 1: Maundy Thursday, online worship only

Friday, Apr 2: Good Friday, online worship only

Sunday, Apr 4: Easter Sunday Worship, in-person, 9 AM

Resources for the online World Hunger Bible study are now available for download on our website. Living the Creed resources for Sundays in Lent are also available for download from our website.

Our Stewardship Ministry



Stewardship matters. It is how we give thanks to God who has provided for so much. When we give to the church, we support many ministries beyond our own building and community. A portion of our offerings goes to the Northern Illinois Synod, which then allots a portion to the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center and many other places.

Thank you for your generosity which helps others experience Jesus.



Bradley Anderson, Josie Blake, Bev Coulter, Nancy Dowell, John Ellison, Linda Ellison, Dave Erlandson, Jim Erlandson, Brad and Jodie Haist, Cassie Jern & Family, Delores Johnson, Graham Johnson, Bob Kerschke, Ila Roseberry, Norman Worthington, Evelyn Volz, Darrell Thirtyacre, Donna Larson, Beckie Bean, Joy Johnson, Pat Root, Diane Bradley, Anna Lovdahl, Kim Anderson, Matthew Council, Rose Youngquist, Kathi Cruce, Craig Jones, Rob Kerschke, Brendan Kerschke

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



Lutheran Day Care and Preschool

A ministry of First Lutheran Church
Bobbi Nees, director



Our midweek Wednesday Bible study resumes this week at 3 PM on Wednesday. Follow the Zoom Link included

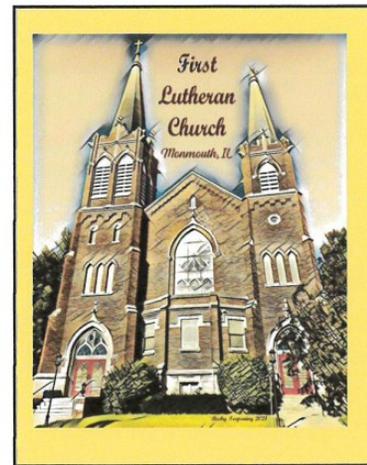
with the email to join in.

We continue our study of the Gospel of Mark and turn to chapter 14 this week.

Ash Wednesday

During our Ash Wednesday online worship, you will have a chance to remember you are dust and to dust you shall return. Members will receive by mail a piece of black cloth to wear on Ash Wednesday in lieu of receiving actual ashes in worship.

In scripture, wearing ashes or sackcloth was done at times of mourning and times of repentance. This was a way to acknowledge that from the dust of the earth God formed the first people, and our mortal bodies will return to that same dust. But our faith provides us hope that from this very dust we shall rise once more with Christ in the resurrection.



T-Shirt and Tote Bag Sale

The orders for T-shirts and tote bags made by Becky Terpening are due to her by February 20th.

Order forms are available as a PDF from our website and from the link with the weekly email. If you need a copy mailed to you, please call the church office.

T-shirts and Tote Bags are \$18 dollars each (XXL and XXXL shirts are \$3 extra).

Becky is donating \$5 from every shirt and bag to the church. We will announce a Sunday when it is warmer when we will all wear our T-shirts to worship.

Thank you to Becky for providing this awesome opportunity.

Celebrations for February 15 to 28



Feb 15 Ross Beedle, Scott McClintock
Feb 17 Keirstyn Johnson, Gary Martin
Feb 18 Mary Jane Olson
Feb 20 Tucker Smith
Feb 25 Bev Millar
Feb 26 Teresa Miller
Feb 27 Heidi Niemann
Feb 28 Connie Larimer
Feb 29 Graham Johnson



Feb 22 Kenny and Nancy Reynolds

*Please let the church office know any updates that are needed
for our celebrations list.*

Curious about our Ministries?

We have several committees that are continuing to work even during this time of pandemic. For information on how to join a committee, please call the office.

Active Committees

Finance/Stewardship .. Chair Gary Martin

Building and Grounds .. Chair Steve Erlandson

Meets 1st Monday of each month, 7 PM

Worship and Music ... Council Rep Jim Johnson

Specific Elected Committees

Endowment

Memorial

Personnel

Preschool and Day Care Board

Christian Education and Youth — Youth Happens at First

Weekly Devotional



“They ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full.”

Mark 8:8

ELCA World Hunger ministries has a mission statement: Until All Are Fed. This guides their ministries. Everything ELCA World Hunger does is about bringing an end to systemic hunger that between 600 and 800 million people face each day across our globe. That number is almost unfathomable. If you thought of it as twice the population of the United States, you might have a better grasp of it.

Chronic hunger is a situation where someone does not know where their next meal is going to come from. It is also a situation where that next meal does not provide the right nutrients or calories to support the health of a human body. Chronic hunger can be caused by political crises, environmental disasters, or other economic forces that are beyond the control of the one suffering from hunger.

ELCA World Hunger has approaches to advocacy for political policies to address systemic hunger, to develop community sustainability, so people can control their own economic stability, to provide for immediate needs with meal programs that are nutritionally sound, and to educate people on the topic of hunger.

Throughout Lent, we are going to be studying the topic of world hunger. Our scriptures give us hope that hunger can be solved. In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus has two mass-feeding miracle stories. One story involves over 5000 people (6:30-44), the other story involves over 4000 people (8:1-9). In each story, Jesus begins with a little and yet a large gathered crowd is fed. Imagine a couple loaves of bread and a few fish feeding all of Warren County in a single meal, with leftovers to spare. As we study world hunger, we will come to realize the world does indeed have plenty, that no one should ever be hungry. It is our calling as church to proclaim that good news and to live it out through our generosity. In Peace, Pastor Jamie