



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHIMES

May 2018
 Volume 57, Issue 5
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.

**CONGRATULATIONS
 TO OUR
 GRADUATES!**



Class of 2018...

Dale Benjamin

Mazie Calderon

Madeline Fitzpatrick

Ethan Gentry

Lilian Gerth

Shane Holmstrom

Hannah Johnson

Madison Krause

Ian Larson

Meghan Norton

Kyle Pittenger

Austin Ross

Kellyanne Ross

Reed Vanderheyden

Devin VanRycke

Jerry Verdick

Adam Wells

Allison Yager

Join us in celebrating our High School Seniors! We will have a display of our graduates in the Fellowship Room over the weekend of May 19 & 20. On Sunday, May 20 we will be have a special fellowship for our seniors from 9:30-10 a.m. During the 10 a.m. service, the seniors will be recognized. This is a wonderful time in our seniors' lives and take this great opportunity to show them how much their church family loves and prays for them and their future!

FIRST NOTES:

—Cinnamon Roll Sunday on May 6!

—First Friends on Thursday, May 10 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Room.

—Preschool Mayfest on Sunday, May 20 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

—Vacation Bible School is coming July 30-August 2!

Partners in Mission

One of the reasons I love being a Lutheran is because we are a “both/and” people. We embrace paradox! We trust in a Savior who is both fully human **and** fully God. We believe ourselves to be both saints **and** sinners, simultaneously even. We belong to a kingdom of God that has been inaugurated here and now, **and** also will be fully established in the age to come. The Bible is, for us, both law **and** gospel. We are, as God’s children, both perfectly free, subject to no one, **and** perfectly dutiful servants of all.

One recent trend in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is to focus on “glocal” ministry – ministry that is local and ministry that is global. While it may seem paradoxical at first, global and local ministry go hand in hand. Remember the lawyer who asked Jesus, “Who is my neighbor?” – as in, who do I really have to love in order to fulfill God’s commandments? Jesus’ response to this question is the story of the good Samaritan. It’s a “glocal” story. The Samaritan was a literal neighbor (*very close in physical proximity*) and yet lived a world away from the Jews of Galilee or Jerusalem.

Our world today is increasingly connected. We can communicate with neighbors near and far instantly. We can buy a toy from a Swedish company and it arrives on our doorstep in three days. Open your cupboards at home and you’ll find food grown right here in Henry County and food from halfway around the world.

In reality, the church has always been “glocal,” even before that word was trendy. We have always found a way to balance the needs of our local congregation and community with the needs of the larger church. Our work as Christians is never done in isolation – we are always partnering with other disciples, near and far, to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

This summer, we will participate in a program we are calling “*Partners in Mission.*” Each weekend in worship, one of our ministry partners will be highlighted. We will share information about the populations served and the ministries provided. Then the children will collect a special “noisy offering” of loose coins that will benefit the ministry. Information will be provided for those who wish to make additional contributions directly to the organizations.

We begin on Pentecost weekend, May 19 & 20, as we participate in the Northern Illinois Synod’s Gifts for Mission program. Gifts received on this day will benefit mission starts and congregations in revitalization in the Northern Illinois Synod. What better way to say “Happy Birthday” to the church than to give a gift to encourage new life in our congregations!

May 26 & 27 will be our kick-off for our in-kind offering for the National Youth Gathering. This year, the Gathering participants are collecting books for students in Houston through a program called “*Blast Off for Books.*” See the article on page 4 for more information.

In June, July, and August, we will focus on other ministries, including Lutheran World Relief, Another Child, the Geneseo Food Pantry, Abilities Plus, Rebuilding Together, and our companions in Tanzania and India. Check out the bulletin board in the Fellowship Room beginning May 20 to learn more about our Partners in Mission.

*In Christ,
Pastor Laura*

May 5 & 6, 2018

Easter 6

This weekend's texts include Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6 and John 15:9-17.

May 12 & 13, 2018

Easter 7/*Happy Mother's Day*

This weekend's texts include Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13 and John 17:6-19.

