



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

**Banks / Garden Rally Day**

Rally Sunday for Banks Garden Lutheran Sunday School will be September 9th 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, 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.



As many of you might have heard..... I'm retiring at the end of this year. If you are interested or know of someone interested in the job as Parish Secretary/Treasurer, please call Pastor Rob or anyone of the Area Parish Council members.



**Thank You!**

**RADIO SPONSORS**

Thank you to the following for sponsoring the Sunday morning broadcast of FLC worship for the month August: Peace Circle; the Ollie Brenna family; Owen & Laurie Hamre; Glen & Anne Beard in honor of their daughter Julia and Kelly Seiler's wedding on 9/1/18

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

The cost is \$110.00 per broadcast.



**Women of the ELCA Circles to meet in September**

**Wednesday, 5**

10:00 AM FLC WELCA @ the church

**Monday, 10**

5:00 PM Hope @ the Horizon

**Tuesday, 11**

2:00 PM Garden @ the Horizon

**Wednesday, 12**

1:30 PM Peace @ the church

2:00 PM Banks @ Barb Sorenson



**Worship Assistants**

**September 2 - 9:30 AM**

Reader: Jean Wold  
 Greeters: Joyce Hovland  
 Ushers: Jeff & Mindy Meyer  
 Comm: Don & Swany Schmidt  
 Coffee Hr: Mike & Sharon Endrud

**September 9- 9:00 AM**

Reader: Anne Beard  
 Greeters: Michon Sax  
 Ushers: Matt & Kathleen Beard  
 Coffee Hr: Gen Hutmacher

**11:00 AM**

Greeters: Nolan Dahl  
 Ushers: Ethan Evanson

**September 16 - 9:00 AM**

Reader: Frances Olson  
 Greeters: Pembra Bergstrom  
 Ushers: Dave & Lynette Hansen  
 Comm: Jim & Jan Riely  
 Coffee Hr: Justin & Nicole Johnsrud

**11:00 AM**

Greeters: Derek Holen  
 Ushers: Judd Johnsrud  
 Comm: Neil Dahl

**September 23 - 9:00 AM**

Reader: Joy Patten  
 Greeters: Lorri Honstein  
 Ushers: Rick & Steph Jore  
 Coffee Hr: Duke & Sharon Olson

**11:00 AM**

Greeters: Jory Lund  
 Ushers: Max Paulson

**September 30 - 9:00 AM**

Reader: Valerie Williams  
 Greeters: Larry & Debbie Larsen  
 Ushers: Dale & Vicki Karpyak  
 Coffee Hr: Kelly & Peni Peterson

**11:00 AM**

Greeters: Koen Helmuth  
 Ushers: Tyler Leiseth



**"God's Work, Our Hands"**

Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, is going to be a busy Sunday AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We go back to two services, 9 and 11AM that day. The kids start Sunday School that day. And following the 11AM service, the church is going to have slush burgers and clean house!

We need teams of people with tools, gloves and cleaning supplies, people who care about how our church looks and functions, willing to pitch in a get us off to a good start for the school year.

We are going to clean and organize storage and cleaning closets, clean and reset pews in the sanctuary, clean windows, and get the church looking good.

Come out and join in!





### First Lutheran Church Council

Present: Jeremiah Beard, Pastor Alyssa, Megan Wirtz, Pastor Rob, Craig Paulson, Angie Moe, Jeff Meyer, Glen Beard, Pastor Mark, Steven Holen,  
Absent: Gretchen Stenehjelm, Keith Helmuth, Erica Johnsrud, Mikka Haugeberg

Call to Order: Glen called meeting to order at 7:04PM  
Devotions: Craig Paulson  
Motion to approve minutes: Jeff moved Steven 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried  
WELCA Report: None

#### Committee Reports

Finance: (Jeremiah/Jeff/Keith) Hasn't met- nothing really out of the ordinary, talk about possibility of direct deposit for offering through Thrivent

Property: (Glen/Craig)—Need to update insurance policy to make sure we have enough coverage to cover the addition-- Need to get painting done on parking lot

Worship: (Erica/Angie) Picked music, talked about church in a park possibility

Stewardship-Evangelism: (Gretchen/Angie) Questionnaire about Thrivent Direct deposit for offerings

Youth & Education: (Mikka/Megan/Craig/Steve)

Texas trip went well, Mandatory mission trip meeting to prep for the trip

Old Business: Assembly of God doing a financial course in September, same one we want to do

New Business: Need to find a replacement for Mikka, Staff will interview candidates

