



The Contact

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH — NORFOLK

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From the Stewardship Committee:

For the past 86 years, the facilities of First Lutheran have been important to our ministry and play an important role to the community. As stewards, we are called to care for what God has entrusted to us, including our Church building. Over the past 26 years, we have made many renovations, repairs and improvements.

Your contributions to the DOWN WITH DEBT building fund allowed us to make these repairs and improvements. In June of this year, we made the final payment on our loan with the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA. Today, our congregation is debt free! This achievement of paying off our old debt is a reflection of your faithful stewardship and demonstrates a milestone for the church. It also has allowed us to re-think our stewardship program and not conduct a separate building fund campaign.

In October, we will have a combined stewardship drive that will allow us to apportion our gifts between the operating budget and the building fund. A building fund is still necessary to help fund costly maintenance of our facility, especially with the challenges with an aging HVAC system which is at or beyond its expected life span. Our Property Committee, Finance Committee and Congregational Council are considering a long range plan for updating our building systems and exterior restorations. With the challenges of an aging building, we all need to continue giving to the building fund as we have over the past 12 months in addition to our spending plan (operating budget).



As members of First Lutheran we have always been **Ministry Minded** through acts of generosity. Over the past several weeks we have started to share our stories of generosity in the Sunday bulletin. Generosity, one of the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) is witnessed in many ways. As members of First Lutheran Church, our generosity in stewarding our time, talents and money is an expression of love for God and for our neighbor. We give abundantly because God has provided for us in abundance. All that we are and all that we have comes from God.

2016 Confirmation Camp & Pioneer A Camp

“What I Liked and Learned at Lutheridge!”

Confirmation Camp is a week-long learning opportunity that takes place each summer at Lutheridge, outside of Asheville, NC. Our Cluster of pastors has worked together for 30 years to develop and tune the program. Many of us went to seminary at the same time. The Confirmation Camp program includes an in-depth

exploration of the Gospel according to Luke and participation in all of the regular camp activities at Lutheridge. Below are the expressions of this year’s youth to the question, “What did you like and learn at Lutheridge?” Enjoy reading their responses!

With every blessing, Pastor Rick Goeres



(L to R) Suzy Biboum, Sydney Brown, Grace McGhee, Maggie Kelly, Lauren Silsdorf, Pastor Goeres



Suzy: “I liked the councilors and the whole camp. I learn how to be closer to God. Lutheridge to me was litty-lit-lit.”

Lauren: “Lutheridge was a very eventful week, filled with new friends and exciting activities. I really enjoyed our outing to Pisgah National Park. We went creek-walking and the pastors cooked us dinner that night. I learned that God’s love is promised to everyone, despite our differences.”

Grace: “I loved Lutheridge. I loved the people, counselors, food, games, and meeting everyone. The creek walk was cool and so was the waterfall. I learned more about Jesus and God and what they do to make me feel special.”

Sydney: “My week at Lutheridge was full of many fun and exciting activities. On top of all of the activities, we got to read the entire book of Luke and learn about Jesus and his disciples. I learned how to be closer to God and not care what others think, but what God thinks.”

Maggie: “I had a great time at Lutheridge. It was an experience for learning and having fun. Not only did I make friends, I also grew in my faith.”

Carl: “[Pioneer A Camp at] Lutheridge was a new adventure. The food was great. I met a new friend named Kendrick. On Sunday we saw a turkey. I learned what the verses in the Lord’s Prayer meant. We learned how to make friends. I got to play a new game called Ga-Ga Ball. We got to go to the pool. We got to make smores.”

President's Quarterly Report

Well, another three months has passed, and we find ourselves at mid-year 2016.

Highlights of the past three months for me include the call and arrival of Pastor Cathy Mims as our new Associate Pastor, Youth Sunday with its recognition of graduating high school and college seniors, the sendoff of FLC youth to Kairos and Confirmation Camp, and Synod Assembly with a total of five congregational representatives from First plus Pastors Goeres and Mims as well as Pastor Jean Bozeman and Blythe Scott, Synod secretary. The First Lutheran contingent was particularly excited to see one of our own, Ella Kopf, pop up in the youth video, and hear her comments being shared with the entire assembly.

As this is being written, events coming up include the combined 10:00 worship services in August, the annual ice cream social, vacation bible school, a "Week of Service", and that rite of fall, Rally Day!