May 19 & 20, 2018

Day of Pentecost

This weekend's texts include Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-24, 35b, Romans 8:22-27 and John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15.

May 26 & 27, 2018

The Holy Trinity

This weekend's texts include Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29, Romans 8:12-17 and John 3:1-17.

Pentecost

We celebrate Pentecost on May 19 & 20. Pentecost is the fiftieth day of Easter, and we celebrate the Spirit through whom and in whom the people of God are created and re-created. You are encouraged to wear red to worship this weekend!

**FIRST
WORSHIP
& MUSIC**

First Communicants

We rejoice with the following children who completed instruction and received their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, March 29, 2018:

<i>Jaxon Ernst</i>	<i>Tristan Pittenger</i>
<i>David James Gutschall</i>	<i>Connor Runty</i>
<i>Bennett Gutschall</i>	<i>Sienna Salier</i>
<i>Emily Haverback</i>	

Please keep the following Lifelines petitions in your prayers:

World and Community: For our leaders: President Donald J. Trump and Governor Bruce Rauner. For all who work for peace and justice. For those serving our country in the military, especially Raul Falcon, Griffin Fleming, Josh Fleming, Jakob Gradert, Connor Luxmore, 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. For missionaries who share the Gospel around the world. For Catherine Nelson, seminary student. For Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. For our pastors, parish staff, Preschool staff and Church Council (names listed on pg. 10).

Health and Wellbeing: Joan Bodenlos, Mike Chavez, Kathy Cross, Judy DeBoever, Sherry Dickens, The family of Pr. Charlie Farrell, Jim Hohenboken, Tim Janey, Rick Johnson, Jim Kilpatrick, Evelyn Kline, Cindy Scheckel, Linda Schmidt, Peggy Schram, Jay Sears, Gene Stees and John Verworn.

Joys: Baptisms of Alizabeth Ann Fiorini and Alivia Ann Nowers, daughter of Alizabeth Fiorini and James Nowers. On the birth of Calvin Royce Rexroth, son of Craig & Michelle Rexroth and grandson of Rudy & Peggy Rexroth.

Thanksgiving: Prayers of thanks to our Faithtime students who "preached the sermon" at both services on Sunday, April 15. Your hard work and joyful leadership were very much appreciated!

Sorrows:

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. In the event of an after-hours emergency please contact Pastor Matt at 703-505-9517.

**FIRST
PRAYER**

FIRST WORSHIP & MUSIC



Music Camp

Filled With the Spirit is the theme of our Music Camp. All current 1st-5th graders are invited to join us! Brochures are available at the Welcome Center and on the website. The date is August 13-17; we meet from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The children will lead worship on August 19. Friends are very welcome!

Ushers Are Needed!

We need ushers at both 8:30 and 10:00 services. If you would like to be on a team for a regular monthly Sunday service or be an occasional substitute, please see Reid Oberle or Ray Bergles or call them!

Reid Oberle 563-370-9221

Ray Bergles 309-236-2149

Children's Church

Children's Church is offered on Sunday mornings from 10 to 10:45 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:

10:00-10:15 a.m. – *Welcome, Announcements, Song, Scripture and Children's Message in sanctuary*

10:15-10:45 a.m. – *Theme related Games and Activities in classroom setting*

10:45 a.m. – *Children return to worship in sanctuary*

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

May 6 – *Abide in Love*

May 13 – *Matthias Is Chosen*

May 20 – *Filled with the Holy Spirit*

May 27 – *No Children's Church*

Theology on Tap!

Join Pastor Matt for another 'round' of *Theology on Tap!* We will gather at 7 p.m. at Geneseo Brewing Company for a Bible Study on Paul's Letters on May 1, 8 & 15. All are welcome!

Preschool Mayfest

Come and enjoy an old-fashioned Ice Cream Social, mini-carnival games and a special program presented by the preschool children in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 20 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. This event is a fundraiser and open to the congregation. So let's show our support!

