

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH CHIMES

October 2020
Volume 59, Issue 10
www.firstgeneseo.org

Sharing Christ's Love

WORSHIP WITH US THIS WEEKEND!

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Worship livestreamed on Facebook

Sundays at 8:15 a.m.



Rite of Confirmation

Sunday, October 25

Please join us at the Contemporary Worship at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 25, in person or via Facebook Live, as these young people celebrate their journey in faith as Christians.

Oliver Anderson

Imogene Greene

Caleb Hartman

Connor Minnaert

Carleigh Norton

Logan Palmer

Ryley Rowold

Sidney Spindel

Festival of All Saints

October 31 & November 1

On the weekend of October 31 & November 1, First Lutheran Church will remember all Christians who have joined the Church Triumphant in the Kingdom of Heaven. In all three liturgies, during the Prayer of the Church, we will read aloud the names of those saints who were buried from First Lutheran this past year: *Christine Nelson, Sue Conrad, Joyce Porter, Marla Johnson, Theodore "Ted" Larimer, Pastor Virgil Juliot, Sharon Stenzel, Rudy Rexroth, Donald Anderson and Bill Rutherford*. In addition, all worshippers will be invited to light a candle in memory of loved ones who are no longer with us and receive comfort, strength, and hope through Word and Sacrament.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew 5:4

FIRST NOTES:

—Youth Bells Day
Camp on October 12!

—First Book Club on
Thursday, October 15
at 5 p.m.

—Opening the Bible
Class on Sunday,
October 18 at 9 a.m.

—Trek or Treat on
Saturday, October 24
from 2-4 p.m.

Community

At a time like this, we have been learning and trying to do new things. There has been a lot of change and it has been hard to keep up with the times. We have to be creative and innovative, simply because we have to adapt to the world in which we live. And we all have been adapting and doing that in different ways. There have been many changes not only to our personal lives, but to our faith lives as well. We have to adapt there as well. There has been a huge learning curve for us and for the staff, as we have sought new ways to worship, gather, and live out our faith. In the last seven months, as our community has been physically separated since the onset of the virus, we have been longing for all to be gathered at FLC, but also know that is not entirely possible. We miss seeing and connecting with everybody. For that very reason, we will be trying something new to reconnect us again.

One new thing we are trying to do this coming Advent is starting (*or restarting*) small group ministry. The Spirituality & Wellness Ministry is planning to use the Advent devotional *I Wonder as I Wander* by Andrew D. Haugen to start the small group ministry. This four week devotional beginning on Sunday, November 29, will explore the themes of hope, love, joy and peace, and will provide a framework for our one hour a week time together. The devotional will be provided at no cost to you and will be available at the church for pick-up starting in November. We will meet weekly on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. either at FLC in person (*8 in a group, plus one leader*), or online via Zoom for a conversation on each weekly topic. We will get to see one another and share in each other's faith lives, which is very important. It's hard to be isolated so long. I believe we need to be together and connected in some new way.

We would love for you to be a part of this new way to gather together safely. If you would like to join a small group, there are a couple different ways to join. The first way to join is to respond to the survey that will be emailed to you at the beginning of November asking whether you would like to be a part of a small group. Another way to join, would be to call (703-505-9517) or email me directly at mkamprath@firstgeneseo.org indicating whether you would like to join a group in person, or online via Zoom. There will be more information about this in November's Chimes and this will also be in the announcements in First Day.

If you are like me, maybe you are longing for community too. If so, this would be a great opportunity to join something new and explore our faith together as we bear one another's burdens, pray together, read Scripture, and share in the hope, love, joy, and peace of Christ. We hope to see you again.

In Christ,
—Pastor Matt

October 3 & 4 2020

Pentecost 18/World Hunger Weekend

This weekend's texts include Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14 and Matthew 21:33-46.

October 10 & 11, 2020

Pentecost 19/LWR Kits & Quilt Dedication Weekend

This weekend's texts include Isaiah 25:1-9, Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9 and Matthew 22:1-14.

October 17 & 18, 2020

Pentecost 20

This weekend's texts include Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 and Matthew 22:15-22.

October 24 & 25, 2020

Reformation

This weekend's texts include Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 and Matthew 22:34-46.