Turning to finances, the Stewardship Monthly Recap that appears in the bulletin supplement the first Sunday of each month showed that pledged and non-pledged giving for the first six months of the year equaled \$298,236 against anticipated receipts of \$284,782. This is good news as we are now ahead in our projected giving by \$13,454 year to date.

Expanding the picture to include both total revenues and total expenses, we find the following:

- Total expenses through 6/30 equaled \$293,902 against a year to date budget of \$373,308 so we have a positive variance of \$79,406. This positive variance has been building since the first of the year because we have not been fully staffed and therefore have spent less on compensation than was anticipated in the budget. Now that we are fully staffed (a good thing), we would not expect that positive variance to continue to increase during the second half of the year.

- All revenues (not just pledged and non-pledged giving as expressed in the Stewardship Monthly Recap report referenced above) equaled \$310,071 against a year to date plan (excluding draws from savings) of \$315,286. So our total revenues, which tend to fluctuate during the year, are very close to plan. While our plan this year anticipated our drawing as much as \$115,000 from our savings to fully fund our planned expenditures, the positive variance referenced above in personnel expenses should mitigate that need to some degree. If things continue as they now are, we should not have to pull from our savings to the extent anticipated - good news indeed. We will have a better handle on this by my next quarterly report which will include our financial results through September. Those results will also provide key information to consider during the October stewardship campaign.

I want to express my appreciation to the Global Concerns Committee for arranging the two consecutive Sunday School hour sessions on July 10 & 17, concerning the plight of refugees and immigrants seeking to come to our country. Both sessions which were led by Beth Janik, the council liaison to Global Concerns were very well attended. The July 10 class featured stories related by members of two families that have come to First from other countries. Their stories differed, but contained some of the same challenges faced in assimilating into a different culture.

As many of you will recall, the Doniewskis came to us from Poland in the early 80's. Hearing Magda and Janusz recount the story of their journey with their two young children only to end up in Norfolk, a place they'd never heard of, defines for me a true leap of faith. For many of us who were then members, their arrival and resettlement represents one of the most meaningful events and holds some of our fondest memories of our years at First.

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“President’s Quarterly Report”

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The July 17 session featured Sharon Powell, an immigration attorney who lives and practices in Williamsburg. Sharon, a daughter of ELCA missionaries, spent her first thirteen years living with her parents in Tanzania. She later graduated from college in the United States. Exposed to the plight of women and children fleeing violence principally in South America, she decided to attend law school and practice immigration law. Her overview of how our country handles those seeking asylum with its arduous and lengthy processes to gain citizenship was highly informative, and often troubling.

Reflecting on these sessions, it occurred to me that a good part of the palpable energy in the room, in addition to the conversation, came from the melding of people from our two worship services. It was an

opportunity to reconnect with others that we care about but oftentimes just wave to as we are going in and they are going out on Sunday mornings. Luckily, we’ll have a month of opportunities to come together this year as we combine our 8:30 and 11:00 worship services during the month of August into one service at 10:00 AM. After experiencing the Global Concerns gatherings, I am excited about what these combined worship services will bring. So, please don’t miss the opportunity to come and reconnect. We’ll only be doing this for the Sundays in August, and it won’t be the same without you. See you there.

Chuck Baynard
Congregation President
(757) 638-4812 pbaynard65@charter.net

Al Gilsdorf (1918 -2016)

Al was the oldest of our “Greatest Generation” veterans. He graduated from William and Mary in 1940 and intended to join the Navy. His draft notice came while he was out of town so he lost his option. After flight training, he received his wings in the Army Air Corps in June 1943 and was assigned to a B24 squadron. Stationed in England, he flew bombing missions. Al was shot down April 12, 1944 and imprisoned in a variety of locations from Belgium to Poland. As often as not he moved from one place of incarceration to another by forced march. He was rescued by General Patton’s army in 1945.

Upon his return to the states he married. He and Polly raised four boys. Al had a booming bass voice that added its richness to many choir presentations. He was present at First Lutheran Church’s Sunday School and Worship services until the time of his death. Al had recently celebrated his 98th birthday.

His family and friends remember him as a kind and friendly child of God. Bless you Al!

