VOL. XXXI JUNE 2017

# Church is More Than Just Sunday Mornings

#### A Message From the Congregational Life Committee

recently heard a comment that said "Church is more than just Sunday mornings". Last month in the Contact cover article, Council President Simon Scott talked about the congregation in general and different ways to participate and support our Church. This month I'd like to continue in that vein to talk about the Congregational Life Committee. Congregational Life is a small group of dedicated folks who provide behind the scene support for church wide events throughout the year to help fellowship opportunities for the congregation. Service and serving is a large and important part of being a member of First Lutheran, but there are times where just plain relaxing, socializing and fun with fellow church members is also important. These events can help to foster a more cohesive sense of church "family" by simply getting to know one another better, to learn more about each other and develop closer relationships that bind us together.

With the Easter brunch behind us, the next event sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee is the annual church picnic on Saturday, June 3rd at Lafayette Park in Norfolk. The Congregational Life committee will coordinate the food and drinks, with a signup sheet for sides.

A Tides baseball game outing for church members has been tentatively set for Sunday, August 6th at 4PM. The Congregational Life committee is looking into purchasing tickets at a reduced group rate. More information to follow later.

The 4th Annual Stew and Brew is tentatively set for Saturday, October 14th. Share your best brews and stews

(or chili.) If you are not a homebrewer, then consider bringing in a craft beer to share from one of the many local microbreweries. Or, just bring yourself and enjoy the fellowship and food & drink. This will be a regional event and we are open to inviting folks from other churches in the area to participate. Last year, Pastor Scott Mims from Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Virginia Beach took home the coveted best brew prize. Will he be able to repeat that win this year, or will someone from First Lutheran take back the prize?

**NO. 6** 

The Congregational Life committee also organizes the Annual Church Meeting and Advent Coffee in the fall.

These are just a few of the events Congregation Life organizes during the Church year to provide opportunities to gather and give thanks for all that we have been given. If you would like to help support the committee, have ideas for new events, and get more involved in the life of our Church, contact Chairperson Jacob Weber, Pastor Cathy Mims, myself or any of the committee members. Remember to check the Congregational Life Committee bulletin board throughout the year for additional information and signup sheets. Also, check the weekly bulletins, Life Together emails and other social media to stay informed of the upcoming events that you can participate in.

Mike Haag

Congregational Life Committee Council Liaison

#### **New Choir Robes**



The choir wore their new robes on Palm Sunday, April 9th. The new robes were provided, in part, through the generosity of memorial funds.

#### **Youth Sunday**



On Sunday, May 7th, First Lutheran celebrated Youth Sunday, providing the opportunity for the youth of the congregation to lead both worship services.

# Slover Library Outing

On Tuesday, May 9th, members of First Lutheran and the Adult Ministry enjoyed a fun and informative tour of the contemporary architecture of the new Slover Library in downtown Norfolk, followed by lunch and fellowship at 3-Way Cafe.





**Summer Sunday School** 

Summer Sunday School is getting a makeover! Our children and youth will be focusing on service projects and learning about our community. We're putting love into action as we discover how our faith connects us to others in the community. We start on June 11 learning about what the Bible says about hunger and helping those in need, and then we will decorate grocery bags and pack them with food that will be given to Ghent Area Ministries. Your donations of non-perishable food items are much appreciated to help with this service project. This every-age group will meet in Room 209. #summerservicefun



#### **Connect with Others**

#### **Congregation Picnic**



The annual FLC Congregational Picnic will be held on **Saturday**, **June 3rd**, **at 11:00 AM** at Lafayette Park (Shelter #2) in Norfolk! A Sign-Up Genius list has been created so that you may RSVP with the size of your group, and to specify which side dish you would like to share. A paper sign-up form is also available on the Congregational Life bulletin board. The committee will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, condiments, drinks, and paper products. Come join the fun and fellowship!

#### **Synod Assembly**

Please pray for our First Lutheran voting members and all those who gather from across the Synod as they meet June 9th – 11th at this year's Synod Assembly. This is a very important assembly year as a new Bishop will be elected. Those going from First include Elana Ilardi, Alyssa Kaplan, Eric Peterson, Charles Poston, David Redilla, Karen Siegel, Pastor Bozeman, Pastor Mims, and Pastor Goeres.

