



# First *Edition*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST LUTHERAN  
OCTOBER 2021

Can you believe how fast this summer has been flying by?! We are already in the month of October. People are transitioning from swim suits and lemonade to flannel shirts and pumpkin spice lattes. But although this summer seemed to disappear in the blink of an eye, some wonderful things have happened here at First Lutheran.

In July, seven people decided to make First Lutheran their church home by becoming members. They have decided to bring their God-given gifts to help strengthen the body of believers right here in this town. It's a beautiful image of seeing the Kingdom of God expanding and God moving in this place. It should get us all excited to see what new and amazing things God has in store for this congregation and how He is going to use each and every one of us to bring glory to Jesus! Can I get an Amen?

One of those exciting things that will be happening this month is our second annual Family Fun Night. On August 18, we will be hosting an evening where families in the community can come together to enjoy food, fellowship and a competitive cornhole tournament. As your reigning champion from last year, I look forward to defending my title. Hopefully most of you got in some practice during the off season.

But the reason we are doing events like Family Fun Night is to engage the community in something that doesn't cost them any money and they can experience the love of Jesus. It is not an event to try and get people to attend our church, but to experience the church. When people have a holy experience that can only be explained by the power of the Holy Spirit, then we see God's Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. That is what being missional is all about.

It is part of our church's DNA to be missional. We are a Lutheran Congregation in MISSION for Christ. So if you have any ideas or ways that this congregation can be even more missional, please share your ideas. The Covid pandemic tried to hinder the church and its mission, but if God is for us, who can ever stop us? Let us share our ideas. Whether you are a long time member or a brand new one, let us think of ways we can be missional so more and more people can experience the love of Jesus.

May all who are reading this be blessed and experience the love of God in a brand new way.

Pastor Matthew

## PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Bonnie Anderson  
Amber Baerg (Chris and Julie Warren's daughter)  
Tim Litsheim (cancer) Dan Long's nephew  
Jessica Nornberg  
Roxanee Kaiser (cancer)  
Gary Beimert (Cancer)  
Adam Long (grandson of Dan Long)  
JoAnn Artmann  
(Karen Fundine's daughter)

Lindsey Kennedy (cancer) (Pat Long's granddaughter)  
Darlene Zabel  
Sharon Doss (luekemia)  
Wanda Beimert (cancer)  
Jack Lee  
Penny Stumvold (surgery) (sister to Wanda Beimert)

## PEOPLE IN NURSING AND ASSISTED LIVING HOME

### Riverside Assisted Living

Irene Pietz  
Ken Kelling

### Harmony House/Brainerd

Char Brattlund

### PRAYER CHAIN

When you need prayer support, there is a group at our church who will pray diligently for whatever the need is. Please call Marlene Lindeman at 218-746-3541.

### Church Council

**President:** Tom Kavanaugh  
**Vice President:** Bob Harmsen  
**Secretary:** Julie Warren  
Mike Bellos, Julie Hofius, Dan Jacobson  
Shirley Smith

**Pastor Matthew Sundquist**

**Office 218-746-3775**

**Parsonage: 218-746-3750**

### MILITARY

**Chad Hagg**—Army, Son of Arlene Hagg, Nephew of Eileen Ausland  
**Joseph DeLude**—Army, Grandson of Don DeLude  
**Isaac Jacobson**—Navy, Son of Dan & Wendy Jacobson  
**Sonja Larson**—Army, Granddaughter of Mel & Gwen Larson

### UPDATING

If the military, those who are ill or in the hospital, or people in nursing homes is not up to date or if names need to be added or deleted, please contact Sharon Gehrke so that these lists can be updated. Thanks

**Check out our Website at**

**[firstlutheranpillager.net](http://firstlutheranpillager.net)**

We also have a Facebook page to check out!!!! Please free to post anything or post comments!!! Facebook page search type in First Lutheran Pillager and this should take you to the page. The Calendar will be updated as the schedule changes! Thanks to Kirstie for keeping our Web page updated!

# FIRST LUTHERAN PILLAGER COUNCIL

Council Meeting Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Called to order at 6:31 p.m.

