



First Lutheran Church

We are believers seeking to invite all into the caring, sharing and growing ways of Christ.

June 2019 Parish Visitor

From the Pastor...

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

We all feel the burdens of this world, weighing us down at times. Whether it is a sick loved one, a huge project, or a mistake that has cost you something fierce, we humans try to carry this load often on our own. We are embarrassed, prideful and don't want to seem weak; so we say nothing and expend a great deal of energy covering up the issue/s or pretending like the pain is not killing us physically or emotionally. Some people can do this so well that when the truth comes out it is a shocking revelation. Others get themselves in so deep, that people lose their ability to trust them. But this verse is not about what we can or can't do, it is about what God does for us and through us. It is not about taking a day off or going to the lake to relax, it is about TRUSTING GOD.

The **rest** God is talking about is faith. Faith is not always restful. In fact, faith often puts us in situations that require extreme endurance. But if we take the Lord's yoke and wholeheartedly trust God's way, the burden does not seem heavy. Society tells us: "You have to be strong" and "You cannot cry" and "You make your own destiny." But when we are done beating our heads against the wall trying to do what society thinks, God tells us ***“Come to me and you will find rest for your soul!”***

You and I cannot do this thing called life alone. As the body of Christ, we all work together according to God's plan, even though we do not have the blueprint. God's way of mystery can be scary, but with love in our hearts and trust in our souls, there is no limit of what Christ can accomplish. Your purpose is not to reach societal standards, but to live for the glory and honor of God who is gentle and humble and whose truth will lighten our load!

The summer is upon us. Be safe, take time to connect with friends, family, and a few strangers, worship God wherever you are, and give thanks for the eternal promise of new life that is available now and eternally.

Sara J Larson
Lay Minister

Children, Families and Youth News



Faith Statement – Sydney Brandt

1 Corinthians 9:24-26, "Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So, run to win! All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So, I run with a purpose in every step". I chose this verse because it gives me hope and strength in everything that I do. It helps motivate me to do the best I can do always do, and not to give up. I am doing everything for an eternal

prize, the gift of God. He helps me make it through each day even when I think I can't. This verse also helps to give me comfort. It helps me to understand he has a purpose for me in each step I take. I know he has a plan for me, and he won't give me more than he knows I can handle. He works with his hands to help us understand we are not alone, and he has a plan for us. We need to stop trying to control our own lives and let him show us the way he has planned our lives.

This verse gives me strength when I am running. It helps me know that each step has a purpose. I know there are always going to be better runners than me, but that doesn't matter if I try my best. God doesn't expect us all to be perfect, he knows that we make mistakes. Running a bad race will be better than giving up completely. Winning a trophy or a medal will mean a lot at first. But when you are older and look back at them, they will have lost meaning. It's just another part of your past. God is a part of our past, present, and future. He will always have meaning in our lives and his gift will never fade. He doesn't give us all the same gifts, everyone is unique. We must find out who we are instead of trying to be like everyone else. He will never turn you away if you need help. He knows everyone faces problems and he has a purpose for each one. He is not turning against you, he is working to make good out of those problems.

Only one person can win the prize in a race, but the gift of God is not limited to one person. It's not all about winning a prize in a race, it's about the process that brings you closer in your faith. Life has ups and downs, but God is with you through it all. Through all your problems you will think that maybe he doesn't care about you, but he does. He is making good out of everything even when we think he isn't. So, in each step I take, I will learn to understand that he has a life planned out for me. He has a purpose for me. God's gift will never fade. Our gift for making it to the finish line is eternal.

Faith Statement – Lincoln Mellenthin

My Bible verse is from the book of Philippians 4:13 "I can do all this through him who gives me strength". This verse spoke to me on many levels and for many reasons. When I first read it and reread it feels like an oath of sorts that I can relate to. One that is present in my life every day and one that is relevant to my aspirations and goals as a person, a student, a friend, a member of my family and in pushing myself to achieve....uncommon things. I have common goals like getting good grades, participating in all the activities that I love so much: band, student council every year and again, football and hockey. All with the common goal of attending a great college that lines up with my beliefs and goals.