Need to set up a parish in the next month

#### Staff reports:

Pastor Rob: Texas trip was a success

Pastor Mark: Keene Church in the park went well, would like to do one in Watford

Pastor Alyssa: Monthly "difficult discussion" dinners

Motion to adjourn: Steve moved, Jeremiah second, motion carried

Devotions next meeting: Glen

Closed with Lord's Prayer

#### Next meeting:

**Tuesday Sept. 11 @ 6:00 PM**

### Growing In Faith To Serve



#### **Opportunities for fellowship and learning through the GIFTS program of our Western North Dakota Synod.**

##### October 6, 2018

"The Gospel of Luke"

Lectionary Year C

Rev. Dr. Troy Troftgruben

Wartburg Theological Seminary

@ First Lutheran, Minot

##### February 2, 2019

"Agile Church"

Rev. Dr. Dwight Zscheile

Luther Seminary

@ Good Shepherd, Bismarck

##### March 29, 2019

"Does the Bible Tell Me

What to Believe?"

An Evening event for Confirmation and LYO

Rev. Dr. Matthew Skinner

Luther Seminary

@ Christ Lutheran, Minot

##### March 30, 2019

"Understanding the Apostle Paul &

His Outlook on the Gospel"

Rev. Dr. Matthew Skinner

Luther Seminary

@ Christ Lutheran, Minot

# FLC WELCA



## September 20-21

The Annual Rummage Sale will be held on September 20 from 2:00 to 7:00 PM and September 21 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.





## Rally Day!

September 9<sup>th</sup> kicks off our Sunday School program and our 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service. At 10:00 AM, our Education Committee greets parents at the door to help them register their students, while kids head down stairs or outside to play with games, our outdoor blow-up slide, bouncy house, side-walk chalk, Mario Video Game, Rock Band, and many other activities! Parents can enjoy coffee and sweets while their kids play and explore the newly renovated Children's Worship area down stairs.

At 11:00 AM, our band leads us in lively and reviving worship. After worship, everyone is invited for a Pot-Luck lunch. The meat will be provided; all we ask is that you bring a side-dish or a sweet to share. At that time kids can continue to explore the church, play games, and enjoy our bouncy houses outside.

After worship & lunch, we share in "God's Work, Our Hands". We want everyone to make First Lutheran *their home*. To do this, we need to clean house. Ready with supplies, we team up with you to oil pews, organize storage, paint chipped walls, and clean windows. It is good for our kids to see us working together to care for our house of worship. It also gives them an opportunity to make FLC their home.



## Kids:

### The joy of growing in our faith!

Sunday School starts with Rally Game day on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Game days are led by Mrs. Amy Polivka on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. For the remaining Sundays, we have 4 classes taught by wonderful & enthusiastic teachers. You heard right, we have added a class!

Pre-K is taught by Mrs. LaRissa Bertram and assisted by Molly Soleim. 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is taught by Michelle & Korey Lass. 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade will be led by Ashley & Steve Holen. Lastly, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade will be taught by Lindsay Peterson. Teen Ministry will happen simultaneously in the Teen Ministry room and will be led by Amelia Honstein.

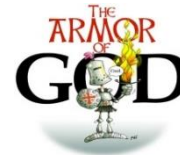
Sunday School begins in the Kids's Sanctuary where Mr. Craig Paulson guides them in memory verses, prayer and offering. Mrs. Deb Riely then leads the kids in music, using programs on our new 75" UHD Smart TV. After that, kids head to their classrooms for a quick movie, Bible Story, activity, craft, challenge and prayer. The Education Team is excited to grow in the love and knowledge of God with your Students. This is going to be a fantastic year!



## Sonshine Kids!

Sonshine Kids commences again September 19<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30-5:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church. This year, the First Lutheran Church hosts Sonshine services days on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month (which are early-out Wednesdays) from 1:15-4:00 PM. The Presbyterian Church will host Sonshine kids on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month from 3:30-5:00 PM.

Sonshine Kids is an after-school program that strives to provide a safe place for kids to grow in love and knowledge of God through stories, songs, crafts, games, and services. This year our service projects include: Hearing from a guest Forest Ranger, taking crafts and songs to the nursing-home, helping with the Food Pantry, hearing from and writing letters to veterans, hearing from and learning about the duties of First Responders, and cleaning ditches/parks.



