



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHIMES

Sharing Christ's Love

July 2017
Volume 56, Issue 7
www.firstgeneseo.org

WORSHIP WITH US THIS WEEKEND!
Saturday 5:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Maker Fun Factory

Created by GOD Built for a Purpose

July 9-13 ~ 5 to 8 p.m.



At Maker Fun Factory VBS, kids discover not only that God made them the way they are, but for a purpose too. Maker Fun Factory is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Sciency-Fun Gizmos, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot!

Our VBS is open to all children who will be 3-years old by July 9 and potty trained through kids going into 6th grade. Hurry and complete a registration form today and send your kids on an imaginative, impacting adventure!



Project Respond Blanket Drive

First Lutheran will be collecting new and gently used blankets for the children and their families during the month of July. A blanket has many uses in poverty riddled countries like Romania. Donated blankets need to be durable and washable.

Our goal is to collect 100 blankets!

We will also be collecting financial support to help with some back-to-school back-packs. Each of the 150 children will be in need of a strong and sturdy backpack for this fall.

Backpacks are filled with school supplies. Backpacks are \$15.

Checks can be made out to Another Child Foundation.

From Pastor Laura...

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:12

Paul wrote these words to the Christian congregation in Corinth congregation a couple thousand years ago, but I hear them as words to this Lutheran congregation in Geneseo today. That’s part of the beauty of God’s Word to us through the Holy Scriptures: it speaks across time and geography and into our own lives.

1 Corinthians 12 is a section of Scripture that I’ve been revisiting a lot recently. It seems that this passage is always relevant, in all sorts of situations. Home and family life, most definitely. There are varieties of gifts – I can bake a better birthday cake than Matt or Anna; Matt had better mow the yard when the grass gets long, because I will put it off as long as possible; and Anna is in charge of choosing the bedtime story. But it takes all of us working together to make sure the cake gets baked (*and eaten*), the lawn gets mown, and the bedtime story gets chosen. And it is the same Holy Spirit that activates each of these gifts.

And so it is with the church. The same sort of analogy can be made when it comes to the congregation of First Lutheran. We all have gifts that God has given us to be used for God’s glory: To one is given musical talent, and to another musical appreciation, to another organization, and to another encouragement, and to another the gift of leadership, to another the gift of teaching children, to another the gift of removing the dead bat (*thank you, Maurie*). When each of us uses our own gifts, the whole body (*the Church*) is glorified.

But there is one gift that we have all been given – one gift that spans ages and abilities: the gift of presence. I don’t think one can overestimate the value of showing up and being present with one another amidst our joys and heartaches, our struggles and triumphs, when fear threatens and when faith overcomes. We know that God is always present with us, but how much more tangibly can the promise of God’s presence with us become our reality when we make an effort to be present with one another! We are brothers and sisters on this journey of faith together, one family with many members. When any one member is missing, the whole body suffers.

So I encourage each of you, when you doubt whether your presence among us will make any difference, to know that it absolutely will. When you are missing from worship, or from a fellowship event, or from whatever group you belong to, the body of Christ in this place is not complete. And when you are here among us, our church more fully reflects Paul’s beautiful vision of diverse community. And I thank God for each of you, who, with your own unique gifts, create this beautiful Body of Christ.

—Pastors Laura

FIRST WORSHIP & MUSIC

July 1 & 2, 2017

Pentecost 4

This weekend's texts include Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4,15-18; Romans 6:12-23 and Matthew 10:40-42.

July 8 & 9, 2017

Pentecost 5/Service of Healing

This weekend's texts include Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a and Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30.

July 15 & 16, 2017

Pentecost 6

This weekend's texts include Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:9-13; Romans 8:1-11 and Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

July 22 & 23, 2017

Pentecost 7

This weekend's texts include Isaiah 44:6-8; Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25 and Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

July 29 & 30, 2017

Pentecost 8

This weekend's texts include 1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39 and Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52.

Please keep the following Lifelines petitions in your prayers:

World and Community: For our leaders: President Donald J. Trump and Governor Bruce Rauner. For those serving and working in harm's way: Raul Falcon, Josh Fleming, Jakob Gradert, Taylor McKean, Jessica Ruggles, Christopher Schwake, Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders.

Church: For our bishops: Rev. Elizabeth Eaton and Rev. Jeff Clements. For our partners in ministry: Pastor A. Michael Stephin and the people of Osupuko Parish in Tanzania, Rev. Raja Socrates, 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 Abby Larson, Catherine Nelson 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. 10).

