



Grace, peace and greetings to all of you!

“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.” (Matthew 10:16)

What is our greatest fear? What is it that we are afraid of? Jesus had been preparing his disciples for the worst that they would face in their ministry out in the real world; that they, most likely, would be arrested, tortured, and killed for sharing and spreading the faith. Fear can be a debilitating force in our lives. The Greek word for fear is “phobos,” and there are at least 254 recognized forms of phobia. According to Psychology Today, the five most common fears among Americans are: 1. Arachnophobia – the fear of spiders; 2. Glossophobia – the fear of public speaking; 3. Aerophobia – the fear of flying ; 4. Claustrophobia – the fear of confined spaces; and 5. Acrophobia – the fear of heights. There are many other fears, of course. I chuckle inwardly whenever I hear of someone who is afraid of seeing a mouse in church, yet I am sure that is a real concern for some. By the way, the fear of mice is called “Musophobia.” And I guess one of my favorite phobias to note is called “Arichibutryphobia,” which is the fear of having peanut butter stuck to the roof of your mouth. Yes, fear is real in many varieties. And yet, Jesus, who knew that fear existed among the many people he ministered to, including his disciples, sent those disciples out into the world, in spite of the fact that they were faced with the threat of death. And it is interesting to note, that all of the common fears tie into death – poisonous spiders, crashing, suffocating, falling.

And some people would rather die than give a speech in front of a large crowd. Jesus assures us that we don't have to fear death because the worst thing that can happen in this life is the death of our bodies, and we are more than just a body. C.S. Lewis wrote, “You don't have a soul. You are a soul. You have a body.” The soul is who we are. And physical death cannot destroy our soul, because our soul will live on long after the stars have burned out and the universe has faded away. God knows every bit of us, through and through. I find it reassuring to read the words of the psalmist in Psalm 139, in which he sings, “Oh Lord, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar... How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.” So, we are spiritual beings, first and foremost, but, like toddlers learning to walk, we are going to stumble and fall spiritually, but God has promised to uphold us with his hand. When we stumble, God grips us even stronger, and that's when we need to grip his hand even tighter. So, as we head into September, new beginnings will occur, ministries will be renewed, and we will face those fears of the unknown future reminded by the words of Jesus, when he said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.” Is it safe for us out there? No, not especially, but let's get going anyway.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Rob



Thank You!

RADIO

SPONSORS

Thank you to the following for sponsoring the Sunday morning broadcast of FLC worship for the month August: JoAnn Kjelstad in memory of Philip Kjelstad, Donald & Lettie Dodge; Powerehour.com; Ed & Charlotte Schilke in memory & in honor of loved ones.

Please check your special dates and call the office (444-3244) to sponsor a Sunday.

The cost is \$110.00 per broadcast.



**September 10th
Banks / Garden Rally Day**

Rally Sunday for Banks Garden Lutheran Sunday School will be September 11th at Banks Lutheran Church, starting at 10:00 followed by worship. Our theme for Rally Sunday is “God's Work, Our Hands”.

All pre-k through sixth grade are welcome. Join us for learning about story in the Bible, worship, singing, crafts, games, food, and outreach as we prepare for the new year! Remember: Banks—the first two Sundays and Garden – the last two. IF you have any questions, call Jessie Rolfson @ 701-300-2110





First Lutheran Church Council
Highlights of August

Present: Ari Johnson, Mark Sparby, Steve Holen, Gretchen Stenehjerm, Megan Wirtz, Craig Paulson, Angie Moe
Absent: Stef Russell, Erica Johnsrud, Mikka Haugeberg
Staff: Pastor Rob Favorite, Pastor Mark Honstein, Pastor Alyssa Quade

Meeting was called to order by President Ari Johnson. Pastor Alyssa Quade gave devotions. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Committee Reports:

***Finance report:** Summer time brings our offerings down. Report was approved.

***Property:** Quotes for parking lot striping and to fix the step that people trip on. Motion to approved the fixing of the step and to pay out of general fund. Motion is wait on the parking lot striping. Carpet cleaner to be list on a buying sight. Discussion on Rapid Fire Protection and G & R Controls. Craig Paulson requested to be kept in the loop with all building issues and services so he is aware of what is going on with the building issues.

***Worship:** no report
***Stewardship/Evangelism:** Gretchen Stenehjerm reported on the "God's Work, Our Hands" and Rally Sunday Event to be held on Sept. 10th. The Operation Christmas Child boxes are here and will be used this fall.

