

# First Edition

Where the News is Good!

**Published by First Lutheran Church**

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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Do you have Questions? Or Feedback? A Suggestion?  
Contact a Congregation Council Member listed below.

**Eugene Comber, Gail Espinoza, Terry Horner, Brenda Johnson, Michael Laurin, Karen Linn, Martha Paulson, Jim Wahlberg, Sandy Hatfield, Michael Dearman, Paul R. Johnson, and Jane Young**

### **First Lutheran Staff**

**Daniel S. Rumfelt**, Pastoral Leader in Transition

**Brian A. Bogey**, Minister of Music

**Kimberly King**, Worship Leader and Coordinator of Contemporary Worship

**Liz Lobb**, Office Manager

**Mike Thompson**, Sexton

### **Changes Coming Up Starting September 12<sup>th</sup>**

Contemporary Service at 9:00 AM

Sunday School in Person at 10:00 AM

Traditional Service at 11:00 AM

Choir will also be starting to help lead worship



Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> 2020, I began my tenure caring for First Lutheran. We had only just resumed in-person worship. The COVID vaccines were not yet available. So, we wore masks and social distanced.

As 2021 progressed many of us were vaccinated and finally put down our masks. Sacred Fire returned to the Contemporary Service. The Council planned a wonderful Parish Reconnect Dinner for September. Then we had to take a step back due to the surge in the Delta Variant. One another's safety is a core value of our life together as a congregation.

By the time you read this, you may already be aware the Council cancelled the Reconnect Dinner until a later date, to be determined as the COVID surge returns to safe levels. At some point, we will have the dinner. When we finally do, I believe the joy of reunion with one another will be all the more poignant and satisfying.

With safety in mind, we have also resumed wearing masks during worship, regardless of vaccination status. We have masks at the entry areas just in case anyone forgets. Please practice social distancing and good hand hygiene. Even with masks on, however, everyone is welcome to read the responses aloud and sing the hymns. Safety and worship can go together, as we have seen over the last year.

Safety and celebration can also go together. Sunday, September 12, will see the return of in-person Sunday School. Rally Day will take place following classroom protocols of the public schools. Sunday School leadership will make sure all the students and families have the up-to-date details. Please check out the info in this First Edition.

September 12<sup>th</sup> I also plan to begin offering a "Children's Sermon" during the Contemporary Service. The children should all be masked, as I will be. Spacing will also be practiced.

On another front, most folks know I'm retiring as Chaplain of Lutheran at the end of September. I've served there 21 years: beautiful and meaningful years. Lois and I look forward to the opportunities retirement will bring.

I am not "retiring" from First Lutheran. I will continue to serve as Pastoral Leader in Transition and lead worship on Sundays. Please also know that the synod is working diligently to connect First with the right pastoral candidate as the call process continues. Please keep that process and all the ministry and people of First in your prayers.

Pastor Dan Rumfelt



## FAMILY LIBRARY NEWS September 2021

September already. I always think of September as an in-between month. It's not quite summer anymore but not fall either. September is a month to get back to "normal" (whatever that is!) – the kids back to school, vacations are over.... For me it is a time of reflection and anticipation - time to pause and slow down a bit. Read a good book or watch a favorite old movie. Stop by the Family Library on Sunday morning and check something out. There are lots of specially selected items waiting for you there. I look forward to seeing you.

**FOOTBALL SEASON!** Check out the new movie in the library - **12 Orphans**. "12 ORPHANS tells the true story of the Mighty Mites, the football team of a Fort Worth orphanage who, during the Great Depression, went from playing without shoes—or even a football—to playing for the Texas state championships. Over the course of their winning season these underdogs and their resilient spirit became an inspiration to their city, state, and an entire nation in need of a rebound, even catching the attention of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The architect of their success was Rusty Russell, a legendary high school coach

who shocked his colleagues by giving up a privileged position so he could teach and coach at an orphanage. Few knew Rusty's secret: that he himself was an orphan. Recognizing that his scrawny players couldn't beat the other teams with brawn, Rusty developed innovative strategies that would come to define modern football." Who knew that football could be so inspiring?