Health and Wellbeing: "Baby John", Jim Bowton, Rick Brown, Max Buffington, Judy DeBoever, Mary Devine, Ida Goldsmith, Rick Gourley, Marilyn Halverson, Jill Hartel, Jordan Haser, Aaron Kamprath, Evelyn Kline, Marianne Larson, Ron Larson, Don Martin, Sandy Miller, Deb Morris, Richard Moss, Linda Pace, Scott Pittenger, Leah Richter, Cindy Scheckel, Trevor Schefsky, Connie Sellers, Linda Schmidt, Larry Skiles, Doris Swanson, Bennett Vincent, Vonley Vogt, Steve Weber, Sharon Winters and Marilyn Worple.

Joys: On the birth of Max Allen Hutchinson, son of Dan & Becca Hutchinson, grandson of Norm & Gail Hutchinson, great-grandson of Maury & Gladys Hutchinson. Ted Carpenter is back home and his surgery went well. LaNell thanks everyone for their prayers. Marriage of Christopher Nelson and Sarah Reeves on July 8, 2017.

Thanksgiving: For God's presence in all the world and for those tending the children.

Sorrows: On the death of Damon Taber, brother-in-law of Barb Burghgrave; Richard Otenberger, uncle of Jodi Barnhart; and Barbara Bell, grandmother of Jarrod Collins.

If you wish to submit a prayer request, please contact the church office at 944-3196 or by e-mail prayer@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.

FIRST PRAYER

FIRST WORSHIP & MUSIC



Grace Notes from Linda Schmidt, Deacon

Service of Healing

Please note that a Service of Healing will be included at both services July 8 & 9. After taking communion, those who desire it can be anointed with oil and pray for healing—for yourself, your family, friends, the world.

Women's Chorus

A Women's Chorus will lead worship on July 15 & 16. All women or high school girls are welcome! Please attend these brief rehearsals:

Thursday, July 6 10-10:45 a.m.

Saturday, July 15 4:30-5 p.m.

There will be a Family Choir July 30...this is truly open to ALL ages! We will meet at 8:30 that morning to rehearse, and share some music at the 9:15 service. Bring a child/grandparent/cousin/friend and join us!

Praise Band Jam

Praise Band Jam is Sunday, July 16 from 3-8 p.m. Food is available from 3-7 p.m. The host church this year is St. Malachy's. All funds raised will go to "stock the shelves" at the food pantry. The First Lutheran group shares music from 5:30-6 p.m. Hope to see YOU at the park!

Music Camp

Music Camp is August 7-11...it's not too late to sign up! Scholarships are available—talk to me for more information.

Music Camp is open to all children who will be 2nd-6th graders this fall. Non-members are very welcome! We will have a great week *Celebrating God's Creation*; please consider joining us!



Children's Church

Children's Church is offered on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 10 a.m. for children ages 3 through 2nd grade. The children will learn to share Christ's love through the vision of worship. Here's the schedule for Children's Church this summer:

9:15-9:30 a.m. — *Welcome, Announcements, Song, Scripture and Children's Message in sanctuary*

9:30-10 a.m. — *Theme related Games and Activities in classroom setting*

10 a.m. — *Children return to worship in sanctuary*

Following is a list of the scriptures the children will be learning this month:

July 2 — *Whoever Welcomes*

July 9 — *Come to Me*

July 16 — *Parable of the Sower*

July 23 — *Children of God*

July 30 — *Parables of the Kingdom*

Parent Group

Would you like the opportunity to connect with other parents? Come and join Pastor Laura as she continues to lead a group for parents of children ages 0-18 on the first Saturday of the month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in Grace Place. Together we will continue to explore aspects of parenting as they relate to our Christian lives by using the resource *"In the Midst of Chaos: Caring for Children as Spiritual Practice"*. Childcare will be provided for young children upon request. Here's the remaining summer schedule:

- July 1 ~ *"Playing the Field: Xbox, Soccer, and Other Fun Family Games"*
- August 5 ~ *"Take, Read: From Seuss to Scripture"*

Reformation 500



Reformation T-shirts!

First Lutheran Reformation 500 T-shirt or Sweatshirt can be ordered. Youth T-shirts are \$10, Adult T-shirts are \$12, and Adult Crew Sweatshirts are \$20. (2X cost an additional \$2 and 3X cost an additional \$3) Be sure to check out the display of samples in the Fellowship Room and order for your family today!

FIRST MINISTRIES

- **Stay tuned** for the return of “Theology on Tap” in August...
- **Renewal Ideas...**please continue to “post” your ideas for renewal of First Lutheran on the door in the Fellowship Room.

Save the Date!

