

September 2017 Volume 56, Issue 9 www.firstgeneseo.org

#### **WORSHIP WITH US THIS WEEKEND!**

Saturday 5:30 p.m. Sundays at 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

# Join us for

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday September 10, 2017

Social Ministry is hosting a special service project for the entire congregation! On Sunday, September 10 (following 10 a.m. worship) we join congregations all over the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday.

We will gather together to watch a short video before heading out to clean up a section of Highway 6 in between Geneseo and Atkinson. Families with young children will do clean-up at a park or playground in town. This is a church-wide service event open to all. After our clean-up we will gather back at First for lunch and fellowship.

We will be providing "God's Work, Our Hands" t-shirts as well as work gloves, if needed. Hurry and sign up at the Welcome Center!

Come and join us as we take care (steward)
God's creation and minister to our community!

#### A WORD FROM PASTOR LAURA

## Your Invited!

We're getting ready for another great program year at First! There is a lot of excitement and anticipation in the air here, thanks to the Holy Spirit. We've had a great summer, with Spirit-filled worship, lots of special music, Vacation Bible School, Music Camp, youth events, yoga, Theology on Tap, and a new adult education opportunity on Sunday mornings. Now, it's time to get ready for Glory Ringers, Sanctuary Choir, praise team rehearsals, Preschool, Faithtime, Confirmation, high school youth group, Wednesday evening and Sunday morning adult education classes, First Book Club, First Friends. As we move into fall, Monday morning Bible Study and Children's Church continue each week, faithful and steadfast. Quilting and Women's Bible Study continue their work each month. We return to our regular worship schedule on the weekend of September 9 & 10.

With the start of a new program year, I invite you to consider how God is calling you to serve God and your neighbor in this place. We are all part of God's mission to Share Christ's Love with each other, our community, and the world. What are some of the ways that you can plug in to God's mission? What particular gifts and interests has God given you? Some areas where your service is especially needed:

#### As a Faithtime volunteer.

- We need drivers to bring the kids from school to church. You need a valid driver's license, reliable car, and insurance, and must be available on Wednesdays from 3-3:45 p.m.
- We need teachers and shepherds. Teachers will stay with their class for Motion, Games, and Music, and also teach their class for the Message rotation. Shepherds will stay with their class during the full rotation while one of the Pastors teaches the Message. You must be available each Wednesday from 3:45-5:30 p.m.

 We need leaders for the Motion rotation, which includes drama, crafts, service projects, and more. You can commit for several weeks at a time rather than the entire program year.

#### As a Nursery volunteer.

Each Sunday morning, during worship, we need people to help care for our youngest members and guests. We hope to have enough teams that you will be scheduled once every 6 weeks to serve at either 8:30 or 10 a.m. One option is to volunteer for the service time opposite your usual attendance time, so that you can still attend and participate in worship each week.

#### As an Altar Guild volunteer.

As an Altar Guild volunteer. The Lord's Supper is central to our worship each week, as we gather around Word, wine, and wheat (bread) to worship. If you can set the table and wash the dishes at home, you can set the Table and wash the dishes at church, too! Consider volunteering as a family or with a friend. We will pair you with an experienced volunteer to teach you everything you need to know.

And, of course, there are so many other ways that you can offer yourself to God's service. We are so grateful for the hard work and dedication of all of our volunteers, who work with us for the sake of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Please contact me or Pastor Matt or the church office if you would like to try something new this year!

-Pastors Laura

#### September 2 & 3, 2017

#### Pentecost 13

This weekend's texts include Jeremiah 15:15-21, Psalm 26:1-8, Romans 12:9-21 and Matthew 16:21-28.

#### September 9 & 10, 2017

#### Pentecost 14

This weekend's texts include Ezekiel 33:7-11, Psalm 119:33-40, Romans 13:8-14 and Matthew 18:15-20.

#### September 16 & 17, 2017

#### Pentecost 15

This weekend's texts include Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 103:8-13, Romans 14:1-12 and Matthew 18:21-35.