Present: Tom Kavanaugh, Shirley Smith,  
Julie Hofius, Julie Warren, Bob Harmsen,  
Mike Bellos, Tammie Barnett, Pastor  
Matthew Sundquist  
Present Via Electronic Communication: Dan  
Jacobson

Opening Prayer given by Pastor Matthew Sundquist

## **Pastor's Report**

Pastor made visits this week.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Reviewed the Treasurer's report for April 2021. Discussion on two t.v.'s for on pillars for back part of church. Pastor will check with Digital Horizons. Commercial insurance renewal is coming due. It has gone up again, Tammie will check into other companies. Still working on the name change which was not recorded with the State for paperwork for the bank. Bob Harmsen made a motion to allow Council President Tom Kavanaugh, Council member Shirley Smith authority for numbers 1-6, and Treasurer Tammie Barnett authority for number 3 as described in Resolution of Lodge, Association or Other Similar Organization for Pine River State Bank. Motion seconded by Julie Hofius. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Mike Bellos to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Shirley Smith. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

## **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's Report from April 2021 was reviewed. Bob Harmsen made a motion to accept the Secretary's report. Seconded by Mike Bellos. All in favor. Motion carried.

## **Committee Reports**

\*Worship/Music: Live Streaming will be installed June 8<sup>th</sup>. A contact has been established for any questions we may have about live streaming music and videos. Annual copyright \$137, Song Select \$165. Motion by Bob Harmsen to approve Wendy Jacobson and Pastor Matthew to get copyright & streaming up to \$1,500 annually. Seconded by Shirley Smith. All in favor. Motion carried. Start-up of choir and pianist planned for fall.

\*Youth/Family: Last Sunday School class this Sunday. Youth will be planning for a Family Fun Night for late summer.

\*Communication: They are currently in beginning stages of Website updates.

\*Hospitality: The Church has had a request to borrow chairs for a graduation. Council approved with someone available to check them out and back in. Request for use of the church this coming Saturday from 10 am to early afternoon. Will have someone come open up and close up afterwards. Dishwasher has not been working as the seals have dried out due to non-use. Need to run at least once a month to keep it working well.

\*Sanctuary: Memorial fund for making more of the windows stained glass in the church will be started.

\*Facilities/Building: Will try to pour concrete slab on May 22. We can rent press pad for pattern and will color the cement. Stair railing at the parsonage – will get a quote for materials and then for labor. Have an estimate for cleaning all the church windows for \$112.01. Will get a quote for the parsonage also; if similar quote, will have parsonage windows done also. Motion by Shirley Smith to have the windows done. Seconded by Julie Hofius. Motion carried. Priced a computer for live streaming system for \$1,200 to \$1,400. Motion to authorize purchase of computer for up to \$1,500 by Bob Harmsen. Seconded by Dan Jacobson. All in favor. Motion carried.

\*Nominating Committee: No report.

\*Call/Negotiating Committee: No report.

\*Welcome/Visitor's Committee: New member Sunday will be in June.

\*Missions: Will work on group getting together in the fall. Possibly participate in the fair. Will discuss VBS at the next meeting.

## **Old Business:**

Covered under committees.

## **New Business:**

Clean-up day will be May 22. Pastor Matthew will be gone this coming Sunday, need someone to fill in. Will check with Roger Gullickson.

**Adjourned:** Julie Hofius made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Shirley Smith. Motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.**

**Closed with the Lord's Prayer.**

FIRST LUTHERAN PILLAGER COUNCIL

Council Meeting Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Present: Tom Kavanaugh, Shirley Smith,  
Julie Hofius, Julie Warren, Dan Jacobson,  
Tammie Barnett, Pastor Matthew Sundquist  
Absent: Bob Harmsen and Mike Bellos  
Guest: Cory Knott of Church Mutual Insurance

Opening Prayer given by Pastor Matthew Sundquist

**Guest**

Tammie Barnett contacted four different insurance companies for quotes. There was only one response from Church Mutual. Guest, Cory Knott of Church Mutual, gave the Council an insurance update including coverage we should have but do not have currently. He explained all the coverages and answered questions.

**Pastor's Report**

Pastor will be conducting a class on July 11<sup>th</sup> for new members (anyone is welcome), the New Member Sunday will be July 18<sup>th</sup>. Discussed duties of the church secretary and ideas of how to communicate more efficiently between Council, Church Secretary, and Pastor Matthew and Kirstie. As many duties have changed with Covid, clarification is necessary to be more efficient.