There are many other wonderful sports movies on the library shelves as well. Just look for the "Sports" sticker on the spine.

### **Two new books on the shelf to challenge you:**

The author of these two books is Lenny Duncan. He is an ordained pastor in the ELCA and is currently pastor of Jubilee Collective in Vancouver, Washington. The July 30, 2019 issue of *Living Lutheran Magazine* stated "Lenny Duncan offers a vision for the future of the ELCA and the broader church. He gives readers a look at his blueprint for the way forward."

***Dear Church - A Love Letter From a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.*** (copyright 2019) – "Shifting demographics and shrinking congregations make the headlines, but Duncan connects the church's lack of diversity to its lack of vitality. Part manifesto, part confession, and all love letter *Dear Church* offers a bold new vision for the future of the church."

***United States of Grace - A Memoir of Homelessness, Addiction, Incarceration and Hope*** (copyright 2021) – "*United States of Grace* is a love

story about America, revealing the joy and resilience of places in this country that many call the margins but that Lenny Duncan has called home. This book makes the bold claim that God is present with us in the most difficult of circumstances, bringing life out of death."

***"If you are a leader in this church and no one is following, you are just out for a walk."***

***Lenny Duncan***

### **Also new in the library:**

*Dream Horse DVD* – Experience the inspiring true story of Dream Alliance, an unlikely racehorse bred by small-town bartender Jan Vokes. With little money and no experience, Jan convinces her neighbors to chip in their meager earnings to raise Dream and compete against the racing elites, becoming a beacon of hope in their struggling community.

*A Walk in the Wood – Meditations on Mindfulness with a Bear Named Pooh* by Dr. Joseph and Nancy Parent

When we're grounded and at ease,  
We can wander where we please.

With our senses as our guide,  
We can let our thoughts subside.

And then while away the hours,  
By the stream, among the flowers.

### ***New Children's books:***

*What Is God Like?* by Rachel Held Evans and Matthew Paul Turner

*Life* by Cynthia Rylant offers a moving meditation on finding beauty around us every day and finding strength in adversity.

### **Volunteers still needed!**

Looking ahead to January through March of next year, I will be in need of volunteers to man the library on Sunday mornings. Several people have volunteered but many hands make light work. Please consider signing up for one or more Sundays to help out. No experience is necessary and I will have a training session for you to attend if you feel you need some instruction. Please contact me by email at [wendy.j.larson@gmail.com](mailto:wendy.j.larson@gmail.com) or talk to me in the library on Sunday mornings. Thank you to those who have already volunteered.

The Family Library is open Sunday mornings and by special request. Thank you to the congregation for the ongoing support. God bless.



*We extend a sincere thank you to the following people:*

#### **Memorial Fund**

**In Memory of Billy Banks by:**

Barbara Keefe

**Choir Fund Donation by:**

Susan & David Nielsen

**Memorial Fund – Drive Through**

**From the Estate of Helen & Don Alden by:**

Diane & Dan Kling



**August, 2021**

- Pastor's Report: There will be two Baptisms coming up during the second service; one on August 22 and one on August 29. At least three people will be joining First Lutheran in the next couple of months. Pastor will be retiring from Lutheran September 30.
- He hopes to start the children's sermon in the near future.
- Mike Laurin received the report and everything looks fine. Paul Johnson mentioned that the endowment committee need new members.
- Old Business: Council Goals Keep looking for new members, ideas for missions, Get back to normal.
- September 12th Dinner: Council decided to cancel dinner because of the Covid numbers rising in the area. Mike Laurin made a motion to

postpone dinner, and Brenda Johnson 2nd the motion. Thank you Paul for all of your hard work on this project.

- Rally Day: Will happen in the Chapel. Mike Dearman suggested that we let Jamestown Public Schools be our protocol that we follow. Plans for Rally Day could change.
- Mike Laurin made a motion that we go back to wearing masks on Sunday mornings and Mike Dearman 2nd the motion.
- Drive Way Project: Ryan Patti says the project will start soon. We have an electrician that will work with Patti on the lights etc.
- Student Parking Lot: Superintendent is taking the parking lot issue to the school board.