***Youth/ Education:** Pastor Alyssa Quade reported on the Texas National Youth Gathering 2018 deadline for commitment is September 15th. Praise Band practice will begin on Wednesday evenings. She is also lining up a Nursery with Moms taking turns. Working on some tech issues with the sound working for power points. Early outs for school kids will be held at the Presbyterian Church. She is also working

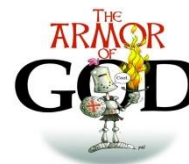
on having fundraisers for the Texas trip. Pastor Mark & Pastor Rob will hold Confirmation classes on the Wednesdays of school early outs.

Staff: Pastor Rob reported fall worship schedule will being on Sept. 10th with 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM worship -10:00 AM Sunday School. He reminded everyone that the National Youth Gathering includes 9-12 grades.

Pastor Mark reported that he will attend the UMM Sweet Corn Festival and Pastor Alyssa will lead FLC Worship that Sunday. He is taking vacation time from July 15-17. GriefShare has a new time and has good attendance. He is still working with Salvation Army. Pastor Mark stated that in the meeting with LSS representative Brian Quigely, Mr. Quigely stated that the apartments by the Fairgrounds are not for refugees but for emergency services and low-income families.

***Other Business:** Caroline Schwartz will put up the plaque for the music room stain glass windows in memory of Bud and Margaret Drovda.

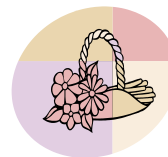
Next meeting: Sept. 13 @ 6:00 PM



Confirmation Begins September 6th

There will be only one class session each month coinciding with the school's early outs

The first class sessions (7/8 & 9) will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 6th from 1:30 PM and go until 3:15 PM.



IN MEMORY OF.....

Building Fund

Geraldine Botner	\$ 50.00
Paul Bergum	\$ 835.00

September 3 - 9:30 AM
 Reader: Jean Wold
 Greeters: Joyce Hovland
 Ushers: _____
 Comm: Jim & Jan Riely
 Coffee Hr: Horizon residents

September 10- 9:00 AM
 Reader: Dale Washburn
 Greeters: Dale & Holly Washburn
 Ushers: Jeff & Mindy Meyer
 Coffee Hr: Michon Sax

September 17 - 9:00 AM
 Reader: Kathleen Beard
 Greeters: Keith & Jill Helmuth
 Ushers: Scot & Jane Swenson
 Comm: _____
 Coffee Hr: Erica Johnsrud

11:00 AM
 Commun: Mike & Sharon Endrud

September 24 - 9:00 AM
 Reader: Gretchen Stenehjerm
 Greeters: Don & Swany Schmidt
 Ushers: Steve & Gretchen Stenehjerm
 Coffee Hr: Gen Hutmacher



September 10th
God's Work... Our Hands

First Lutheran Church will hold an all congregation dinner following the service at 11:00 AM honoring ALL pasted and present Sunday School teachers. We would like to thank Bob & Deb Wisness for donating the beef for the dinner.





Women of the ELCA Circles

Monday, 11

5:00 PM Hope @ the Horizon

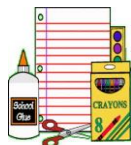
Tuesday, 12

2:30 PM Garden @ the Horizon

Wednesday, 13

1:30 PM Peace @ the church

2:00 PM Banks @ Barb Sorenson's



Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Needed are:

- Blunt scissors Ballpoint pens
- Sharpeners Erasers
- Rulers
- Crayons (16 or 24 count)

Bring donations to the church. We have plenty of pencils.



First Lutheran Quilting Projects

Material to make the tops.

(Cotton/cotton blends are the preferred)

Good sheets of medium to dark colors for the quilt backs.

(We can't use white sheets)

People to sew together squares to make tops. (This can be done at home on your own time if you prefer)

Things we do on Monday when we meet--people to cut squares for the tops and to tie the quilts.

If you have anything that would work, please drop it off in the quilting room at the church OR join us as we quilt each Monday at 1:00 pm... no experience is necessary!



Thank you to Nyla Dahl for sending us this great memory from the July 29, 1948 McKenzie County Farmer.



Spring Creek Defeats First Lutheran in softball game!

