



# First Lutheran Church

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

## October 2015 Parish Visitor

### From the Pastors...

*I am the resurrection and the life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,  
and everyone who believes in me will never die.  
Do you believe this?  
(John 11:25-26)*

We had a very interesting seminar recently at First Lutheran – on the topic of planning a funeral. Dave and Elly Sprik, new owners of Hamilton Funeral Home, initiated the idea of inviting people to hear presentations on every aspect of a death – from funeral worship planning, to estate planning, to the full range of services offered by a funeral home. The 50+ people who attended were very positive about their experience and encouraged us to offer a similar seminar again.

I appreciated the opportunity to talk about planning a funeral – before it was time to plan for a loved one who had died. Death can be a touchy subject for some, but it's not one that we can ignore – for none of us can escape it – neither our own, nor the death our loved ones.

There are some very comforting stories in Scripture about Jesus' encounter with families that are grieving the death of a loved one. Now, on the one hand, that's not really fair because we're talking about the Son of God actually showing up at the funeral – and in every instance that we know of, Jesus brings the person back to life.

From the story of Jesus' friend Lazarus (John 11:1-44), to the story of the Widow from Nain whose son had died (Luke 7:11-17), and a number of others as well, Jesus refuses to let death have the final say. Theologian Robert Capon, in his book, Kingdom, Grace, Judgement, puts it this way: *Jesus never meets a corpse that doesn't sit right upon the spot* (p. 405).

Yet, though the Son of God has never bodily visited any funeral service at which I have presided, Jesus has certainly been at every one of them in Spirit. As with the stories mentioned above, there are always tears and times of grief, and occasionally there are even unsaid words and unresolved differences. But infused in every experience of death and the time afterwards when we gather to say good bye, is the promise that Jesus spoke lovingly to Martha, *I am the resurrection and the life*...With that promise as the foundation for our lives, we have nothing to fear about the experience of death.

New this week: we now have a funeral service planning guide available online. Simply go to our webpage: <http://1stlutheran.org/>, put the cursor on the word WORSHIP at the top of the page, and click on the bottom line called LIFE PASSAGES. There you will find the guide that has two pages of things to think about when planning a funeral, as well as many songs and bible passages as a starting point to help select those that feel the best – for you or for your loved one.

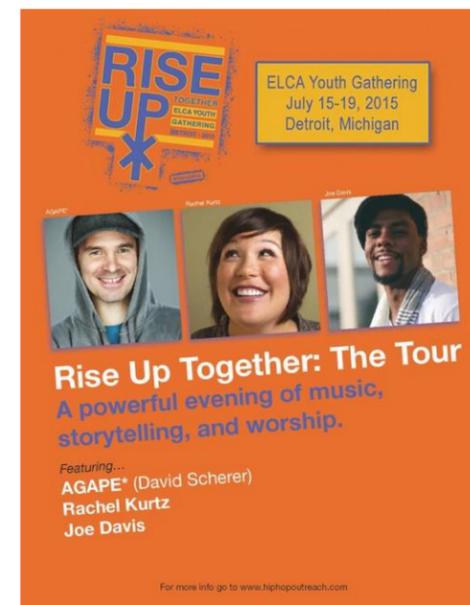
May you be blessed with the certainty of Jesus' power over death.  
In Christ,  
Pastor Scott

## Children, Families and Youth News



### Sabbatical Update from Tonya.....

It's the week of homecoming as I am writing this. AND it's actually the Wednesday that everything kicks off at First Lutheran! Yikes!! I probably shouldn't be admitting to the fact that, as school has started, it has been harder for me to "not pay attention" to what is going on around me. I catch myself thinking about my faith families, the ministries....still checking how the sports, music, and other activities are going....silently cheering on our youth. ☺ And yes....you will see me at marching band! ("Rock 'em Marshall!!") But I am aware of it..... scold myself..... and go do something else! Haha! Tim and I were able to get away to the North Shore for a few days. We went up to Grand Marais, spent a day at Isle Royale and even Thunder Bay, Ontario. And, it was the perfect place sit on the patio to study more about Sticky Faith as I heard Lake Superior's waves gently crash on the shore. I am impressed that as I'm reading the results, studies, and suggestions with this Sticky Faith, I can say, "we do that already....yep! we added this...." We may not call this "Sticky Faith" at First Lutheran but parts of it are already established parts of our congregational family. We get it. I am also finding ideas to tweak areas of our ministry where I know we could enhance it. A big part of this ministry concept is preparing our seniors for life after "youth group". I am surprised by some of the research results....a lot of it, I am not. How can we help the youth and parents in this process? ....before their sons and daughters leave? (After just having gone through this.....I wish I would have read all of this research when my kids were in elementary school! Haha!) By the time you read this, I will only have one month left, if even that. I will be anxious to jump back in and join the life and faith journeys again! But, rest assured, I have appreciated every minute of this! (.....even the one mild panic attack I had the week before the youth picnic! haha!) See you all soon!



### Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

Join us for a powerful evening of music, storytelling, & worship featuring AGAPE\* (David Scherer) & Rachel Kurtz. They will be live in our sanctuary!! This will be a great opportunity to spend time as a family with positive music, high energy, and a whole lot of Jesus!!

**FIRST LUTHERAN YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY TO HAVE FALL FUNDRAISER.....** The youth and family ministry committee and the youth are excited to again have their fall fundraiser the month of October. Check out the information on the bulletin board in the narthex to get “the scoop” in further detail. We are hoping that the congregation will continue to be as excited as us to continue with this concept. **Just take an envelope with the amount of a minimum donation you would like to give. It's that simple. Return the envelope to the church office.**



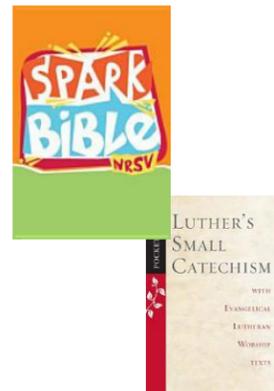
And, incorporated with this fundraiser is our **SR HIGH YOUTH'S RAKE AND ROLL** scheduled for **Sunday, October 25th at 1pm**. As a way to give back to the church with this fundraiser, we will be raking lawns. If you would like to have your lawn raked and leaves carried away, just call the office. If you know of someone who could benefit by the youth raking their lawn, call the office and give the information.

**Thanks once again for supporting our youth!**

**Spark NRSV Bibles for  
First Lutheran's Second Graders**

The following Second Grade Students will receive the Spark NRSV Bible, Luther's Small Catechism and celebrate their Bible Milestone **on Reformation Sunday, October 25** during the 8:30 or 10:45 a.m. Worship Services. Second Grade students and their parents will also take part in a Bible Orientation Class on **Wednesday, October 21 at 6:15pm** in the Unfinished Basement. The Second Grade students are...

- |                     |                   |                 |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Taleigha Bigler     | Aiden Bly         | Lilly Boelter   |
| Kellen Bradley      | Spencer Brink     | Annabel Coudron |
| Halle DeVos         | Reese Drake       | Avery Fahl      |
| Salem Frost         | Rainer German     | McCoy Guenther  |
| Abigail Guggisberg  | Hayden Guggisberg | Elizabeth Hart  |
| Shep Jensen         | Ashlynn Landgraff | Emma McKeever   |
| Laney Moore         | Jacob Murphy      | Jordan Olsen    |
| Mykel Paulsen       | Brynn Paulson     | Ashlyn Persons  |
| Logan Phillippe     | Kyah Pinckney     | Makia Radtke    |
| Lauren Reaves       | Grace Rokeh       | Berlin Sauter   |
| Savanna Stefansen   | Brynn Stensrud    | Reed Stucker    |
| Christian Vershelde | Paige Walker      |                 |



**Spark Story Bibles First Lutheran's Two Year "Class"**

On **Sunday, October 11 at 9:45am**, Two Year Old "Class" & their Parents are invited to attend "How to read & interact with your child and the Spark Story Bible" in the Gethsemane Chapel. The Two Year Olds will also be personalizing their Spark Story Bible in a very special way. Then on **Reformation Sunday, October 25**, the Two Year Olds will receive their "Spark Story Bible, during the 8:30 or 10:45 a.m. Worship Services...

The children who are in the **Two Year Old "Class"** have birthdays between September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013

- |                   |                |                  |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Gabriella Berreth | Tatum Dahl     | Noah Engebretson |
| Jude Fahl         | Damien Henning | Tori Marthaler   |
| Libby Moore       | Decker Pollock | DaVinci Sanchez  |
| Dominic Sietsema  | Leo Swenson    | Noah Woodbeck    |



*Welcome*

*We are believers seeking to invite all into the Caring, Sharing, and Growing ways of Christ!*

**New Members will be welcomed Wednesday, October 7 at 5:15pm, Saturday, October 10 at 5:30pm and Sunday, October 11 at 8:30am & 10:45am.** We are excited to welcome so many wonderful new families to our First Lutheran Family of Faith!! Be sure to greet them and introduce yourself to them if you haven't already!



