

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH CHIMES

August 15, 2010
Volume 49, Issue 16
www.firstgeneseo.org

Sharing Christ's Love

WORSHIP WITH US THIS WEEKEND!

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.



Faithtime is an evening of “*Sharing Christ’s Love*” through fellowship, food, music & arts, and education for all ages. All members and guests of First Lutheran Church are welcome to participate in any of Faithtime’s activities! Faithtime begins Wednesday, September 1.

- 3:15 p.m. Check In, Snack, Games & Bible Lesson for children grades 1-6 immediately after school
- 4:00 p.m. Faithtime Troupe for children grades 1-3
Celebration Choir—A vocal choir for children grades 4-6
Youth Room is open every Wednesday for youth grades 9-12
- 4:30 p.m. Sonshine Choir—A vocal choir for children grades 1-3
Faithtime Troupe for children grades 4-6
- 5:00-5:30 p.m. Check Out for children grades 1-6 in Zaccheus’ Tree House
- 5:00 p.m. Psalm 150—An instrumental group for youth grades 7-12
- 5:00-6:15 p.m. Dinner—An inexpensive meal that is continuously served throughout this time. The cost of the meal is \$2 per child ages 3 through 11, \$4 for ages 12 through adult, or \$15 per family
- 5:30 p.m. Confirmation is open to all youth in grades 7-8
First Book Club—meets the second Wednesday of each month
- 6:00 p.m. Senior High Ministry—programming for all Sr. High youth
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Education—Pastor’s Class
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir—An adult choir that provides leadership

**NEW OFFICE HOURS
AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

8:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

The office will be open over the lunch hour.

The new office hours will begin on Monday, August 16.



On Retreat

There is a minimum yearly standard for continuing education for every pastor who serves within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This standard is two weeks including two Sundays. This standard also includes a budget line item so that the pastor can afford to attend events that are designed to enrich and renew both the pastor and the congregation.

This standard is in place to create an expectation. For the pastor, it's the expectation that they will take the time to grow in mind and soul. For the congregation, it's the expectation that they will insist that their pastor takes the time to better themselves which in turn betters the parish.

I take my two weeks every year. Over the last few years, I have found a good pattern that works for me. One week, I attend an event. This year, I attended an Evangelism Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska. The other week, I take a reading week. I read a variety of books that I have collected over the previous year.

It's important for Christian leaders to grow. But here's the deal, I'm not the only Christian leader at First Lutheran Church. I have a team of people who serve with me. The staff also needs to grow. In fact, we are so committed to this principle that each First Lutheran job description has continuing education as one expectation for employment.

This is exactly why I facilitated a staff retreat this year. From August 6 through August 8, the staff of First Lutheran Church was on retreat together in Galena, Illinois.

Our facilitator was Pr. Greg Bouvier. Pr. Greg serves as the executive pastor of Sheridan Lutheran Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. Sheridan Lutheran is the largest congregation in the Nebraska Synod of the

ELCA. Before attending the retreat, all of us read the book *Leadership and Self Deception* by the Arbinger Institute. Pr. Greg is a twenty year friend who provided his services free of cost to our parish.

Pr. Greg had three sessions on Spiritual Leadership. Each session lasted two or three hours where we looked at our own individual hearts and how we function as a team. Yet another session was facilitated by Pr. Greg and our congregational president, Dan Brudos. In that session, we assessed our strengths, weaknesses and future goals as a staff.

There was also time for us to get to know one another. In addition to our current staff, we are welcoming three new people to our team. This retreat helped us to get to know each other better.

Lastly, we gathered for worship. Before we left, we gathered for Word and Sacrament. I lead the service, while Pr. Greg preached. We prayed for you as you were praying for us.

This was an important event for the life of First Lutheran Church. This retreat gave the space for the staff to grow in their faith, to assess our ministry, to deepen our relationships and to grow in our leadership. All this and more occurred, simply because we went on retreat together.

And do you know who will benefit the most from the staff retreat? That's right! God's people will benefit the most! As the staff of First Lutheran Church intellectually, spiritually, organizationally and emotionally grows, the ministry of First Lutheran Church is strengthened. I rejoice that I serve a parish that takes seriously the growth of its leaders.

—Pr. Arthur

“And now bless the God of all, who everywhere works great wonders, who fosters our growth from birth, and deals with us according to his mercy.”
Sirach 50:22

August 21 & 22, 2010

13 Pentecost

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord desires to share this day with us by feeding, forgiving, helping and healing us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing. This weekend's texts include Isaiah 58:9b-14, Psalm 103:1-8, Hebrews 12:18-29 and Luke 13:10-17.

