

First Lutheran Church

300 W. 3rd St. Prophetstown, IL 61277

Phone: 815-537-2758

Newsletter - July, 2017

God Has A Dream!

Hopefully you have had the chance to join me in the book discussion that our church started in June. We have been reading the book “Living Lutheran” by Dave Daubert, and together we have been pondering the mission of God. Daubert reminds his readers that God is on the loose, and if you want to see what God is up to, then you have to look at more than the inside of a church building. You have to look beyond our church walls to see that God is active 24/7. Even when church buildings are empty and the lights are off, God is busy out in the world doing all sorts of things. Have you seen it?

When you start looking, you may just discover that God’s dream includes celebrations for people who have little to celebrate; that God’s priorities involve the poor or outcast or forgotten in this world. In God’s kingdom, the “least of these” are included because God’s dream is to include everyone. So, it would make sense for God to pay special attention to those whom this world leaves out. Daubert encourages us to slow down and pay attention when we pray the Lord’s Prayer. Every week we say, “thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” Do we even know what we are asking for when we pray this? In this petition we are praying for radical transformation of our world. We are urging God to finish the work; to let God’s love rule and have peace and justice and mercy reign once and for all!

It is my hope that as we journey in faith together, you discover that life changing ministry begins when we help people to hunger for what God is up to rather than simply settling for getting by with what we can do. It’s God’s mission that sparks everything else, even for those of us who have been in the church for a long time.

Helping people see that God’s mission is so central to what it means to be the church, it puts us in a whole new place as we talk to people who are not in the church. As Daubert says, “It is our privilege and our joy to see what many people miss—that God has a dream for our world and that God is loose, out there in the world, already making that happen.”

For Reflection and Discussion...

These questions can also be found on page 33 of Living Lutheran

* Read Acts 1:1-5 and Acts 2:14-24. What do you learn about God’s dream from these verses?

* Pray: *God of creation, you are one whose dream has shaped the world and holds its future. Help us to see what you see and to bear witness to what you do. We have looked for you in the church and missed much of what you have been doing in the world. We thank you for Jesus who brings us your kingdom. We ask you, what are you doing now in the community around us?*

* Pause for a time of silence and listen for God’s answer. Then close with the Lord’s Prayer, pausing after “*your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.*” Repeat that part of the prayer and then continue through to the end.

Discuss the following:

1. What does your community or neighborhood look like in God’s dream? Be specific.
2. What has happened in the world in the last month that you believe most pleases God?
3. What is going on in the world where your congregation serves that makes God sad?
4. Who is God using to change the sadness to gladness? Who is at work on that which concerns God most?

Next Church Meetings

Tuesday, July 11th

Committee Meetings @ 7:00 p.m.

Council Meeting @ 8:00 p.m.

May Financial Report

Beginning	\$ 12,865.33
Deposits	13,529.65
Disbursements	- 23,730.21
Correction	- 0.00
Balance	\$ 2,664.77

Church Meetings - Tuesday, July 11th

Committee Meetings @ 7:00 p.m.

Council Meeting @ 8:00 p.m.

FLC June Prayer Concerns

Dick Minssen, Peggy Kuelper, Michelle Wetzell, Connie Johnson, Evelyn “Evie” Kline great granddaughter of Bob & Geri Cassens, Art Buckner cousin of Darlene Proeger, Scott Lyman son-in-law of Ken & Ellen Pannier. Community member: Sammy Hodgett. Serving in the military: Sean Pratt son of Drew & Becky Emery, Donnie Appleman son-in-law of Larry & Lynda VanDyke, Lindsey Gardner niece of Gwen Gardner, Anna Helmkamp fiancée of Kent Olsen, Max Sampson grandson of Darrel & Glenda Sampson, Joseph Hickey great nephew of Lelia Gibson.

Feed Our Children

First Lutheran Church, Prophetstown Methodist Church and Congregational Church volunteers are working together at Eclipse Square for distribution of lunches on Wednesdays and Fridays until Wed. August 9th. All prep work is done at FLC at 10:30 a.m. and then serve the lunches at Eclipse from 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Please consider volunteering to make and serve the meals. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex table.