**Treasurer's Report**

After discussion about insurance for the Church, Dan Jacobson made a motion to switch from our current insurance provider of Guide One to Church Mutual. Motion was seconded by Julie Warren. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Discussed CTC internet charges and speeds. We may require faster internet speed for streaming the church services.

Also discussed the church name being recorded with the Secretary of State (SOS). Tom Kavanaugh will check into it.

After reviewing the financial report for May 2021, Julia Hofius made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report with the acceptance of upgrading to CTC 50M internet charges for \$54.95. Motion was seconded by Shirley Smith. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's Report from May 2021 was reviewed. A correction was noted under Committees for Sanctuary – (Memorial fund for making more of the church windows stained glass in the church will be started.) should be (Memorial fund for stained glass windows is being checked into.) With the noted correction, Julia Hofius made a motion to accept the Secretary's Report. Motion was seconded by Dan Jacobson. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports**

\*Worship/Music: Live Streaming has been installed. Licensing for streaming is \$143. The church cannot play the You Tube music for live streaming due to copyright laws. Will not have the music in the background, only the words will be available for live streaming.

\*Youth/Family: For this year, the church will be hosting a Family Fun Night instead of VBS this year. Will decide on the date at next month's meeting.

\*Communication: No report.

\*Hospitality: Pancake breakfast will begin again in the Fall.

\*Sanctuary: No report.

\*Facilities/Building: The cement slab has been started. Leveling the ground will be finished this week in order to pour the concrete. Hopefully, the concrete pouring will be done next week.

\*Nominating Committee: No report.

\*Call/Negotiating Committee: No report.

\*Welcome/Visitor's Committee: No report.

\*Missions: No report.

**Old Business:** Clean up day went very well.

**New Business:** No new business.

**Adjourned:** Shirley Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tom Kavanaugh. Motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.**

**Closed with the Lord's Prayer.**



FIRST LUTHERAN PILLAGER COUNCIL  
Council Meeting Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Tom Kavanaugh, Shirley Smith,  
Julie Hofius, Julie Warren, Dan Jacobson,  
Mike Bellos, Pastor Matthew Sundquist  
Absent: Bob Harmsen

Opening Prayer given by Pastor Matthew Sundquist

**Pastor's Report**

New member class was on July 11<sup>th</sup>. New member Sunday will be July 18<sup>th</sup> along with a baptism. School has been going well. He has made six visits and held a memorial service. Will begin scheduling more in home visits as things have opened up more with the Covid virus.

**Treasurer's Report**

Reviewed Treasurers Report for June 2021. The garage sale made \$3,366.80 in sales. The large expenses in June were Pastor's tuition, rebuilding of the church computer for sound system (live streaming), annual commercial and workers' compensation insurance. Motion was made by Shirley Smith to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Julia Hofius. Motion carried.

**Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's Report from June 2021 was reviewed. A motion was made by Mike Bellos to accept the Secretary's Report. Seconded by Dan Jacobson. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports**

\*Worship/Music: Live Streaming set up came in less than quoted. The system is complete! The council discussed we need to hire someone for music or make recordings of music to use for the services as You Tube music cannot be live streamed. Will make an announcement in church to see if anyone knows of individuals who would be willing to play music. We could also have a "bank" of music to use to fill in for some services also. If anyone is interested, they should contact Pastor Matt. The pay is \$100 per service.

\*Youth/Family: Family Fun Night will be Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Time will be 5:00 pm – 8: pm. Food suggestions were hot dogs, chips, popcorn, possible sno cones, and will be served 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. There will be a corn hole competition and games and bouncy house for the kids.

\*Communication: Discussed software for creating church directory. Would like to begin work on a church directory again this fall as it was put on hold due to Covid. Will talk to Myra again to discuss possibilities.

\*Hospitality: No report.

\*Sanctuary: No report.

\*Facilities/Building: The cement slab has been completed. A certificate for a nursery tree will be donated and where to plant it will be decided. Still are in need of a plan and price quote for the stair railing at the parsonage. The person who previously did the stained-glass windows for the church is willing to more if they are wanted. This is being worked on as we have individuals interested in donating. Parsonage water heater is not working correctly. Will have it looked into.

\*Nominating Committee: No report.

\*Call/Negotiating Committee: No report.

\*Welcome/Visitor's Committee: No report.