National Youth Gathering – Book Donations

ELCA National Youth Gathering is partnering with the City of Houston for book drive called "*Blast off for Books.*" Houston Independent School District estimates that 74% of the students in the district come from families who struggle to provide books for their children. We want to help ensure bright futures for Houston's students. The books you donate will be distributed at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city. Also, some donations will restock libraries that were affected by Hurricane Harvey. There are only asking for new or gently used books from their book list which can be found in the Welcome Center or on the church website! We will be taking donations until June 10.

Outreach Ministry's Volunteer Recognition

Many members of this congregation give of their time, talents and treasure help people, projects and organizations outside the walls of First Lutheran. We notice and want them to know that their efforts are appreciated. Each month we will recognize a FLC individual or group of individuals that are doing "God's Work" in our community and beyond.

All who know long-time First member *Hal Gustafson*, are aware of his servant heart. I suspect few days go by when he isn't asked to do something for another and that request accommodated. Or maybe he just shows up to do something. Some 22 years ago a project then called Christmas in April came to be where volunteers would gather and make needed improvements to someone's house in Geneseo or Cambridge—someone who could not either do or afford those improvements. That community project is now called Rebuilding Together, encompasses all of Henry county, has projects throughout the year and Hal, with saw and hammer in hand, has been at it's forefront every step of the way.

Twenty-three years ago Hal attended a Via de Cristo weekend; and throughout the ensuing years he has served as a worker bee on countless weekend (*Thursday evening to Sunday evening*) teams with each giving up a Friday work day in his business. Just a couple examples of Hal Gustafson's servant heart.

FIRST MINISTRIES



HAL GUSTAFSON



Lutheran Summer Camp Brochures

Hey, kids! Thinking about summer camp at Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (LOMC) in Oregon, IL? Brochures are available at the Resource Center. Camperships are available through the camp.

May Ministry Moment

According to Youth & Family Director, Haylee Gustafson, "The youth program provides a space where our youth can grow in their faith, create friendships, and learn to serve others." Haylee has been leading the youth programs on Wednesday afternoon for the past year, including several programs for ages Kindergarten through high school.

Faithtime — 51 students from K-6th grade meets on Wednesdays from 3:15-5:30 p.m. It provides an opportunity for youth to participate in Bible study, music, games, and snacks. In addition to Haylee, Linda Schmidt and Mike Eckwell lead music, Katie Curcuru leads games, and our 25 wonderful adult volunteers who teach, assist with groups, help with snack time and transportation. Jenn Johnson coordinates the Faithtime family meal and snack.

Confirmation — Sixteen 7th & 8th grade students prepare for the Rite of Confirmation, led by Pastor Laura, on Wednesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. Four adult mentors also volunteer each week. Special activities include a Fall Weekend Retreat at LOMC, Summer Camp at LOMC, and service projects such as Boo-4-Food and making Thanksgiving Baskets for the Food Pantry.

High School Youth Group — Students in 9th-12th grade participate in Bible Study and other activities on Wednesdays from 5:45-6:45 p.m. Pastor Matt and Haylee leads the high school program in Bible Study, games, service projects, Youth Auction and attending the National Youth Gathering in Houston in June.

This month we recognize and thank all who serve in our vital programs for Youth Ministry!

FIRST MINISTRIES



First Friends Luncheon

"Birthday Celebration"

You're invited to our First Friends annual "Birthday Celebration" on Thursday, May 10 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Room. Join us for a tasty pulled pork sandwich lunch, cake and ice cream plus a short program. The cost of the meal is \$5. Bring friends! Hurry and sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office at 944-3196 if you plan to attend.

Thank you for all who volunteered in Faithtime this year!

You have helped made this Faithtime program year a success! I feel so blessed to have had a wonderful team of volunteers and helpers this year! I can't wait to see what next year has in store!

*Haylee Gustafson,
Director of Youth & Family Ministry*

Seeking Volunteers!

First Lutheran is the host congregation for this year's Northern Illinois Synod Assembly.