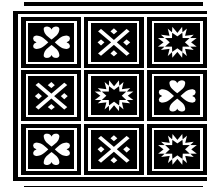
LWR Kits & Quilt Dedication

October 10 & 11, 2020

Come and admire the beautiful quilts on October 10 & 11. The Cover Girls share the Lutheran World Relief Mission: *Affirming God's love for all people, we work with Lutherans around the world to end poverty, injustice, and human suffering.* These colorful quilts will be displayed and blessed during the services to comfort those in need around the world.

- **Help is needed** to pack Lutheran World Relief items on Wednesday, October 14 at 9 a.m. in Grace Place. Come and join us!

**FIRST
WORSHIP
& MUSIC**



World Hunger Weekend

October 3 & 4, 2020

We welcome Rev. Robin Brown from ELCA World Hunger as our guest preacher this weekend. We will collect a special offering for World Hunger and hear about the ministry.

Please keep the following Lifelines petitions in your prayers:

World and Community: For our leaders: President Donald J. Trump and Governor J.B. Pritzker. For health care workers. For all who work for peace and justice. For those serving our country in the military, especially Raul Falcon, Josh Francis, Jakob Gradert, Brian Hanshaw, Geoffrey Lindesmith, Taylor McKean, Jessica Ruggles, Christopher Unrath, Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders.

Church: For our bishops: Rev. Elizabeth Eaton and Rev. Jeff Clements. For our partners in ministry: Pastor Daniel Meiyen 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. 8).

Health and Wellbeing: For all who are fighting COVID-19, Michele _____ (*Jodi Martin's friend*), Dennis Ebarb (*Troy Ebarb's father*), Charlene Iverson (*Theresa Nelson's mother*), Pastor Dustin Largent, Greta Nordstrom, Peggy Schram (*Doris Swanson's daughter*), and Deanna Swanson.

Joys: On the baptisms of Alexander Marcos Lopez, son of Emily Buchholz & Felix Lopez; and Brooks Warren Carton, son of Mathew & Whitney Carton. Faithful members of First who inspire and encourage.

Thanksgiving: Becky Karnascak (*Chris & Jodi Barnhart's daughter*) had her first follow up and all is healing well. Thank you for the prayers. For the freedom to worship freely. Technology that can keep us connected to one another.

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 MINISTRIES



Faithtime Kids

All children Grades K-6

October 7 — *Isaac and Rebekah*

Memory Verse: *Psalms 139:14*

October 14 — *Joseph and His Brothers*

Memory Verse: *Luke 6:31*

October 21 — *Joseph and Pharaoh*

Memory Verse: *Proverbs 3:5*

October 28 — *Baby Moses*

Memory Verse: *1 John 4:19*

Confirmation (7th & 8th graders)

Our Confirmation class is meeting weekly, with 16 students joining us either in person or via Zoom. We continue our study of Lutheran History & Catechism this month, and conclude the month with our annual Service Project "Boo-4-Food." Here's our schedule:

October 7 — *Ten Commandments*

October 14 — *Apostles' Creed 1*

October 21 — *Apostles' Creed 2*

October 28 — *Boo-4-Food*

Our 9th grade students will present their Faith Statements to their classmates and families on Sunday, October 18, in preparation for the Rite of Confirmation on Reformation Sunday, October 25.

Boo-4-Food ~ Supporting the Geneseo Food Pantry!

Confirmation and Senior High Youth will once again be setting out bags for members of our community to fill with dry or canned food goods for "Boo-4-Food." We will be setting bags out on Sunday, October 25 from 3-5 p.m. to the streets nearby church: State, Center and Oakwood. By keeping the collection within walking distance, we can continue to socially distance ourselves. On Wednesday, October 28 from 7:15-8:15 p.m. we will walk and collect bags using wagons, carts, or anything we can use to haul! All the food will be donated to the Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry.

FLC Youth (Grades 9-12)

Follow FLC youth on Social Media!



Instagram: [flcg_youth](#)



Snapchat: [flcg_youth](#)

Dates to Remember:

10/25 Boo-4-Food bag drop off 3-5 p.m. (*Confirmation and Senior High Youth*)

10/28 Boo-4-Food bag pick up 7:15-8:15 p.m. (*Confirmation and Senior High Youth*)

Trek or Treat

A “Spooktacular” afternoon of socially distanced Halloween fun for children and families!

