

# *First Lutheran Church*

300 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.-Prophetstown, IL 61277

Phone: 815-537-2758

May, 2022 – FLC Newsletter

Happy May Y'all!

This past month I visited Chattanooga, Tennessee and everyone said “y'all!” Locals would say “you must be from the south?” And I'd say “why yes I am, I'm from Florida.” And then the locals would start laughing very loudly, they'd say “that's not the south!” And then I would respond with, “how is it not the south, it's as far down as you can go before you hit the Bahamas!” Well, apparently that's an argument for another day. Hopefully this story gave you a little laugh. I'm still sticking with “y'all!” Hopefully you can join me and add a little south to your vocabulary. It's a good day y'all!

I hope you are enjoying your Spring. It's nice to have some warmer weather and to see the flowers blooming. I pray y'all are staying healthy and keeping safe. Have a wonderful May and keep smiling!

*Lord, look upon me with eyes of mercy. May Your healing hand rest upon me, may Your life-giving powers flow into every cell of my body and into the depths of my soul, cleansing, purifying, restoring me to wholeness and strength for service in Your Kingdom. Amen.*

Blessings! Pastor Chelsey Weech

## **April 12<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting**

Approved and as follows...

**Treasurer's Report:** Accepted report. The Endowment Committee gave \$5,000 to put towards the roof loan, taking the remaining balance to \$15,065.41.

**Pastor Chelsey's Report:** Attendance has been steady during February. Presented to council a request among the congregation to do a special donation to help Ukraine, this will be done with a two week special donation with the funds going to the Lutheran Disaster World Relief Fund.

**President's Report:** Proposed a blessing of the basement to be held on June 5<sup>th</sup>, with a council sponsored brunch to follow. Reminded all council members that an updated photo to be taken during April's Meeting for the website. Celebration of the 142<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary to be held with a small celebration of cake/cookies with coffee after church and the band will be playing during the worship on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Evangelism & Christian Education:** Christa Robshaw will provide cupcakes after worship on Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup> for the 142<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary. Christa and Pastor will have a meeting later this month to help figure how to raise the attendance numbers at Sunday School for the elementary and middle school students. The Confirmation class will be going to Happy Tails on Sat. April 2<sup>nd</sup> and are seeking donations. VBS is looking for a kitchen leader and helpers from FLC's congregation to help prepare and serve the meal prior to VBS each night, to be held on July 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>. The committee will be creating a schedule to get help with cookies to go during the month of May. There will also be cards created for the college students as they prepare for finals week. These will be in the back of the sanctuary for all to sign.

**Property:** Provided a status report on the basement renovations and listed out all the smaller tasks and final touches that need to be completed.

**Stewardship:** Mapped out what projects they are going to be working on this year: Constitution, Budget and Stewardship Month (Time & Talent Forms).

**Worship & Music:** Hymns were picked for April. They also discussed Christmas Eve Service moving to either a 5:00 p.m. or 8:00 p.m. There will be a vote cast by the congregation to determine what is going to be the new service time for Christmas Eve. Discussion was also had regarding Christmas Day falling on a Sunday this year. Instead of having a traditional 9:00 a.m. Sunday service, it was decided to move the service to 11:00 a.m. this year with a potluck afterwards. The Choir will be singing on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup> and Easter Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:** Ian Wankerl has installed Brenda's new office computer and has finished getting everything moved from the old setup to her new setup.

142<sup>nd</sup> Congregational Anniversary and 62<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Church Building - We will be having a celebration on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

YouTube Update: Going well and a lot clearer than Facebook.

Wi-Fi Options: It was decided to remain with our current package and not make any changes at this time.

**New Business:** Auditing Position: Sharon Anderson is willing to take the place of Heather Strike on the Auditing Committee. The motion was approved with unanimous vote.

The Shepherd Staff Program needs to be updated, this program keeps the records for FLC membership and financial giving. This would result in a one-time cost of \$700. The motion was approved unanimously.

New Tables and Chairs for Fellowship Hall: We are currently working to apply for a Moore Foundation Grant to help cover the cost of tables and chairs. We are working to see if these can be purchased ahead of time or if we should wait until we hear back from the Moore Foundation in the middle of April.

FLY Youth Room Furniture: Youth account is going to pay for half and then asking for donations for the rest.

Old Tables and Chairs from Fellowship Hall: Several people have shown interest in acquiring the old tables and chairs from the church. It was decided to ask for a goodwill donation for old tables and chairs. However, they would not be available until the new ones are purchased, which will occur prior to June 5<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in the old tables and chairs, please contact the church office and your name can be put on the list.

34<sup>th</sup> Annual Synod Assembly: There are multiple zoom options, and an in person session, to be held on June 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> at Augustana College in Rock Island. Two voting members are allowed to attend. If interested, please contact the church office.

Removal of two trees at the parsonage by American Tree Service the total cost for trees removal and stump gridding is \$1,225. Motion was approved unanimously.

## **Receiving New members**

On Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> we will be receiving new members during worship. If you would like to be part of our new member class and join our FLC family please let Pastor Chelsey or the office know.

## **President's Corner**

As we say goodbye to April and welcome the spring flowers of May, let us reflect and be thankful for the celebrations we had this past month. From the Lenten Services, Palm Sunday, 142<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary, Holy Week and Easter Sunday, thank you to all those that helped to make our worship experiences and fellowship so very special.