**New Business:**

- Out Reach Store: The store has been closed for now. We will research new ideas for the third floor.
- Sunday School Report: Tracy Grey will be leaving the Sunday School position at the end of May.
- Security Measures: Getting Estimates for more cameras and different kinds of keys.

# Newsletter DEADLINE

The deadline for articles for the October 2021, *First Edition* newsletter is Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Please have all information into the church office by that date. Thank you.



## CHRIST IN OUR HOME

Devotional Booklets  
July, August, September  
Now Available in the **Church Office** and also in  
the **Little Library**

Call ahead to the church office to make sure a copy  
is available.  
716-664-4601

## Center Street Produce

There are 4 apple trees located in the Center Street Garden.

Two of them are loaded with apples that are reaching maturity.

Please help yourself to as many apples as you would like.

This is your garden and the produce is for everyone.



## Attention all Knitters

The Knitting Ministry is in need of baby blankets to have on hand for upcoming Baptisms. If you are able to help us out, it would be greatly appreciated. Please use whatever pattern or color that you prefer.

Completed blankets can be brought into the office.

For questions, please call Janet Wahlberg at 567-4064.

## Little Library

The Little Library is in need of books appropriate for preschoolers.

Please drop off in the Center Street Entrance.





## **NOTES FROM THE LOFT**

**September 2021**

**Brian A. Bogey, Minister of Music  
and Organist**

*“Let us come before Him with thanksgiving  
and extol Him with music and song.”*

**PSALM 95:2**

**The time has finally arrived for our choir to come back together and joyfully proclaim His praises as we begin our new choir season on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>! We will rehearse in the choir room from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and then sing at the 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service.** We welcome all choir members back and we also extend a cordial invitation to anyone else in the congregation who would like to join us as well! If you like to sing, the choir is always looking for those who have the voice and an enthusiastic spirit! We will observe all Covid rules by supplying both masks and/or a Z-Shield for every choir member and keep the appropriate spacing of three feet apart in the loft. We will only have Sunday morning choir rehearsals until further notice. No Wednesday evening choir rehearsals. We have some exciting music planned for this new choir season so Welcome! Welcome! Welcome!

Since we are going back to our full sung liturgy starting this month, I thought that it might be good to review the importance of music in our worship. The congregation, led by the choir, sings as another way of praying to God. St. Augustine said “Singing is praying twice.” Martin Luther said: “Music is the handmaiden of the Gospel.” This is a wonderful way to give thanks and praise God.

Our worship is divided into two segments: **The Ordinary** of our Lutheran worship employs texts that remain the same for every Sunday of the church year. Those that are sung include the Kyrie (“Lord Have Mercy”); the Gloria (“Glory to God in the Highest”); the Sanctus (“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts”); and the Agnus Dei (“Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”).

The words of the service that are not from the Ordinary are called **The Proper**. These are words that may change in the service from week to week. The Proper consists primarily of the Old Testament Reading, the Psalm of the Day, the Epistle or Second Lesson taken from the acts of the apostles from the books of the New Testament, and the Gospel Lesson which is directly taken from the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The high point of the Liturgy of the Word is the reading of the Gospel. The Gospels tell of the life, ministry, and preaching of Christ. Everyone stands when we sing the “Alleluia” (which means “Praise the Lord”). Please note that the “Alleluia” is not sung during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent. There are other responses sung that are more appropriate for those seasons. Only the pastor reads the Gospel Lesson of the Day.

Now I would like to take each individual musical setting and text associated with the four sung parts of **The Ordinary** and discuss their significance within our worship service.