#### **Martha Circle**

Come celebrate summer! Martha Circle will meet on June 17 at 7:00 PM at the home of Ginger Van de Water, 416 W. Freemason St. Norfolk, for our annual summer social. Guests are welcome! Bring an appetizer or dessert plus your favorite beverage. Please RSVP to Ginger at va404@aol.com.

#### **Youth Events**

Please pray for our youth, adult leaders, and pastors as they attend Kairos and Confirmation Camp this month. Kairos is our Synod event for 9th – 12th graders and is held June 25th – 30th at Roanoke College; Confirmation Camp for 7th and 8th grade youth is June 25th – July 1st at Lutheridge camp in Arden, NC.

#### **Lydia Circle**

Lydia Circle will have its end-of-year luncheon on Tuesday, June 6th, at 11:00 AM, in the Reception Room. Please let Pam Baynard know if you plan to attend. 638-4812, pbaynard65@charter.net

## Another opportunity to serve!

Several Norfolk churches have become involved in a project called Laundry Love that started on the West Coast. This "initiative consists of regular opportunities to help people who are struggling financially by assisting them with doing their laundry." One evening a month church volunteers are on hand at Soap -n-Suds at 2515 Colley Avenue to pass out store cards and laundry supplies to those in need. To help determine whether this is a project for our church to sponsor on a continuing basis, Merrie Jo Milner and Chuck and Pam Baynard have volunteered FLC to help June 15 from 5:30pm-7:00pm. If you can help by volunteering that night, or if you would like to contribute money toward soap and laundromat cards, see one of them after the service, or contact them at merjomil@cox.net or pbaynard65@ charter.net. For more information about Laundry Love, check the website www.laundrylove.org.

W	orship Vol	lunteers fo	or June 20	17				
DATE	JUNE 4 (Pentecost)	JUNE 11 (Holy Trinity)	JUNE 18	JUNE 25				
ASSISTING MINISTERS	(8:30) Karen Siegel (11)	(8:30) Chuck Baynard (11)	(8:30) Gail Plauka (11) Rich Whittecar	(8:30) Jim Harvey (11)				
LECTOR OT	(8:30) Karen Siegel (11) Eric Peterson	(8:30) Don Lundquist (11) Janet Eggen	(8:30) David Perron (11) Judy Basco	(8:30) Jim Harvey (11) Debbie Acors				
LECTOR NT	(8:30) Karen Siegel (11) Jean Bozeman	(8:30) Robert Green (11) Barbara Ross	(8:30) Eric Peterson (11) Frank Minschke	(8:30) June Harvey (11) Jim Seagraves				
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	(8:30) Pastor Goeres (11) Pastor Goeres	(8:30) (11)	(8:30) (11)	(8:30) (11)				
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	(8:30) Jane Van Wolkenten (11) Neva Goeres	(8:30) Don Buckley / (11) Rich Whittecar / Lynn Utecht	(8:30) John Bissey (11)	(8:30) June Harvey / (11)				
BREAD	Tammy DiBiaso	Mary Bissey		Kaye McGinnis				
COFFEE HOUR	(8:30) Lorette & Paul Horsboll (11)	(8:30) (11)	(8:30) (11)	(8:30) Jim & June Harvey (11)				
COMMUNION SET-UP	(8:30 Jane van Wolkenten / Schaus Family	(8:30) Chuck & Pam Baynard	(8:30) Ken & Melissa Zaletski	(8:30) Barbara Chapman / Jonathan Miller				
COMMUNION CLEAN UP	(8:30 Jane van Wolkenten / Schaus Family (11) Robinson Family / Masters Family / Barbara	(8:30) Williams Family (11) Robinson Family / Masters Family / Barbara Cordrey	(8:30) Williams Family (11) Robinson Family / Masters Family / Barbara Cordrey	(8:30) Barbara Chapman / Jonathan Miller (11) Robinson Family / Masters Family / Barbara				
FLOWERS								
	Joy Kelly	Janine Brown	Julie Moberly	Kirstin New				
FLOWER REARRANGING	Rebecca Dozier / Merrie Jo Milner	Rebecca Dozier / Merrie Jo Milner	Rebecca Dozier / Merrie Jo Milner	Rebecca Dozier / Merrie Jo Milner				
FLOWER DELIVERY	Denise & Mike Haag							
GREETERS		Domos a						
	(8:30) (11)	(8:30) (11)	(8:30) (11)	(8:30) (11)				
USHERS	(8:30) Team One (11) Tim Hund, Steve Fox, Barry Halcrow, Joe Leafe, Charles Poston, Bill Robinson, Ginger Van de (8:30) Team One (11) William Wattai Basco, Linda Braat Gregg Clifford, Dav Redilla, Dick Temp		(8:30) Team One (11) Don Strehlow,Mark Utecht, John Wittmann	(8:30) Team One (11) Bruce Johnson, Steve Asam, Bob Braaten, Don Buckley, Chris Coffing, Gail Plauka				
VIDEOGRAPHER	Ardie Ilardi							