\*Missions: MN Adult and Teen Challenge will be in church on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

MN Secretary of State office has been notified that First Lutheran Pillager has been filed as our name. We were no longer on the roster as it had not been renewed. This is being taken care of by Tom Kavanaugh.

**New Business:**

We received a quote for relamp the basement with LED lamps. We would be able to apply for \$144 in rebates. A motion was made by Dan Jacobson to accept the bid to replace the downstairs fluorescent bulbs with LED lamps for \$950. Motion was seconded by Mike Bellos. Motion carried.

A discussion was had regarding a Tech position to assist with the Church Secretary position. With all the technology changes in running services, so many things have changed and require more time and preparation. Currently, taking approximately 10 hours per month. Mike Bellos will meet with Kirstie and Connie to go over job descriptions and duties.

**Adjourned:** Shirley Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike Bellos. Motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.**

**Closed with the Lord's Prayer.**



**Thank you to everyone who helped out with our Annual Garage Sale! It was a huge success again this year. A special thanks to Rosie for organizing the sale and the countless hours she put in to make it such a success! Thanks to those people who helped to set up on Wednesday and worked on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We could not have done this without you! Also thanks for the many donations for the garage sale and coming to buy the treasures!! We made \$3600 this year!!!!!!**






**WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL BE DOING OUR GARAGE SALE THIS YEAR. SO START COLLECTING ALL YOUR "TREASURES."**

**July 8, 9, 10!**





# New Member Class



Jim and Louise Tetlig



Ann Loose and John Gilronan



Barb Frank

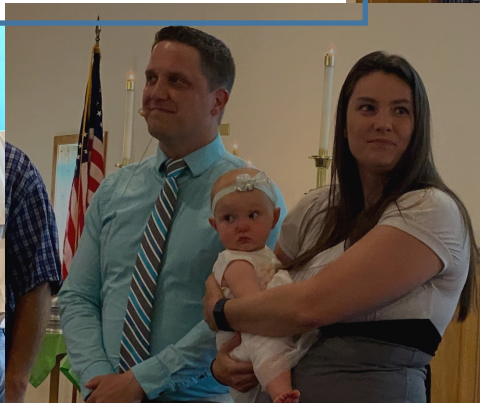


Griff and Marliiss Eiszl





## Lily's Baptism







Community  
Event:

Neil Dover

When: July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm

Where: Randall VFW

Tickets are \$5

If interested talk to Bob  
or Rosie Harmsen



**Thanks to everyone who attended the Neil Dover Concert on Thursday evening, July 22, at the VFW in Randall. Thanks to Rosie and Bob for planning and hosting this event.**



**Linda was celebrating her birthday!!**





Thanks to Kendra Dighl for being our guest pastor!!!

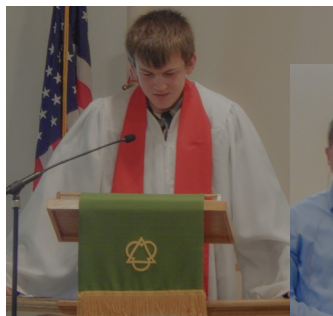
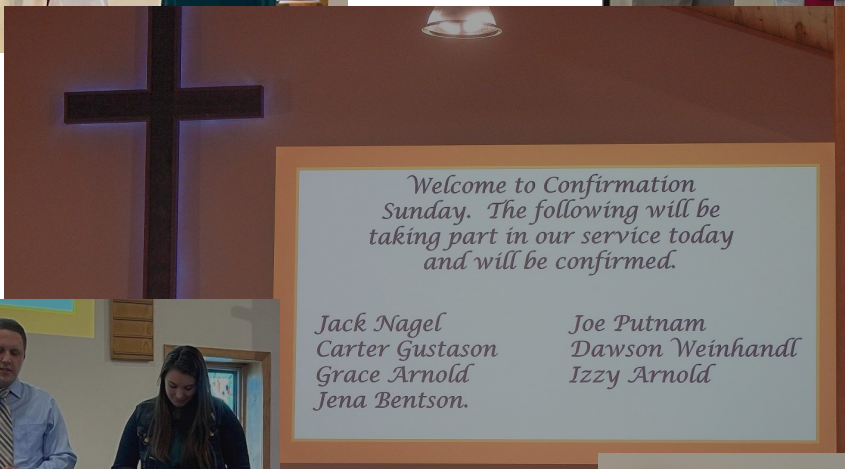
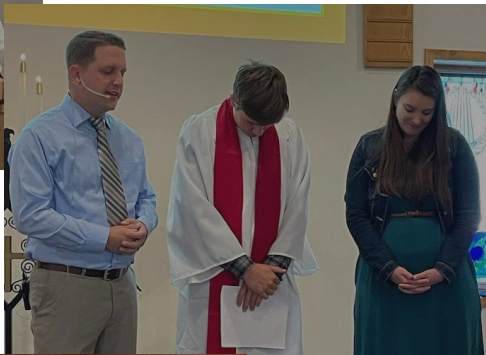