## Confirmation

Confirmation is new & improved this year with meals, games, and services. We begin with a dinner provided by Pastor Alyssa & Pastor Mark at 6:15 PM, Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Two parents are assigned to provide dinners each Wednesday at 6:15 PM. Classes will follow at 6:45-7:45 PM; but these are no ordinary classes. Kids get to experience Bible and theological lessons through hands on activities, challenges, games and even through food. Our 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade class will get to use updated technology and there will be trivia and prizes!

Instead of writing sermon notes each Sunday, students participate in the worship process. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders greet & usher while the 9<sup>th</sup> graders learn how to use the sound system, ppt media, and help with communion. As the future of our church, we want our youth to be included in every aspect of worship, to be involved in the life of the church, and to become leaders in the church.



## LYO -

### Lutheran Youth Organization

The Youth hit the ground running this summer with their National Youth Convention trip to Texas followed by their Mission Trip to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota and straight into the fall season of LYO with games & ice cream at Wild Cow, and our 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Event on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

) We continue our crazy adventures into September with another 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Event on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> following the football game. Then there is Paintballing at the Dahl residence on September 16<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm, followed by a FLC LYO movie night on the 23<sup>rd</sup>





Pastor Ayssa continued...

from 7-9pm, and an LYO Lake Day at the Polivka Cabin on September 30<sup>th</sup>!

For paintballing, youth meet at the church at 6:30 PM on Sept 16<sup>th</sup> to head out to the Dahl residence. They are encouraged to wear dark, heavy clothes, and tennis shoes. On September 14<sup>th</sup>, our 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter event begin when the home football game ends. It is open to the whole family, with a family-friendly outdoor movie, drinks and snacks, and Karaoke inside.

At the First Lutheran Church on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, there is pizza and ice-cream for our Movie Night. Students are encouraged to invite friends and team mates. Then on September 30<sup>th</sup>, for our Lake Day, youth meet after church for pizza as we car-pool to the Polivka Cabin for boating, tubing, food, fire, games, and smores. They are encouraged to bring their swim suit, towel, sandals, hat, and a sweater/blanket for a chilly evening around the fire.

Then, in October, we have something *extra special* for all youth. On **October 6<sup>th</sup>**, the world-renown band, **Casting Crowns**, is coming to Minot ND!!! A generous giver has donated 20 tickets to the church youth. It will be an incredible and unforgettable experience. To add to the adventure, we leave Watford in the morning, so we can spend the afternoon at Minot's High-Air indoor trampoline park before grabbing dinner and heading to the concert. Each youth will need a signed permission slip and \$25 to help pay for travel, High-Air, and food. The permission slip and \$25 must be brought to the church office no later than Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Youth are encouraged to bring their friends and invite youth from other churches in the area. They won't want to miss this trip! Thank you to our incredible youth/education committee for helping to set up a spectacular fall season!

Sincerely,

Assistant Pastor Alyssa Quade



**Grace, peace and greetings to all of you!**

Every once in a while, I am asked to explain the differences between the Lutheran faith and the Roman Catholic faith. There is some curiosity on my part whenever any of our Lutheran members attends a wedding, a funeral or a Mass at the Catholic church. The comment is that our church liturgies are similar, which is true. It had been Martin Luther's intent not to disrupt the major elements of a church service; that liturgy was an essential and vital part of worship. But when Luther sought to reform the church from the inside out, there were aspects of the church, such as doctrine, that were drawing it away from the teachings of Christ. Luther was a Biblical scholar and believed strongly that all doctrine must be solidly based on Scripture, and he rejected the idea that the Pope's word carried the same weight as the Bible. The Roman Catholic hierarchy had determined that the office of the Pope had been determined by Jesus Christ, and that the Pope served as Christ's representative on earth.

As the Lutheran church took hold, some of the Roman Catholic customs were retained, such as the wearing of vestments, having an altar, and the use of candles. And, of course, much of the liturgy was kept in place with some changes. But, Luther began to reform some of the doctrines of the church.

One area was Baptism. Today, Lutherans practice both infant baptism and the baptism of newly-believing adults. Most Lutheran branches accept a valid baptism from other Christian denominations when a person converts, making re-baptism unnecessary.

Luther maintained that individual churches should be governed locally, and not by a centralized authority at the Vatican, such as the Roman Catholic Church.

Today, we are governed by regional authorities known as synods, with a bishop elected by pastors and lay delegates for each synod.

There is also the matter of public vs. private confession. Luther believed that each individual had the right to reach God through Scripture with a responsibility to God alone. For the Catholics, the priest mediates through private confession, and instructs the one who is confessing to do penance through prayer, in order to be made right with God and worthy to receive Holy Communion. Lutherans are forgiven through the grace of God in faith but engage in public confession at the beginning of each service to acknowledge their sins. One's sins are disposed of at the table of the Lord. Luther referred to this as the "happy exchange." We receive the body and blood of Christ in exchange for our sins, which Christ would take upon himself.

