

FIRST AND TRINITY LUTHERAN PARISH'S

Messenger

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August ~ 2018

Dear Friends in Christ,

I'm all over the place today as I begin this newsletter, so I looked around at some old stuff and I came across a health newsletter from 2009 (I know ~ I need to clean out my old stuff!). I found some interesting things I thought were worth sharing. They are kind of all over the place, too, but great food for thought!

"An optimist is a man who starts a crossword puzzle with a . . . pen." This one made me laugh! I like to work crossword puzzles but I can tell you that I only use a pen if I can't find a pencil! And I look a long time to find a pencil! I make way too many mistakes to use a pen!

"A pessimist is someone who complains about the noise when opportunity knocks." This one made me laugh too, at first, but then I felt sad because it can be so true! Sometimes great opportunities come before us, but we refuse to see them, or they even just make us angry because change is involved and we are afraid of change, right?

"The gap between what people say and what they feel is like the rain forest: fascinating and uncomfortable." This one really identifies us in our Northern European culture. How often does it happen where someone asks us "How are you?" and we respond, "I'm fine!" ~ and we aren't! We are uncomfortable talking about our feelings in our culture.

Coming from a health newsletter, these short statements are supposed to get us thinking about healthier ways to live. The newsletter also contains things like, "Proven Strategies for Beating Stress," and "10 Great Reasons to Play Table Tennis" (this last one makes me wish I had a ping-pong table ~ almost!).

Finally, I discovered in the newsletter words to the wise that certainly fit well into our Christian faith. When you read "creed," think "law."

Wisdom ~ A little goes a long way . . .

A little more kindness and a little less creed,

A little more giving and a little less greed;

A little more smile and a little less frown,

A little less kicking a man when he's down;

A little more "we" and a little less "I,"

A little more laugh and a little less cry;

A few more flowers on the pathway of life,

And fewer on graves at the end of the strife.

Or, as the Apostle Paul wrote: ***"As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."***

~ Colossians 3:12

Pondering words of Health and Life with you!

Pastor Sandy



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(a partnership between

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Abound Counseling, Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota's new outpatient service, has counselors in Bismarck, Fargo, Williston and Dickinson (Jamestown open in the near future). Services include family, individual and couples therapy for a variety of mental health needs. Abound is committed to serving clients statewide and will be developing tele-health services that can be accessed in additional communities. For more information, or to schedule an appointment with Abound Counseling, please call 800-985-7942. Learn more at www.lssnd.org

First Trinity United Ministry News:

4-56 Disciples will not be meeting in August. Please check Facebook and church bulletins for announcements of VBS and encourage your kids to invite their friends and neighbors to attend VBS with them. It is also always nice when parents can stop in and see the exciting things that happen during VBS. Parents, please check in with the leaders and offer an encouraging word, a helping hand or donate to help cover the cost of VBS.

7-12th grade youth will be meeting during August, and we have just started a new discussion that centers on our understanding of the Kingdom of God and will take a serious look at our call as Christians to be the Good News in our communities. We will talk about how to listen and see what God is doing all around us - in our homes, schools, and communities. We will work with the youth and help them learn to listen for stories from neighbors and friends that we otherwise never hear because of business or just lack of understanding of how to listen and look more carefully. Accounts of that elderly neighbor, the single mother, or the new student that is just starting school this fall.

This is a 6-week unit - our first meetings have been held separately at Ray Lutheran and First Lutheran in Tioga. The first assignment given asked the youth to spend an hour in a popular place where people hang out and just simply make some guided observations and take notes. Can't wait to bring the kids together and hear what they observed. Please, when you see one of these youth, ask them about their observations. Understanding God's hand in everyday ordinary daily life is a learned behavior, and it begins with taking the time to observe and listen.

Brandy Veach of Ray Lutheran is helping me with this project. Together we will meet separately and jointly with our youth in each parish. I will also be working on getting transportation for the joint gatherings.

Call with any questions or concerns.

*In Christ,
Deacon Jodi*

First Lutheran W-ELCA

July 11th, 2018

**Our mission is to mobilize women to boldly act
upon their faith in Jesus Christ.**

The meeting was called to order by Linda Holmen. Also members present were Arvilla Wolla, Vickie Germundson, Dorothy Mrochinski, Nicole Skabo, Hazel Iverson, Pastor Sandy Anderson, Deacon Jodi Lorenz, and Wanda Moberg.