Sunday School is starting!!  
Thanks to Julie Warren for teaching again this year!!!

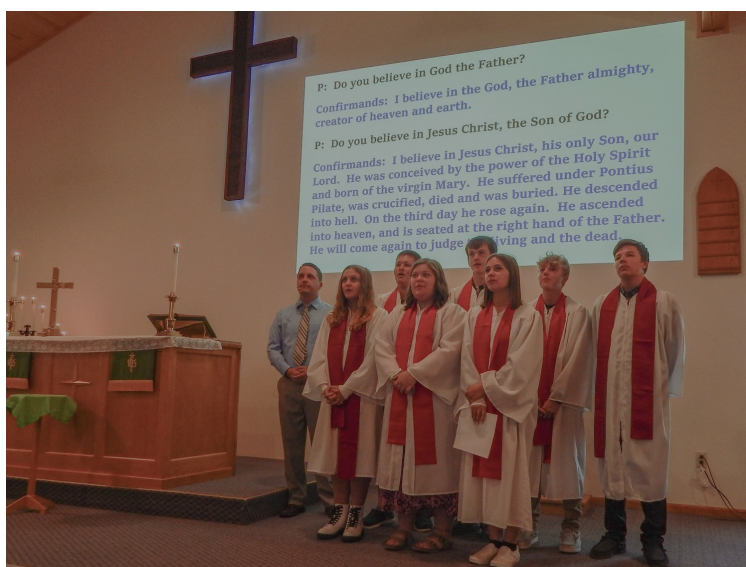


A huge thank you to the Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge for coming to lead our worship. We appreciate your music and listening to your journey. May God Bless all of you!













Thanks to Connie Vizth and family for the patio furniture and the fireplace.



Thanks to Edie Pietz for the bench in honor of her and Ray!!!

**Thank you!**

**To all those that came and helped put in the cement slab for our patio out back, it looks great already. We are so excited for this addition to our church so we can have another place to fellowship outside together.**



Thanks to Barb Reimer's family for the tree that is planted near the patio. This is in memory of Barb.



thank you to Butch Bridge and Bob Harmsen for remodeling the women's bathroom!!!!





Our thoughts and prayers are  
with you Lynda Converse and  
family.

Audrey Jane Olander, age 91 of Crosby died on June 30, 2021 at the Cuyuna Regional Care Center in Crosby. She was born in Duluth on January 7, 1930 to Earl Jesse and Phyllis Rosella (Sutton) Herrick, the youngest of five children.

Audrey married Merle Edward Olander on July 26, 1946. Together with her husband Merle, they became owners and operators of the Crystal Café in Crosby for many years. Audrey also worked as a secretary in Duluth, a clerk for Mr. Meats in Crosby, was a former employee of the Cuyuna Regional Medical Center in Crosby in the laundry department and a cook/baker at several area restaurants. Audrey was a gifted singer, quick witted and always spunky.

Audrey is survived by three sons, Larry (Debra) Olander of Crosby, Kevin (Michael Renteria) Olander of La Habra, CA and Chris (Karen) Olander of Crosby; one daughter, Lynda (Clint) Converse of Pillager; fifteen grandchildren, three step grandchildren, twenty-four great grandchildren, four step great grandchildren and five great-great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding Audrey in death are her parents; her husband Merle in 2010; one daughter, Sandra Olander; grandchild, Erik Olander; great grandchild, Blake Olander; step grandchild, Grant Converse, three brothers, Earl, Watson, and George Herrick and one sister, LaVonne Geer.

Funeral services was on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Crosby. Burial was at the Mission Township Cemetery.