The uncommon I spoke of earlier in my statement is not just to achieve my goals but to achieve them with love, joy in my heart, hard work, fairness and to approach each challenge with strength, honor and the courage to do the right thing always! I want to be uncommon in my work ethic...work harder than everyone on the ice when I play or practice. I want to be uncommon in friendship...honest, caring and loving to everyone I meet regardless of our differences. I want to be uncommon in my faith....and have a relationship with God that fills my life.

To become this uncommon man I need his help. I need strength to get up early before the sun to work out so I can become the best version of a hockey player I can and want to become. I need strength to focus all day to learn the subjects and get the scores and grades that I need to have better opportunities for college. I need strength to study late at night after all the practices and workouts. I need strength to believe I can do all things! I can be all the things I want for my future. My verse is my statement, my reminder. "I can do all this through him who gives me strength".



DON'T FORGET ABOUT BIBLE CAMP THIS SUMMER!!

Shetek Lutheran Ministries has so much to offer youth, families, grandparents...all people! Shetek has worked hard to continue to provide excellent faith building opportunities for our families. And there are some new and exciting camps being created as well as the old favorites! Demands continue to rise for families, and their children as the times in our world change. Summer Bible Camp is the greatest way to keep our young people and families grounded and focused on their faith journey and their love in Christ. It doesn't mean that the demands are not going to be there—but it does promise to remind us that there is a loving God who is with us during all of the changes. And allows us to have some fun in our faith for a week! ☺

Help us keep bible camp a priority. Scholarships are provided for all members of First Lutheran. \$100 for week-long camps and \$50 for half week camps. HOWEVER, money is NEVER a reason to NOT go to camp. Special scholarships are also provided and remain confidential. Just contact Tonya at 532-2429 or 530-1697.

KEEP THE "SON" IN YOUR SONSHINE THIS SUMMER!



DATE NIGHT! AT FIRST LUTHERAN Friday, June 7th 6-9pm

Do you ever feel like it's too much to go out on a date with your spouse AND then pay for childcare on top of it? First Lutheran Youth are sponsoring a "Date Night" just for you! On June 7th from 6-9pm we will watch your kids at the church while you enjoy an evening together on the town. And it's FREE!

Reservations deadline will be Sunday June 2. We will stand firm on this deadline date so that our ratio of sitters to kids is perfect. A registration form/waiver will be provided via email, on our website, or at the church and will be needed by the deadline to hold your spots. *Please have your kids fed supper before you drop them off.* A snack and an evening of faith-filled fun with the older kids will be provided!! Questions? Just ask Tonya!

DAY CAMP with First Lutheran, St Stephen, and SHETEK LUTHERAN MINISTRIES!! Theme for 2019: "Transformed COMMUNITY!"



July 22- July 25!!
For 1st grade-- 6th grade

WHY DAY CAMP???

1. We believe in providing MANY awesome opportunities and options to grow in our faith!
2. We want to give you a "taste of camp" right here in Marshall!
3. We believe that it's important for us to remember that God's love for us is with us wherever we are!
4. We are committed to sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ!

It will be an incredible week of the energetic Shetek Staff, Bible study, games, crafts, worship, camp songs, snacks, skits, and GROWING IN YOUR FAITH!!

St Stephen will be hosting day camp again due to our kitchen remodeling! Registration information and details will be coming to you via emails, on our website, or a paper copy is at the church. Mark it on your calendars today!!

Register your children for ROAR VBS 2019, pay the registration fee, AND register to Volunteer ALL online!! It's so easy!!



ROAR VBS 2019 @ First Lutheran
June 2-5 from 5pm to closing Safari Celebration at starting at 7:30pm
PreK-6th Grade (must be 4 by September 1, 2018)
\$25/student (\$60 family cap)

** If you register after May 3 you are not guaranteed a T-Shirt**

There will be a meal provided for the children this year instead of a snack because of the time of day VBS is being held.

5th & 6th Graders: Register as a Leader In Training

Do your own craft/projects, help out your Crew Leader & get a T-Shirt.
Take \$5 off your registration fee – and write L.I.T. on the 'Additional Comments' line.