Reformation Fair ~ Sunday, October 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Food Games & Activities Live Music

Sunday, October 29 is Reformation Sunday

The Council approved a One Service Weekend with worship at 9:15 a.m., followed by a congregational potluck!

Adult Education Opportunity

Our summer Adult Education (*confirmation age and up*) continues every Sunday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Conference Room A. The topics for the five weeks of July will be as following:

- **July 2 — Martin Luther and Women**
Pastor Laura will lead an overview of Martin Luther’s views on gender roles, marriage, and women in ministry.
- **July 9 — Women and Justice Social Statement**
Pastor Laura will lead the study “Faith, Sexism, Justice: Conversations toward a Social Statement”
- **July 16 — Women and Justice Social Statement**
Conversation continues with Pastor Laura.
- **July 23 — Martin Luther and Prayer**
Pastor Matt will discuss Martin Luther’s prayer life and teachings on prayer.
- **July 30 — Martin Luther and Music**
Linda Schmidt will discuss Martin Luther as a musician and the influence of music on the Reformation movement.

FIRST MINISTRIES

Youth Service Project

All FLC Youth (*who have completed grades 7 through 12*) are invited to *Share Christ's Love* by helping paint the offices and family visit rooms at Lutheran Social Services of Illinois' Foster Care office in Rock Island on Sunday, July 23. We will leave from the church parking lot following worship. Paint, supplies, and lunch for the volunteers will be provided by a Thrivent Action Team grant. Parents are needed to help with transportation and supervision while painting. Friends are welcome to join us! Parents and youth, RSVP to the church office by July 20 or sign up at the Welcome Center. Please wear old clothes and shoes.

Welcome Haylee!

We welcome Haylee Gustafson to the FLC staff as the Director of Youth & Family Ministry. The church council approved posting the newly redesigned position in May and we received resumes and completed the interview process in June. Haylee will begin her ministry on July 16. In this position, she will direct Faithtime and administer milestones ministries, Confirmation, and the high school youth program. She will also work with Vacation Bible School and Children's Church volunteers. Please join us for Fellowship time at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 16, as we welcome Haylee to the staff!

2017 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly Highlights

June 16-17, 2017 • Augustana College, Rock Island

Photos, videos, and other highlights have been posted on the Assembly website at <http://nisynod.org/assembly/>

Council Highlights for June 19, 2017

Action Items

- Approved a Building Fund request for \$1,253 for additional repair to stained glass sanctuary window.
- Approved a Mission Endowment request of \$250 for Kids Alive International in support of Abby Larson's mission trip.
- Approved the following New Members: *Meredith Chavez, Roberta Glazier, Andrew Holt, Rev. Matt Kamprath, Rev. Laura Kamprath and Anna, Caitlin Minder*
- Approved the Personnel Committee recommendation to offer the Director of Youth & Family Ministry position to Haylee Gustafson.
- Approved Worship & Music Ministry request of \$5,600 to purchase another octave of bells. Cost will come from the Music & Arts Fund.

Social Ministry Benevolence Requests

Gave approval of three requests from Social Ministry as a part of its Benevolence Policy, granting \$1,000 to Birdies for Charity to help defray costs for next years National Youth Gathering, \$1,000 toward the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly 2017 In-Kind Offering to support LSSI program and \$1,500 to LOMC to help with needed repairs from storm damage.

Financial Report

General Fund Offering:

May actual	\$29,982
May budget	\$33,709
YTD actual	\$171,749
YTD budget	\$173,176

Net Income Over Expenses:

May actual	\$5,357 deficit
May budget	\$6,588 deficit
YTD actual	\$19,688 deficit
YTD budget	\$47,952 deficit

Did you know...?

Did you know that you can sign up for your offering to be received via automated giving (*ACH transactions*)? First Lutheran uses a program called “*Simply Giving*” through which you can authorize weekly or monthly transactions from your savings or checking account. You can give an offering to the General Fund, and also make regular gifts to other funds, such as the Capital Campaign or the Building Fund. By doing this, you ensure that your offering is received regularly, even when you forget your offering envelope or check book, or when you are traveling or unable to come to church. Each ACH transaction costs \$0.28, so a monthly automated gift costs the church less than offering envelopes. Many members already give their offering this way. If you would like to begin using *Simply Giving*, pick up a form at the Resource Center, fill it out and turn it in to the church office. When you submit your form, you will be removed from the offering envelope mailing list, although you will maintain your envelope number, which can still be used with the pew envelopes for special gifts. If you have any questions, talk with Financial Secretary Lynn Lindell by calling the church office or e-mailing llindell@firstgeneseo.org.