The Purpose Statement was recited and Arvilla read devotions.

The minutes of the June meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was received. Dorothy said the audit was also done and approved. Arvilla moved and Vickie seconded the motion to accept the report. Motion carried unanimously.

No correspondence was shared.

Old Business:

Arlene purchased and potted plants for the atrium.

New Business:

Christmas in July will be on July 22nd. Vickie brought cookies to serve at coffee time. Please bring food pantry items/ paper products etc to church.

Vacation Bible School will be July 30th - August 2nd. Program at 5:00 on the 2nd followed by a potluck. Linda will get the ice cream treats.

No First Lutheran Church service on July 29th. There will be a joint worship and potluck at the McGregor church. Our congregation is asked to bring desserts.

Deacon Jodi shared about her Houston trip and upcoming activities.

Upcoming Dates:

Circle Bible Study on August 8th, 1:00 p.m. at LTC. Messenger deadline July 19th; folding July 26th by Worship. W-ELCA Board Meeting August 1st at 10:00. The meeting adjourned followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Wanda Moberg, secretary

<u>Date</u>	<u>Usher & Money Counter Assistant</u>
August 5 th -----	Lary & Nancy Torgerson
August 12 th -----	Richard Schmidt & Neil Olson
August 19 th -----	Fritz & Rita Gehring
August 26 th -----	Gary Spooner & John Wilson

Council Money Counter and
Communion Assistant for **August:**
Jayne Jorstad



Communion Preparation for **August:**
Richard & Linda Schmidt

Prayer Concerns: Bree Hanson, Kenneth Bland, Judy Miller, Shane Gehring, Dave Ulven, Linda Moe, Evelyn Curtiss, Romell Lawson, Darlene Mowdy, the service Men and Women serving throughout the world, and all those named in our hearts.

Because of *Hippa* rules that protect privacy, people who wish to be on the prayer list must themselves ask to be noted in the bulletin for prayer, or, if they are unable to do so, then an immediate family member must ask. This allows people to choose how much information they want disclosed about their health. Please include all members of your parish in your daily prayers as we do not know what is happening in the lives of those around us. May you, too, know the power of prayer in your life!

As brothers and sisters in Christ, God calls us to lift each other up in prayer on a daily basis. Please remember those we've named in our bulletin this week; keep them in your prayers, and also pray for your neighbors in the pews today, as well as those you don't see here! Take comfort in knowing that you, too, are being prayed for every day! God bless!



CHURCH COUNCILS:

RAY, TRINITY, EPPING, AND FIRST ~ PLEASE NOTE:

Due to recent concerns expressed, an important discussion regarding the restructuring of the ministries of First Trinity United Ministry will be held at a **SPECIAL JOINT JOINT COUNCIL MEETING ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018, AT 3PM AT RAY. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS TO ATTEND BECAUSE WE NEED QUORUMS FOR EACH CONGREGATION.**

Please remember in prayer those who have lost loved ones over the past year. We especially remember the families and friends of those whose funerals were held in our parish:

- * Robert Moore
- * Jason Longie

May they know God's comfort and peace as they grieve the loss of those they love.

*The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.*

~ Psalm 145:9



**ATTENTION ALL YOUTH
IN GRADES 9 THROUGH 12!**



ANYONE in grades 9 through 12 is invited to come to the Western North Dakota Youth Gathering, October 18th through the 20th! It's fun! There's **MUSIC** and **GAMES** and **GOOD STUFF** that you'll never forget! Watch for more information to come next month!

SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS!



As another school year begins, here's wishing all students, parents, teachers and other school personnel a **GREAT** year! Blessings on your school days!



Deacon Jodi has an important council meeting on Wed., August 1st, so she will meet with the youth at 6pm instead of 7pm.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE TO EVERYONE!

We are working hard to get the word out for what's happening at First & Trinity Lutheran Parish and First Trinity United Ministry!

Here are just a few ways we're working on it:

1. **This monthly newsletter** which goes out to congregation members and others who participate **in our activities and worship services;**

2. **WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE! ~**
"First & Trinity Lutheran Parish, ELCA"

We post info about activities in and around our parish, plus newsy articles, pictures, and videos about faith and life. You must "like" the page in order for it to be on your news feed. But even THAT can be missed sometimes, so please check the page at least weekly to see if there is something on there you don't want to miss!