August 28 & 29, 2010

14 Pentecost

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at the table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still. This weekend's texts include Proverbs 25:6-7, Psalm 112, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 and Luke 14:1, 7-14.

**FIRST
WORSHIP
& MUSIC**



Please keep the following Lifelines petitions in your prayers:

World and Community: For our leaders: President Barack Obama and Governor Pat Quinn.

For regions suffering with violence: Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan. For those soldiers in harms way: James Bent, Brian Fink, Jeff Libby, Joshua Rowold and Matt Tallman.

Church: For our bishops: Rev. Mark Hansen and Rev. Dr. Gary Wollersheim. For our partners in ministry: Pastor Paul Metili and the people of Osupuko Parish in Tanzania, Rev. Vijayakumar, Bishop of the Arcot Lutheran Synod, India and the Northwest Haiti Christian Mission in Haiti. For missionaries who share the Gospel around the world, especially Katie Blobaum and Randy & Carol Stubbs and family. For Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. For our pastors, parish staff, Preschool staff and Church Council (names listed on pg. 8).

Health and Wellbeing: Bob & Vi Anderson, Dick Anderson, Doug Anderson, Gene Belvel, Jo Ann Bengtson, Norris Bennett, Sarah Bognanno, Mike Bowen, Ryan Brandemeyer, Karis Breeden, Kari Bridgewater, Jackie Burns, Mike Byers, Erma Cikanek, Dawn Collins, Richard Collins, Quinn Collins, Susan Corcoran, Jeff Dahl, Mary Ann Daniels, Katelyn DeRycke, Lori Dodge, Madison Dolieslager, Betty Drefchinski, Charles Drummond, Kim Ehlinger, Aaron Elmendorf, Judy Enos, Bonnie Falkenstien, Fred Falkenstein, Ruth Floto, Marlene Franklin, Lee Fulton, Roy Gentry, Bill George, Rob Gilmore, Vicky Goff, Ida Goldsmith, Ed Goodall, Loretta Grassel, Carolyn Griffin, Leslie Hamilton, Kirsten Haneberg, Arliss Heist, Christina Henry, David Howe, Sharon Hulick, Dee Johns, Colleen Johnson, Elna Johnson, Virgil H. Johnson, Laura Keser, Kevin Klemmer, Elise Lambert, Chuck Landon, Larry Larson, Gail LaVinn, Katie Lawless, Bev Lewis, Larry Lowery, Bill Lundy, Pam Martens, Kathy Mayerle, Holly McDonald, John McDowell, Pastor Barbara Melaas-Swanson, Voy Mitchell, Christina Nelson, Danielle & Samantha Noe, Jenna Noel, Nancy Noord, Vicki Orsi, Mary Ortega, Glenna Palmer, Lois Puls, Bob Pyevich, Tammy Quade, Jessie Rayns, Jeff Renihan, Linda Rice, Mary Ann Rodems, Austin Ross, Andrew Roth, Betty Satterlee, Maudie Short, Barb Sierra, Luke Snodgrass, Cary Stach, Mark Stader, Linda Steimle, Bill Stenzel, Basil & Ethel Stewart, Fran Swanson, Mildred Swanson, Nicky Tesson, Dolores TwoBears, Charlotte Vandemark, Mitzi Ware, Mike Winter and Eldon Zimmerman.

Joys: Births of Hayden Mark & Baylie Kay to Tracie & Brian Douglas and grandchildren of Ron & Kelly Nelson. Theresa Johnson is done with treatments and doing well. Nadene Kalchbrenner is slowly recovering and thanks everyone for their prayers for healing. Paul Gradert is improved.

Sorrows: On the death of Helen Terpening, member; Scott Davis and Mildred Johnson.

If you wish to submit a prayer request, please contact Sue Wolf in the church office at 944-3196 or by e-mail prayers@firstgeneseo.org. If you or a member of your family have a medical procedure planned or are admitted to the hospital, please call the church office. In the event of an after-hours emergency please contact Pastor Arthur at home at 309-944-2034.

**FIRST
PRAYER**

FIRST FAITHTIME MINISTRIES

Faithtime Start Up

Faithtime is gearing up! An exciting year is in store for those who attend. On Wednesday, September 1, the full Faithtime schedule will resume. A Faithtime Brochure highlighting the complete schedule and opportunities will be coming soon!