Welcome New Members

In June, we welcomed the following new members to the congregation:

Meredith Chavez and Andrew Holt, who were married on June 27 in South Padre Island, Texas; Roberta Glazier; the Kamprath family: Pastor Matt, Pastor Laura, and Anna, age 4; Caitlin Minder whose son Kellen, age 6, will be received into the congregation by baptism later this summer.

We are excited that our family at First is growing! As our family grows, so does our ability to Share Christ’s Love with our community and the world.

Women’s Ministry

Cover Girls Quilting

Come and work with the “*Cover Girls*” on a variety of projects including tying quilts made of donated fabrics and assembling several care kits for Lutheran World Relief. You are welcome to come any time you can help on Wednesday, July 5 & 12 at 9 a.m. in Grace Place. The need is great!

Women’s Bible Study will be held on Wednesday, July 19 at 9 a.m. at the home of Doris Bergles, 1019 Kadel Drive, Geneseo. We will be using the Lutheran magazine, “*Gather*” for our study guide. All women are welcome to join us for this time of fellowship and Bible Study.

Lutheran World Relief *School Kits*

Items for Lutheran World Relief school kits will be collected in July and August. Following is a list of items that are needed to pack in cloth drawstring backpacks to send overseas.

- 70-sheet spiral notebooks (*no loose-leaf paper*)
- rulers (*30 cm*)
- pencil sharpeners
- blunt scissors
- #2 unsharpened pencils
- black or blue ballpoint pens (*no gel ink*)
- Crayola crayons (*16 or 24 count*)
- 2 ½” erasers

Please Note ~ Each school kit requires four of the 70-sheet spiral notebooks. Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office. Thank you for giving a child the opportunity to go to school!

FIRST MINISTRIES



Pack the Park Night!

Fellowship and fun for the whole family is what the Geneseo Church Softball League prides itself on, along with a little bit of friendly competition. Come and support First Lutheran players on Tuesday, July 18 at Richmond Hill.

First Lutheran vs. First Baptist

7 p.m. — Diamond #1

First Lutheran vs. Erie Christian

8:15 p.m. — Diamond #1

During the games, we will have goodies and drinks available for everyone! Be sure to mark your calendar and join us for this great evening of summer softball, treats and fellowship!

Men's Church Softball Schedule

No games July 3 & 4 due to the holiday!

July 10	7:00 p.m.	Diamond #1
	8:15 p.m.	Diamond #2
July 18	7 & 8:15 p.m.	Diamond #1
July 25	7 & 8:15 p.m.	Diamond #2
July 31	7 & 8:15 p.m.	Diamond #1
August 7-10	Season Ending Double Elimination Tournament	

After 5 p.m. rainouts will be posted at
www.geneseochurchsoftball.wordpress.com

Evangelism "Game Tubs"

The Evangelism Ministry is creating two "Game Tubs" and they will soon be available to loan out to First Lutheran individuals, families and small groups when planning a special outdoor event. Each tub will contain a Nerf bat and ball, a kickball, a set of 4 bases, football, a bocci ball set, a frisbee or two, sidewalk chalk, table games such as Yahtzee, Sorry, Checkers, children's card games, etc. These tubs may also be an outreach tool—an opportunity to help a family who is having an event, to host an event and welcome new residents to the neighborhood, and then to invite them to worship and to our programs.

- If you happen to have any of these or similar items and no longer need them, we would welcome donations. Look for the "FLC Game Tubs" in the Fellowship Room!

Yoga!

It's not too late to join Tricia Fuelling for free yoga classes on Tuesday mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Conference Room A. *(Please Note-No yoga on July 4th!)* There is no cost for these classes, however you can bring an item of choice for the food pantry. Bring your own mat and enjoy some relaxing yoga!

Social Ministry News

Included in the bylaws for Social Ministry there is the statement that the duties of Social Ministry may include: Local community needs - *"study social conditions in order to bring the cleansing and healing light of the Christian truth to be upon critical problems through thoughtful Christian discussion of facts and issues."* In this regard, Social Ministry will periodically share information on the advocacy work of the ELCA.

On May 18, 2017, the presiding bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Episcopal Church issued a joint invitation to a season of prayer, fasting and advocacy. This advocacy is called, *"For Such A Time As This."* Lutherans are encouraged to pray and fast on the 21st of each month.

"We fast on the 21st of the month because that is the day when 90% of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits run out for families, making the remainder of the month a hungry time. On this day, an advocacy alert will also invite participants to speak their faith by sending a message to their members of Congress."

