



# First Lutheran Church

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

## September 2016 Parish Visitor

### From the Pastors...

*I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day... I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy (2 Timothy 1:3-4).*

Throughout our Fuller family history, summer vacation has been the most popular time to reconnect with relatives and *chosen family* (friends with whom you have a very special connection). Scattered across the northwest (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Montana and Minnesota), we always needed extra time and money to travel some great distances to be together. But we also always felt that it was worth it.

Moving from Alaska to Minnesota 3 ½ years ago eliminated some of that challenge for Carolyn and me. Yet now that our daughter's family has moved to Atlanta, Georgia, we're back looking at long-distance driving – or flying – to see either of our children's families.

But again – we believe that it's worth it. It's worth it because the gift of family gives us a sense of grounded-ness, a sense of history, a sense of belonging, a sense of acceptance, a sense of love.

So it is with the Church, the Body of Christ. Summer was a great time to see our extended family – and now that Fall is approaching, I'm excited to reconnect with our First Lutheran family of faith – those of you who (like we!) have been away for a good part of the summer.

This idea of being away for a time – and then returning to reunite – is a theme that works itself throughout the pages of Scripture. I think of: Jacob and Esau, Joseph and his father/brothers, the Israelites who longed to return to their homeland after being exiled in Babylon, the disciples after hearing that Jesus was raised from the dead, the apostle Paul who longed to visit – and revisit – the congregations he'd started.

Over and over again, we hear of people who long to see each other so that, as the Apostle Paul says, they *may be filled with joy*. And that is one of the blessings that the fall promises our First Lutheran family – the opportunity to be together again so that we all may be filled with joy.

So if you've been some of the few who have stayed close and been at worship regularly or some of those who have been out and about connecting with other people who bring you joy, then thanks be to God. I look forward to seeing you all again gathered as the body of Christ here at this place as we enter the fall schedule.

I'd be delighted to hear a story of how you were recently reunited with someone who filled you with joy. Send me an email ([revscottfuller56@gmail.com](mailto:revscottfuller56@gmail.com)) or stop by the office when you have a moment.

God's blessings,  
Pastor Scott

### Children, Families and Youth News

#### **September Kicks Off Many Youth and Family Events!!**

Check out the Rock (youth newsletter) for details! Watch for emails! "Like" us on Facebook! Stay in the loop! WOO HOO!!



- Sept 11 **RALLY DAY** at First Lutheran
- Sept 14 Huge **Kick-Off Event for Confirmation** (grades 7-8)
- Sept 14 **TLC Wednesdays, Worship, Suppers, and SHA all start!**
- Sept 14 Registrations for the **Junior High Synod Youth Gathering** in Willmar are due (grades 6-8)
- Sept 18 **Senior High Kenosha Mission Trip Recap Worship** at both 8:30am and 10:45am!! Join us as the youth and adults share with you all of the faith-filled experiences!
- Sept 21 **G3, Junior High Alive, and High School Bible Studies starts up!**

#### **MILESTONE MINISTRY AT FIRST LUTHERAN!!**



..... What is a Milestone?

A faith milestone is a marker along life's journey that says, "This is something important and God is here, too." Marking a milestone is a biblically-based spiritual practice for both home and congregation. It helps all generations recognize God IS the central core of their lives every day!

#### **September Milestones:**

##### **Rally Day, Sept 11:**

**Kindergarten** students will be presented with a Milestone Bowl that represents all the meaningful moments that make up our lives and with the following Stones...

- Baptism Stone: Symbolizing their Holy Baptism
- Learning Stone: Symbolizing receiving knowledge about the word of God and the love of God from your family and the congregation
- TLC Stone: Symbolizing that they are being welcomed to Teaching the Love of Christ (TLC)

We are inviting all **7th Grade** students and their parents to celebrate the milestone of Entering Confirmation. During worship at 9:30 a.m., we will mark this Milestone with a stone marked with a symbol as well as receiving their Teen Bible. This Milestone Celebration is a time for the 7th grade youth to be reminded that they are baptized children of God, created in God's own image, and to celebrate this next step of learning on their faith journey.... *and* a celebration for the parents to walk with them and learn with them on this journey.

