



JUNE

Our Church—This week
for the week of
June 7, 2021

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



FIRST LUTHERAN MONN MOUTH
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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,

Baptisms are extremely powerful moments. As a pastor, I have officiated at over 50 baptisms in 19 years. Each baptism is a special moment that I treasure and cherish. As I reflect on my list, I can still see the faces of parents, sponsors, infants, young children and even adults who were nervous and excited and open to the Holy Spirit entering their lives in a new way.

This month, we have a unique set of circumstances. We had the baptism of Mark and Ellen Shrader's daughter on June 6; and, on June 13, we will have the baptism of the Kevin and Jennifer Sprecher's twins, Evelyn and Lewis. It has been a couple years since our last baptism at church. And now we have three within two weeks. Oh what a joy to celebrate with both these families and to share in their faith milestones. One of the challenges we have had to address with the covid protocols is how to safely conduct the baptism. We have decided that it will be the parents who lift the water while I say the words of baptism; and also, the parents who make the sign of the cross with the oil while I lead the prayer.

This is a bittersweet moment. It is something I usually have as a connection with the newly baptized, but to see the parents participate in this way is so powerful and wonderful and I am so glad we are experiencing baptism in this new way together.



Strawberry Festival

Thursday, June 17

5 PM to 7 PM, served in the Fellowship Room

Adults—\$7.00

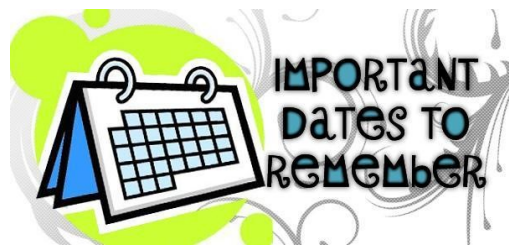
Children—\$4.00

Menu: BBQ sandwiches, chips, strawberries, ice cream, cake, and drinks.

Entertainment from 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Leo Ramer and his students

In the sanctuary



For corrections and updates, please call the Church office.

Monday, June 7 7 PM Building and Grounds Committee
Fellowship Room

Tuesday, June 8 7 PM Council Meeting
Fellowship Room

Sunday, June 13 9 AM worship

Thursday, June 17 5 PM to 7 PM
Strawberry Festival

Friday June 18 to Saturday, June 19
Synod Assembly

Sunday, June 20 9 AM Worship

Sunday, June 20 (afternoon) to Saturday, June 26
Pastor Jamie on Vacation

Sunday, June 27 9 AM Worship

Thursday, July 1 to Saturday, July 10,
Pastor Jamie on Vacation

Sunday, July 4 9 AM Worship

*Notice something missing from the calendar?
Please contact the church office, and we will add it to next week's newsletter.*

Every Wednesday, our Secretary is not in the office.

Every Friday is Pastor Jamie's day off.



Jun 11 Wendy Anderson
Jun 13 Jason Spanhook
Jun 16 Paul Swanson
Jun 17 Camdyn Miller
Jun 19 Erin Matern
Jun 21 Phillip Dworak
Aaron Jenson
Linda Wade
Jun 22 Denise Mann
Jun 23 Dave Bost
Jun 27 Susan Moulden
Dick Steele
Jun 30 Collin Nuckles
Jul 3 Trudy Bergren
Lori Pearson
Marcos Perez-Lopez
Hal Tate
July 4 Jennifer Sprecher
July 8 Marlene Moulen
July 9 Cohen Anderson
Kris Champion



6/7, Dennis & Becky Terpening
6/8, Ben & Jenny Sanberg
6/11, David & DeeDee Yez
6/12, Neal & Jackie Heerwagen
6/13, Michael & Barb Pearson
6/14, Doug & Kathi Cruce
Rich & Nancy Hanson
6/15, Rob & Tammy Ravel
6/19, Diane & Stan Carlson
6/23, Mike & Susie Jurgens
John & Pam Van Kirk
6/26, Dave & Kathy Erlandson
Gary & Jan Martin
6/30, Chip & Janice Algren
Warren & Marlys Dobry
7/2, Jeremy & Wendy Anderson
7/8, Tom & Pam Best
7/12, Steve & Karen Erlandson
7/13, Kevin & Jennifer Sprecher



