

First Lutheran Church

300 W. 3rd St.-Prophetstown, IL 61277

Phone: 815-537-2758

August, 2022 – FLC Newsletter

Greetings FLC,

“I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”
Philippians 1:3-6 (NRSV)

August is the calm before the back to school storm. I feel like our summer just flew by too quickly!! It is already time to start gearing back up and getting ready for class, homework and packing lunches for the kids. I recently found out that August is National Sandwich Day. Who doesn't love a good sandwich?! Delicious meat, tasty cheese, lettuce, mayo or mustard (and no pickles, Pastor is not a pickle fan- although Mr. Weech loves them!) packed all between two soft pieces of bread. As we unfortunately begin to end the summer, now is the perfect time to enjoy National Sandwich Month as with the many outdoor activities, sandwiches make the perfect meal to satisfy those hunger pains.

Give us this day our daily Bread. A few weeks ago, we talked about prayer. In the book of Luke, Jesus' disciples quite literally begged Jesus to help them to learn to pray. Jesus then gave a pattern for prayer that has become known as the Lord's Prayer. I compared praying to a vending machine. Many times when we pray, we want what we ask for, but we get angry or upset when our prayers aren't answered. This is true for when a vending machine takes our money or gives us something we didn't ask for. I believe that we could all agree that we have needs each day. For some, it is quite literally bread, food or nutrients to keep us alive. It could be help with a family member, the loss of a job or the struggle of a new diagnosis. And don't feel bad if they are prayers for more immediate tasks, like acing a test, desiring more help around the house, or just praying for sunshine on a rainy day.

Jesus is teaching us and His disciples, that we should look to God each day for our daily bread. But I also believe God gives us the tools to answer the prayers of our neighbors as well. Maybe you can give the daily bread that a neighbor needs. Whether it be an actual sandwich, a phone call to help your friend feel better, offering a hand for them to hold while awaiting test results or extending help with a member's outdoor chores. As we receive blessings from God, let us share those gifts with one another. *“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.”*

Luke 11:1-9 (NRSV)

How to Celebrate National Sandwich Month (Reference National Today):

Distribute sandwiches to the needy - Sandwiches are filling and tasty. You can use National Sandwich Month to donate sandwiches to the needy in your neighborhood. You can even contribute to your local food banks that help in tackling hunger and extend support to local communities.

Arrange a potluck party - One of the perfect ways to celebrate is by organizing a potluck party with your office colleagues, neighbors, church friends or new community members. You never know the struggles and battles each person is facing. A sandwich party might be just the thing to brighten someone's day. Everyone can get their own version of the perfect sandwich and you all can enjoy a sandwich paradise.

Surprise your loved ones - Prepare a sandwich-themed breakfast in bed for your loved ones. Fix a melty panini for a neighbor or make a grilled cheese and tomato soup for someone not feeling well. It can be a great way to show some appreciation and to let them know you care. Most of us have had favorite snacks growing up that we still crave as adults. A classic PB&J sandwich can bring back so many memories, while also bringing cheer to someone in need. Whether you cut it in half or in a triangle, share the other half with someone you love!

God's Peace, Pastor Chelsey Weech

Council & Committee Meetings

There were no meetings during July

President's Corner

I hope you all are having a great summer. No matter if you've enjoyed some time away or had a staycation at home, I pray it has been a joyful and refreshing experience.

With August comes the start of a new school year. As a student, parent, and teacher, I well remember the excitement and anticipation felt each year. It was a time of renewed friendships and new beginnings. In celebration of this special time, we will hold our annual Backpack Blessing on Sunday, August 21st, during worship. It has been decided to hold this service in the Fellowship Hall, with a brunch immediately following worship. The church council will once again be sponsoring the brunch, and a free will offering will be collected to help cover some of the additional costs.

Another date to put on your calendar will be an outdoor worship service on Sunday, September 11th, at 10:00 am. It will be held at Eclipse Square with a light lunch provided afterwards. The lunch will include pulled pork or hotdog sandwiches, chips, cookie, and water. You can either take the lunch with you or enjoy it at the park.

We look forward to sharing Christ's message with you, not only during these special Sundays, but all month long. May God's love surround you all.
Blessings, Cathy Hinrichs

Prayer Concerns during July

Avis Chamberlain, Stan Urban, Luanne McDivitt, Burdette Sandrock, Dick Minssen, Coleen Carlson daughter-in-law of Jan Carlson (she has improved), Emilie Ricknell mother of Lynda VanDyke, Lee Ann Trexler sister of Kerry Meyer, Caleb Cleaver great nephew of Lynda VanDyke, Rick Chapman husband of Mindy Chapman.

Serving in the Military: Charlie Davis grandson of Ken & Ellen Pannier, Brett Emery and Sean Pratt sons of Drew & Becky Emery, Donnie Appleman son-in-law of Larry & Lynda VanDyke, Patrick Kelly grandson of Kathy Kelly, Anna Olsen wife of Kent Olsen, Madison Scace great granddaughter of Burdette & Dea Sandrock, Kyle Ullmark grandson-in-law of Glenda Sampson.

