



## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Where has the summer gone?

I am pleased that I got a couple of the items on my to-do list checked off this summer! I attended a music conference where 250 professional musicians created an unbelievable choir! We sang in four-part harmony at the drop of a hat and worshipped God at full volume! We attended workshops to learn new music and new skills. And, we discussed the challenges of inviting worshippers to sing a *new* song! I enjoyed the company of dear friends, met new friends and delighted in worshipping without leading!

Another item on my to-do list has been to enjoy the summer days. To sit out on my deck with a book and listen to the starlings sing, the deer drop by for a visit, and the butterfly to rest for a moment on a blooming flower. Simple, ordinary summer day events, yet each moment is precious.

May the Creator of the cosmos, bless you with summer days which are life-giving, full of what you love to do, and opportunities to rest in the joy of the One who loves you and promises to be with you.

*Pastor Kristine*

## RAGBRAI "Blessing of the Bikes"

Thanks to all....who attended and assisted at our RAGBRAI Iowa Bishop *Blessing of the Bikes!* We were promised three bishops, but we had four bishops, including the bishop from Nebraska. There is still time to donate to the bishops' cause: awareness of hunger. The congregation council is offering a matching gift up to \$500 to the ELCA World Hunger efforts. If you would like to donate to this effort, please clearly indicate RAGBRAI donation on your check and place your contribution in the offering plate or inform Jody in the office of your on-line donation. However you choose to contribute....thank you!



Many thanks to the RAGBRAI Planning Team, which outdid themselves as they welcomed overnight RAGBRAI guests, prepared a continental breakfast, participated in the blessing service, and decorated the driveway to highlight the starting point. Our thanks to those who gave of their time and talent!

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Our study of Jesus' parables continues this summer on Thursday afternoons at 1 pm in the Fireside Room through August 24. A parable is a story which illustrates an instructive example or a lesson. The parable we study will be printed in the bulletin for the coming week, you will also be able to check our website for an 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!

## FIRST BLOOMS

Throughout the summer we give thanks to those who have beautified our church grounds. Many hands devotedly give of their time and talent to tending to our flower gardens, lawn care, signage and building. To all who help make First Lutheran a beautiful campus...thank you! Your efforts are much appreciated!

## SAVE THE DATE - God's Work. Our Hands.

On Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, we will have the opportunity to participate in a service project. First Lutheran service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Following worship you will have the opportunity to work on a service project around the church, this year we are highlighting the outdoor play area behind the gym. All are welcome to participate in this event in the life of the congregation. More information will be shared in the coming weeks.

## PICK UP CHOIR, AUGUST 13TH

On Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, we will gather as a choir to sing. Yvonne will lead the choir and rehearse a familiar anthem to sing during the offering. The rehearsal is at 9:30 am in the sanctuary near the piano. This is not just for "regular" choir members! If you have thought about singing with the choir, this is a great opportunity to try it out! We hope to see you there...young and not so young, come! We'll make a joyful noise to the Lord!

## HOLY FAMILY FOOD PANTRY

The Holy Family Food Pantry at First Lutheran has continued to serve the purpose of reducing food insecurity here in Siouxland. Over the past six months we have served an average of 43 family units per week. This ministry here would not be possible if a fantastic team of volunteers was not available to help out. We are grateful for those who transport product from the Food Bank to church, those that set up, distribute, and clean up our pantry days, those that grow and share produce, and those that support our ministry through financial support and Thrivent cards! At the Annual Picnic on Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> proceeds from the auction will go to our food pantry's ministry efforts!



# AUGUST

# 2023

Sunday    Monday    Tuesday    Wednesday    Thursday    Friday    Saturday

	<p>1 10:00 Text Study</p>	<p>2 9:00 Food Pantry</p>	<p>3 1:00 Adult Bible Study, FR</p>	<p>4 7:00 AA, FH</p>	<p>5</p>	
<p>6 10:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion <b>After Worship - Fellowship, FR</b></p>	<p>7 <b>Office Closed</b> 7:00 Scouts, FH</p>	<p>8 10:00 Text Study</p>	<p>9 9:00 Food Pantry</p>	<p>10 1:00 Adult Bible Study, FR</p>	<p>11 7:00 AA, FH</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 10:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion <b>After Worship - Fellowship, FR</b> <b>Annual Picnic @ Izaak Walton League Clubhouse 5-8pm</b></p>	<p>14 <b>Office Closed</b> 7:00 Scouts, FH</p>	<p>15 10:00 Text Study 6:30 Council Meeting, FR</p>	<p>16 9:00 Food Pantry 12:30 Rachel Circle, FR</p>	<p>17 1:00 Adult Bible Study, FR</p>	<p>18 7:00 AA, FH</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 10:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion <b>After Worship - Fellowship, FR</b></p>	<p>21 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:30 Mary Circle, FR 7:00 Scouts, FH</p>	<p>22 10:00 Text Study</p>	<p>23 9:00 Food Pantry</p>	<p>24 1:00 Adult Bible Study, FR</p>	<p>25 7:00 AA, FH</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 10:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion <b>After Worship - Fellowship, FR</b></p>	<p>28 <b>Office Closed</b> 7:00 Scouts, FH</p>	<p>29 10:00 Text Study</p>	<p>30 9:00 Food Pantry</p>	<p>31</p>	<p><i>Key</i> CR = Community Rm FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room</p>	

# Worship Leadership Calendar

Pentecost 2023A Summer	August 6	August 13	August 20	August 27
ASSISTING MINISTER	Bruce Miller	Vicar Paige McGrath	Alison Hertenstein	Dan Moore
SACRISTAN/ COMMUNION MINISTER	Mike VanBeest	Chris Taylor	Julie Thiele	Ian Hertenstein
READER	Mark Viksten	Catherine Rommel	Enola Peters	Janet Gross
USHER/ GREETERS	Mike Mahaney, Gary, Candy Johnson	Jay Schenzel, Mike VanBeest Denise Powell	Gary Troth Enola Peters Bruce Miller	Mike VanBeest Richard Storm Sarah Biorn
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS	Tammy & Mike Mahaney	Schenzel Family	Pastor Kristine Alison Hertenstein	Mary McCoy Becki McGlaufflin



## ANNUAL PICNIC

The annual picnic will be August 13th at Izaak Walton Clubhouse, from 5-8 pm. Bring a dish to share (there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex), and an auction item. All proceeds go to the Food Pantry. Come for fun and fellowship!



It was a very busy and fun-serving shift at the Soup Kitchen on Tuesday, July 11th. First Lutheran members who generously gave their time were Becki McGlaufflin, Dorothy Chauncey, Cindy Bennett, Doug and Lori Webb and Candy Noonan-Johnson. Thank you so much!!



2023 radio and livestream sponsor signup lists are in the narthex.

## HELPING IN THE HOLY FAMILY FOOD PANTRY

August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Janet Gross & Nissa Downing preparing bags for Wednesday distribution.

August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
Chris Taylor Sue Mullin	Mary McCoy Jeanne Hanna	Ann Doellinger Becki McGlaufflin	Sue Mullin Nancy Brehm	Chris Taylor Sue Mullin