#### September 23 & 24, 2017

#### Pentecost 16/Blessing of the Harvest

This weekend's texts include Jonah 3:10—4:11, Psalm 145:1-8, Philippians 1:21-30 and Matthew 20:1-6.

#### September 30 & October 1, 2017

#### Pentecost 17

This weekend's texts include Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32, Psalm 25:1-9, Philippians 2:1-13 and Matthew 21:23-32.

#### FIRST WORSHIP & MUSIC

#### September Schedule of Greeters

September 3	9:15 .am.	Clay & Jessica Kuethe
September 10	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Jim & Beth Unrath Jeff & Nancy Lang
September 17	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Jim & Patty Turner Dan & Styphanie Palmer
September 24	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Steve & Jan Weber Ben & Laura Pearson

#### Please keep the following Lifelines petitions in your prayers:

World and Community: For our leaders: President Donald J. Trump and Governor Bruce Rauner. For our country as we strive to live together as one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all. For all impacted by the hurricane and flooding in Texas. For those serving and working in harm's way: Raul Falcon, Griffin Fleming, Josh Fleming, Jakob Gradert, Connor Luxmore, Taylor McKean, Jessica Ruggles, Christopher Schwake, Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders.

FIRST PRAYER

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 Randy & Carol Stubbs and family. 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: Jim Bowton, Rick Brown, Lorrin Buechler, Max Buffington, Bill Craig, Sr., Judy DeBoever, Mary Devine, Ida Goldsmith, Jill Hartel, Evelyn Kline, Sandy Miller, Deb Morris, Jim Peterson, Scott Pittenger, Bob

Mary Devine, Ida Goldsmith, Jill Hartel, Evelyn Kline, Sandy Miller, Deb Morris, Jim Peterson, Scott Pittenger, Bol Pyevich, Cindy Scheckel, Trevor Schefsky, Peggy Schram, Connie Sellers, Linda Schmidt, Larry Skiles and Marilyn Worple.

Joys: On the birth of Roarik Kelly Martin, grandson of Steve & Jodi Martin. Baptism of Kellen Minder, son of Caitlin Minder. Janet Anderson is home and recovering from surgery. Pastor Virgil Juliot is improved and thanks all for their prayers.

#### Thanksgiving:

Sorrows: On the death of Brayden Talbot, infant son of Zach & Rachel Talbot; Laura Hopkins, mother of Jacob Martin; Bill DeRew, friend of Jodi & Steve Martin; Aaron Kamprath, brother of Pastor Matt Kamprath; and Linda Markward, former member and friend of Sherry Dickens.

## FIRST MINISTRIES



#### Blessing of the Harvest September 23 & 24

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted"

*—Ecclesiastes 3:1-2* 

With the upcoming harvest season, First Lutheran will be praying for the safety of all farmers and a bountiful harvest. Farmers are invited to bring a symbol of their harvest to be blessed during the worship services on September 23 & 24.

#### Adult Education on Sunday

On select Sunday mornings this fall, Pastor Matt or Pastor Laura will lead an adult class. Each class will be offered twice, once at 8:45 a.m. for those who attend 10 worship, another week at 9:45 a.m. for those who attend 8:30 worship. Our September schedule is September 17 at 8:45 a.m. and September 24 at 9:45 a.m. The topic will be Islam, using the resource Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith. How can we be good neighbors to our Muslim brothers and sisters? You can submit questions you have about Islam to Pastor Laura before the class and she will try to address them. Childcare is available in the nursery for young children and older children are welcome to attend the class.

• Coming in October ~ Buddhism and Hinduism with Pastor Matt

#### Confirmation Class of 2017

Upcoming Dates—Please mark your calendar!

September 24 — Faith Statement Presentation, Luncheon and Rehearsal for Rite of Confirmation following the 10 a.m. service

October 8 — Rite of Confirmation at 10 a.m. service

#### Children's Church

Children's Church is offered year-round on Sunday mornings from 10 to 10:45 a.m. for children ages 3 through 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:

September 3 – Bless your Enemies

*Please Note:* Children's Church on September 3 will be at 9:15 a.m. We return to two Sunday morning services on September 10.

