



# First Lutheran Church

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

## September 2021 Parish Visitor

### From the Pastor...

*In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.*  
Genesis 1:1-3

As we wrap-up another summer, we know that it's also time to prepare for another fall with all of its *new beginnings* that come in so many shapes and sizes: new schools, new teachers, new class levels-and-rooms, new classmates, new curricula, new challenges and new successes.

And yet, even with some significant changes, at school-church-and-work, it won't be long before we've all made the necessary adjustments. In no time at all many of those changes that once seemed so huge will pretty much become what's normal. As the saying goes, *the more things change, the more they stay the same.*

Still, changes bring us new energy and a sense of anticipation. One such change that makes me excited is our September tradition of going back to the beginning of the Bible for our faith focus.

In TLC, Confirmation, and at worship we will start our faith journey with the story of Creation. Then we'll move through those wonderful narratives of our spiritual ancestors including Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, and Jacob and Rachel to name just a few.

Through significant events that affect nations to...quiet moments of individual prayer, we will be blessed to experience anew God's promises. We'll read how the Lord blesses a particular people – and through them, the entire world – with a word of hope, a promise of love, an assurance of protection and a gift of grace – the grace that culminates in the good news of Jesus Christ for all people of all time.

It's my hope and prayer that you'll be newly blessed as we re-trace our steps on this old journey through the bible – through God's story of love and hope for everyone everywhere.

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! Stay in the loop!

- Sept 12 **RALLY DAY** at First Lutheran and Blessing of the Backpacks
- Sept 15 **Kick-Off Event for Confirmation** (grades 7-8)
- Sept 15 **TLC Wednesdays, Worship, Suppers, and SHA all start!**
- Sept 15 Registrations for the **Junior High Synod Youth Gathering** in Willmar are due (grades 6-8)
- Sept 19 **NEW! 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Fall Confirmation Retreat** at Garvin
- Sept 22 **High School Bible Studies Game Changers and Grace Gang starts up!**
- Sept 29 **Adopt a Highway** (8<sup>th</sup> grade) **Confirmation Service Project** (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Oct 6 **Little League Kick Off!**
- Oct 6 **Parent Forum** (Topic: Anxiety and Resilience)
- Oct 29 **Grub Club** starts at Hy-vee (after marching band season)

### **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 12:** 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 19: Kindergarten** youth and their parents are invited to join us at either the 8:30am or the 10:45am service as we celebrate with them starting school! They will be receiving their milestone bowl and a few different stones to remind them of their baptism and all of the learning they and their parents have already done in their few years!

### Sunday September 26:

**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.

**10<sup>th</sup> 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.

**11<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</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> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Students, Parents, & Captains will meet at 6:00pm to find out details about the Confirmation 2021-22 year.

We will meet in the Gethsemane Chapel. Parents of Confirmation Students, remember to bring your student's Confirmation Registration Form and the check for their Confirmation Meals & Curriculum -- \$60.00 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 \$36.00. We look forward to sharing this next step of your child's faith journey with them!

**Rally Day is Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>!!!!**

Coffee will be served beginning at 9am. The Worship service will begin at 9:30am followed by an ALL CHURCH meal of grilled Hot Dogs, chips, & ice cream. There will also be live music, a bouncy house for the children, and yard games available for all ages! Everyone is WELCOME!! Come to Rally Day and experience meaningful worship, great music, friendly fellowship, good food, and games, as we kick off our Program year at First Lutheran!



**Christian Education**



**First Lutheran Teacher Installation:**

During Rally Sunday Worship on **Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am**, all those involved in Christian education at First Lutheran - TLC Teachers, TLC Helpers, 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 2021-22. Thank you so much for giving of your time and talents and for passing on your faith!

**Installation**

Students and educators have returned to the classroom and other fall schedules have resumed. First Lutheran Church will be having a **Blessing of the Backpacks Milestone celebration on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30a.m.** We are inviting all students & educators to bring their backpacks, briefcases, or computer bags to be blessed. During our Children's Time we will invite you to come forward with these items so that the Pastor can bless you and your backpacks, etc. for the upcoming school year.



- **TLC Wednesday Begins September 15<sup>th</sup>**
- **Confirmation Begins September 15<sup>th</sup>**
- **TLC Sunday Begins September 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Kindergarten Milestone Celebration**

**Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at both the 8:30am & the 10:45am Worship Services**, 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)



**Hey 7th graders and confirmation captains!!** We are excited to invite you to the "First Ever!— Going to be amazing!— Afternoon Retreat at Garvin Park" just for you!!

**~Sunday September 19 from 4:00 -6:30pm~** More details will be coming to you soon.....But mark it on your calendars now! It's going to be a great afternoon to get to know your teams and captains, find out more about confirmation, and enjoy a beautiful fall day in the park!

## Other Important Items



**Meals on Wheels.** The Social Ministries Committee is coordinating delivering Meals on Wheels **September 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> and September 13-17<sup>th</sup>**. If you would be willing to help out please go to the First Lutheran website and enter your name in the sign-up sheet or give the church office a call to sign up. Gods Blessings to all helping with this worthwhile outreach.

### Table of 8 is a Fellowship Opportunity coming this fall!!

We have a place at the table for you...Dinner groups will be made up of 8 people, both singles and couples, which will meet throughout the year. Your group will plan dinner gatherings (in homes, parks, occasionally at a local restaurant) – whatever you decide – you may even plan a brunch or lunch – it's up to your group! If you'd like to be a part of this Fellowship opportunity return this form (in the offering plate or to the church office by Wed., Sept. 15). There will be a Table of 8 Kickoff Potluck in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm for all who have registered to participate.



Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone – Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

### 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?

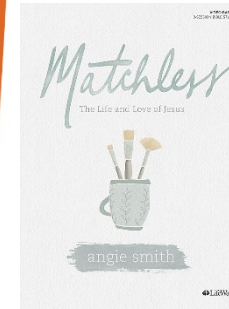
If so, please choose **one** of the upcoming New Member Orientation sessions to attend...

- Wednesday, September 22 @ 6:30pm
- Sunday, September 26 @ 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 6 at 5:15pm, Saturday, October 9 at 5:30pm and Sunday, October 10 at 8:30am & 10:45am.



Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family



### Women's Bible Study

Join us **beginning Wednesday, September 29** for an online Women's Bible Study via Zoom from 8:30-9:30pm. We will be completing the Small Group Study titled **Matchless: The Life and Love of Jesus** by Angie Smith. During this 8 session Bible Study, participants are invited to hear the beautiful story of our matchless Savior. As we dive into Jesus' message, miracles, and mission, we'll be challenged and invited to see Him in a new light.

The cost of the member book is \$16.00. Registrations are available in the Narthex and in the office. They are due by Wednesday, September 8.

## First Lutheran Women News

### Important Dates

Sept 1	6:30am Women's Bible Study
Sept 8	6:30am Women's Bible Study
Sept 8	9:30am Gather Circle Bible Study
Sept 13	7:00pm Esther Circle
Sept 15	6:30am Women's Bible Study
Sept 22	6:30am Women's Bible Study
Sept 29	6:30am Women's Bible Study



### Worship Schedule

Saturdays – 5:30pm

Sundays - 9:30am (through September 12<sup>th</sup>)

8:30am & 10:45am (starting September 19<sup>th</sup>)

Services available on YouTube – [www.youtube.com/c/FirstLutheranChurchMarshall](http://www.youtube.com/c/FirstLutheranChurchMarshall)

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

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

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

You can view our Facebook page from this site too!