One of the trickier concepts to understand is how the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ. The Roman Catholics believe that there is a conversion that takes place. For the Lutherans, the body and blood of Christ are already present in the bread and wine. Roman Catholics believe in the doctrine of Purgatory, a place of cleansing before believers enter heaven. The Lutheran Church teaches that there is no scriptural support for it. And lastly, one of the major differences between the Lutherans and the Catholics is the idea of salvation coming by grace through faith alone, not by works. For Lutherans, works such as fasting, indulgences, pilgrimages, or any special services play no part in salvation.

***Yours in Christ, Pastor Rob***





*“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal Syzygus, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.” (Phil 4:1-3)*

A few years ago, I was trying to help my son with something difficult when he blurted out, “I am my own woman, Daddy, I can do it myself you know!” He was frustrated and did not want his daddy’s help. I had to leave the room before I busted out laughing and upset him even more. We often have a tendency to say silly things when we are upset, and there is little more upsetting than when things are not going smoothly, or when things are changing, and we have experienced a lot of change in our community.

Our normal routines have been changed as we shift from summer to school schedules, and we are changing things with confirmation classes. It became increasingly difficult to fit class into the school’s scheduled half days, so we have gone back to a consistent Wednesday night class. The problem there is that the sports schedule is changing and may interfere with Wednesday night class. Another change. The economy is changing with the increased pipeline activity, another layer of stress and concern. We are experiencing a lot of change and stress right now which strains relationships and adds to us all saying silly things. The Apostle Paul knew what that was like. Paul addressed two faithful

women that had gotten into some kind of argument and were no longer seeing eye-to-eye. They had worked together with Paul as a team, but now had fallen out with each other. Paul asked a fellow leader to help the two ladies restore their relationship in Christ. Perhaps one of them was a reformer and the other was an anchor; or perhaps one cared for people while the other spread the gospel. There are numerous ways we can see them getting at odds with each other. Maybe one was saying, “We need to do things differently” and the other was saying, “We’ve never done it that way before.” Does that sound familiar? Sure, it does.

I find it quite ironic that the church of the Reformation is so fond of saying, “We’ve never done that before.” We started as a denomination from Martin Luther trying to change practices in the Catholic church, and yet we are still resistant to change. But did you know that both elements are needed for balanced ministry? Christ’s church needs both those people who are reformers and those who are remainers to have a vibrant, effective ministry. Just as the body needs opposite muscles working together against each other to function well, the church needs both types of people working together in order to function well. The challenge with it is that tends to cause friction, disagreements, and stress within the Body of Christ.

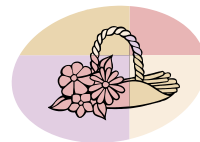
Those who are the creative reformers, always thinking up new ideas, can rush around changing lots of things without having a lot of impact. They need the analytical conservatives to dig in and evaluate things in order to make the changes effective for ministry. In the same regard, the analytical conservatives can dig in and get stuck to the point of paralysis. They need the creative reformers to pull them out of their ruts in order to keep the church open to new growth. Both types of people have vital roles in the church, and that was what Paul was saying to Euodia and Syntyche. They worked

best when their efforts were balanced, and God used them mightily, together. We all need each other.

As much as we’d like to agree with my son and tell our coworkers in Christ, “I am my own woman! I can do it myself,” God has created us to live and work together as the body of Christ. How do we do that? I believe we need to follow Paul’s advice. *“Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say rejoice.”* We need to look at those who oppose us in a positive light and rejoice that God has put us together to bring balance to our lives. It isn’t easy, but it is necessary. Then the apostle tells us, *“Let your gentleness be known to everyone.”* We have likely heard the saying, “We do not have to like everybody we meet, but we must love them.” As we face people who disagree with us, Paul reminds us to be gentle with them. Why? Because they too are created in God’s image and loved by God just as much as we are created and loved by God. So, brothers and sisters in Christ, as we grow, together, in Christ and face all the challenges of change and different personalities, let us remember to work together for God’s kingdom, not ours. And let us always remember, *“The Lord is near.”*

Together in Christ,

Pastor Mark



### **IN MEMORY OF.....**

\$50.00 to the Building Fund  
in memory of  
Les Thorland, Eli Renbarger,  
Carol Johnson and Kathy Chernenko

