



# First Lutheran Church

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

## September 2015 Parish Visitor

### From the Pastors ... Prayer

“Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise...Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.” James 5:13, 16

I’m just going to come outright and say it: We are good at praying, and especially praying for each other! That is something to celebrate! I’ve always thought that prayers is very much like a muscle—you have to exercise it in order to know how to use it, and our collective prayer muscle is strong. Thanks be to God!

One thing I’ve noticed over the years is that everyone prays differently. I truly do believe that our prayer styles are almost as individual as our fingerprints. For some, sitting silently in a chair with a Bible is a wonderful way to pray, and for others, that simply won’t work! It doesn’t mean that there’s anything wrong with you at all, only that you need to try something else. Walk as you pray. Color as you pray. Sit under a tree as you pray. Kneel as you pray. Do whatever works for you that gets you connecting with God.

As a visual person, I often find that a prayer takes on an image, and one in particular sticks with me as I pray for other people. Have you ever known that you were being prayed for and almost felt it as something tangible, something that really made a difference to you? I’ve often imagined that our prayers take on the form of a blanket which God uses to comfort those who are hurting. And it fits perfectly with the important ministry of the prayer shawls, which truly do provide that tangible reminder.

We also want to tell you about a change we’ll be making with prayer requests that are listed in the announcements. Starting in the fall, we’ll include in the bulletin a list of people to pray for, and if they want it listed, the reason why we are praying for them. This, we hope, will make it easier to pray for one another. And because we’re not always sure when an issue is resolved, every 4 months we’ll remove names from the prayer list and start anew—if you want to re-submit a name to be prayed for, just let us know and we’ll be happy to include it. This new prayer list will also mean that in the announcements made in worship, we’ll only be drawing attention to new prayer requests, unless it’s specifically requested that we mention someone’s name in worship.

What a blessing it is to be a part of such a strong, praying community!  
God’s Peace!  
Pastor Julie

## Children, Families and Youth News



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

As I’m writing this, I’ve actually only been on sabbatical for 18 days. Within the first week, I cleaned every closet, drawer, and cupboard in our whole house! (Haha! I know, that’s sick.....but that is relaxing for me.) But in all seriousness, I am able to relax and I’m surprised that when I allowed myself to do just that I am realizing that I, in fact, needed it. So thank you again for allowing me to have this sabbatical.

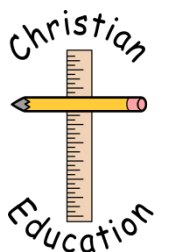
I’ve started looking into “Sticky Faith” and with every chapter I’m reading I’m shaking my head in agreement and I’m excited to study further.

I spent a weekend with my parents and helped them on the farm. It was nice to attend worship with them at the church they joined a few years ago after the church I grew up in closed its doors. Meeting the new friends they have met was a lot of fun. Seeing aunts and uncles, and old friends was long overdue. We drove all around and memories came back. I’m sure my parents got tired of the questions “Who lives there now?”, “What’s \_\_\_\_\_ doing now?”, or “How do you get there again?” It was nice to spend an unscheduled amount of time talking and visiting with mom and dad. ☺

Just a reminder.....school has started by the time you are reading this. Take care of the youth! Ask them how they are doing. Encourage them in their leadership and involvement in the various ministries. Go see their games or events. Go watch the marching band. Just remind them that their faith family cares. ☺  
Until next month.....

To my First Lutheran Family- Thank you so much for the gift of \$500.00 and for the opportunity to take this sabbatical. I knew that God called me specifically to First Lutheran 25 years ago for a reason ☺ I have been truly blessed. I’m excited for this time and more excited to come back refreshed.  
In Christ,  
Tonya

First Lutheran Teacher Installation: During Rally Sunday Worship, Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am, all those involved in Christian education at First Lutheran -- TLC Teachers, TLC Volunteers, Confirmation Team Captains, Bible Study leaders, Convo Leaders, and Substitute Teachers will be called forward to participate in the **First Lutheran Teacher Installation** for 2015-16. Thank you so much for giving of your time and talents and for passing on your faith!