**September 10** – *Love for One Another* 

September 17 – The Unforgiving Servant

September 24 – First and Last in the Vineyard

You may register at anytime. Forms are available online at www.firstgeneseo.org.

First Lutheran Church, Geneseo, IL

# Reformation 500 Forward in God's Grace 1517 - 2017

#### **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

#### Theology on Tap!

Be sure to drop by Geneseo Brewing Company and join Pastor Matt for another 'round' of *Theology on Tap* on September 5 & 12 at 7 p.m. Together we will continue to explore the book of Acts of the Apostles. Please RSVP to Pastor Matt at mkamprath@firstgeneseo.org, or simply show up. Friends are welcome to attend

#### **Luther Advent Reflections**

Please remember our *Advent Devotional*, based on quotes from Martin Luther. We continue to look for devotional writers. More information is at the Welcome Center, or talk with Sherry Dickens in the office.

#### **Reformation Fair**

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

#### Food/Drinks available all 3 hours:

Brats, Hot Dogs and Chips
Baked Pretzels with Cheese Dip
Apple and Caramel
Root Beer, Diet Root Beer, Water, Coffee

11 a.m.-12 p.m. German Band plays; Children's Games

12-12:30 p.m. German Folk Dances for all

12:30-1 p.m. German Band plays polkas and other music for dancing

1-2 p.m. Craft Making; Children's Games

This promises to be a fun event, and is open to the community.

#### **Electronic Chimes**

In September, we are going to do a test run of emailing the Chimes newsletter. Everyone who has an email address will receive a hard copy at the beginning of September and the electronic copy later in the month. If you would like to continue receiving the newsletter electronically, reply to the email or contact the church office. If you do not have an email address on file with the church, please contact the office. We are working hard to reduce cost in the office and be good stewards of God's creation.

## FIRST FAITHTIME MINISTRIES

#### Wednesday Night Faithtime at First!

*Faithtime* is an evening of "*Sharing Christ's Love*" through fellowship, food, music & arts, games, and education for all ages. All members and guests of First Lutheran Church are welcome to participate in any of the Faithtime's activities! **Faithtime begins Wednesday**, **September 6!** 



#### Children's Ministry: Faithtime

(Wednesdays Afterschool)

#### All children Grades K-6

3:15-3:45 p.m. Check In, Snack, Opening Activities

in Fellowship Room

3:45-5:20 p.m. Message, Music, Motion & Games Rotation

5:20-5:30 p.m. Closing in Sanctuary5:30 p.m. Check Out in Sanctuary

Faithtime children K-6 are invited to bring items for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. We would love to have donations of: 70–sheet spiral notebooks (no loose-leaf paper), 30 cm rulers, pencil sharpeners, blunt scissors, #2 unsharpened pencils, black or blue ballpoint pens, Crayola crayons (16 or 24 count) and 2 ½" erasers. Please bring them to Faithtime during the month of September. We will be packaging school kits on Wednesday, October 4.

#### Faithtime Evening Meal

An evening meal is 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 make Faithtime your mealtime! Following is a listing of our September meals:

September 6 Tacos September 20 LaRoma's Pizza

September 13 Chicken and Mashed Potatoes September 27 Pulled Pork Sandwiches

#### Youth Music (6th-12th graders)

Open to all! Music groups 6-12<sup>th</sup> graders...short term commitment. Give it a try! Practices will be held from 5:15–5:45 p.m. in the Choir Room on the following Wednesdays.

<u>Activity</u>	Practice Dates	Lead Worship
Bells	September 20-October 18	October 22 — 10 a.m.
	(No practice October 11)	
Choir	November 1-November 15	November 19 — 8:30 a.m.
Band	November 29-December 13	December 17 — 10 a.m.
Bells	January 10-January 31, 2018	February 4 — 8:30 a.m.