**If you know of anyone who is need of taking communion, is sick or in the**

**hospital, please let Connie Vieths and/or Pastor know so that we can visit or call you and put your name in the Newsletter and the bulletin. We are sincerely sorry if we missed not visiting you or publishing your name. We are going to try to do better and we need your help because sometimes we do not get the word that you need a visit. Connie's number is 218-839-3767 and Pastor's number is 320-260-9100.**

### Choir Startup

**If you've even an inkling of singing interest, please let Wendy know. We need voices to form a new kind of choir!!! If you have any ideas, please share them. Please let Wendy know your e-mail address and your phone number!!!!**

**Come make a joyful noise!**

**Thank you to everyone who participated in Family Fun Night! It was a great time for everyone who attended and helped put this event on!**



**Thank you to the Quilting Ladies for making and delivering the quilts to Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge!!!!**

Minnesota according to Jeff Foxworthy : If your local Dairy Queen is closed from October through May, you may live in Minnesota. If someone in a Home Depot store offers you assistance and they don't even work there, you may live in Minnesota. If you've worn shorts and a jacket at the same time, you may live in Minnesota. If you've had a lengthy telephone conversation with someone who dialed a wrong number, you may live in Minnesota. If "vacation" means going anywhere near a lake, you may live in Minnesota. If you measure distance in hours, you may live in Minnesota. If you know several people who have hit a deer more than once, you may live in Minnesota. If you have switched from 'heat' to 'A/C' in the same day and back again, you may live in Minnesota. If you can drive 75 mph through 2 feet of snow during a raging blizzard without flinching, you may live in Minnesota. If you install security lights on your house and garage, but leave both doors unlocked, you may live in Minnesota. If you carry jumpers in your car and your wife knows how to use them, you may live in Minnesota. If you design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit, you may live in Minnesota. If the speed limit on the highway is 55 mph -you're going 80 and everybody is passing you, you may live in Minnesota. If driving is better in the winter because the potholes are filled with snow, you may live in Minnesota. If you know all 4 seasons: almost winter, winter, still winter and road construction, you may live in Minnesota. If you have more miles on your snow blower than your car, you may live in Minnesota. If you find 10 degrees "a little chilly", you may live in Minnesota. If you actually understand these jokes, repost this so all of your Minnesota friends and others can see, you definitely do live -or have lived -in Minnesota

## Things I'm Super Good At

1. Forgetting someone's name 10 seconds after they tell me.
2. Buying produce...and throwing it away two weeks later.
3. Digging through the trash for the food box I just tossed, because I already forgot the directions. 🤔
4. Making plans. And then immediately regretting making plans.
5. Leaving laundry in the dryer until it wrinkles. Then turning on the dryer to dewrinkle. Then forgetting it again.
6. Calculating how much sleep I'll get if I can just "fall asleep right now".

A good friend of mine unexpectedly lost her husband. A couple of months later we were going for a run together, chatting about nothing. She asked me what my dinner plans were. I told her my hubby wanted chili, but I didn't feel like stopping at the store. We ran on for a few more minutes when she quietly said, "make the chili."

It took me a few minutes to realize we were no longer taking about dinner. It was about going out of your way to do something for someone you love because at any moment, they could unexpectedly be taken from you.

So today, I'm sharing with you the wisdom handed to me by my dear friend. I've thought of it many times since that day. The next time someone you love wants you to go for a walk, watch some football or play a board game, just put your phone down and give them your undivided attention. Just do it. Make the chili.

1 Cor 10:24

No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.

GRINS  
AND  
GIGGLES



# Graduate Sunday 2021



At worship May 30<sup>th</sup>, First Lutheran presented a quilt to and offered a special blessing upon A.J. Gratke, a Class of 2021 graduate who received his diploma from Pillager High School and an Associate in Arts degree from Central Lakes College. This fall A.J. continues his education in the plumbing program at St. Cloud Technical & Community College. Best wishes to A.J. and his parents, Troy & Lorie Gratke. Bless you all!

## Autumn Quilting News



Come join the fun **Tuesdays from noon to 3 p.m.** downstairs in the church fellowship area. Rosie Harmsen continues to sew fabric blocks into tops for us to assemble, tie, and finish into quilts for area women and children in need. We also cut fabric blocks and help each other with personal projects. Coffee & tea are always on!