**INVITING ALL YOUTH (7-12 grades) and THEIR PARENTS** to a Youth and Family *picnic* at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 2nd. We'll gather to play some fun games, eat some great food and talk together about what the FALL will be like while Tonya's on Sabbatical. Some amazing YOUTH and ADULTS have stepped forward to lead Bible Studies, Senior High Alive and Junior High Alive, and all the other great events that have been planned. Come and find out what to expect, as we sail through the Fall and **plan for Tonya's return in November!!**

**Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**

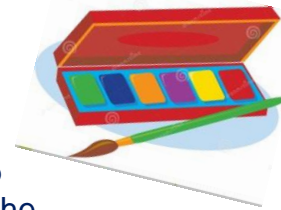


**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent/Student/ Confirmation Captain Confirmation Orientation!**

This is a mandatory meeting please MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Students & Parents will meet from 6-6:30 pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Students & Parents will meet from 6:35-7:05 pm

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Parents of Confirmation Students, remember to bring your student's Confirmation Registration Form and the check for their Confirmation Meals (if you wish to pay in advance) with you to the Orientation. Confirmation Captains may pay in advance for Confirmation meals at the Confirmation Orientation as well.



**TLC Supply Request:** The TLC Wednesday & TLC Sunday classrooms and Resource Room need to be stocked again this year with craft supplies & you could help! Pick up a few extra school/craft supplies & drop them off in the box labeled TLC Supplies in the Narthex. Classrooms and the Resource Room are in need of...

- |                          |                       |                                      |                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| • Cotton Balls           | • playdough           | • sheets of felt                     | • Packing Tape   |
| • fun foam stickers      | • ink pads            | • round & heart-shaped paper doilies |                  |
| • Finger Paints          | • Tape & double stick | • Cardstock                          | • tempera paint  |
| • Poster board           | • dry erase markers   | • Small reward stickers              | • hand sanitizer |
| • sheets of fun foam     | • Pipe Cleaners       | • clay in assorted colors            | • glitter glue   |
| • kid friendly magazines |                       |                                      |                  |

Thank you so much!! Any donation is greatly appreciated!

**Rally Day is Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>!!!!** Coffee and refreshments will be served beginning at 9am. The outdoor Praise Worship service will begin at 9:30am followed by an ALL CHURCH outdoor meal of Hot Dogs, chips, & ice cream. ALL ARE WELCOME!! The ice cream is compliments of Shetek Lutheran Ministries as a Thank You to First Lutheran Church for sending the most campers to camp this summer!! Come to Rally Day and experience meaningful worship, friendly fellowship, good food, games, and more as we kick off our Christian Education program year at First Lutheran!

**Be sure to bring your lawn chairs!!**

- TLC Wednesday Begins September 16<sup>th</sup>
- TLC Sunday Begins September 20<sup>th</sup>



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

Are YOU interested in becoming a member of the family of faith called First Lutheran Church? Or would you simply like to find out more information about First Lutheran Church? If so, please choose one of the upcoming New Member Orientation sessions to attend...

- Wednesday, September 16 @ 6:30pm
- Sunday, September 20 @ 9:45am
- Wednesday, September 23 @ 6:30pm

All of these New Member Orientation Sessions will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Contact the church office if you or someone you know is planning on attending (507) 532-2429 or firstluth@iw.net. Childcare will be provided. Please let us know if you will need childcare.

**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.**



Become Part of *Our* Church Family

## **Shetek Lutheran Ministries**

**News from Shetek:** You Had the Most Campers!!! Congratulations! Shetek Lutheran Ministries is very grateful for the support we receive from our member congregations. This support comes in many forms – financial donations, participation in the programs we offer and prayer support. First Lutheran Church earned the honor of a member congregation with the most campers at Shetek this summer! 43 campers from First Lutheran attended one of our programs during the summer of 2015! Our counselors and staff are fortunate to see some of the blessings that occur during the summer for the campers. We also know there are many ways campers are impacted in ways we won't see. It's an incredibly meaningful, faith building experience for all ages and we thank First Lutheran Church for encouraging your members to attend camp. Shetek staff will be serving ice cream sundaes at First Lutheran on Rally Sunday as our way to thank you for your support. See you then!