Biggest news to come out of the Spring Creek-First Lutheran parish picnic at Roosevelt Park on Sunday was the defeat of the First Lutheran team at the hands of Spring Creek in a softball game. Final score was 16-13, or thereabouts.

Rev. Milo Engelstad pitched for Spring Creek and Bud Drovdal, for First Lutheran. Catchers were Carmen Levang for the winners and Norman Hearonemus for the losing team.

Other players on the Spring Creek team were mostly Dahls—Norman, Gordan, Neil and Math – besides Harold Rogness, Orville Engebretson and Robert Chitwood.

Players on the First Lutheran team were Grant Rud, Walter Christianson, Vince Stenehjem, Bob Sundfor, Mryon Tollefson, Elden Jacobson and Alvin Simonson.



Dead line for Clarion articles the 15th of the month. Email/drop off your articles

FLC WELCA



September 21-22

The Annual Rummage Sale will be held on September 21 from 2:00 to 7:00 PM and September 22nd from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Memorial Building/ Civic Center.

Set-up for the sale will begin on Wednesday evening from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, and again on Thursday morning at 8:00 AM – Noon.

On Friday the dollar-a-bag sale starts at 1:00 PM and continues until 3:00 PM.

Friday lunch will be served until 2:00 P:M at the Civic Center. Lunch will consist of slushburgers, coleslaw, chips, homemade pies and a beverage.

Donated items are to be brought on Wednesday evening or by 12 noon on Thursday.

When you bring your donated items, we would appreciate if you would help put them out.

Extra help is always WELCOME before, during and after the sale. Even a half-hour of your time can make a BIG DIFFERENCE!

Things to remember when you bring your rummage items:

1. Clean clothes ONLY
2. Clothing in GOOD CONDITION
3. Size the jeans/ pants
4. Remove old rummage sale tags
5. No large appliances/furniture
(pictures of your items & phone # posted @ sale)
6. Save your summer items for the "Spring-Give-Away"

Why have this rummage sale?

We do it as a — Service to the community; Service to our members; Fund-raiser for WELCA project; Great opportunity for all members to work fellowship together.





Music:
Participatory Worship

“Let us praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son!” (Ephesians 1:5).

One unique thing about liturgical congregations, such as First Lutheran, is that their worship is participatory; meaning, everyone *participates* in worship instead of simply *observing* worship. We pray together, confess our sins together, celebrate the gospel reading together, and we sing together.

The 11am Sunday service offers another exciting opportunity to participate in worship – being a part of the praise band. We practice every Wednesday evening at 7pm. If you are interested in singing or playing an instrument with the team, come and join us at 7pm on Wednesday evenings. You don't have to commit to being at every practice or every Sunday service. We simply want to invite you into the joy or participatory worship. If God has blessed you with musical gifts, come join us as we worship Him together.



Kids:

The joy of growing in our faith!

Rally Day is right around the corner!

Let us rally together kids to grow in the love and knowledge of God.

We start Sunday School September 10th at 10 am. Our family worship service is at 11 am with a pot-luck and games afterwards. We hope to fill our parking lot with a bouncy house and many games and prizes for the kids.

If you have children, we invite you to visit our web site to get them

September 2017

registered for Sunday School (which can also be done upon arrival on Sept 10th). If you know of families with children, invite them to church!

Upon arrival, we invite parents to sign their kids in down stairs where they are welcome to enjoy games such as 4-square, air-hockey, foosball, and many board games before Sunday School begins. When we start Sunday School at 10am, we will move everyone into the Children's sanctuary where we will have fun, up-beat music with actions! These songs will be shared with the congregation every 4th Sunday of the month. After music, the kids get to watch a short video before they journey to their classrooms to learn Bible stories and participate in related activities.

Invite your friends! Bring your children! We are going to have fun as we grow in the love and knowledge of God.



LYO –
Lutheran Youth Organization

Middle School Teen Ministry is BACK IN ACTION! Pastor Alyssa and several High Schoolers will lead our Teen Ministry for youth in 7th & 8th grade. Teen Ministry takes place Sunday mornings at 10 am in our re-furnished youth-room downstairs.

High School LYO! We are kicking off our LYO season with a paintball event Wednesday September 27th. Mark it on your calendars and invite your friends! We will meet at the Church at 6:30 pm and caravan to a spot in the country. Dinner will be served on the road on the way to the event. Come learn about the 'Armor of God' through an awesome paintball event. We are going to have a blast!