# **June 2017**

Worship every Sunday at 8:30 and 11 AM. Nursery available. Sunday School at 9:45 AM with classes for children, youth and adults. Nursery available. Office Hours: 9 AM—4 PM Monday-Thursday, 9 AM -1 PM Friday Weekday Men's Bible Study: 7 AM Wednesdays at 21st Street IHOP

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry	I	2	<i>₃</i> Congregation Picnic
Reformation Fair 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	5 7 PM Church Council	11 AM—Lydia Circle 12:30 PM—Adult Ministry 7 PM—Martha Circle	7 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry	8 10 AM—Quilt Group	9 Synod .	10 Synod Assembly
11 Synod Assembly 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	12	13	14 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry	15 Contact Deadline	16	17
Father's Day  8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	19	20	21 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry	22 10 AM—Quilt Group	23	24
25 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	26	27	28 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry	29	30	

#### **Connect with Word and Body**

#### **Prayer Concerns for June**

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 Dan Kelly's safe return home from deployment.
- ...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.
- ...that God's mercy is intimately ours.

#### Pray that we

...are confident that our bedrock of stability and our common ground is Jesus Christ.

#### Help us

- ...to be intentional in showing grace to others.
- ...to nurture one another in our faith lives.

#### **Pray for**

- ...comfort and peace for the family and friends of Beth Ann Adams upon her death.
- ...the great niece of **Henrietta Evenson**.
- ...for victims of terrorism and for refugees.
- ...the people of Syria.
- ...for political prisoners.
- ...for all those who are mourning the loss of loved ones.
- ...for the homeless, unemployed and underemployed.

# Becky Baldwin, Roger Fuller, Patty Graham, Susan Griffin, Carolyn Meakin, Kelley Minschke, Lorna Moss, Betty Phillips, Deb Thompson, Nancy Thorpe, Jody Unruh, Howard Warren, Michelle and Mike Barcia, Dana, Charles Davis, Ellen Michelle, Barbara Fayton Gaines, Gale, Gary, Gene, The Glenn Family, Hanna, Howard, Devin Hubert, Jo (sister of Karen McGinnis), Linda, Jeanette, Nick, Erin and Kate Testone, Theo, Mrs. Watson, Kate Wright and Family

#### Those dealing with cancer

**Ray Hinton,** Bethann Adams, Adele Andrews, Michelle Caulley, Ramona Denny, Larry Griffin, Yvonne Gulick, Suzanne Lasseigne, Amy Riberdy, Jenny Squires, Joan Sutera

#### Military and their families:

Austin Davidson, Erica Flanagan, Mason Fox, Kelly and Eric Keiser, Dan Kelly, Joseph Milner, Roland Sanchez, Bill Seaman, Beth Silsdorf, Kevin Foster-deployed, Jonathan Goeres-deployed, Tim Kelly-deployed, John Marfield-deployed

Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

### Readings for June

#### June 4th

#### **Pentecost Sunday**

Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23

#### June 11th

#### **Holy Trinity Sunday**

Genesis 1:1--2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

#### June 18th

Exodus 19:2-8a Psalm 100 Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35--10:8 [9-23]

#### June 25th

Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15]
16-18
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

## Women and the Reformation



"I am prepared to lose everything, even life or limb. May God stand by me." So wrote Argula von Grumbach (1492–1563/68?) from Bavaria, who found Martin Luther's message of Christian freedom and equality empowering. This noble woman challenged an entire Catholic university in Ingolstadt in defense of Lutheran faith and a student persecuted for "Lutheran heresy." This

best-selling lay author with her letter-treatises eventually disappeared under pressure from male authorities. Luther considered her a valiant hero of faith.