We need volunteers for four sets of tasks:

- Helping assemble packets for voting members, at the church on Thursday, June 7.
- Helping with registration at the assembly, at Augustana College on Friday morning, June 15.
- Driving golf carts and directing people, at Augustana College on Friday & Saturday, June 15 & 16.
- Serving as ushers at the closing worship, at Augustana College on Saturday afternoon, June 16.

You can sign up at the Welcome Center if you wish to volunteer for one or more of these tasks!

Manage Your Church Giving Online!

First Lutheran is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit the church website at www.firstgeneseo.org
- 2) Click on the **Give Online** link on the home page
- 3) Click on the **Create Profile** button
- 4) Follow the instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions

Your giving will flow seamlessly to the church office and be credited to your annual giving statement. Questions? Contact the church office at 944-3196!

College Graduates ~ Fall 2017/Spring 2018

FIRST MINISTRIES

Laura Bergren

Graduating in May from Augustana College with a BA in Theatre and English with a minor in communication studies. Laura is seeking a position with a theater company in production or administration, and is eventually planning to attend graduate school in dramaturgy.

Chase Burghgrave

Graduated in December 2017 from Western Illinois University with a BA in English with a minor in History. Chase is currently employed at Cipafilter as Marketing Manager. He is continuing his education and his future plans include teaching English overseas.

August Denys

Graduating in May from Capital University. Major in Music Education with minor in Philosophy. August's future plans are yet to be determined.

Abby Larson

Graduating in May from Valparaiso University with a BA in Math and Secondary Math Education. Abby's summer plans are to work at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp in Colorado, her fall plans yet to be determined.

Jared Matthews

Graduating in May from University of Iowa with a BA in Business Administration degree with double Major in Accounting and Finance. Jared will be employed by RSM in Des Moines, IA as an Assurance Associate.

Nathan Yager

Graduated in December 2017 from the University of Wisconsin, Platteville with a BS in Industrial Engineering. Nathan is currently working for Case New Holland in Burr Ridge, IL as an After Market Technical Specialist.

Alissa Zobrist

Graduating in May from Illinois State University with a Family and Consumer Science teaching degree. Alissa plans to teach at the high school level and would like to get a job in suburban Chicago. The job search is on!

Graduate Recognition



HHH Community Health Series

Upcoming Men's Topic: "Medicare Overview & Medicare Fraud"

The Men's Health Program will be held at Hammond-Henry Hospital in the first floor conference room on Wednesday, May 9 from 7 to 8 a.m. There is no cost for the program. Those attending may purchase breakfast in the hospital dining room.

Upcoming Women's Topic: "The Benefits of Chair Yoga"

The Women's Health Program luncheon will be at The Cellar on Thursday, May 24 from noon — 1 p.m. Cost of the luncheon is \$8 payable at the door.

Reservations for these programs may be made by calling the hospital at 944-9112.

BLOOD DRIVE

In memory of Trev

Wednesday, May 16

2:00 - 6:00pm

Geneseo Community Center
541 E. North St. - Poolside Room

To donate, call Jill at (309) 944-7011.
Last date to donate elsewhere: 3/21/2018

A collage of photos featuring people, a soccer ball with the hashtag #TrevStrong, and a blood drop icon.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER

FIRST MINISTRIES

First Lutheran Preschool

During the month of May all of our classes will be making Mother's Day gifts and cards. We will have our annual Mayfest on Sunday, May 20 from 3 to 4:30 in the Fellowship Room. There will be carnival like games for the children and their families and each class will perform songs in the sanctuary. The 3 year-old class will have purple as their color of the month. They will be learning about the parts of a flower and will be making flower petal sun catchers. The 4-5 year old classes will be taking a field trip to the Wildemuth's farm. They will be learning about the numbers 1-10. They will be doing some literature based activities based on books such as Harold and the Purple Crayon and Max's Dragon Shirt. Activities will include bubble painting and making leaf prints. Our last day of school will be Friday, May 26. We are registering now for our classes in the Fall.

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, May 2 & 9 at 9 a.m. in Grace Place. The need is great!

Women's Bible Study will be held on Wednesday, May 16 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Room. 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.

