

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

At our Thursday afternoon Bible Study class, which you are invited to join, we are discussing Jesus' parables. A parable is essentially a comparison. For Jesus, that means comparing. Comparing something familiar to the common human experience of those living in Jesus' day. It is kind of like instruction in daily living.

You may have a favorite parable that speaks to you. I can't choose just one! Depending on the circumstances in my life, my favorite changes. This summer I am drawn to the Sower. The farmer who goes out into his field and wildly and with abandon scatters seeds anywhere and everywhere. He does not know how the seeds grow, he only knows that it begins with a seed and God does the rest.

In Mark's version of this parable, the seeds had four things against it: lack of soil, no depth of soil, the scorching of the heat and no roots. How is a seed to grow against these odds?!! Jesus says the focus must be on the sowing of the seed and its results, not on the seed or the soil.

The parable of the sower teaches us to be faithful in our daily lives. To go out and sow seeds of service and love. In so doing, the seed of your heart will be transformed by your good work.

As you consider how you might sow seeds this summer, you could volunteer at the food pantry, or as a greeter, or help a new immigrant settle into Sioux City by supporting Lutheran Services of Iowa. Whatever seed you sow, it will do your heart good! May this summer be a time of growth and transformation for you!

PASTOR VRISTINE



FIRST LUTHERAN ANNUAL PICNIC

The date for the Annual Picnic will be August 13 at the Izaak Walton League Clubhouse in McCook Lake, South Dakota.



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RAGBRAI "Blessing of the Bikes"

On Sunday, July 23rd, RAGBRAI will be in our neighborhood!

The ELCA Iowa Bishops will be departing from First Lutheran on the first leg of their week-long journey. We will be gathering at a



time yet to be determined on Sunday morning to bless their bikes and send them off. Members of our Siouxland ELCA congregations will be invited to join us Sunday morning. A planning team is busy putting together a fun event to bless the bishops who are raising funds and awareness of the hunger and poverty.

If you would like to help plan or support this event, please contact Pastor Kristine and she or one of the planning team members will put you to work! Thank you in advance and stay tuned for more details in the near future!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

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The group which has been meeting on Thursdays to study scripture invites you to join them. We are taking a break until July 20th when we will resume our parable studies. The parable we study will be printed in the bulletin for the coming week, you will also be able to check our website for a weekly update as well. You are invited to read through the parable before coming to class, and then engage in a lively conversation about what Jesus may have meant by the story he illustrates in his parable. Hope to see you there!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Vanessa and Jackie want to remind parents, Sunday School will be running all summer!

SOUP KITCHEN

Here it is again - another month, and another chance to help out with serving and cleaning up at the Soup Kitchen! The date is Tuesday, July 11th from 4:00 - 6:00. They are in need of five volunteers from our great group of friends here at First Lutheran! Please contact Candy at (712) 251-9411 if you would like to join us that day!

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July 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tueday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<u>Key</u> CR = Community Rm FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room						1	
2 10:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion	3 Office Closed	4 Office Closed	5 9:00 Food Pantry	6	79:00 Quilters FH7:00 AA FH	8	
After Worship - Fellowship, FR	Pastor on Continuing Education						
	7:00 Scouts FH	Independence Day					
9 10:00 Worship After Worship -	10 Office Closed	11	12 9:00 Food Pantry	13	149:00 Quilters FH7:00 AA FH	15	
Fellowship, FR	Pastor on V	acation					
	7:00 Scouts FH						
16 10:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion After Worship - Fellowship, FR	17 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	18 10:00 Text Study	9:00 Food Pantry 12:30 Rachel Circle	20 1:00 Adult Bible Study, FR	21 9:00 Quilters FH 7:00 AA FH	22	
	6:30 Mary Circle 7:00 Scouts FH	6:30 Council Meeting					
RAGBRAI - Blessing of the Bikes 10:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion After Worship - Fellowship, FR	Pastor's Day Off Office Closed 7:00 Scouts FH	25 10:00 Text Study	26 9:00 Food Pantry	27 1:00 Adult Bible Study, FR	28 9:00 Quilters FH 7:00 AA FH	29	
30 10:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion After Worship - Fellowship, FR	Pastor's Day Off Office Closed 7:00 Scouts FH	Come to me, all you that an weary	re	A sou went to s	cut cut		

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Worship Leadership Calendar

Lectionary	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23 Bishop Bike Blessing	July 30
ASSISTING MINISTER	Bruce Miller	Bruce Miller Dan Moore	Alison Hertenstein	Dan Moore	Janet Gross
SACRISTAN	Chris Taylor Tyler Hagan	Chris Taylor	Kaia Downing	Jenny Denne	Mike VanBeest
READER	Catherine Rommel	Alison Hertenstein	Jackie Paulson	Bruce Miller	Jim Lippke
COMMUNION MINISTER	Jim Lippke		Kaia Downing	Jenny Denne	Mike VanBeest
USHER/GREETERS	Jay Schenzel Chris Taylor Mark Viksten	Mike Mahaney Richard Storm Lee Knop	Mike VanBeest Denise Powell Kaia Downing	Gary Troth Mike VanBeest Bev Rosenkrans	Denise Powell Ann Doellinger Richard Storm
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS	Jenny & Jami Denne	Bev Rosenkrans Fran Krommenhoek	Enola Peters, Ann Doellinger	Mary McCoy Dorothy Chauncey	Julie & Brian Thiele





HELPING IN THE HOLY FAMILY FOOD PANTRY

June 6, 13, 20, 27 Janet Gross & Nissa Downing preparing bags for Wednesday distribution.

June 28	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Sue Mullin	Candy Johnson	Mary McCoy	Ann Doellinger	Dorothy Goettsch
Nadine Holst	Bev Rosenkrans	Jeanne Hanna	Becki McGlauflin	Nadine Holst

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