**Sunday September 18:**

**9th Grade** students and their parents will celebrate the start of high school. The freshman year is a time to be reminded that they are baptized children of God, created in God's own image, and how knowing that will help them when facing the trials and tribulations of High School.

**10th Grade** ...getting your driver's license! When you get your driver's license, it is an exciting time for both youth and parents. The preparing for and receiving of the license brings many new rights and responsibilities. The license requires new stewardship of time and resources, challenges and opportunities for communication, and occasions for service. It is a time to celebrate also, what it can mean for you in your faith life. Even if you may not have gotten your official license yet because of when your birthday is, please join us at one of the services so that we can celebrate YOU and your families in worship.

**11th grade** will celebrate their quest milestone. A "QUEST" is the act or an instance of seeking or pursuing something; a search. When you become juniors, it seems like college, careers, interests, etc. all start becoming a part of people's conversations with you. It may seem like a time with unknowns or a lot of questions. But at First Lutheran, we want to celebrate this time with you as an opportunity to listen to where God is calling you in your life and how the cross is the central part of this compass.



**Wednesday, September 7th**

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

This is a mandatory meeting please MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

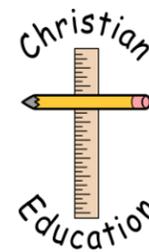
7th Grade Confirmation Students, Parents, & Captains will meet from 6:10-6:40 pm  
8th Grade Confirmation Students, Parents, & Captains will meet from 7:00-7:30 pm  
We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Parents of Confirmation Students, remember to bring your student's Confirmation Registration Form and the check for their Confirmation Meals (if you haven't turned them in already) with you to the Orientation. Confirmation Captains may pay in advance for Confirmation meals at the Confirmation Orientation as well.

**Rally Day is Sunday, September 11th!!!!**

Coffee 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!! Come to Rally Day and experience meaningful worship, friendly fellowship, good food, games, and Jessica's Little Ponies Petting Zoo as we kick off our Program year at First Lutheran! **Be sure to bring your lawn chairs!!**



- **TLC Wednesday Begins September 14th**
- **Confirmation Begins September 14th**
- **TLC Sunday Begins September 18th**



**First Lutheran Teacher Installation:**

During Rally Sunday Worship, **Sunday, September 11th 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 2016-17. Thank you so much for giving of your time and talents and for passing on your faith!



**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...



- Clorox Wipes
- Wet Ones
- Washable Markers
- Cotton Balls
- Q-Tips

- Glue Sticks
- Pencils
- Pens
- Post-It Notes
- Scotch Tape

- Sticky Tack
- White Drawing Paper
- Boxes of Kleenex
- Playdough



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

**Other Important Items**

**Dad's Belgian Waffles**



**Sunday, September 18th from 9am to 12:30pm Dad's Belgian Waffle Fundraiser:** The First Lutheran Education Committee will be sponsoring this event with the proceeds going toward freshening up and updating the TLC Education Wing through paint, organization, and supplies. Tickets are \$7.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the door. Children 5 and under eat free. Carry-out plates available. Come and enjoy these mammoth size waffles, delicious toppings, sausage, and a beverage along with wonderful fellowship; all while supporting a great cause! Tickets are for sale in the Church Office.

Buy your tickets TODAY!

## New Member Orientation

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



Become  
Part of  
*Our*  
Church  
Family

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 14 @ 6:30pm
- Sunday, September 25 @ 9:45am

The 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 12 at 5:15pm, Saturday, October 15 at 5:30pm and Sunday, October 16 at 8:30am & 10:45am.