Instead of our traditional “Trunk or Treat” we have changed it to “Trek or Treat.” On Saturday, October 24 from 2-4 p.m. children, together with their families, will navigate a spooky trekkers map to make it from home to home to gather ghostly goodies from mailbox type outposts. Trek or treating ticks all the safety boxes to avoid unnecessary exposure and allows your children and families the opportunity to get out of the house and enjoy a Spooktacular afternoon socially distanced with friends. We invite you to take pictures/videos and post them on our Facebook page or send them to youth@firstgeneseo.org.

Kids: Look for your spooky map in the mail with directions on how to complete your ghostly trek through the town!

How Can You Help?

We are looking for church members to serve as an “outpost” on our trek. Abbey Cathelyn, Director of Youth & Family Ministry, will be contacting you with details about this awesome event. We are focusing on some of the main neighborhoods in our community where members of our church live. We are looking for volunteers from the following neighborhoods: *Country Manor, Richmond Hill, Oakwood/Hillcrest and Maple Bluff*. This is an easy, no contact way to serve the children and families in our church! Stay tuned!

FIRST MINISTRIES



A Note of Thanks

Thank you very much for your generous donation of books to help support the Storybook Project. I have received four shipments to date. Although Storybook has been suspended since the middle of March due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are hoping that we will be able to go back into the prisons soon. Your selection of books has been great. A good variety for all ages of children. Without support from churches like yours we would not be able to continue to keep incarcerated parents in touch with their children. The men and women that are able to participate in this program are very appreciative and can't thank us enough.

—Margaret Hawkins, Storybook Aide LSSI

Thank You FLC!

Thank You so much for supporting our Scholastic Virtual Book Fair to the benefit of LSSI's Storybook Project!! LSSI was very appreciative that First Lutheran was hosting a bookfair and promoted it on their Facebook page.

LSSI's Storybook Project helps incarcerated parents stay connected with their children by taping them reading stories to their children and sending the CD's and books to the children. Because of your generosity, First Lutheran was able to send a wonderful selection of books to Storybook Project, while also purchasing books for our children and grandchildren. We also sent them 100 CD's and sleeves along with many books from a Thrivent Grant that was requested by Maurie & Brenda Nelson. *Thank you Maurie & Brenda!*

Because of the pandemic, Scholastic extended our book fair deadline until September 10 and our Scholastic Dollars profit so far is \$169.98. We were able to use the profits to send even more books to Storybook Project! Just a reminder, even though our book fair has officially ended, we will continue to receive 2% profit for any books purchased through your Scholastic account for the next year!

FIRST MINISTRIES



Youth Bells Day Camp

All 3rd-8th grade youth are invited to join us at First for a Youth Bells Day Camp on Monday, October 12 from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. We will all wear masks and Bell Gloves; a pre-made sack lunch from Subway will be provided as well. There is **no cost** to attend. We also plan on recording what we learn at the end of the day for use in our upcoming Thanksgiving Eve worship service. Please contact Morgan Sarber, Director of Worship & Music at worship@firstgeneseo.org with any questions.

First Lutheran Preschool

All of our classes will continue to learn about the autumn season as we observe the changes taking place outdoors and harvest miniature gourds from the playground. The 3 year old class will be learning with the color orange and the triangle shape. They'll learn about pumpkins and use them for many experiments and activities. The 4 year old classes will focus on autumn, friendship, sequencing and patterning. All classes will be learning with Halloween themed songs and projects near the end of the month.

- *No School Columbus Day ~ October 12*

“Race: The Power of An Illusion”

If you were not able to attend our *Race: The Power of An Illusion* video showing and group discussion in September, you are still able to take part in this national conversation by viewing the video and reading the accompanying resources from the comfort of your own home. All three videos are viewable online at <https://mem.intervarsity.org/resources/race-power-illusion-documentary>, or by checking the church's DVD set out from the church office. Then visit <https://www.racepowerofanillusion.org> and click on Resources for thought provoking material that can also serve as conversation starters. If you'd like to talk about what you've seen and read, our Social Ministry committee would like to hear from you and have good conversation about it.