Council Highlights for April 23, 2018

New Business

- Tabled a new Benevolence Policy until the May meeting.

Action Items

- Approved up to \$200 for the 2018 fiscal year to continue a wedding ministry tradition at First.
- Approved the Personnel Handbook.
- Approved the appointments of Michael & Crystal Ficken as Co-Financial Secretary, July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019 as well as Lee Fluck and Ray Rogers to 2 year terms on Personnel Committee.
- Approved Linda Storm and Bill Nelson as lay voting members at the Synod Assembly this summer.
- Approved a Mission Endowment request for financial aid for two First Lutheran members attending a summer mission trip to Haiti.

Social Ministry Benevolence Request

Gave approval to Social Ministry as a part of its Benevolence Policy, granting \$1,000 to Rebuilding Together Henry County to help support their current programs including home repair for low income homeowners as well as wheel chair ramp program.

Financial Report

General Fund Offering:

March actual	\$32,543
March budget	\$35,866
YTD actual	\$123,493
YTD budget	\$124,600

Net Income Over Expenses:

March actual	\$3,033 deficit
March budget	\$1,638 deficit
YTD actual	\$1,534 deficit
YTD budget	\$4,285 deficit

Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits

Bringing a baby into the world can be a difficult and scary thing for a mother living in poverty. A “Baby Care Kit” from LWR provides the things a mother needs to care for her baby the way she hopes to — soft blankets to give warmth and comfort, soap to keep germs away. Lack of something to dress her baby in often keeps a mother isolated from her community, but the clothes in a Baby Care Kit welcome both mother and baby out into the world. Baby Care Kits will be our emphasis for the months of May and June.

Here are the items included in each kit:

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (*without feet*)
- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel (*up to 52” square*)
- Four cloth diapers (*flat fold preferred*)
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel (*dark color recommended*)
- Two or three bath-size bars (*8 to 9 oz.*) of “gentle” soap (*in original wrapping*)
- Two large safety pins

Clothing between 6 and 24 months and may be “gently used and in good condition.”

Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office.

Did You Know — Last year we donated 22 kits!

FIRST MINISTRIES



A Note of Thanks!

Thank you for all the cards and well wishes we received for our 65th anniversary. We have been blessed with a wonderful family and church family!

—Glen & Jenny Anderson

Thank You!

Thank you for the reception for my years serving as visitation pastor. Thank you for the greetings, cards and gifts. I appreciate the recognition and the God-given opportunity to be visitation pastor.

Pastor Juliot

Food Pantry Collection

The Geneseo Food Pantry is collecting *sugar, taco shells, boxed potatoes, tuna, rice, mouthwash, liquid toilet cleaner, trash bags, toilet paper and dish soap* to share with those in our community. Donations may be left in the basket by the church office.

- **Another way to help!** For the entire month of May *Geneseo Super Wash*, 810 W. Main Street, will be donating 50 cents to the Food Pantry for every fully paid automatic car wash. If you prefer to use tokens, they will also donate \$1 for every set of tokens purchased (*5 for \$27*).

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the New Building Fund and to those who: helped with the capital campaign, worked on the building project, donated materials/ labor, or helped move all those boxes! This project has received a great deal of support from the community, and all of you made it happen.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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COUNCIL

Ray Bergles—*President*
Cathy Runty—*Vice-President*
Brian Hofer—*Secretary*
Rollin Setterdahl—*Treasurer*

Jodi Barnhart, Roger Bengtson,
Nancy Cassens, Gary Daniels,
Dawn Ebarb, Scott Fitzpatrick,
Johanna Hager, Peter Johnson,
Taylor Wildermuth

Meeting Schedule:

Cabinet — Monday, May 14
Ministries — Monday, May 14
Council — Monday, May 21

PRESCHOOL STAFF

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

**NEXT CHIMES DEADLINE:
THURSDAY, MAY 10**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Wednesday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday
Office Closed
Closed for Lunch ~ Noon-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,
Parish Administrator
Monday-Thursday

Haylee Gustafson, *Director of Youth & Family Ministry*
Monday-Thursday