## God's Work, Our Hands Day!!!

Oct. 9th! Mark Your Calendars!

What: **The chance to serve out in the community! To be God's Hands!**

Some options: make felt blankets for kids in need, lead bingo at Heritage, lead a hymn sing at Boulder Creek, assemble kits for kids in need + many, many more options! (And Pr. Julie is always looking for more ideas!)

Who: **Something for all ages, all ability levels.** Bring the family, bring your committee, bring your friends!

When: **Oct 9th**, meal after 2nd service, then go out and serve!

Confirmation students: this is a great way to fulfill your service requirement!!

## First Lutheran Women News

### Important Dates

September 7	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study @ Boulder
September 7	5:15pm Women's Board Meeting – Movie Rm
September 12	1:00pm Quilting
September 12	7:00pm Esther Circle – Movie Rm
September 14	6:00am Deborah Circle
September 14	9:30am Elizabeth/Hannah Circle
September 19	1:00pm Quilting
September 21	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study @ Boulder
September 28	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study @ Boulder



Join us for the newest Angela Thomas-Pharr's Bible Study:  
***Redeemed: Grace to live every day better than before***  
Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00 pm  
(Beginning Wednesday, September 21)

We are redeemed through Jesus Christ. As the redeemed, we experience a lifelong journey of being transformed into His image. As redeemed women we grow in the grace of Christ, and He calls us to extend grace to others. In this 7-session Bible study, Angela Thomas-Pharr explores the practical side of redemption, inviting us to lean upon Jesus for our real help and hope. The first session will be **Wednesday, September, 21**. This is a video Bible study paired with a member book that contains 6 weeks of study guides and home work. During this 7 Week Bible Study we'll meet each week to watch the video and discuss it and then discuss the home work we completed individually during the week. Information sheets and registration forms are available in the narthex or the church office. Registrations are due by Monday, September 12. The cost is \$13.00 for the Study Guide.

**Esther's Circle will begin their new Bible Study on Monday, September 12th.** This year we have chosen Karen Kingsbury's video series "The Friends of Jesus." This study explores six people in the life of Jesus and the depth of friendship that is found in each one. The study shows the ups and downs of friendship-and reminds us that true friendship is worth the time and commitment involved. This Bible Study reminds us that Jesus is the greatest friend we could ever have.

Esther's Circle meets the 2nd Monday each month at 7:00 p.m. in the fireside room. Anyone interested in joining should contact Diane Wright at 532-9077 for more information and so she can get a study guide ordered for you.

## Shetek Lutheran Ministries

# CANews FROM CAMP

*Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers*

### Mark Your Calendar

Women's Retreat- September 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

Shetek WELCA – September 17<sup>th</sup>

Road Scholars – September 18<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>

Get Outdoor event – October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Octoberfest – October 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

Confirmation Retreat – November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

Fall toddlers & trees – November 6<sup>th</sup>

Lutefisk supper - December 4<sup>th</sup> 5:30

Winter fun day – December 29<sup>th</sup>

Summer Staff Reunion – 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>

For more information go to our website [shetek.org](http://shetek.org) or call 763-3567



**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!!***

## Worship Schedule

Wednesdays - 5:15pm (starting Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>)

Saturdays - 5:30pm

Sundays - 9:30am

\*Starting September 18<sup>th</sup> – 8:30am and 10:45am Worships on Sunday

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)

## THE JESUS WAY

*"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us." - Ephesians 5:1-2*



Keynote Speaker - Trudy Hartman is studying for a certificate in Christian Ministry and is a part of the Hallelujah Hooligans Ministry.



Bible Study & Worship Leader - Pr. Bailey Fossum is a pastor at American Lutheran Church in Worthington and former counselor at Shetek.

A retreat for women of ALL ages. Come to camp to be renewed in your faith, relax with other women in Christian community and spend time in God's beautiful Creation!

[WWW.SHETEK.ORG](http://WWW.SHETEK.ORG)