(<https://www.elca.org/prayfastact>)

For more information and to hear Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's statement, please go to <https://www.elca.org/prayfastact>

Thank You First Lutheran!

Thank you for the reception on Sunday. Also, I would like to thank you for the laundry bag with goodies. Those things will come in handy at college.

*Thanks again,
Kari Atherton*

Dear First Lutheran Church and Scholarship Committee, thank you so much for the generous college scholarship. I am excited to start at Illinois State University as a special education major. I have been blessed with many wonderful opportunities at First Lutheran Church. Thank you for giving me a great foundation.

*Sincerely,
Abigail Zobrist*

First Lutheran Scholarship Committee,
Thank you for selecting me to receive this scholarship. It's an honor to have been chosen, and the funds will be greatly appreciated in my journey to become a teacher. I am thankful to have grown up in First Lutheran with such a great support system.

*Thanks again,
Sydney Himmelman*

Food Pantry Collection

The Geneseo Food Pantry is collecting *canned asparagus, canned carrots, mandarin oranges, cereal, mustard, freezer bags, pain relievers, dish soap, kitchen garbage bags and conditioner* to share with those in our community. Donations may be left in the basket by the church office.

Another way to help!

- We will be collecting donations of new school supplies during July and August. Our goal is to provide new school supplies to every child in need within the 228 school district. If you want to help us reach our goal, you may drop off donations at the Food Pantry anytime during normal business hours.

Thank You

First Lutheran Church Council—

Thank you so much for the beyond generous donation to Kids Alive International and all the support for my trip. Praying God uses these funds and his people for his glory and also for blessings to all of you! Thanks again!

*In Christ,
Abby Larson*

FIRST MINISTRIES

A Note of Thanks!

Thank you for your \$1,000 grant for the benefit of our Kiwanis Eliminate Project. These funds will help many mothers to live and to have children that will not be victims to tetanus. Your generosity complimented the efforts of our Kiwanis members as we worked to put on our Spring Chicken Fest on May 7, 2017 to also benefit the Eliminate Project. You folks are a fine example of the Good Samaritan.

*Thank you very much,
Dathan Kerber, Geneseo Kiwanis*

Thank You!

Thank you so much for your overwhelming response to the needs of the little girl who was removed from her home by DCFS. The grandparents were so thankful, and in awe of your generosity. Because of your selfless giving they have received everything they need for the time being.

Thank you for jumping into action every time we have a special request. We appreciate you so much.

*May God bless each of you,
Jolynn Kitterman,
Geneseo Food Pantry*



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 91
Geneseo, IL

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. Laura Kamprath
Pastor—lkamprath@firstgeneseo.org
Rev. Matt Kamprath
Pastor—mkamprath@firstgeneseo.org
Rev. Virgil Juliot
Visitation Pastor — 944-6072
Rev. Lynn Bergren
Worship Pastor—lbergren@firstgeneseo.org
Linda Schmidt, Deacon
Director of Worship & Music
lschmidt@firstgeneseo.org
Mary Jo Brummet
Director of Communications & Operations
mjbrummet@firstgeneseo.org
Haylee Gustafson
Director of Youth & Family Ministry
youth@firstgeneseo.org
(Start date July 16, 2017)
Sherry Dickens
Parish Secretary—sdickens@firstgeneseo.org
Jennifer Johnson
Programs Meal Coordinator
Jim Luikart
Parish Accountant—jluikart@firstgeneseo.org
Lynn Lindell
Financial Secretary—llindell@firstgeneseo.org
Charlene Daniels
Custodian—cdaniels@firstgeneseo.org

COUNCIL

Roger Bengtson—*President*
Ray Bergles—*Vice-President*
Dawn Ebarb—*Secretary*
Rollin Setterdahl—*Treasurer*

Darla Anderson, Jodi Barnhart,
Nancy Cassens, Johanna Hager,
Brian Hofer, Peter Johnson,
Cathy Runty, Beth Unrath,
Taylor Wildermuth

Meeting Schedule:

Cabinet — No meeting in July
Council — No meeting in July
Ministries — No meeting in July

PRESCHOOL STAFF

Misty Slaymaker, *Director*
Mary Williamsen, Margi Ficken
preschool@firstgeneseo.org

**NEXT CHIMES DEADLINE:
TUESDAY, JULY 11**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Wednesday

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

STAFF SCHEDULE

Rev. Laura Kamprath
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
Rev. Matt Kamprath
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Linda Schmidt, Deacon
Director of Worship & Music
Monday-Thursday
Mary Jo Brummet, Director of
Communications & Operations
Monday-Thursday