3. **WE HAVE A WEB PAGE! ~ "elcaoftioga.com"**
~A huge "Thank You!" to JoAnna Hartsoch who has put together a great web page for our parish. It is still being filled out, but it will have the newsletter, along with separate points of interest for various groups and activities happening in the parish and with youth and families in our First Trinity United Ministry.

4. **We also have a "Confirmation Bulletin" group and a "First Lutheran 9-12" group on Facebook!**

Info for everyone! Check it out!

Sweet Corn & Quilt Festival

August 12, 2018

10:30 am ~ Worship in the Chapel

Sweet Corn Feed: (11:45am-3:30pm)

All you can eat sweet corn, with all the fixings and ice cream too.

Silent & Live Auction (12:00pm)

Handcrafted quilts, wood work, and baskets will be on the silent Auction starting at Noon.

The live auction will begin at 1pm.

Games, Music and Tours

There will be a field full of games for all ages (young ones especially) for you to spend the day at camp.

Donation Drop-off Location:

UMM Bible Camp Office in Williston

123 2nd Street West

OR Call to make arrangements: 701-859-4181



First Lutheran Council Minutes July 18th, 2018

Acting President Moberg called the meeting to order at 8:07 pm. Members present include Jeffrey Moberg Jr., Joy Sparks, Justin Nelson, Sarah Moe, Candice Wenger, Jon Hersel, Pastor Sandy, and Hazel Iverson.

Agenda was reviewed with three points added to agenda. Justin motioned, Joy 2nd to approve the updated agenda. Motion carried.

Pastor Sandy led us in devotions and Holy Communion was distributed.

Election of a new church council President was the first order of business. Acting President Moberg was nominated for president. Justin motioned, Joy 2nd that nominations cease and that Moberg be elected church council president. Motion Carried.

President Moberg asked for any nominations for Vice President. Justin was nominated for the position by Candice, 2nd by Sarah. The motion to cease nominations was made by Jon, 2nd by Joy. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. With no corrections noted, a motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Jon, 2nd by Sarah. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Sandy presented her report to the council. She noted that the mileage report was missing.

Deacon Report: No Report.

Evangelism Report: Joy talked about an app that another church uses for congregation offering.

Property Management: There is either a roof leak or a place on the Northeast side of the church where water is getting into the building. Theal out of Sidney will be contacted about the situation.

Stewardship Committee: No Report

Worship Committee: Christmas in July will be on July 22.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to pay for the computers and camera out of the Donations account by Sarah, 2nd by Candice. Motion Carried. The six month budget review will be ready for the next meeting.

Old Business: The speakers for the nursery and library with a booster will cost \$500. A motion to purchase and install the speakers in the library and nursery was made by Joy, 2nd by Candice. Motion Carried. The tunnel heat lines were tabled until the next meeting. The constitution is tabled until the next meeting. Pastor Sandy talked about the Mission Moments Temple Talks. Online donation information needs to be kept in the bulletins and newsletters. A joint worship with McGregor/White Earth is scheduled on July 29th. Credit card was talked

about. President Moberg attempted to start the process of getting a debit card, but was unable to due to his name not being on the account.

New Business: The removal of Deacon Jodi's name from the LYO and 4-56 Disciples account was discussed next. The motion to remove Deacon Jodi's name from the LYO and 4-56 Disciples accounts was made by Jon, Sarah 2nd. Motion Carried. A motion to remove Rod Berry's name from the church's checking and savings account was made by Joy, 2nd by Candice. Motion Carried. A motion to add Jeffrey Moberg Jr.'s name to the church's checking and savings accounts was made by Candace, 2nd by Jon. Motion Carried. A grant by NCC for up to \$10,000 was discussed. The information will be passed onto Ronica. Fulkerson's has an agreement that we may store our lawnmowers in their space as long as our church mows their lawn as well. A motion to follow the said agreement and make sure custodians turn hours into the church not to Fulkerson's by Jon, 2nd by Justin. Motion carried.

The next meeting is on August 15, 2018 at 8:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned by President Moberg at 10:27 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by
Justin Nelson*

For Your Convenience Donate to the Church Online Automatically



First Lutheran Church now has online bill pay. If you currently use online banking with your bank, the rest is easy. If you do not use online banking, it is a simple process done through your individual bank. Instructions to set this up are on the office counter.