Connect with Others

Circles

Feel like you're running around in circles? First Lutheran has a fix for that! All women of the congregation are welcome to attend either Martha or Lydia Circle for a time of leaning and friendship, rest and renewal. Both circles meet on the first Tuesday of the month, September – June. Martha Circle meets at 7:00 PM in various homes. Lydia Circle meets at church at 11:00 AM. If you have questions, contact Phyllis Hund (757-489-1762, phyllishund@gmail.com) about Martha Circle or Pay Baynard (757-638-4812, pbaynard65@charter.net) about Lydia. We will look forward to seeing you on September 6th.

School Supplies

SHOPPING ALERT! Before you know it, Back-to-School sales will start and that means the Christian Service Committee will begin collecting their supplies for 150 school bags for Lutheran World Relief. Items needed are: pencils (unsharpened #2 with erasers), pens (black or blue ballpoint pens – no gel ink), erasers (2 ½ inches), notebooks (70-sheet spiral, wide or college-ruled), scissors (blunt), rulers (30 centimeter or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other), crayons (box of 16 or 24), and pencil sharpeners. A box for donations will be in the Welcome Center beginning July 31st. Questions? Contact Pam Baynard, 638-4812, or pbaynard65@charter.net.

Caps and Scarves

Many thanks to everyone who has offered to knit or crochet caps and scarves to be given to our lunch ministry guests in December. We are off to a great start and are very excited about this opportunity. We appreciate your help!
—Neva and Mary

August Birthdays

John Kennard	1-Aug	Eric Rogner	15-Aug
James Melchor	1-Aug	Andrew Homan	16-Aug
John Soose	1-Aug	Cecilia Sanchez	16-Aug
June Harvey	2-Aug	Maynard Schaus	16-Aug
Amy Hood	2-Aug	Carl Biboum	17-Aug
Troy Pascas	2-Aug	Devan Johnson	18-Aug
Courtney Tobolski	2-Aug	Donald Lundquist	18-Aug
Charles Bauman	3-Aug	Jean Bozeman	19-Aug
Faith Winstead	3-Aug	William C. Davis	19-Aug
Elizabeth Bailey	4-Aug	Lottie Murray	19-Aug
David Griffin	4-Aug	Zakai Petilon	19-Aug
James Seagraves	4-Aug	Yolanda Reavis	19-Aug
Julian Frye	5-Aug	Linda Kenyon	20-Aug
Kim Granger	5-Aug	Catherine Wass	20-Aug
Grace Dumbaugh	6-Aug	Dana Stiening	21-Aug
Neal Azar	7-Aug	Brian Bagans	22-Aug
Leslie Bauer	7-Aug	Nolan Flanigan	22-Aug
Paige Waitzer	7-Aug	Mercia Ledbetter	22-Aug
H. Lee Addison	8-Aug	Diane Newlon	22-Aug
Lorette Ferguson	8-Aug	Liz Ritchey	22-Aug
Jennette Franklin	8-Aug	Aynsley Fendler	23-Aug
Gabrielle Ostroy	8-Aug	Mary Sikorski	23-Aug
Kimberly Stroup	8-Aug	Patricia Yanaga	23-Aug
Aaron Weeks	9-Aug	James Fordyce	24-Aug
Steve Delaney	10-Aug	Preston Baldwin	25-Aug
Dalton Johnson	10-Aug	Dan Kelly	25-Aug
Alexander Steckroth	10-Aug	Elizabeth Janik	26-Aug
Randall Wiele	10-Aug	Jennifer Thompson	26-Aug
Leslie Tietze	11-Aug	John E. Fischer	27-Aug
Johanna Bradley	12-Aug	Lauren Lucas	27-Aug
Michael Hamar	12-Aug	Susan Posey	28-Aug
Jessica Scott	12-Aug	Dallas Williams	28-Aug
Denise Chambers	13-Aug	Brooke Gates	29-Aug
Karen Clifford	13-Aug	Pat Davis	30-Aug
Dylan Hurdle	13-Aug	Frank Krehft	30-Aug
Pam Martin	13-Aug	Albert Miller	30-Aug
Deborah Muschnski	13-Aug	Michelle Sutton	30-Aug
Edward Peterson	13-Aug	Mary Ellen Torgler	30-Aug
Claire Willis	13-Aug	Sadiya Cuffee	31-Aug
Emily Jones	14-Aug	Amy Spangler	31-Aug

Prayer Concerns for August

Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of people in need, and the life of all creation.