Faithtime Music & Arts Program

All children in grades 1-6 are invited to participate in the Faithtime Music & Arts program at First. This program provides children the opportunity to prepare songs, drama, puppets, movement, art, and hand chime anthems for presentation in Sunday morning worship. Registration forms and information for the 2010-11 program year are available at the Welcome Center. The Faithtime Music & Arts program begins on Wednesday, September 1.

Psalm 150

Beginning on Wednesday, September 1, all youth grades 7-12 who play an instrument are invited to participate in Psalm 150. Rehearsals will be from 5-5:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. Psalm 150 plays both contemporary and traditional music and provides special music for worship.

Faithtime Evening Meal

Beginning on Wednesday, September 1, an evening meal will be offered each week during Faithtime. The meal will be continuously served from 5 p.m. through 6:15 p.m. The cost is \$2 per child ages 3 through 11, \$4 for ages 12 through adult, or \$15 per family. Everyone is invited to join us at Faithtime meals every Wednesday. Make Faithtime your mealtime!

Confirmation Orientation

On Wednesday, August 25 an orientation meeting will take place in the Fellowship Room at 7 p.m. for all 7th & 8th grade confirmation students and their parents. At that meeting, each student will be registered and the requirements of the program will be detailed. We look forward to meeting our confirmation students and their families. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Schefsky, Director of Children's & Faithtime Ministries at 944-3196 (lschefsky@firstgeneseo.org).

Faithtime Adult Education

An adult education class will be led by Pr. Arthur every Wednesday beginning September 1 at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room A. Pastor's class will begin with a four-part series that will examine the lives of four people of faith from the New Testament. On Wednesday, September 1, Peter will be the focus. A second adult education opportunity at Faithtime is First Book Club which meets the second Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in Sunday School Room 5—*Temple Tales* on the 2nd floor. On September 8 the book *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* written by David Wroblewski will be discussed.

Sanctuary Choir—*Come and sing!*

Sanctuary Choir will kick off the program year with an evening of food, fellowship and song on Sunday, August 29 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. All current members, their spouses, and any other adults, high school age and older, interested in singing in Sanctuary Choir are welcome to attend. Please bring a side dish or dessert; the meat, drinks and table service will be provided. Regular rehearsal will begin on Wednesday, September 1 at 7:15 p.m. in the Choir Room.

Glory Ringers—*Come and ring!*

Glory Ringers, First Lutheran's handbell choir, will begin rehearsing on Tuesday, September 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. Senior High youth and adults are welcome to participate. (*A basic ability to read music and count rhythm is helpful*). For more information on either of the above groups, please contact Melinda Wildermuth, Director of Worship & Music, at 944-3196 (mwildermuth@firstgeneseo.org).

Confirmation Kick Off Event

For all students going into 7th & 8th grades, please join us for day camp at the Geneseo Campgrounds on August 28 from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. Cost is \$5 a person to offset the rental fees and dinner. We will be canoeing, kayaking, playing games (*water may be involved*) and enjoying a wiener roast out by the campfire. This will be a great way to start off our year and begin coming together as a team. Friends are welcome! Sign up at the Welcome Center. I look forward to seeing you there. Questions, contact Lori Schefsky, Director of Children's & Faithtime Ministries, at 944-3196 (lschefsky@firstgeneseo.org).

FIRST MINISTRIES



Acolyte Training

Acolyte training will be held for all 7th grade youth entering the confirmation program. Youth may attend training on Saturday, August 28 from 2-3:30 p.m. OR Sunday, August 29 from 11:15-12:15 p.m. For more information, contact Melinda Wildermuth, Director of Worship & Music, at 944-3196 (mwildermuth@firstgeneseo.org).

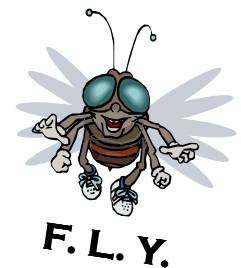
First Lutheran Youth—F.L.Y. with us!

Meet Tim Oloffson!

All Senior High youth are invited to come to Dr. Bruce & Barb Fehlman's home, 329 West First Street in Geneseo for a swimming party! The party will take place on Sunday, August 29 starting at 3 p.m. and concluding with pizza being served at 6 p.m. We will swim, get to know Tim and enjoy a pizza together. Mark your calendar and sign up today at the Welcome Center.

Senior High Youth Ministry Start Up! Wednesday, September 1

The Sr. High will start their year with Pr. Arthur and John Puls leading a seven week study on the 7 Core Values in Leadership. This study on leadership will be focused on how youth can develop the leadership values inherent to each one of them. This exciting look into leadership will include personal sharing and examples of how all of us are called to be leaders. We look forward to the new year!