- **The Kyrie – “Lord Have Mercy”** Our worship always begins with the penitential act of the Confession of Sins and then The Kyrie. We recall our sins and place our trust in God’s abiding mercy. The Kyrie Eleison comes from the Greek phrase meaning “Lord, have mercy.”
- **The Gloria or Hymn of Praise** – The Gloria follows the Penitential Act by echoing the proclamation of the angels at the birth of Christ: **“Glory to God in the highest!”** In this ancient hymn, the gathered assembly joins the heavenly choirs in offering praise and adoration to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We also sing **“This Is the Feast of Victory for Our Lord”** which is an alternate setting of the Hymn of Praise sung during the Easter Season and on festival Sundays.
- **The Sanctus “Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.”** The first part of the Sanctus is from Isaiah 6:3 that describes Isaiah’s vision of the throne of God surrounded by the six-winged seraphim. The second part, beginning with the Benedictus (Latin for “Blessed”) is from Matthew 21:9, that describes Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.
- **Agnus Dei “Lamb of God”** John the Baptist proclaimed Jesus as “The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” This is taken from John 1:29. The action of breaking the bread recalls the actions of Jesus at the Last Supper, when he broke the bread before giving it to His disciples.

I look forward to worshipping with you with our full sung liturgy as we joyfully “Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness.”

*Blessings ~ Brian*

September, 2021  
First Lutheran Church  
Contemporary Worship

**Kimberly King**  
**Worship Leader & Coordinator of Contemporary Worship**  
**Sacred Fire – Praise Team**

Hello Everyone,

Reflections:

Psalm 104:33 (NIV) *I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.*

Psalm 146:2 (NIV)

*I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live*

*Psalm 7:17 (NIV) I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the Lord Most High.*

What does “singing praise to God” look like or mean to you? What images does this bring?

In what ways does this affect your spiritual connection?

Hopefully these words of “Singing and praising God and giving thanks to the Lord” bring positive thoughts and a smile. I feel that these words from the scripture can bring different thoughts and images to each of us. But, in general, a positive reflection on hope, love and peace.

In your everyday walk focus on “hope, love and peace” and then share with others!

Our Contemporary Worship Service continues each Sunday **at 9:00am** in our Worship Center in the lower level of the church. The service lasts 30 - 35 minutes. The first Sunday of each month we offer Holy Communion (COVID safe). Facial masks are now required for all within the church building.

Great News!! Sacred Fire is back providing energizing and inspirational music!! Join us in worship and invite others, too!

**Sunday School** The Contemporary Service will end with enough time for you to go to prepare and participate in Sunday School.

**A GREAT Outreach Ministry** The service is videotaped each week and posted on Facebook, Vimeo and on our new church website. You have access to our current and past Contemporary Services on both our church Facebook page, Sacred Fire's page and on Vimeo.com. On Vimeo, search First Lutheran Contemporary Service and Sunday's date. For example, First Lutheran Contemporary Service 8.15.2021. Don't forget to share these services with your friends and family!!

You can continue to listen to contemporary music and inspiring messages everyday on FM radio channel 90.9 Family Life Network Or online at fln.org. Also, on Sirius XM radio, "The Message" on channel 63.

If you are looking for a devotional type inspiration, check out [www.youversion.com](http://www.youversion.com) Great site! They have an "App" too.

Remember that God is ALWAYS with us!!

**As God continues to shine Love and Blessings on you! .... Remember to share God's Love with others!!**

**Take Care and Be Safe!!**  
God's Blessings to you all  
From All of Sacred Fire and

Kimberly King, Worship Leader and Coordinator of Contemporary Worship





**Income & Expenses through July, 2021**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Total</b>
January	*66,770	40,226	26,544
February	18,785	19,887	-1,102
March	23,295	24,553	-1,258
April	*57,791	14,919	42,872
May	14,209	25,246	-11,037
June	21,247	19,958	1,289
July	*52,548	17,288	35,260
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			
<b>Total</b>	<b>254,645</b>	<b>162,077</b>	<b>92,568</b>

**Mailing Address:**  
 LCDR Andy "SMEDIUM" Carlson  
 VFA 211, Unit 200204, Box 4  
 FPO AE 09502

MASR Scott D. Johnson  
 11688 Breckenridge Lane NW  
 Silverdale, WA 98383

CAPT Eric Spitzer  
 850 Ticonderoga St., Ste. 100  
 JBPHH, HI 96860-5102

**Attendance for August**

August	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday
2020	86	87
2021	70	89
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
2020	90	84
2021	78	105

**\* 40,000 from Endowment**  
**Thank you to all who are mailing their offering!**

**On-Line Views of Worship Video**

Date	Contemporary & Traditional	Total
7/25/21		95
8/01/21		112
8/08/21		123
8/15/21		92

**Church Mailing Address**

When mailing information to the church please use:  
 120 Chandler Street, Jamestown, NY 14701.  
 We are trying not to use the PO Box any more.



