



First Lutheran Church

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

September 2017 Parish Visitor

From the Pastors...

*Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets, sing to the Lord a new song!
O victory, loud shouting army, sing to the Lord a new song!*

Refrain: *He has done marvelous things. I, too, will praise him with a new song!*

*Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snowstorms, sing to the Lord a new song!
Flowers and trees, loud rustling dry leaves, sing to the Lord a new song!*

*Classrooms and labs, loud boiling test tubes, sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band, loud cheering people, sing to the Lord a new song!*

*Knowledge and truth, loud sounding wisdom, sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son, loud praying members, sing to the Lord a new song!*

This hymn (ELW #731), written by Herb Brokering, is a favorite for congregations moving into the fall season. One quick read makes it clear why. Word images like *classrooms and labs* along with *athlete and band* remind us of the return to the Fall schedule and everything that experience entails. Similarly, references to *rustling dry leaves* and *blowing snowstorms* prompt us to contemplate the weather changes that are just around the corner.

In the same way, we are inspired by the opening phrase, *Earth and all stars*, to think of the Creation story in Genesis, the first book of the Bible. Every September in worship and in our elementary bible school program, TLC (Teaching the Love of Christ), we return to our biblical roots and pick up the story of God's delightful gift of Creation. Then we spend the fall walking through the story of the Israelites, their joys and struggles, and enter the Advent season with the sharp words of the prophets ringing in our ears calling us to *prepare the way of the Lord*. It's a beautiful way to prepare to celebrate the birth of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

I like the tune of this song as much as I like the images, but above all, I like the way that the author frames every aspect of life into a song of praise to God. From the simple to the sublime, from the things of Nature to the way that God nurtures, from the prophets' words of warning to the Christmas angels' song of praise, we are indeed blessed with a God who cares about us – and all that we do.

Plan to use this fall as a new opportunity to *sing to the Lord a new song!*

Blessings in Christ,

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 6 Registrations for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston Texas is due!!
- Sept 10 RALLY DAY at First Lutheran
- Sept 13 Huge Kick-Off Event for Confirmation (grades 7-8)
- Sept 13 TLC Wednesdays, Worship, Suppers, and SHA all start!
- Sept 13 Registrations for the Jr High Synod Youth Gathering in Willmar are due (grades 6-8)
- Sept 20 G3, Junior High Alive, and High School Bible Studies start up!
- Sept 24 Senior High Montana 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!

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:

During Rally Sunday Worship, **Sunday, September 10th at 9:30am 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)



Rally Day, Sept 10: 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 24 at either 8:30 or 10:45:

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 will celebrate 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 6th

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 6:00pm

8th Grade Confirmation Students, Parents, & Captains will meet from 7:00pm

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. The cost of the meals for the year is \$46.00.

Rally Day is Sunday, September 10th!!!!

Worship 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!

- **TLC Wednesday Begins September 13th**
- **Confirmation Begins September 13th**
- **TLC Sunday Begins September 17th**



Christian Education



Installation

First Lutheran Teacher Installation:

During Rally Sunday Worship on **Sunday, September 10th 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 2017-18.

Thank you so much for giving of your time and talents and for passing on your faith!

Other Important Items

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 13 @ 6:30pm**
- **Sunday, September 17 @ 9:45am**

The New Member Orientation Sessions will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Contact the church office @ (507) 532-2429 or firstluth@iw.net if you or someone you know is planning on attending. Childcare will be provided, just please let us know if you will need childcare. New Members will be welcomed Wednesday, October 11 at 5:15pm, Saturday, October 14 at 5:30pm and Sunday, October 15 at 8:30am & 10:45am.



Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family

Thank You First Lutheran!

Hats off to everyone who helped Marshall Area Global Relief with skills and donations to provide food and material assistance to people living in the Horn of Africa where the largest humanitarian disaster since WWII is taking place. First Lutheran's generous support of this project, from the very beginning, along with other organizations and individuals was met with success. The original goal was to raise \$15,000. In just over 2 months, people's generosity surpassed that goal by raising \$17,486.15. There are some excellent interviews of people now living in the Marshall area who once lived in the crisis area. (See Marshall Area Global Relief FB page.) The aide organization distributing the assistance is called ARAHA. They work closely other aide organizations to determine/coordinate high areas of need and then directly with village elders to determine where assistance is most needed. ARAHA, as a relief agency, rates in the top 8% for transparency, good ethics, and fiscal responsibility. They recently won the 4 Star Charity Navigator award for the fifth year in a row. Thanks again everyone. May we continue to take steps to build connected community here and abroad.