The Protestant principles "scripture alone," "grace alone," and "priesthood of all believers" inspired women just like men to reengage Christian faith and find renewed spiritual meaning in their daily vocations. With the newly written catechisms and hymns, women were equipped to teach the revived faith to their households, where they exercised significant leadership in matters of religious practice. Women lost the monastic option as convents were closed in Protestant areas, but they benefited significantly from the education provided even for peasant girls.

Whereas the Reformation theology proclaimed equality in Christian love and freedom from human-made bonds, women were forbidden to preach or teach in public. Motherhood was presented to women as the holiest of callings, on a par with that of apostles and bishops. So women used creativity in embracing their domestic calling and the authority it brought along.

Katharine Schütz Zell (1498–1562), a widely published lay author who had no children of her own, identified herself with a calling of a "church mother." In this role she exercised pastoral authority by the side of her pastor-husband in Strasbourg, even daring to preach at funerals. Her scintillating writings in defense of marriage may have caused an uproar, yet her pastoral texts and a hymnbook demonstrate her desire to promote ecumenical unity and to empower Christians to sing the gospel with new voices. Like von Grumbach, she also corresponded with Luther.

Another associate of Luther was Duchess Elisabeth von Braunschweig (1485–1555), who used her authority as the "mother of the people in her land" to implement Lutheran faith through legislation. Like her own mother earlier, Elisabeth had suffered exile from her Catholic husband and children once she confessed her faith in public by receiving the sacrament in a Lutheran rite. Her advice to her son, whom she groomed as a Lutheran ruler, was that he should obey God, the emperor—and his mother.

Of all the Reformation mothers, the most famous is Luther's beloved Katharina von Bora (1499–1552). She won the heart and admiration of Luther, who had orchestrated the escape of Katharina and eleven other nuns from their convent. As his equal "partner in calamity," Katharina mothered their six children and managed the intricate finances and other affairs of their bustling household. Luther admitted that next to the Holy Spirit, he obeyed his wife-"lord," Katharina.



These and other mothers of faith took significant risks and endured criticism if not even persecution for their choices. Their involvement was crucial for the new faith to take root.

Kirsi Stjerna

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		Jur	ne Bi	rthdays			
Phillip Shore	3-Jun	Lawrence Carr	11-Jun	Richard Whittecar	17-Jun	Karen McGinnis	23-Jun
Emily Young	3-Jun	Barry Halcrow	12-Jun	Stephen Asam	18-Jun	Tucker Gates	24-Jun
Elizabeth Acors	4-Jun	Taija Medley	12-Jun	Jerome Brinker	19-Jun	Sarah Hilton	24-Jun
Mana Masters	5-Jun	Emily Mitchell	12-Jun	Karen McGinnis	19-Jun	Michelle Fenley	26-Jun
Kolby Seese	6-Jun	Maya Zamani	12-Jun	Anne Krueck	20-Jun	Kenzie Levensalor	27-Jun
Charles Sikorski	6-Jun	Mary Sever	13-Jun	Bob Ritchey	20-Jun	Henrietta Evenson	28-Jun
Bonnie Elverum	7-Jun	Rachel Jordan	14-Jun	Kerri Seaman	20-Jun	Grady Erwin	29-Jun
Jeanne Lampton	8-Jun	Steve Fox	15-Jun	Noah Vera Cruz	20-Jun	Julianna Schaus	29-Jun
Danusia Mason	9-Jun	Kinsley Nordan	15-Jun	Grace Moore	21-Jun	Dallas Williams	29-Jun
James Weeks	9-Jun	Simon Scott	16-Jun	Margaret New	21-Jun	Pei Williams	29-Jun
Kelly Hogan	10-Jun	Ray Hinton	17-Jun	Lynn Hayden	22-Jun	John Wittmann	29-Jun
Eric Peterson	10-Jun	Mia Levensalor	17-Jun	David Gillotte	23-Jun	Molly Kenyon	30-Jun

First Lutheran Church 1301 Colley Avenue Norfolk, VA 23517

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