The final details are being completed on the Fellowship Hall. We would like to invite the congregation to a Fellowship Hall Blessing and Brunch on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> following worship. The brunch will be provided by the church council. We look forward to sharing the renovations with all of you. May you enjoy the coming month of warmer weather and spring activities. May God's love surround you all.

Blessings,

Cathy Hinrichs

## **Prayer Concerns during April**

Paul & Charlene McCracken, Marlene Scott, Ann Deck, Stan Urban, Faye Finck, Luanne McDivitt, Burdette Sandrock, Dick Minssen, Charlotte Sperflage great niece of Jeanne Frank, Lee Ann Trexler sister of Kerry Meyer, Caleb Cleaver great nephew of Lynda VanDyke, Rick Chapman husband of Mindy Chapman.

Prayers to Jeff & JoDee Olsen and family on the passing of Jeff's mother Betty Lou Olsen who passed away on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Prayers to Ken Cocking, Julie, Paul and Sarah and families on the passing of Ken's wife JoAnne Cocking who passed away on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Prayers to Bob & Rhonda Bohms, Amber & Eric Hinrichsen and families on the passing of Bob's brother Leonard who passed away on Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **May Worship and Events**

1 - 7:30 a.m. Men in Mission

9:00 a.m. Worship

7:00 p.m. VBS Meeting

4 – 7:00 p.m. Confirmation - Star Wars Night

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Last Time

8 – 9:00 a.m. Worship: Receive New Members, Mother's Day,

Fruit Cup Collection for Whiteside Co. Feed Our Children Summer Lunches, College Cards

10:15 a.m. Endowment Committee Mtg.

9 – 1:30 p.m. WELCA

6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts

7:00 p.m. CHAT Meeting

10 – 7:00 p.m. Committee Meetings

8:00 p.m. Council Meeting

11 – 7:00 p.m. Confirmation with Mentors, End of Year Party

12 – 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts

15 – 9:00 a.m. Worship & Communion

10:15 a.m. Fellowship- Served by WELCA

16 – 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts

17 – 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Formation

22 – 9:00 am Worship, Graduates Blessing

10:15 a.m. Fellowship/Reception

29 – 9:00 a.m. Worship

30 – Office Closed – Memorial Day

## **May Assisting**

Ushers: Mark & Gayle Melton, Gary & Cathy Hinrichs

Altar: Connie Johnson, Christa Robshaw, Amanda Schanze

Cantor: Cathy Hinrichs

Readers

1 - Luanne Urban

8 – Mark Melton

15 - Paul McCracken

22 – Lelia Gibson

29 – Ken Cocking

Acolytes

1 - Cam Linden

8 – Alex Ottens

15 - Miley Wetzell

22 – Cam Linden

## **Pentecost Garden**

On Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> red geraniums and any other red flowers will decorate the sanctuary for Pentecost. Please bring your plants to church by 8:30 a.m. on Pentecost, there is no sign up. All plants will be taken home following the worship service.

## **Confirmation Class**

May 4 – 7:00 p.m. Class - Star Wars Night–*May the force be with you*

May 11 – Class with Mentors, end of year

## **Congratulations Graduates!!**

Congratulations to our High School Seniors! We are so proud of each and every one of you. First Lutheran Church is glad we could be a part of your faith journey. Blessing at worship and reception to follow on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

PLT High School: Connor Sandrock, Sabrina Soleta, Maxon Vahle, Tinley Wetzell

Sterling High School: Emyli Sandrock

IL Math & Science Academy: Jacob Malone

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7*

## **Thank You**

We want to thank everyone who brought in photos to help us celebrate our FLC 142<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary on Palm Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The power point was a nice gift for everyone to watch. It is always fun to go down memory lane.

Thank you to the large crew of members who came in on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> to clean and set-up the basement. Many hands made for quick work. The remodeling is moving along and is looking wonderful!

Thank you to the P.E.S. 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who were here on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> doing cleaning of our yard. They were out helping the community for Earth Day!

## **Old Tables and Chairs from Fellowship Hall**

There has been some interest in families acquiring the old tables and chairs from the fellowship hall. A goodwill donation is being asked to receive old tables and chairs; however, they would not be available until the new ones are purchased. If anyone is interested, please contact the church office so your information can be put on the list.

## ***May 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.

Arnold Frank–14<sup>th</sup>

Gene Sweeney–18<sup>th</sup>

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

**WELCA:** Bible study will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm in the church narthex. All women members of the church are invited. Bible leader will be Lynda VanDyke.

**Spiritual Formation:** The next Bible study will be held on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to be involved and grow your spirituality.

**Let's Feed Our Children:** We are collecting individual applesauce, pineapple, peaches or pear cups to donate to the United Way of Whiteside Co. to serve the children at the Let's Feed Our Children summer lunch program. Please bring your donations to FLC on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support of this food drive and the children of Whiteside County!

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### **Contact Us:**

FLC Email: ptownflc@gmail.com

Website: www.firstlutheran-ptown.org

Facebook: First Lutheran Church of Prophetstown

Pastor Chelsey Weech Cell: 815-499-3217 Email: ptownflcpastor@gmail.com

### **Mission Statement**

First Lutheran Church family welcomes, nurtures, serves and sends in the name of Jesus Christ.

### **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