Here is how to Register Online...

Go to the First Lutheran Website – www.1stlutheran.org and then...

1. Click on the Ministries tab
2. Click on Children, Youth, & Families
3. Click Register Online VBS 2019 (right side of page)

You can register children for VBS on that page, register as a volunteer, and pay on that page. You can also pay online at the same time you register. Hint: you do have to scroll down on the initial registration page in order to see the "pay now" button in the grey box labeled "Fees". Click on the "pay now" button in order to complete online payment. Call the church office if you have questions 532-2429.



Thursday, June 6th
Come to the ROAR: Life is wild, God is good
2019 VBS Celebration!!

The VBS Program will start at 5:30pm in the sanctuary. Then there will be Pizza & Ice Cream (free will) outdoors if the weather cooperates or in the Fellowship Hall if not. Be sure to take time to visit the story rooms with your child(ren) as well!



Other Important Items

First Lutheran Church
 ~ Summer Party ~
 Legion Field Park

Fun & Games - Food - Fellowship

Sunday, July 14th
 4pm to 10pm

4pm Games ~ 4:45pm Picnic
 ~ 6-8 pm Games & Swimming Pool
 ~ 8:15-10pm Movie & Popcorn

Hot Dogs, Beverages, & eating utensils provided.
 Please bring a dish to pass.



New Kitchen Project
Hello First Lutheran family!

Here is a SHOUT OUT, dear members, to encourage you to help support the "New Kitchen" project going on right now!! The goal is to raise \$200,000 by the end of May to cover the costs of remodeling the kitchen. "Praise the Lord" that \$145,446 has already been given!! **Thank You SO MUCH.** If you have not had a chance to donate yet, please consider doing so now. If we reach the goal by June 1, construction can begin right after Vacation Bible School this June. Please write your check to First Lutheran Church putting KITCHEN in the memo and placing it in the offering plate or dropping it off at the church office. We are grateful to know that an updated user-friendly kitchen will serve so many in the years to come.
God Bless You for your generosity. Thank you!!

First Lutheran Women News

Important Dates

June 12 5:30pm Women's Board Meeting
 June 17 1:00pm Quilting



The next meeting of the women's board is scheduled for June 12th at 5:30 pm in the Movie Room off the fellowship hall. **Any woman** from First Lutheran is welcome to come anytime to a meeting to see what we are all about. We will be planning a summer activity and begin working on future projects. If you have any ideas for future events, please share them with a board member or join us on June 12th.

Exciting things happen through the First Lutheran Women's Ministries.

Co-Chairs:

Corlys Knudson Phone: 507-532-2434 Email: cknudson@iw.net
 Dawn Planting Phone: 507-828-8157 Email: loving_mom_3@hotmail.com

Past-President:

Karen Murphy Phone: 507-829-9410 Email: kymmurphy12@gmail.com

Secretary:

Bobbie Carmody Phone: 507-829-0168 Email: cbcarmody@iw.net

Treasurer:

Pam Russell Phone: 507-532-5637 Email: angelbabe56258@yahoo.com

Co-Funeral Chairs:

Kim Christianson Phone: 507-530-2301 Email: Christianson.kim@gmail.com
 Shirley Anderson-Porisch Phone: 507-828-1945 Email: kporisch@charter.net

Members at Large:

DeAnna Zimmer Phone: 507-337-1135 Email: deazim@hotmail.com
 Ruth Quist (kitchen) Phone: 507-337-0068 Email: sprog2@yahoo.com
 Shirley Bruns Phone: 507-401-3066 Email: brunsshirley@gmail.com

The Women of First Lutheran would like to congratulate our graduating seniors as they begin the new phase of their lives. Two pocket crosses were given to them with these encouraging words:

Keep this Cross with you as a constant reminder of Jesus' Love. No matter what happens, take everything to Jesus. He will always be there for you. Live your faith by sharing one cross and its message with another person. In faith and friendship, First Lutheran Women

32nd Annual Convention of the Southwestern Minnesota Synodical Women of the ELCA

The *Women of First Lutheran* hosted the 32nd Annual Convention on May 3-4, 2019.