First Lutheran Women News

Important Dates

September 6	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder
September 6	5:15pm Women's Board Meeting
September 11	1:00pm Quilting
September 11	7:00pm Esther Circle
September 13	6:00am Deborah Circle
September 13	9:00am Hannah/Elizabeth Circle
September 18	1:00pm Quilting
September 20	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder
September 27	9:30am Rejoice Bible Study at Boulder



Bible Study Opportunities for First Lutheran Women of the ELCA

Bible studies being offered in our circles this fall include:

In the morning circles, we will be doing a three-session study on The Apostles' Creed and what we together say we believe.

In the evening circle, we will be studying the book of Jeremiah.

When we hear the word *Circle* at church, we immediately think of what that meant in our mothers and grandmothers time. However today a circle represents women who are joining together in fellowship to learn about God's word and how it applies to us now in our current times.

Circles meet during the 2nd week of each month.

On the 2nd Monday:

Esther Circle meets at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room
Contact person: Diane Wright 507-532-9077

On the 2nd Wednesday:

Deborah Circle meets at 6:00am in various locations.
Contact person: Corlys Knudsen 507-532-2434

Elizabeth/Hannah Circle meets at 9:00am in various locations.
Contact person: Dawn Planting 507-423-1465

If you are interested in joining a circle of women, in fellowship, to learn about God's word and how it applies to us now in our current times please call a contact person listed above.

The Rejoice Bible Study will begin on Wednesday September 6th from 9:30-10:30am at Boulder Estates, 601 Village Dr. in Marshall. The study guides, which will be provided, will cover the Book of Romans "Becoming New in Christ". All are welcome!



Women's Bible Study

Join us for a 7 week Bible Study focused on honest questions women ask. Angela Thomas speaks to participants about the deep feelings that all women have at one time or another. She looks boldly at some of the fears and struggles of being a woman, and she helps us see how we can be brave in the face of those challenges. The first session will be **Wednesday, September 20th at 7pm in the Movie Room**. The cost of the member book is \$13.00.

Registrations are available in the Narthex and in the office. They are due by Wednesday, September 13.

Shetek Lutheran Ministries

CANEWS FROM CAMP

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers

Mark Your Calendar

- September 7th—PIE workshop
- September 8th & 9th –Women's Retreat
- September 10th -15 – Road Scholars
- September 16th –Shetek WELCA conference
- September 16th – Pre- marriage Retreat
- September 23rd– Toddlers and Trees
- October 13-14th – Confirmation Retreat
- October 20-21st – Elementary Octoberfest
- December 3rd – Lutefisk Supper 5:30
- December 28th – Winter Fun Day



For more information go to Shetek.org or Call 507-763-3567

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

Come and hear the exciting news from your camp Shetek Lutheran Ministries

Gathering places and times:

- *SEPTEMBER 18TH – 7PM AMERICAN LUTHERAN 906 PROSPECT AVE WINDOM, MN
- *SEPTEMBER 19TH – 7PM @ SPIRIT OF JOY 2208 W LAQUINTA ST. SIOUX FALLS, SD
- *SEPTEMBER 21ST – 7PM @ PAINTED PRAIRIE VINEYARD 1575 250TH AVE CURRIE, MN
- *SEPTEMBER 24TH – 11:30AM @CHRIST LUTHERAN 2959 QUEEN AVE SLAYTON, MN
- *SEPTEMBER 25TH -7PM @ BRANDON LUTHERAN 600 EAST HOLLY BLVD BRANDON, SD
- *SEPTEMBER 26TH – 7PM @ GRACE LUTHERAN 500 NORTH KNISS AVE LUVERNE MN
- *SEPTEMBER 27TH – 7PM@MITLYNG RESIDENCE 611 KATHRYN MARSHALL, MN
- *SEPTEMBER 28TH – 7PM WESTSIDE LUTHERAN 3901 NORTH OKLAHOMA AVE SIOUX FALLS, SD

NEW MASTER SITE PLAN



Worship Schedule

Saturdays - 5:30pm
Sundays – 9:30am (through September 10th)
8:30am & 10:45am beginning September 17

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

Pastor Scott Fuller

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

Pastor Julie McCain

E-mail: pastorjuliemccain@gmail.com Phone: 310-938-1346

www.1stlutheran.org

You can view our Facebook page from this site too!
Youth Web Site – www.first-lutheran-youth.blogspot.com