## Synod Mission Message



### **FROM ASHES TO NEW LIFE**

#### **Sunday School News**

Rally Day will be 9/12/21 at 10:00 AM in the Chapel. We ask that kids and parents wear masks. We will be having fun, food and fellowship! Parents please plan to fill out Registration paperwork at this time.

If you have questions or concerns about Sunday School, please call Tracy Grey at 485-3754.

Thank You!  
Tracy Grey

#### **PASTORAL CALL COMMITTEE**

The Church Council would like to thank the following individuals who have accepted the Council's invitation to be on the Call Committee for a new pastor:

Hannah Dearman  
Brenda Ecklund  
Gail Espinoza  
Julie Gable  
Tracy Grey  
Peter Larson (Chairperson)  
Lee Lindeman  
Glenn Utter

(Jeanine & Mike Dearman – Non-Voting Members)

Again, the Western states of the US are on fire. The smoke from them can be seen from satellites it is so dense. Entire towns have been wiped off the face of the earth. Whole hillsides of trees have burned, leaving them vulnerable to mudslides. Complicating the situation, of course, is the continuing pandemic. How can people safely rebuild their lives, go to work, and attend school when all their possessions have been lost?

Lutheran Disaster Response is always at the ready to determine the best ways to respond, from immediate needs like food and shelter, to long term emotional and spiritual support. LDR also has helped the fire departments by purchasing generators for volunteers who have lost their homes, and by starting a tool lending program. Children have been helped through the trauma by attending summer camp sponsored by Lutheran Outdoor Ministries.

Your generous gifts of mission support to the Synod, and direct gifts to LDR, have shown people impacted by these disasters that you care for them, whether through long-term recovery projects or something as simple as a generator. ***Thank you!***

We are church together for the sake of the world. God's Work. Our Hands.



**SCRIPTURE READINGS IN SEPTEMBER**

**Lectionary 23**

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 5<sup>th</sup>**

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalm 146

James 2:1-10[11-13]14-17

Mark 7:24-37

**Lectionary 24**

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 12<sup>th</sup>**

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 116:1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

**Lectionary 25**

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 19<sup>th</sup>**

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 54

James 3:13-4:3,7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

**Lectionary 26**

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 26<sup>th</sup>**

Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

Psalm 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

**Baptismal  
Anniversaries**

We celebrate with you!

\*indicates birthday when baptism is not known

**September**

01	David Ecklund
03*	Helen Willman
04	Sharon Kane
05	Jeffrey Nelson
07	Kristin Garaas-Johnson
	Jeffrey Rupp
08	Robert Lake
	Marilyn Palmquist
10*	Chris Skelton
11	Matthew Johnson
12	Laura Braley
12*	Paul Holt
17	Lisa Johnson
19	Nathan Ditonto
20	Lori Town
21	Frederick Larson
23	Jacquelyn Nelson-Harrington
23*	Mary Lindeman
25	Paul Westerberg
26*	Ellen Pancerev
29	Hugh Hamilton
30	Corey King



## Prayer Ventures September 2021

**1** Pray for the relief and resilience of people and communities impacted by wildfires, flooding, severe storms and extreme heat.

**2** Remember in prayer ELCA campus ministry leaders and the Lutheran Campus Ministry Network (LuMin) as they serve students, faculty, staff and others at colleges and universities nationwide. Pray for their ministry of sharing God's grace through worship, study, fellowship, care and service.

**3** Give thanks for the International Women Leaders (IWL) scholarship program and for the accomplishments and new beginnings of the six IWL scholars who graduated in May, embarking on journeys of leadership and service, and of the seven incoming students starting their programs.