Prayers and congratulations on a new arrival. On Sunday, July 24th Adalynn Leanne Torres was born to Breanna & Caleb Torres. Grandparents are Ben & Traci Sandrock.

Prayers and congratulations to Savannah Rae Ullmark on her baptism here on Saturday, July 2nd. She is the great granddaughter of Glenda Sampson.

Prayers to the family of Beverly Johnson who passed away on Tuesday, June 28th.

Backpack Blessing & Brunch

On Sunday, August 21st during worship in the Fellowship Hall all ages of students are asked to bring their bags to church for a blessing. We pray for them to have a great start back to school.

Following worship brunch will be served by our church council. They will be serving breakfast casseroles, cheesy potatoes, fruit and drinks. We will have helpers at the elevette to assist you. Everyone is welcome!

August Worship and Events

5 – Pastor's Day Off

7 – 9:00 a.m. Worship & Communion

10:15 a.m. Endowment Meeting

4:00 p.m. FLAG Outing at Drew & Becky Emery's

9 – 7:00 p.m. Committee Meetings

8:00 p.m. Council Meeting

11 - 12 – Office Closed

14 – 9:00 Worship

19 – Pastor's Day Off

21 – 9:00 am Worship & Communion in Fellowship Hall, Backpack Blessing

10:15 a.m. Brunch – Served by Council

26 – Pastor's Day Off

28 – 9:00 a.m. Worship

August Assisting

Usher: Darryl & Lelia Gibson, Bob Anderson

Altar: Glenda Sampson, Michelle Wetzell, Katie Turner

Cantor: Paul McCracken

Readers:

7 - Drew Emery

14 - Jeanne Frank

21 - Joan Johnson

28 - Karen Buck

Sept. Worship in Eclipse Square

On Sunday, September 11th we will have worship at 10:00 a.m. at Eclipse Square. Music will be led by our band. Following worship, the Evangelism & Christian Ed. Comm. will serve a bagged lunch of pulled pork or hot dog, chips and water. Everyone is welcome to attend!

FLAG

The next FLAG fun and social event will be held on Sunday, August 7th at 4:00 p.m. at Drew & Becky Emery's home. Address: 6725 Perkins Road Prophetstown. Please bring a dish to pass and the Emery household will supply the meat. We will have food, outdoor games, and enjoy each other's company. It has been over two years since we've had a Sunday evening outing, so let's get excited to get back together again!! Please RSVP to the Emery's. This way we can have an accurate head count and everyone will know what to bring. FLAG's motto - No eating No meeting!

Summer Giving to Self Help

On Sunday, August 7th and 14th we will be collecting and giving a special offering to Self Help Enterprises in Sterling. A social service organization for training, care and support for challenged individuals in Whiteside County. This money will help them to buy supplies and items for their clients who can shop weekly at their store for food, treats, gifts, etc.

Donations to Youth

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Youth account for receiving the old tables and chairs from the Fellowship Hall. A deposit of \$380.00 has been put in their account. These funds will help them on future events or trips.

VBS at FLC - Thank You!

We would to thank all the crew leaders, station leaders and volunteers who helped make the week of VBS such a success! Thank you to First Lutheran Church and Prophetstown Methodist Church for all your dedication and support throughout the planning process. Thank you to Kyle Gibson at Lyndon Conoco for the pizza donations, FNB for the snack donations, The Moore Foundation for the Celebration Dinner donations, and Funding New Beginnings for the volunteer shirt donations. A very special thank you to our friends and families for their help with decorations: Mark & Gayle Melton, Jason Robshaw, Heather and Hannah Strike, Amanda Schanze, Chris Weech, Stephanie Wankerl and Michelle Wetzell.

We are so grateful for everyone that helped with decor & set-up, breaking down sets/stations, and dedicating your time as volunteers, crew leaders, station leaders, and so much more!

This year our VBS offerings went towards the Antique Engine and Train Association. We set a goal of \$200 by the end of the week and Paul McCracken (aka Cam Track) promised he would shave his beard if we reached it. Needless to say, the kids were very eager to hit this goal and we surpassed it!! We raised over \$241. Enjoy the video of Cam Track losing his facial hair on our church Facebook page and church website. I'm not sure who was more excited, the kids or his wife!

Our 2022 VBS would not have been possible without the help of our community churches and everyone who loves our youth! See you next year at the United Methodist Church in Prophetstown.

August 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.

Sandy Plautz – 1st

Carol Proeger – 5th

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

PADS Collection Thank You

Thank you for giving to the collection that was taken to the Twin Cities PADS Homeless Shelter in Sterling. On Sunday, July 24th Pastor Chelsey delivered the following supplies:

20 Paper Towels, 9 Toilet Paper, 3 Large Laundry Soap Bottles, 9 powered Kool Aid Containers.



Contact Us:

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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