This year's theme was "Embraced by the Winds of Grace". *"The wind blows to the south, and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns."*

Ecclesiastes 1:6

The first day of the convention included a business meeting with each church encouraged to send a voting member. DeAnna Zimmer was our voting member. They elected a VICE PRESIDENT, a SECRETARY and 4 Board Members for 2 year terms. This year they also elected 9 TRIENNIAL VOTING MEMBERS and 9 ALTERNATE TRIENNIAL VOTING MEMBERS.

Following an evening meal on Friday, the convention guests, as well as members of First Lutheran, were entertained by Jett Skrien, an illusionist who grew up in Marshall and has had the opportunity to perform throughout the United States and internationally in Canada and Europe.

We were amazed and captivated by Jett and enjoyed the interactive audience participation.

On Saturday we welcomed 146 participants. The day began with coffee and breakfast treats served by Twila Henning from Thrivent.

Following a communion service and a special message shared by Lydia Davilla from Puerto Rico, an executive member of the church wide board of the WELCA, participants were offered several informational workshops that they could attend. This year's options included:

The Spirituality of Dreams: Janet Ruth (Kim Christianson's sister-in-law)

Journaling and Creative Writing: Sara Larson

Identity Theft and other scams: Tim Tomasek

A Pop-up Choir directed by Connie Knott and Helen Pedersen.

Following a noon meal we welcomed our guest speaker, Cindy McKittrick, executive director of Hope Harbor in Marshall.

The day ended with Hallelujah Hooligans of Baltic SD. They enjoyed sharing the love of Christ with us through their music, word, and worship. There is never a shortage of enthusiasm and energy when the Hallelujah Hooligans are around. Their theme is God is Good—all the Time! Many In Kind Offerings were received with First Lutheran sending 17 quilts for LWR and 10 boxes of Christian Literature. Our local Hope Harbor received gift cards totaling \$520.00 & paper products. Monetary offerings were collected with it being divided: 50% To Churchwide WELCA, 25% Shetek Lutheran Ministries & 25% to Lutheran Campus Ministries-SMSU.

We want to send a **BIG THANK YOU** to the First Lutheran church staff and janitors. They put in a lot of additional work to help make the convention a success. God's Blessings for the help!!

We are hoping that by sharing this information we will have more women excited to participate in next year's convention.

Shetek Lutheran Ministries

CANEWS FROM CAMP

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empower

SAVE THE DATE...

SHETEK LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

33RD ANNUAL QUILT AUCTION

JUNE 22ND 10:30A.M.

HELD IN THE

SLM ACTIVITY CENTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CALL 507-763-3567 or www.shetek.org

Check out our quilts at www.shetek.org

"Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!" PSALM 100:2

Mark your Calendar 2019

Staff Training – May 27-June 7

First Day of Camp- June 9

Fun in the Sun with Water Bugs- 6/15

Golf Fundraiser – June 17

Family weekend – June 21-23

Quilt Auction Preview – June 21

Quilt Auction- June 22

5K Pelican Walk/Run – June 22

Little Sprouts Garden Class- June 30

Donor Picnic – July 16

Summer Toddlers & Trees – July 20

For more information call 763-3567 or check

www.shetek.org



Lasting Friendships!

Help send Kids to Camp...Become a Pelican/Timber member today. For more info. Call 507-763-3567 or check out our website at www.shetek.org

Worship Schedule

Saturdays - 5:30pm

Sundays - 9:30am

Radio – Sundays at 11am on 1400AM or 101.7FM

Local Cable TV – Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 5pm

Charter 180 & Vast 17

Church Office Phone: 507-532-2429

Church Office Email: firstluth@iw.net

Pastor Scott Fuller

E-mail: revscottfuller56@gmail.com Phone: 507-476-8961

Sara Larson, Lay Minister

E-mail: sjlgal@frontiernet.net Phone: 507-828-8423

www.1stlutheran.org

You can view our Facebook page from this site too!

Youth Web Site – www.first-lutheran-youth.blogspot.com