Sonshine Kids!

Starting September 20th, we are partnering with our brothers and sisters at the Presbyterian Church for the Wednesday after-school program: **Sonshine Kids!** The program is designed to be a fun way kids can grow in the love and knowledge of Jesus Christ. At Sonshine Kids, we sing, enjoy skits & storytelling, play games, have arts and crafts, watch movies, and partake in Kingdom-advancing service projects.

Sonshine Kids takes place the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and alternates between the Presbyterian and First Lutheran Church (Starting with the Presbyterian Church, Sept. 20th). Since the 1st Wednesday of each month is an early out, it will be our 'Service Project' day and it will go from 1 pm - 5 pm.

The 3rd Wednesday of each month will go from 3 pm -5 pm. Parents can sign kids up to ride the bus to the appropriate church.

Schedule is as follows:

September 20th: 3-5 pm **Presbyterian**

October 4th: 1-5 pm **First Lutheran Service project day:**

Filling bags for foster-care students. Please send your child with a few new toothbrushes, toothpaste, a small toy and or new pillow cases.

October 18th: 3-5 pm **First Lutheran**

November 1st: 1-5 pm **Presbyterian Service Project Day:**

Making thanksgiving crafts and bringing them to the residence in the Good Shepherd assisted living / nursing home. The kids will also sing songs and play games with the residents.

November 15th: 3-5 pm **Presbyterian**

December: BREAK

January 17th: 3-5 pm **First Lutheran**





Growing, Together, In Christ

⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. (Romans 12:4-8)

I know that all of you were saddened to learn of the death this week of one of our church's most valuable members – Someone Else.

Someone's passing created a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for many years, and for every one of those years, Someone Else did far more than the normal person's share of the work.

Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results. "Someone Else can work with that group." Whenever there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone's lips, "Someone Else will do it." It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the largest givers in the church. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone just assumed that Someone Else would make up the difference.

Someone Else was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing super-human, but a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everyone expected too

much of Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone. We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things Someone Else did? Remember, we can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

The Obituary of Someone Else has been circling around the internet for at least 15 years yet it still conveys an important truth. We find it in Romans 12:4-8. Paul states that we are all part of the body of Christ, gifted to do certain things. The question is, are we still a working member of the body or are we relying on someone else?

There are lots of reasons why we decide to let someone else do it. Perhaps we're an elder member of the church who WAS that someone else everyone else relied on and we think, "I've done my bit. Let someone else have a turn." Do we then quit functioning as a member of the body? Or perhaps we're a parent of young kids with crazy schedules and we think, "I'm far too busy. Let someone else who is retired and has more time do it." Do WE then quit functioning as a member of the body? Or perhaps we are new to the community or church and we think, "I'm too nervous and don't know enough. Let someone else with more experience do it." Do we then quit functioning as a member of the body?

I understand all these thoughts, as well as the fear of doing something new in ministry. Believe me, I was nervous when I started the GriefShare ministry at First Lutheran. I felt like I didn't know what I was doing and I wasn't a trained counselor. But God gave me a compassionate heart, the experience of losing a child, and a helpful program for working through grief to share with a community in need. So, I spoke with a few grieving members and we decided to start the ministry.

And it has been very helpful in healing people in this community.

Even today I am nervous about starting a new ministry for people who would like to learn English. I had been approached by 3 people asking for such a ministry. I do have a gift for languages, and my sister heads the English as a Second Language department at the University of Northern Colorado, so getting resources would be easy. But I'm nervous. I don't feel qualified. And I am concerned that I would not have the time to do a good job. Someone Else should do it, right? But then a woman came to me for help. She was from Venezuela and spoke very little English. My Spanish is more than rusty, but I was able to get the gist of what she needed. Right about then her aunt came in, and her English was good enough that we were able to take care of the family's needs. Then the aunt said that many people here want to work on their English but cannot find classes or ministries to help them....

"Ok, God, this needs to be done, but does it need to be done by me?" I'm waiting for that "someone else" to come answer the call and offer their gifts to serve this need in the community. Are you that someone else? What are your gifts? What experiences has God brought you through that might be used to build up someone else in the community? I know starting something new is a scary prospect, but the truth remains that God has called us and gifted us to be active members in the body of Christ. Let's get involved and feel God's lifeblood flowing through us again.

Together in Christ, Pastor Mark