-Marv Nysetvold, Executive Director



# CANEWS FROM CAMP

*Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers*

## Mark Your Calendar

- **Women's Retreat – September 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>**
- **Road Scholars – September 13<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>**
- **Shetek WELCA Conference – September 19<sup>th</sup>**
- **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>**



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)

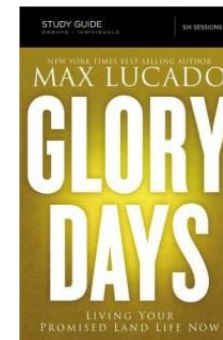
*Thank you to all who continues to support your camp, Shetek Lutheran Ministries! We are so fortunate to have friends like you who value our accomplishments, commitment and mission. You are truly making a difference for youth and families coming to Shetek Lutheran Ministries. As we look forward to the future we are excited about all that is ahead as God continues to lead us in new directions. May God richly bless you for your support!!*

**69<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Retreat  
"Sowing Seeds of Love"  
September 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>  
Call for more information at  
763-3567 or go to  
[www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org) for brochure**

## First Lutheran Women News

### Important Dates

- September 2 Women's Board Meeting- 5:15 pm – Movie room
- September 9 Circles Meet: Deborah, Elizabeth/Hannah
- September 11 & 12 : 69th Annual, Shetek Women's Retreat
- September 13 Rally Day Serving
- September 14 Esther Circle Meets - 7pm – Fireside Room
- September 17 Prayer Shawl Ministry- 7pm
- September 21 Quilting 1-4 pm Board Hosting
- September 27 Women's Board Installation during Worship
- September 27 Women's General Meeting – 9:30am - Sanctuary



Join us for the newest Max Lucado Bible Study:

### **Glory Days**

**Living Your Promised Land Life Now**

- **Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00 pm**  
**(Beginning Wednesday, September 23)**

This Women's Bible Study Group has been meeting on Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm for several years now. We have had many new women join us during the different Bible Studies that have been offered over that time and it's been so fun getting to know new people!!!

We encourage you to join us this time for Max Lucado's newest Bible Study:

*Glory Days... Living Your Promised Land Life Now.* Where Max shares how life has a way of taking the life out of us. Often we go through situations where the challenge seems so much greater than our strength. During such times, we can find hope and inspiration from the story of Joshua.

God had called Joshua to take over from Moses and lead the Israelites into a paradigm shift from wilderness wandering to promise-believing. In Canaan, they would not fight *for* victory but fight *from* victory. God had a Promised Land in store for them, but they had to grasp that reality, change their mindsets, and take action to receive it.

The same is true for us today. God is telling us that our best days—our "glory days"—are still ahead of us. We only need to grasp that truth and live in faith to realize this promise.

The first session will be **Wednesday, September, 23.** Information sheets and registration forms are available in the narthex or the church office. Registrations are due by Monday, September 14. The cost is \$6.00 for the Study Guide.

## Other Important Items

**We're Collecting Personal Care Kits!** The very simple gesture of giving a Personal Care Kit can give someone the encouragement to start anew, starting with a bath. **We can share God's grace and love by providing that simple comfort!** And what a gift it is that we're able to help!

- From **Sept. 6- Oct. 4**, there will be a box in the narthex.
- We'll compile them on Oct. 4 as part of God's Work, Our Hands Day. You can participate—sign-ups are coming soon!
- Kits will be sent through all over the world to places in need, through Lutheran World Relief; go to [LWR.org/personalcarekits](http://LWR.org/personalcarekits) to see a map of where they end up!