#### Confirmation (7th & 8th graders)

This year, we begin using an exciting new Confirmation curriculum called, "CoLABorate." Each lesson confronts students with a real question about Bible, the church, or Lutheran doctrine, then equips students to make thoughtful decisions about how they might answer it. It is based on the idea that our job as teachers of the faith during these years is to help students think critically about and engage in meaningful ways with the Bible and their faith, rather than to give them all the answers. The 2017-2018 year is our Bible Year, so we will complete the Old testament and New Testament units. 2018-2019 will be Catechism Year, so we will complete the Lutheran History & Catechism and Lutheran Living units. Each week, Pastor Laura or Pastor Matt will teach the lesson, and then the adult mentors will lead small group activities and games that reinforce the lesson. Here's our schedule:

FIRST FAITHTIME MINISTRIES

September 6 — Canon September 20 — Genesis September 13 — The Hebrew Bible September 27 — Exodus

#### Senior High Youth Group (9th-12h graders)

Your invited to join us starting Wednesday, September 6! I look forward to meeting everyone, building relationships, most of all, having fun! I have great events and service projects planned for this year. Friends are always welcome!

—Haylee Gustafson,
Director of Youth & Family Ministry

#### Adult Education Opportunities during Faithtime!

On select Wednesdays, you can participate in *The Lutheran Course*. Have you ever wondered what makes Lutheran Christians distinct from our brothers and sisters in other denominations? While we all confess the same creeds and believe in the same Lord, there is a unique Lutheran "flavor" to our understanding of the sacraments and the Bible. Also, our Reformation history and heritage give us a particular perspective on our faith. Come and learn a little about what it means to be "Lutheran" in today's world! This class will be taught by a team of lay leaders from the congregation.

- **September 6** *How to Tell the Difference Between the Law and the Gospel*
- September 20 Five Things You Should Know about the Lutheran Reformation
- September 27 The Anatomy of a Baptism

Coming in October and November...How to Receive Communion, The Three Most Rebellious Things Jesus Did, How to Read the Bible, and How to Share Your Faith with Someone.

First Book Club — Join us for discussion on the content of the book "The Glass Castle" and faith response to the author Jeannette Walls on Wednesday, September 13 at 5:30 p.m. in Grace Place.

• October's book title is *People of the Book* written by Geraldine Brooks. Inspired by a true story, *People of the Book* is a novel of sweeping historical grandeur and intimate emotional intensity by an acclaimed and beloved author. Called "a tour de force" by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, this ambitious, electrifying work traces the harrowing journey of the famed Sarajevo Haggadah, a beautifully illuminated Hebrew manuscript created in fifteenth-century Spain. When it falls to Hanna Heath, an Australian rare-book expert, to conserve this priceless work, the series of tiny artifacts she discovers in its ancient binding-an insect wing fragment, wine stains, salt crystals, a white hair-only begin to unlock its deep mysteries and unexpectedly plunges Hanna into the intrigues of fine art forgers and ultra-nationalist fanatics. Hurry and begin reading this bestselling novel that follows a rare manuscript through centuries of exile and war.

## FIRST MINISTRIES

#### First Lutheran Preschool

First Lutheran Preschool will have orientation for our classes starting the week of September 4. Our classes will be getting to know each other and they will be getting use to our routines and our classroom. The 3 year-olds will be participating in activities with the color red, circles and apples. The 4 & 5 year-olds will begin their journey through the alphabet, with artwork, songs, finger plays and activities. And they will begin to explore their names in print.

#### Lutheran World Relief-Soap

Clean and Beautiful...No one likes to look dirty. A brand new bar of soap lets someone present themselves with dignity, keep hands clean and stay healthy. Those simple things are some of the very building blocks to success. That is why bar soap is needed for LWR. Any brand and any size in its original wrapping is accepted however bath—size bars (4 to 5 oz.) are highly preferred. Bar soap will be collected through October and can be placed in the basket by the church office.

#### First Friends

Be sure to join us for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 14. We will be having a short program from Sara Snider on the activity of the Rebuilding Together program. Come, enjoy lunch and invite someone new! We would like to swell our crowd this year and the best way to do that is *INVITE* others to join us. Cost is \$5 for the meal. Hurry and sign up at the Welcome Center!