FIRST MINISTRIES



Kids Summer Swim Party

All children 3-yrs. old through grade 6 and their friends are invited to a swim party! Please join us on Sunday, August 22 from 4:45-6:15 p.m. at the Geneseo Community Outdoor Pool. We will have snacks and enjoy a day in the sun! Children 3-yrs. old through kindergarten need an adult with them however; all adults are welcome to join in the fun. The cost is \$2 per person to cover snacks and the pool rental. Hurry and sign up at the Welcome Center. If you have any questions, contact Lori Schefsky, Director of Children's & Faithtime Ministries at 944-3196 (lschefsky@firstgeneseo.org).

Bible Study

An open invitation to one and all to attend Monday morning Lectionary at 10 a.m. in Conference Room A to study the scripture readings for the upcoming weekend in worship. Led by lay leaders and clergy, this study is designed to help the participants prepare for weekend worship. There is much lively discussion, good leadership and learning—even coffee and treats and good fellowship. Hope to see you there.

In Christ's love,
—Marie Stenzel

First Friends: Senior Luncheon

All adults 50 and older are invited to the fall kick-off luncheon on Thursday, September 9 at Noon in the Fellowship Room. The meal will feature a sandwich buffet, bacon ranch potato salad, fresh fruit, vegetable tray, cookies and ice cream for the cost of \$8. The program for the day will be on Fall Prevention. Plan to join your First Friends for a pleasant afternoon together.

First Health and Wellness

Health Tip: *Guys!* “The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends that if you are between the ages of 65 and 75 and have ever smoked (*100 or more cigarettes during your lifetime*), you need to be screened once for abdominal aortic aneurysm, which is an abnormally large or swollen blood vessel in your abdomen.” As always, check with your doctor. For more information visit www.ahrq.gov/ppip/healthymen.htm.

Care Ministry: Please call the church office or the Parish Nurse, Joan Holt, if you know of someone in need of a call or visit from a member of our Care Ministry team.

Diabetes Support Group: “Helping Hands” will meet on Tuesday, August 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room at First. Tara Hartman, Doctor of Audiology, is affiliated with Audio Consultants in Davenport, IA and will discuss “*Hearing Loss and Dealing with Diabetes*.” The organization is open to anyone who is directly or indirectly affected by diabetes. For more information, contact Gary or Mary Anne Daniels at 944-2404 or visit www.helpinghandsingeneseo.org.

—Joan Holt, RN, PN
Director of Care Ministries

DID YOU KNOW?

—There's a great sale going on at our Equal Exchange Market in the Fellowship Room. All items located on the top shelf (*teas, baking chocolate and hot chocolate*) are half price. Hurry and stock up!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Attention eligible Thrivent Financial members who will be receiving a letter in August regarding donating your Thrivent Choice Dollars. The Geneseo Thrivent office at 106 N. State Street will have a catered meal from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 31 and will assist you in calling Thrivent Financial to designate your individual donation to a large variety of Lutheran congregations, including First Lutheran Church and Preschool, camps, schools, and other Lutheran organizations.

—Maurice Nelson

A Note of Thanks!

Many thanks to all the family, friends and neighbors who helped make my 80th birthday celebration such a happy day. God has truly blessed me with a great family and many wonderful friends.

—Elna Johnson

Intouch Adult Day Services

Intouch is the largest adult day service in Illinois. It provides adults with the opportunity to maintain their residence in the community while providing peace of mind for their loved ones. Their “wish list” for August is *foil, body wipes, plastic see-through 8 to 16 gallon tubs with lids, Saran Wrap, medium hot glue sticks, tacky glue, blocks of construction paper (red, green, blue & brown), card stock, Bingo prizes, decaf coffee & tea, Dawn dish washing liquid, craft foam (all colors), Suave body wash, 100 watt light bulbs, birthday cards, potpourri, small & medium sizes of ceramic greenware or bisque, acrylic paints, large erasers, fleece, medium-size Teddy bears, Ipod, music keyboard, laptop computer and VCR*. Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office.

Women’s Ministry

NI Synod Convention—The 22nd Annual Convention of the Northern Illinois Synodical Women’s Organization will be Saturday, September 18 at First Lutheran Church, 324 North 3rd Street, DeKalb, IL. This year’s theme is “*Act Boldly—Seek and Support Equal Justice*” and in addition to the usual business meeting, worship with communion, and messages from special people, you will be able to imagine yourself visiting third world countries as we offer you a World Market! Information and registration forms are available at the Welcome Center.