**4** Pray for the people of Haiti, who endure poverty, political turmoil and the long, difficult recovery from their 2010 and 2021 earthquakes. Ask God to build up their faith, hope, courage and strength in the face of daunting difficulties, and resolve to support them with prayers, advocacy and generosity.

**5** Ask the Spirit's help in responding to the diverse needs, circumstances and challenges of our neighbors, and in opening our hearts and

minds to those who are forgotten, neglected, ignored or unfamiliar to us.

**6** *Labor Day* On this day, we recognize, rejoice in and pray for the work people do to sustain their families and benefit their communities and society. Pray that all will receive fair wages, work in safe environments, be renewed through times of sabbath and experience fulfillment in their labor. Pray for the success of all those seeking employment and for the well-being of people unable to work.

**7** Pray that God will equip and energize us as we invite new people to know Jesus, to participate in our communities of faith and to experience being a Lutheran Christian.

**8** "I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long" (Psalm 146:2). Ask the Spirit to inspire us as we praise and thank God in everything we do or experience during our baptismal journey.

**9** Pray for our ELCA missionaries accompanying Lutheran church bodies and companions in Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Serbia, Russia, Slovakia, Austria, Belgium, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

**10** Pray that we will not act with prejudice, indifference or injustice, or shy away from the complexities of service and ministry, with our neighbors who suffer poverty, hunger or homelessness. Ask God to help us concentrate on our neighbors in need, acting with boldness, generosity, humility and concern for the dignity of those we serve.

**11** Give thanks for the ministry and service of volunteers as they wind up their construction season with ELCA Mission Builders and look forward to future projects that will strengthen ministries and grow the church.

**12** *“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday* In our baptismal journey we serve our neighbors daily, but on this day we celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor — in partnership with local congregations and ministries, social service organizations and community residents.

**13** Pray for forgiveness when our words, writing and online posts cause hurt or offense or wound the spirits of others. Ask the Spirit to help us think through our intentions and what we want to say so that our words will reflect the love, forgiveness and encouragement that God has shown toward us.

**14** These days are filled with challenges and distractions. Pray that we will not forget the growing number of people victimized by gun violence and the trauma and fear it spreads through families and communities. Ask God to strengthen our resolve and inspire our advocacy to prevent gun violence, care for those who suffer, and bring hope and change to our nation.

**15** *First Day of Hispanic Heritage Month* Thank God for the gifts, history, contributions and rich cultural diversity of our Latino siblings. Pray for the growth and vitality of the 147 ELCA Latino ministries and the Latino Ministries Association (Asociación Luterana de Ministerios Latinos ELCA) as they work to share the good news, encourage unity in Christ, fight racism and promote Christian values that unite Latinos of the ELCA in a “community of communities.”

**16** Pray that we will walk in the presence of God, trusting that God is gracious, righteous and merciful, hearing our every prayer.

**17** Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the Florida-Bahamas Synod Assembly, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in

learning, choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God’s work in an ever-changing world.

**18** Pray that the Spirit will stir our compassion and commitment and that God will energize us to empower, support, welcome and advocate for people driven from their homes by conflict, persecution, poverty and climate change.

**19** Give thanks for Jesus’ teaching and example, which inspire us to serve humbly, share the gospel and invite people to experience the blessings of community in our congregations and church.

**20** Thank God for our special relationship with the United Methodist Church, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 2009. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, and pray that together we will find strength and new resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these uncertain and challenging times.

**21** *Matthew, apostle and evangelist* “Follow me” (Matthew 9:9). With this simple invitation Matthew left his work as a tax collector and followed Jesus, not knowing how his life or work would change. Pray that when we sense God’s call, we will answer, trusting that God has something in mind for us — just as we are — and will employ our gifts, skills and passions while cultivating new gifts in us.

**22** Pray that, when we encounter problems in life or when everything seems to be working against us, we will trust in God to uphold our lives and deliver us — sometimes in ways we neither seek nor expect.

**23** Pray that our lives will manifest the wisdom of God, wisdom that “is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy

and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy” (James 3:17).

**24** Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in learning, choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God’s work in an ever-changing world.

