

First Lutheran Church

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

Phone: 815-537-2758

November, 2022 – FLC Newsletter



All Saints really means ALL Saints!

In many Lutheran churches, All Saints' Day is celebrated the Sunday after Reformation Sunday. This year it falls on November 6th. In most congregations, this day is marked as an occasion to remember those who have passed away. This is both a special time and an emotional one. Professor and Lutheran Pastor Benjamin Stewart gives a perfect explanation of how important this day is for us. "All are saved by grace. The festival originally honored those who were considered especially holy: heroic figures from the Scriptures and martyrs who had given their lives nonviolently in witness to the faith. However, it is an especially Lutheran accent for the feast to honor not only those who lived exemplary lives, but all who have been baptized into Christ's death. For Lutherans, All Saints resonates with the conviction that in Christ every saint is a sinner and every sinner a saint, *simul justus et peccator*. Lutherans especially remember on this feast that it is God's grace, apart from our works, that makes us saints. We find lasting rest only in the mercy of God."

In our worship space, FLC names their loved ones who have died in the past year during the worship service, while also playing a chime in between each name. During one of my internships, New Life Lutheran in Bolingbrook, IL set out photos on tables, so that congregation members could walk around and honor those who have passed. Although All Saint's Sunday is not a public holiday in our country, All Saints' Day is still observed publicly in many other places. National Geographic shares the many ways in which the world celebrates this day. In France and Germany, people are given the work day off and businesses actually close. They are given this time to mourn and celebrate their loved ones. In Barcelona, Spain, people visit the graves of their relatives or friends and decorate them with flowers or personal trinkets. In Mexico and Ecuador, it's a day for bringing families together. It's a joyful time with food and parties. In the Philippines, this is a common time to hold large family reunions and families flock to gravesites. Like other traditions, there's a lot of traditional food and music. People visit their loved ones' graves to pay respects, and it's not uncommon for people to camp overnight in cemeteries. No matter how you recognize this day, please know that you are loved and you are cared for. Losing someone is so incredibly hard. Please remember your church family during this month and especially on this Sunday. Offer them a card, a phone call, or maybe just a hug... it might be exactly what they need.



Bless those who mourn, eternal God, with the comfort of your love that they may face each new day with hope and the certainty that nothing can destroy the good that has been given. May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love, Amen.

Vienna Cobb Anderson

Peace & Blessings! Pastor Chelsey

Council - October 12th Meeting

Treasurer's Report: October balances:

Monthly Deposits: \$ 9,403.18

Monthly Expenses: 16,577.21

8-31-2 General Fund Balance: 87,261.74

Roof Loan Balance: 15,065.41

Approved September Minutes...

Treasurer: The 2023 Budget has been distributed to committees to make changes for next month's meeting.

Pastor Chelsey: FLAG will meet on Sun, Sept. 18 @ 5pm at FLC basement. Sat, Sept. 24 the Community Animal Blessing @ Eclipse Square at 2pm. Sun, Oct. 2nd Rick Woolums is leading and preaching. Sun, Oct. 9 United Methodist will be leading worship with Blessing of the Badges @ Eclipse Square at 10:15am. Sat, Oct. 15th Pastor will be taking middle and high school students and adult chaperons to Six Flags on a day trip. Sun, Jan. 22nd & 29th Pastor Kathy Burkheimer will be preaching as Pastor will be on vacation.

President: Thank you to all council members. Community church worship at Eclipse Square was held at FLC due to rainy weather conditions on September 11th with sack lunches to go was well attended.

Evangelism & Christian Education:

Sunday, September 18th there will be Rice Crispy Treats to go in honor of Kim Glanz's Birthday. Trunk or Treat will be hosted on Friday October 28th. Bishop Stacie Fidlar will be preaching on Sunday, November 20th, with fellowship served by FLAG.

Property: Reported that the shelving and lighting has been installed at the parsonage garage. They are working on obtaining bids for upcoming projects: New Covers for window wells, drain in parsonage to be cleaned out. 2023 Project list: Wooden tower, windows for offices, roof replacement, down spout replaced.

Stewardship & Finance: Discussed 2023 Budget and would like these submitted to Drew Emery prior to October's council meeting. This budget will be approved at November's meeting and presented to the congregation at the December Annual Meeting.

Worship & Music: October music selected.

Old Business: Spaghetti Dinner to be done on a November or March evening for a Youth Fundraiser, exact date to be determined by youth and parents.

United Christians of P-town: Meet again on Thursday, October 13th @ 10:30 a.m. at FLC.

New Business: Looking into ordering new First Lutheran shirts: Reaching out to two local places. Pictorial Directory: Looking into an in-house option or a paid service.

Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 4th following worship in the sanctuary. The booklet will change this year as it will not have the committee reports. This info is available every month in the council minutes. Financial reports are still needed. If your committee or group has an account please give your info to the office by Friday, November 11th, due to vacation and holiday. Each year the booklets are available the week before the meeting.

All Saints Sunday November 6th

On All Saints Sunday we will remember those who have passed to God's eternal kingdom in the past year.

Members: Leonard Finck, Leonard Bohms, JoAnne Cocking, Betty Lou Olsen, Robert Lauts, Taylor Skromme, Beverly Johnson, Carol Proeger

Family & Friends: Anna Hunt, Jody Robinson, Steve McGinn, Sharon Cunningham, Shirley Temple, Jim Casson, Lila Becker, Myrtle Schroeder, Kathy Rae Deason, Nancy Pannier, Mary Morphew, Barbara Sage, Daniel Corona, Marty Bollman, Mark Sandrock

We thank everyone for the memorial gifts that have been given this year. The names and gifts given in their memory will be added to the Memory Tree in the fellowship hall when the monies are used.

Community Thanksgiving Worship

Tuesday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m. will be community worship. The Methodist and Leon Methodist Churches will be participating with FLC. May it fill you with peace, joy and love.

Bishop Fidlar to Preach at FLC

On Sunday, November 20th Bishop Stacie Fidlar, she was elected at the Synod Assembly in June, will be here to preach, worship and serve communion. Fellowship will be served by FLAG following worship. Everyone is welcome to attend!

New Member

On Sunday, November 13th we will receive our new member, Dale Etheridge. He lives in Prophetstown and is a part time car salesman in Clinton, IA. Welcome!

Prayer Concerns during October

Tara Johnson, Charlene McCracken, Sandy Plautz, Stan Urban, Luanne McDivitt, Burdette Sandrock, Dick Minssen, Ron Roselieb father of Rhonda Bohms, 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. Community Members: Pat Crump, Don & Sena Warkins

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.

Mitten Tree

FLC will be collecting mittens, gloves, scarves, sweatpants and socks donations for the children within our community. We will take donations on Sunday mornings November 6th and 13th. This collection will be given to the schools on Monday, November 14th. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please speak with a FLAG member. Thank you!

Veteran's Photos

In observance of Veteran's Day, we are asking everyone bring in photos of your veterans for us to display. This presentation will be out for Sunday, November 13th.

WELCA

The bible study and general meeting will be held on Monday, November 14th at 1:30 p.m. at FLC. Bible leader will be Connie Johnson. All women members of the church are invited.

November 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.

Pat Sonnenberg – 10th
Burdette Sandrock – 14th
Linden Proeger – 22nd
Aaron Johnson – 26th
Betty Reichard – 28th

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

Bell Ringing

United Christians of Prophetstown will be at Shaw's Marketplace ringing the bell for collections to help our local needy November 26th thru December. All the churches will cover a Saturday. On Saturday, December 19th FLC will ring the bell from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Shaw's. Stop by and say Hi!

November Assisting

Ushers: Denny & Sally Johnson, Karen Buck, Trent Buck

Altar: Diane Jones, Judy Johnson, Deb Ackerman

Cantor: Cathy Hinrichs

Readers: 6 – Dave Meyer

13 – Donna Roland

20 – Darren Mosher

27 – Cathy Hinrichs

Men in Mission

Sunday, November 6th at 7:30 a.m. All men, members of the church or not, are welcome to join us for breakfast, bible study and discussion.

November Worship and Events

2 - 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Confirmation with Mentors

4 - Pastor Chelsey's Day Off

6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts

6 - 7:30 p.m. Men in Mission

9:00 a.m. Worship & Communion, All Saints Day, Mitten Tree Collection

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

Day light Savings Ends-Back One Hour

8 - 7:00 p.m. Committee Meetings

8:00 p.m. Council Meeting

9 - 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

11 - Pastor Chelsey's Day Off

13 - 9:00 a.m. Worship, New Member Day,
Mitten Tree Collection

No Sunday School

14 - 1:30 p.m. WELCA at FLC

16 - 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

18 - Pastor Chelsey's Day Off

20 - 9:00 Worship & Communion, Bishop Stacie Fidler here

10:15 a.m. Fellowship Served by FLAG

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

22 - 7:00 p.m. Community Worship

24 - *Thanksgiving Day*

25 - Office Closed

26 - 10am-1pm Bell Ringing at Shaw's

27 - 9:00 am Worship, Advent 1

10:15 a.m. Decorate for Christmas, All are Welcome to Help

30 - 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

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