### Each kit needs:



- Soap bars, in original packaging (2 needed/kit).
- Adult-size toothbrushes in original packaging.
- Sturdy combs.
- Metal nail clippers.
- Bath-size towel (between 20"x40" & 52"x27"), dark color recommended.
  - All items should be new, & no religious or patriotic symbols.

## Community Items

**MEALS ON WHEELS:** YOU have the ability to make a positive impact on others through something as easy and simple as donating an hour or two to help with our local Meals on Wheels. First Lutheran has volunteered to deliver meals September 7<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> (Monday thru Friday).

What you do: Deliver hot meals to people in the community. Timing: Arrive around 10:45- takes about an hour to deliver.

How many we need: There's four routes- so a minimum of four people per day. Works well to also have a friend deliver with you. J

If you're willing to help out, please call or email Marsha Rose, Social Ministries Committee. [Email: [marsha.rose6@me.com](mailto:marsha.rose6@me.com) or Phone: 507-530-4853]

Please take an hour and make a difference through helping with Meals on Wheels.

**"Adopt" a College Student:** Would you be willing to share a meal with a pair of college students once a month? Many college students are away from home and would really appreciate being connected with you, whether you are a young family, an elderly couple, or a single person! You could take them out to lunch after church, or feed them whatever your family would typically eat on Sunday afternoons! You'd also be encouraged to: pray for them, send a care package now and again, offer rides to church, invite them along for other outings, and just generally encourage them. **Please email ([pastorjuliemccain@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjuliemccain@gmail.com)) or call Pastor Julie to let her know you're interested, and she'll be matching up college students and families in the fall!**

**Adult Mission Trip to Pine Ridge Reservation!** It's time to get serving! We'll be partnering with Trinity Lutheran in Owatonna to do some service and build relationships at Pine Ridge Reservation. They have been going for years, and Steve Hamner, a member at our church, has attended many times and keeps going back for more! Among other things, participants will have the chance to: serve a neighborhood meal, worship and lead activities with children (no experience/prep required), and deliver backpacks filled with school supplies.

**Dates:** October 15-18, 2015

**Who:** Adults and families with older kids.

**Housing:** Dorm Style with showers available. Men and women sleep in different areas.

**Cost:** \$75/person (includes transportation, housing, and meals).

Please contact Pastor Julie in the church office to sign-up, **by Sept. 13!**

**First Lutheran Church and Hamilton Funeral Home** (701 Jewett St., Marshall, MN 56258, [www.hamiltonfh.com](http://www.hamiltonfh.com)) are co-hosting an hour-long funeral planning event on **Tuesday, September 22, 2015, at 10:00 a.m.** in First Lutheran's **Fellowship Hall**. It's meant for adults of all ages, so come and enjoy a cup of coffee while learning about the many spiritual, emotional and financial benefits of making important decisions in advance. Find out what you can do to assist your parents, or to make things easier for your children or other family members. ***Everyone who attends will receive a FREE Funeral & Cremation Planning Folder and free planning assistance.***

The program will feature the following themes and speakers:

**BIBLICAL BELIEFS ON LIFE'S FINAL PASSAGE:** Pastor Scott Fuller will discuss the scriptural basis for funeral services and share insights regarding death and dying.

**LEGAL TOOLS:** Attorney Michael W. Cable, of Quarnstrom & Doering PA, will explain which legal tools can help protect your family. Learn about probate, survivorship, estate planning documents and tax implications.

**FUNERAL AND CREMATION OPTIONS:** David Spirk of Hamilton Funeral Home & Cremation Services will explore options for funeral and cremation planning to help meet the wishes and needs of your family following a loss.

*The seminar date is quickly approaching, so call and make your reservations TODAY! If you cannot attend the seminar, but would like to receive the FREE information, call the funeral home at 507-532-2933.*

## **Worship Schedule**

Wednesdays - 5:15pm

Saturdays - 5:30pm

Sundays - 9:30am

**\*\*Starting September 20<sup>th</sup>**

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**

E-mail: [revscottfuller56@gmail.com](mailto:revscottfuller56@gmail.com) Phone: 507-476-8961

**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)