Give thanks

- ...for the birth of Alice Elizabeth.
- ...to God for the free gift of forgiveness that we do nothing to earn.
- ...that by grace through faith God forms us to preach, teach and live God's Word.
- ...that we are so rooted in the Gospel that our lives overflow in worship, witness, service, learning and support.

Pray

- ...that where there is weariness, pain, anguish, and division, that God will bring comfort and justice.
- ...that with our free gift of forgiveness, we act with love and compassion in the name of Jesus to help where there are loud and angry voices in our world.
- ...that God grant us great hope and courage where fear would constrict our hearts.
- ...for patience and love within families as they work on family difficulties.
- ...for comfort for families and friends whose loved ones were injured or killed in Dallas, Baton Rouge and St. Paul.
- ...for comfort and peace for the families and friends of Alton Sterling, Philando Castile, Brent Thompson, Patrick Zamarripa, Michael Krol, Lorne Ahrens and Michael Smith.
- ...students traveling abroad and all those who are traveling.
- ...for the unemployed and the underemployed.
- ...for world leaders.

Steve Delaney, Mary Diehl, Roger Fuller, Susan Griffin, Kiersten Hilton, Kelley Minschke, Marilyn Melendy, Lorna Moss, Bill Newlon, Betty Petersen, Betty Peterson, Michelle Peterson, Betty Phillips, Rick Pougher, Howard Warren, Aimee, Christian, Hannah, Ivana, Johnny, Katie, Kevin, Sheila, Kay Smith, Debbie Wright

Those dealing with cancer

Ray Hinton, Doug Arthur, Jerry Backus (father of Linda Kenyon), Baby William Goff, Don Jones, Patty Lawrence, Colleen Painter, Rose Peluso, Michelle Schrock, Wendy, Jess WineKing

Military and their families:

Austin Davidson, Erica Flanagan, Mason Fox, Kelly and Eric Keiser, Dan Kelly (deployed), John Kennard, Joseph Milner, Roland Sanchez, Bill Seaman, Beth Silsdorf, Jonathan Goeres-deployed

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings for August

August 7th

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 14th

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29--12:2
Luke 12:49-56

August 21st

Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

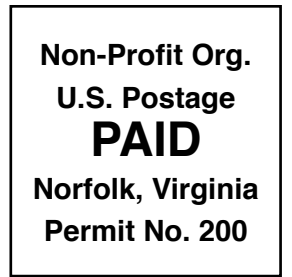
August 28th

Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

Worship Volunteers for August 2016

	AUGUST 7	AUGUST 14	AUGUST 21	AUGUST 28
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Don Buckley	Chuck Baynard	Elizabeth Vihnanek	Don Buckley
LECTOR OT	Neva Goeres	Don Lundquist	Lawrence Carr	Debbie Acors
LECTOR NT	Jonathan Miller	Don Buckley	John Whittmann	Ginger Van de Water
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	Jean Bozeman			
CRUCIFER/ BIBLE	Claire Willis / Natalie Schaus	Elizabeth Acors	Nano Masters	Orion Posey
TORCHES	Grace McGhee / Ella Kopf	Suzy Biboum / Lauren Silsdorf	Nina Metzger / Olivia New	Sydney Brown / Emily Weeks
ACOLYTES	Anna Willis / Brett Hogan	James Hood / David Weisenbeck	Felix Metzger / Maggie New	James Weeks / Johnny Sackel
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Denise Haag	Don Buckley		Debbie Acors
BREAD	Barbara Chapman	Jeanne Lampton	Mary Bissey	Debbie Acors
COFFEE HOUR	Jennie Wright	Lorette & Paul Horsboll		
COMMUNION SET-UP	Schaus Family	Chuck & Pat Baynard		Barbara Chapman / Jonathan Miller
COMMUNION CLEAN UP	Betty Jean Meyer	Chuck & Pat Baynard	Williams Family	Barbara Chapman / Jonathan Miller
FLOWERS	Julie Moberly	Kristen New	Joy Kelly	Janine Brown
FLOWER REARRANGING	Cassy Krawetzki / Emily Davidson	Cassy Krawetzki / Emily Davidson	Cassy Krawetzki / Emily Davidson	Cassy Krawetzki / Emily Davidson
FLOWER DELIVERY COORDINATORS				
GREETERS				
USHERS	Team One	Team One	Team One	Team One
VIDEOGRAPHER				

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