**3 For Heaven's Sake**

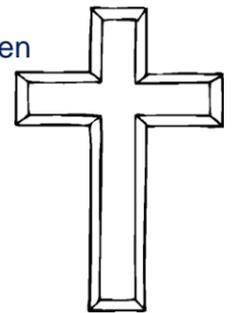
**3 Year Olds and Their Parents** are invited the **3<sup>rd</sup>** Sunday of each month from 9:45-10:30am (**except for the first month because the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday is MEA weekend!!**) to the **3 For Heaven's Sake Class**. The first class will be Sunday, October 11 and then continuing after that, each **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, November thru April**. Please come to Rooms 4, 6, & 8 ("the Movie Room") where we will begin with refreshments and activities together. Next, there will be Bible Stories, crafts and games for the children, while the parents gather in Room 2 (Fireside Room) around topics and discussions about parenting preschoolers faithfully. We also offer a resource...a book titled *3 For Heaven's Sake*. It is a realistic, encouraging, and supportive book for all who want to nurture faith in Jesus Christ in the home—while using proven methods for raising great preschoolers. Full of practical suggestions for daily life together, *For Heaven's Sake! Parenting Preschoolers Faithfully* will be your companion and guide as you navigate this formative time in your child's life. The cost of the book is \$15.00 (scholarships are available). Registration forms are available in the Narthex and in the office.

**3 Year Olds' First Day of Sunday School Milestone**

To celebrate the first day of Sunday School for your child, the following **3 year olds** will receive a glow in the dark cross to remind them of Jesus' love and presence with them at all times. The crosses will be presented during both the **8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Services on Sunday, October 11.**

The children who are in the 3 year old class have birthdays between September 1, 2011 – August 31, 2012

- |                     |                    |                 |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Evan Gehrke         | Sage Greeley       | Signe Hartman   |
| Anna Hindbjorgen    | Aiden Ingebrigtsen | Ryan Larsen     |
| Brielle Luckhardt   | Aubree Lundberg    | Addison Miller  |
| Anna Moberg         | Mic Paulzine       | Casen Pettis    |
| Ethan Sanow         | Preston Sirovy     | Keira Steinhaus |
| Brielle Verkinderen | Ian Vollmer        | Sawyer Williams |
| Caleb Wilts         | Aubree Myhre       | Nolan Munson    |



## Shetek Lutheran Ministries

# CANews FROM CAMP

*Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers*

### Mark Your Calendar

- *EE Event – October 4<sup>th</sup>*
- *Octoberfest – October 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>*
- *Church council/board retreat – October 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup>*
- *Toddlers & Trees – November 1<sup>st</sup>*
- *Lutefisk Supper – December 6<sup>th</sup> 5:30p.m.*
- *Winter Fun Day – December 29<sup>th</sup>*
- *Summer Staff Reunion – 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>*



Thank you for your Support!!

Help send Kids to camp...Become a Pelican/Timber member today.  
For more information call 763-3567 or [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)

## First Lutheran Women News

### Important Dates

- October 3 – Prairie Fall Conference in Cottonwood
- October 4 – God's Work, Our Hands
- October 5 – Quilting 1-4pm Host: Elizabeth/Hannah Circle
- October 7 – Women's Board Meeting 5:15pm – Movie Room
- October 12 – Esther Circle – 7pm
- October 14 - Circle Bible Study – "Make Haste O Lord"
- October 15 – Bingo at Morningside Heights
- October 15 – Prayer Shawl Ministry – 7pm- Fireside Rm
- October 19 - Quilting 1-4pm Host: Elizabeth/Hannah Circle
- October 25 - Giving Tree Project Begins
- October 28 – Women's Board serve the TLC supper



## Worship Schedule

Wednesdays - 5:15pm

Saturdays - 5:30pm

Sundays – 8:30am & 10:45am

Radio – Sundays at 11am on 1400AM or 103.3FM

Local Cable TV – Tuesdays at 7:30pm and Wednesdays at 1:30pm

Charter 180 & Vast 17

**Church Office Phone: 507-532-2429**

**Church Office Email: [firstluth@iw.net](mailto:firstluth@iw.net)**

**Pastor Scott Fuller**

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**Pastor Julie McCain**

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[www.1stlutheran.org](http://www.1stlutheran.org)

You can view our Facebook page from this site too!

Youth Web Site – [www.first-lutheran-youth.blogspot.com](http://www.first-lutheran-youth.blogspot.com)