Bradley Anderson, Kim Anderson, Beckie Bean, Josie Blake, Diane Bradley, Matthew Council, Nancy Dowell, Gary Gaskill, John Ellison, Linda Ellison, Dave Erlandson, Jim Erlandson, Michael Hackspacher, Cassie Jern & Family, Graham Johnson, Joy Johnson, Craig Jones, Amber Kerr, Julie Kerr, Jaxson, Chris, Pat Root, Ila Roseberry, Charlotte Volz, Evelyn Volz, Norman Worthington

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

Vacation Bible School

This summer's VBS is hosted by Faith United Presbyterian Church and will be from Sunday, June 27 to Thursday, July 1.

First Lutheran Church has been asked to provide these items:

- 10 pair new flip flops any size (for recreation game)
- 2 boxes 5 oz. bathroom cups (100 in box)
- 5 rolls paper towel
- 5 hand sanitizers
- Monetary donations to cover costs

Please have these items to the church office by Sunday, June 20th. Thank you for all your help in providing for this community VBS this year.

Tuesday Bible Study

The Tuesday Bible Study concluded its study on Acts last week, and will be taking a hiatus now until the fall.

Thank you to all who participated.

Look for information on a fall study later this summer.

Northern Illinois Synod Website

Check out our Northern Illinois Synod website:

Nisynod.org

Click on the word "Ministries" and you will see a picture of the Jenny Lind Chapel in Andover. Click on the picture to learn more about this historical site that is essentially in our backyard.

Worship Helpers needed

As we continue to work our way back into normal patterns, we will soon resume having separate roles for lector, communion assistant, usher and acolyte.

The plan is to resume having all these separate roles in place by August. If you would like to volunteer for one of these roles, please let Pastor Jamie know.

Also, Jamie Reynolds has been changing the altar paraments and banners in both the sanctuary and chapel, as the liturgical season changed. Jamie would like to step back from that role.

First a word of thanks to Jamie and his dedication in keeping our worship spaces set to the appropriate liturgical colors.

Second, if you would like to learn how to change the paraments, and to know when and why they change, please let Pastor Jamie know.

When changes occur, this is a task that can typically be completed in less than 30 minutes. Our next anticipated change of paraments won't happen until the fall.

ELCA Website

Check out our ELCA denomination website:

Elca.org

There is so much to read and to learn about how our church engage in ministry across our nation and around the world.

One highlighted article is from the Living Lutheran magazine, highlighting an Illinois named Nura Aly. She shares her story for why she is a Lutheran. She is a musician and a teacher, and she uses these gifts in service to her church in Evanston, IL.

The article reflects how her faith works into her personal life and in her teaching career.

Perhaps reading her story you will find similarities with your own story.

There are many features from our presiding bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, as well. She shares reflections on many key issues facing our country today, including the racial tensions that continue to plague our divided land.

Worship

Season After Pentecost

Sunday, May 30 to Sunday, November 21
June 13, 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

This week in worship

Join us as we celebrate the baptism of Lewis and Evelynn Sprecher in worship this week. Lewis and Evelynn are the twin son and daughter of Kevin and Jennifer Sprecher, with proud older sister Harper.

Parables by Jesus are the backdrop for our baptism this week. These parables help us to see just how the Kingdom of God works, its mysterious ways revealed through short stories and illustrations Jesus used to teach with.



Thank you for your generous support of the ministries of our congregation.

Donations are received through offering in worship, mail, and electronic giving. If you would like to begin electronic giving, please call the office.

Did you know? The Church is an organizations that operates totally on the generosity of its donors. Many of us pledge an amount we agree to share with the church over the course of the year. Some of us give as we are able, and don't worry about how much it is.

However you choose to support our congregation: Thank You.