Council Highlights for September 21, 2020

Church Council met via Zoom on Monday, September 21, 2020. On recommendation of Worship & Music Ministry, the Council approved a single service on December 27, 2020, for Lessons & Carols.

Old Business

- Work continues on completing the recommendations from the 2019 Audit Report. The final accounts with Schwab have been created, and the funds will be transferred soon. Finance Ministry is also keeping a close eye on PPP requirements so that paperwork can be submitted as needed.

New Business

- A request for \$500 was approved for Backpack Blessings through Social Ministry.

- Staff reviews for 2020 will be conducted in a less formal manner, and will return to regular evaluations in 2021.

August Financial Report

General Fund Offering:

August actual	\$34,739
August budget	\$32,833
YTD actual	\$321,667
YTD budget	\$317,164

Net Income Over Expenses:

August actual	\$2,171 deficit
August budget	\$3,451 deficit
YTD actual	\$27,456 surplus
YTD budget	\$3,368 deficit

First Book Club

Join us for discussion on the content of the book *As Bright as Heaven* and faith response to the author Susan Meissner on *Thursday, October 15* at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Room.

- November's book title is *Fireproof* written by Eric Wilson. Inside burning buildings, Captain Caleb Holt lives by the firefighter's adage: *Never leave your partner*. Yet at home, in the cooling embers of his marriage, he lives by his own rules. Growing up, his wife Catherine always dreamed of marrying a loving, brave firefighter . . . just like her father. Now, after seven years of marriage, she wonders when she stopped being "good enough." Countless arguments and anger have them wanting to move on to something with more sparks. As they prepare for divorce, Caleb's father challenges him to commit to a 40-day experiment: *"The Love Dare."* Wondering if it's even worth the effort, Caleb reluctantly agrees, not realizing how it will change his world forever. Surprised by what he discovers about the meaning of love, Caleb begins to see his wife and marriage as worth fighting for. But is it too late? His job is to rescue others. Now Captain Holt must face his toughest job ever . . . rescuing his wife's heart. Hurry and pick a copy and begin reading this inspirational book!

"Opening the Bible" Class & 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

All 3rd graders and their parents are invited to our "Opening the Bible" class on **Sunday, October 18** from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Room. Please join us in sharing the joy and responsibility of fulfilling our baptismal promise to our children and put the word of God in their hands. Your child will receive their own bible the weekend of November 7 & 8. For more information, please contact Abbey Cathelyn, Director of Youth & Family Ministry at 944-3196.

New Members

First Lutheran Church welcomes these new members who were received Sundays, September 20 & 27:

Jeff & Patti Boyer

Emily Buchholz

Michele Buchholz

Ryan Cathelyn

Lorin "Butch" & Nancy DeBlieck

Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry

The Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry is collecting *mayonnaise, brown sugar, pizza crust mix, pizza sauce, popcorn, freezer bags, pain relievers, all-purpose cleaner, bleach and Kleenex* to share with those in our community. Donations may be left in the basket by the church office.

Another way to help! — As the weather starts to cool off, light jackets, long-sleeved shirts, and jeans will be needed. *Baby and toddler sized clothing is especially needed now.* Many clients get clothing at the Food Pantry to reduce their spending on clothing for their families.

- The Food Pantry will be closed Monday, October 12, in observance of Columbus Day.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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COUNCIL

Cathy Runty—*President*
Johanna Hager—*Vice-President*
Jodi Barnhart—*Secretary*
Gary Gesme—*Treasurer*

Anne Calder, Lance Camp,
Kathy Heller, Jill Laingen,
Cheryl Saint Vincent, Linda Sheley,
Mike Slaymaker, Patty Turner

Meeting Schedule:

Cabinet — Monday, October 12
Ministries — Monday, October 12
Council — Monday, October 19

PRESCHOOL STAFF

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

**NEXT CHIMES DEADLINE:
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6**

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

Morgan Sarber
Monday-Thursday

Mary Jo Brummet
Monday-Thursday

Abbey Cathelyn
Monday-Thursday

Deb Spence
Monday-Thursday, select hours