#### Save the Date!

Trunk or Treat ~ October 31 from 4-7 p.m. Would you love to see lots of trick-or-treaters and kids dressed up in costume? Then First Lutheran's Trunk or Treat event is for you! Be sure to mark the above date and time on your calendar and come and have fun serving the children of our church, neighborhood and community! More details to follow...

#### Council Highlights for August 21, 2017

#### Action Items

- Approved the Mission Endowment request for \$1,500 to be applied towards debt reduction of the Capital Campaign.
- Approved Building request by Girl Scout Troops 1798 and 5212 to continue using our facilities on Sunday evenings as in the past.
- Approved up to \$1,300 for Haylee Gustafson, Director of Youth & Family Ministry to attend a planning meeting in Houston, TX from January 26-29, 2018 for the National Youth Gathering in 2018.

#### Constitution

Reviewed preliminary By-Law and Resolution changes submitted by the committee.

#### New Business

Discussed Fellowship on Sunday morning. Looking for groups or individuals to be responsible to do fellowship.

#### Financial Report

General Fund Offering:

July actual	\$41,110
July budget	\$33,709
YTD actual	\$241,986
YTD budget	\$240,594

#### Net Income Over Expenses:

	<u>*</u>
July actual	\$5,337 surplus
July budget	\$3,328 deficit
YTD actual	\$20,606 deficit
YTD budget	\$64,623 deficit

#### Thank You

Dear Friends at First Lutheran Church, Thank you for your gift of \$150 in your continuing support of Grace Place Campus Ministry. We depend on generous partners like you to do our work with students here at NIU.

We appreciate your support and invite you to stay up-to-date on happenings within the Grace Place community by following us on Twitter or becoming a fan of our Facebook Page—Grace Place Campus Ministry at Northern Illinois University.

We also invite you to visit us on campus. Please contact us for an appointment, or come for fellowship and worship during the academic year on Wednesday nights, with a community dinner at 8 p.m. and worship at 9 p.m.

Faithfully, The Rev. Amy Fallon, Campus Pastor

### Women's Ministry Cover Girls Ouilting

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, September 6 & 13 at 9 a.m. in Grace Place. The need is great!

Women's Bible Study will be held on Wednesday, September 20 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.

## FIRST MINISTRIES

#### Women's Health Series

Hammond-Henry Hospital Foundation Community Benefits Committee presents a series of Women's Health programs offered on the fourth Thursday of each month. "Memory Care" is the topic of the noon luncheon on Thursday, September 28 at The Cellar Restaurant. The cost of the luncheon is \$8, payable at the door. Please register by calling Hammond-Henry Hospital at 944-9112 or email hhhfound@hammondhenry.com by Tuesday prior to the program.

#### **Food Pantry Collection**

The Geneseo Food Pantry is collecting flour, sugar, taco shells, chicken breast, syrup, Kleenex, all-purpose cleaners, bar soap, allergy medicine and conditioner to share with those in our community. Donations may be left in the basket by the church office.

#### Other opportunities to help!

- During the month of September, 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 Tokens have a \$6 value)
- As the weather starts to cool off, light jackets, long-sleeved shirts, and jeans will be needed. We are also in need of baby/toddler clothing, small size men's clothing and towels. Please consider donating your unwanted clothing and household items to the Food Pantry. Many clients get clothing at the Food Pantry to reduce their spending on clothing for their families.



Geneseo, Il 61254-1566 309-944-3196 www.firstgeneseo.org e-mail: first@firstgeneseo.org

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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#### Worship Schedule

We return to two Sunday morning services on September 10. We will again worship at 8:30 (traditional) and 10:00 (contemporary). It was great to have a full sanctuary on Sundays this summer...thank you for your flexibility!

#### 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

**Sherry Dickens** 

Parish Secretary—sdickens@firstgeneseo.org

Jennifer Johnson

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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 — Monday, September 11 Council — Monday, September 11 Ministries — Monday, September 25

#### PRESCHOOL STAFF

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

NEXT CHIMES DEADLINE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

#### **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

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