FIRST MINISTRIES



Lutheran World Relief—School Kits

First Women’s Ministry is still collecting items for Lutheran World Relief school kits to send overseas. Items needed to pack in the cloth bags sewn by members are: *spiral notebooks (no loose-leaf paper), blunt scissors, rulers (30 cm), pencil sharpeners, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, eraser (approx. 2 1/2” long), construction paper (assorted colors), Crayola brand crayons (16 or 24 count)*. Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office by Wednesday, September 1.

Food Pantry collection

The Geneseo Food Pantry is collecting stuffing, mashed potatoes, diced and stewed tomatoes, canned pasta, macaroni and cheese, cake mixes, flour, sugar, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, bathroom tissue, paper towels, and deodorant for both men & women to share with those in need in our community. Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office.

- **Back to school!** — It’s not too late to bring a donation of school supplies for use by area schools. If you would like to know what is needed, supply lists can be found at www.dist228.org.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

114 E. Main Street
Geneseo, IL 61254-1566
309-944-3196
www.firstgeneseo.org
e-mail: first@firstgeneseo.org

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. Dr. Arthur C. Bergren
Pastor—abergren@firstgeneseo.org
Rev. Virgil Juliot
Visitation Pastor—vjuliot@firstgeneseo.org
Rev. Lynn Bergren
Worship Pastor—lbergren@firstgeneseo.org
Melinda Wildermuth
Director of Worship & Music
mwildermuth@firstgeneseo.org
Mary Jo Brummet
Director of Communication & Fellowship Ministries—mjbrummet@firstgeneseo.org
Lori Schefsky
Director of Children's & Faithtime Ministries
lschefsky@firstgeneseo.org
Tim Oloffson
Director of Sr. High & Adult Ministries
toloffson@firstgeneseo.org
Joan Holt, RN, PN
Director of Care Ministries: Senior Health & Parish Nursing—jholt@firstgeneseo.org
Sue Wolf & Lynn Lindell
Parish Secretaries—first@firstgeneseo.org
Jim Luikart
Parish Accountant—jluikart@firstgeneseo.org
Charlene Daniels
Custodian—cdaniels@firstgeneseo.org
Church Council ~ Dan Brudos—president, Karen Daniel—vice president, Dawn Ebarb—secretary, Tom Baumgardner, Dick Carlson, Joni Conrad, Tim Holmstrom, Jerry Klavohn, Debbie Krause, Jim Larson, Randy Mullin, Jim Murray, Bill Nelson, Maurice Nelson, Mike Pries, Linda Storm, Jim Turner

FIRST LOOK . . .

August 16

10:00 a.m. Bible Study
5:30 p.m. Music Therapy Class
7:00 p.m. Council

August 17

10:00 a.m. Project Linus
6:30 p.m. Hearts on Fire Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. VDC Men

August 18

7:30 p.m. Joyful Spirit Rehearsal

August 19

9:30 a.m. Program Staff Meeting
11:00 a.m. All Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Flagpole/Memorial Garden Committee Mtg.

August 21

5:30 p.m. Informal Worship

August 22

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
11:00 a.m. Lifelines Prayer
4:45 p.m. Kids Summer Swim Party
7:00 p.m. Vesper Service at Jenny Lind Chapel

August 23

10:00 a.m. Bible Study
5:30 p.m. Music Therapy Class

August 24

6:30 p.m. Hearts on Fire Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. Helping Hands Diabetic Group
7:00 p.m. VDC Men

August 25

9:00 a.m. Cover Girls Quilting
7:00 p.m. Confirmation Orientation
7:30 p.m. Joyful Spirit Rehearsal

August 26

9:30 a.m. Program Staff Meeting
11:00 a.m. All Staff Meeting

August 28

2:00 p.m. Acolyte Training
4:00 p.m. Confirmation Kick Off Event at Geneseo Campground

5:30 p.m. Informal Worship

August 29

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
11:15 a.m. Acolyte Training
1:00 p.m. Capital Campaign--Program Staff
2:00 p.m. Capital Campaign--Cabinet & Finance Ministry

3:00 p.m. Capital Campaign--Strategic Planning
3:00 p.m. Sr. High Swim Party

6:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Potluck

August 30

8:00 a.m. ASIST Training
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
5:30 p.m. Music Therapy Class
6:00 p.m. Serve Churches United Meal Site

August 30

8:00 a.m. ASIST Training
6:30 p.m. Hearts on Fire Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. VDC Men

**Next CHIMES deadline:
Monday, August 16**