FLY Summer Trip

Thank you to everyone who contributed to make the FLY 2017 Summer Trip possible. 3 adults and 9 youth took 2 days going out to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp in northwestern Montana. We had adventures along the way, including Wall Drug and Mount Rushmore, and while at camp we got to do a lot of leadership training and team building. During our stay, we did a high ropes course, went sailing, spent a day at Glacier National Park, and went rafting! Plus we got to do a bunch of great camp life activities including campfires and fishing! Flathead Lake is an amazing place, and FLBC made it even more special for us! Bless you all for your gifts and prayers.

Summer Stretch

For All Middle & High School Youth

Tues. 7-11, Wed. 7-26. Each day begins at 9:00 a.m. For more details please talk with Amanda.



Community Vacation Bible School

VBS is right around the corner! *Mega Sports Camp* will be held at the Methodist Church on Monday, July 31st through Friday, August 4th from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. We will connect team sports and faith, and have a great time while doing it! Pre-registration will be *extremely* helpful this year. You can get a form from your church, online on the [Prophetstown Community VBS Facebook page](#), or you can register online at that page! Volunteers are also needed for registration, teachers, leaders, and food servers. Please contact Amanda if you are interested in helping at VBS. We hope to see a bunch of you kids (and kids at heart) at VBS again this year!

Amazing Race of Grace

EVERYONE young and old is invited to a fun afternoon of games and faith building at the Amazing Race of Grace Challenge checkoff on July 16th from 2-5pm. We will play games, do experiments, make fun treat, and more- all while exploring and building our faith! It doesn't matter if you have kids or not, please come join us because there will be something for everybody!

What Is Your Favorite Hymn

Is there a worship or praise song you really love? Let us know! The band will be playing on Sunday, July 23rd, and we'd love to play what *you* want to hear! St Augustine is noted as saying "He who sings prays twice," and good ole Martin Luther has said "Music is the art of the prophets and the gift of God." Come, pray twice and be an artistic prophet! (Fitting since we are in *Prophetstown!*)

Diakonia

Are you finding yourself wondering about certain aspects of your faith or the church? Are you interested in learning about Lutheran theology, Christian history, the Bible, or even daily ministry? Have you considered the Diakonia program? It is a two year program offered at locations around our synod for lay leaders who would like to understand their faith and the church better. Please visit <http://nisynod.org/diakonia/> for more information, or talk to Amanda Schanze, Rick Woolums or Ann Deck about their experiences with the program.

July Birthday Celebrations

We wish to send a "Birthday Greeting" to all of our members celebrating this month. A special greeting is extended to our members who are 80 or over.

Pete Frank – 2nd

Milton Olsen – 3rd

Joyce McCracken – 25th

Jeanne Berger – 29th

Charlene Hanson – 31st

Please refer to your church directory for the entire birthday list of our members.

Assisting in July

Ushers

Marilyn Melton, Marilyn Skromme, Rosemary & Paul Sibley

Greeters

Ken & JoAnne Cocking

Altar Committee

Marilyn Skromme, Nancy Cruse

Assisting Minister

16 – Ken Cocking, Amanda Schanze

Cantor

Donna Roland

Readers

2 - Luanne Urban

9 - Drew Emery

16 – Dale Proeger

23 – Hannah Schanze

30 – Amanda Schanze

Acolytes

- 2 - Rubey Gallentine
- 9 - Dawson Haggard
- 16 – Max Jones
- 23 – Sydney Minssen
- 30 – Nate Gallagher

Mission Statement

First Lutheran Church welcomes all to worship by nurturing those in their Christian faith through Word and Sacrament and equipping them for service to others throughout their daily lives.

Core Values

- 1. There is only one God
- 2. We are gathered by Word and Sacrament
- 3. Acceptance of ALL God’s people
- 4. Discipleship is a lifelong faith journey
- 5. We are called to serve



Pastor & Staff

Pastor Katie Gallagher
Email: pastorkatie2002@yahoo.com
Parsonage: 815-537-2425
Cell Phone: 630-200-3288
Pastor’s Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
10:00 a.m. to Noon, or by appointment

Youth & Family Ministry
Amanda Schanze
Cell Phone: 309-236-1920

Secretary Office Hours
Monday-Friday: 9:00 - Noon

Sunday Schedule

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Epic Hour Sunday School . . . 10:15 a.m.

How to Reach Us

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