**25** Pray for the well-being of health care workers who continue to labor long and hard in responding to the pandemic, preventing the spread of COVID and its variants, and equitably treating the ill and infected.

**26** Give thanks and praise to God that, as siblings in Christ, we have a vast faith community that is caring and supportive, equips and encourages us to serve and to share the good news, and strives to do God’s work in the world together with its ministry companions and partners — locally and globally.

**27** Pray that we will build and nurture communities of faith that engage with us when we are suffering, sick, in need of forgiveness and mercy, or wrestling with our faith and God’s truth.

**28** Pray for dialogues and actions that will unite our church with other Lutheran denominations, permitting us and our siblings in Christ to share pastors, witness, mission and ministries.

**29** Give thanks for the mysteries of creation and the universe that stir our wonder, inspiration, gratitude and desire to explore. Praise God!

**30** Pray for our presiding bishop, secretary and 65 synod bishops as they gather for the Conference of Bishops to worship, study, share insights, conduct church business, provide support for rostered ministers and help identify,

invite, equip and support new leaders in the church.

### **PARISH RECORD**

Funeral Service:

Norma L. Arvidson – August 16, 2021

Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

Weston Elliott Main – August 22, 2021

Madelynn Margaret Thorn – August 29, 2021

### **Confirmation Class**

Confirmation Class will start up in November with remote learning via ZOOM. We will meet twice a month on Sundays at 1 PM. Each session will last about 40 minutes. The first session is Sunday, November 7 at 1 PM.

Our class will include students who are in the second, and final year of Confirmation, as well as students who are just beginning their first year. **Watch your mail & email for invitation to the 2021-2022 class!**



### **Flu Vaccine Clinic**

Date: Sunday September 19th

Time: 8:30 AM – 11:00AM

Where: Fellowship Room

What to Bring: Your insurance card

Most insurances cover the cost of the shot.

You do not need an appointment, just show up.

### **The Women of the ELCA Joint Conference Retreat**

The Women of the ELCA Joint Conference Retreat, scheduled for Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, has been cancelled due to the increase in COVID-19 cases. The Planning Committee is very disappointed to have to make this announcement, but feels it is in the best health safety of everyone to make this decision now. We are very excited about the retreat and still plan to hold it at another time. So, watch for more information in the future as it becomes available.

# WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

**9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service  
Contemporary Worship Center**

**11:00 am Traditional Worship Service Starting September 12<sup>th</sup>  
Main Sanctuary**

**The Council has made a few updates for September  
These are highlighted in **RED****

- If you are ill, we ask that you remain at home out of concern for the health and wellbeing of others
- **Beginning August 22<sup>nd</sup> masks will be required at First Lutheran for both of those who are fully vaccinated and those who are not vaccinated. Thank You!**
- Hand sanitizer stations will be in place at entrances to the church and worship areas
- Everyone will be asked to fill out attendance cards
  - These cards will be used to contact individuals if someone tests positive for COVID19 at a later date
  - Please place the cards on the chair/pew where you are seated
- Social distancing will be practiced
  - Chairs will be spaced six feet apart
  - **Pews in the Nave will no longer be blocked, but please continue to practice social distancing**
- Offerings will be placed in a box at the entrance to the worship area
- **The congregation may continue to sing liturgy and hymns while wearing a mask**
- Holy Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday of the month with personal communion cups
- We will video record both worship services and post the recordings online through: Vimeo, YouTube, Facebook and the First Lutheran website: [flcjny.org](http://flcjny.org)
- Worship services will be approximately 30 minutes in length

We will adjust our practices as health concerns evolve.

We will celebrate Jesus Christ, risen from the grave!

We understand that some of our church family will refrain from attending worship due to health concerns. This is a personal choice and we support all our family in this decision-making process.

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
120 Chandler Street  
Jamestown, NY 14701

*ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED*

If you would like your name removed from our mailing list, please contact the church office at 664-4601 or by e-mailing us at:  
[firstlutheran@flcjny.org](mailto:firstlutheran@flcjny.org)

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# First Edition

*Living the Good News at First Lutheran Church*