Sunday Worship Helpers

June 13

Worship Assistant: Doug Cruce
Usher: Rose Sandstrom
Organist: Jamie Reynolds
Altar Flowers: Diane Carlson

June 20

Worship Assistant: Pam Best
Usher: Steve Erlandson
Organist: Janice Algren
Altar Flowers: Kathy Erlandson

June 27

Worship Assistant: Chip Algren
Usher: Diane Carlson
Organist: Jamie Reynolds
Altar Flowers:

July 4

Worship Assistant: Mark and Ellen Shrader
Usher:
Organist: Jamie Reynolds
Altar Flowers:



Altar Flowers Altar Flowers can be arranged by calling the office, coming to the office and checking the sign up calendar outside the office, or using the altar flowers form located in the sanctuary or soon to be posted on our website.

Please remember to return your vases to the church office by Tuesday.

June's Vision and Purpose Giving

In June, our Vision and Purpose Giving will support Rev. Mark Rich and Rev. Cynthia Holder Rich, the missionaries we support in Tanzania.

Pastor Mark and Pastor Cynthia teach at Tumaini University Makimura. Many of you may remember they visited with us in 2019.

Each year our church pledges \$1,000 to support their work. We are just one of many churches that offer this kind of support. In June, our Vision and Purpose Giving will help off-set this pledge. Thank you for demonstrating how valuable a partnership we have with these important missionaries.

Sugar Tree Grove Presbyterian Church Pork Chop Sandwich Drive-Through

June 13, 2021 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Sugar Tree Grove Presbyterian Church
2210 M-A-M Trail, Monmouth, IL 61462

Pork Chop Sandwich, chips, baked beans, and cookie
Free Will Donation



Pastor Jamie will be out of the office from Monday, June 21 to Saturday, June 26 and again from Thursday, July 1 to Saturday, July 10.

During the week of June 21 to June 26, for pastoral care emergencies, please call Pastor Katie Gallagher at 630-200-3288. Pastor Jamie and his sons will be at Boy Scout camp that week, and he will not have cell-service.

Committee Leaders

At the June 8 Council meeting, new council leaders will be elected and committee representatives designated

Committee	Chair or Council Rep
Finance/Stewardship ..	Chair Gary Martin
Building and Grounds ..	Chair Steve Erlandson
Worship and Music ...	Council Rep Jim Johnson
Christian Education and Youth	

Endowment

Memorial

Personnel

Preschool and Day Care Board

Weekly Devotional



Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4

I wish I could remember my own baptism, but being just 3-weeks old at the time, all I have are the stories my mom tells it to me. In fact, it wasn't until I went to seminary that I learned the date and the correct location of my baptism. I always assumed it happened at the church my mom still attends today. But in fact, our young family had not yet begun attending this church, so my baptism happened at the church where my mom grew up.

I wish I could remember this day, so I could remember the feel of the cool water pouring over my head. I wish I could remember the smile of my mom and dad and the words of the pastor. But mostly, I wish I could remember because I am a sentimental at heart. I do get to cherish the memories of my own children's baptisms. The soft glow of the red light that hung over the baptismal font at Grace Lutheran Church, South Range, MI where Heide was baptized always sticks in my mind, because it was not a candle that indicated God's eternal presence, it was that soft red-glowing lamp. And the beach where two congregations held a joint worship service for Nate's baptism on a 55 degree (cold even for a Upper Michigan summer day) July Sunday afternoon, when we were denied the opportunity to fully immerse our baby, out of fear the cold water would be too shocking to his system. And then with Trace, and the large font of Alleluia! (sic) Lutheran Church in Naperville, and its water that constantly trickled over the side of the font, the sound was stirring with the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Perhaps the baptisms we are experiencing here in June will stir some memories of your own. Perhaps you do remember your own baptism, perhaps you have special memories of your children coming forward to the font and the pastor speaking softly as the water was lifted up and gently washed over your child's head. Whether we remember these details or not does not matter. For in baptism God promises to never forget us, and God never breaks a promise.

In peace, Pastor Jamie