



SHARING THE LIGHT

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to grow together in Christ through Prayer, Worship, and Education and to spread the love of Christ to our community.

August 2019

Publication of FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Summertime

I used to remember a time when summers were relaxed. Do you? Everything seemed to move at a lazy, leisurely pace, and you could do things more spontaneously during the summer because your schedule wasn't as filled up as it was during the rest of the year. George Gershwin's famous song described that time well: "Summertime, and the livin' is easy."

But those days seem to be long gone for a lot of people. In talking to a number of my friends, I've discovered that they are a lot like me – we are as busy as ever during the summer. And I'm retired!

Jesus comes to the rescue once again. In the Gospel reading for Sunday, August 11, we will hear some of Jesus' most famous words: "Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! . . . Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these." (*Luke 12:24, 27*)

I think Jesus is suggesting that if we take time to look at such creatures as birds and lilies – a good thing to do during the summer – we just might slow down a little. We will be less anxious and less busy because we will be aware once again of how much God cares for us – each and every one of us, even more than the other beautiful creatures he has made. In fact, God cares about us so much that he sent his only-begotten Son into the world to die and rise for us, which means that he will take care of us for all eternity!

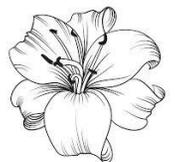
You and I don't have to go to Yellowstone or Yosemite to consider the ravens or the lilies – we can do it right where we are. And then, hopefully, by God's grace, the livin' will be a little bit easier – not just during the summer but the whole year round as well.

Summer blessings,
Pastor Ken Frese

Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! Luke 12:24



Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Luke 12:27



SUMMER
ice cream
sunshine
FLIP FLOPS
lemonade
BARE FEET
vacation
MEMORIES

S W I M M I N G

August 2019



Dear Church Family,

Summer has been hot, and fun filled! We have been busy with our themes, activities and events. We started the summer with a jump house, PJ Mask character Catboy came and a magic show. We continue to do splash pool days on Tuesday and Thursdays! With so many activities we still make our focus and theme on attributes of good character and to be followers of Jesus! Every Monday Mr. Quigley from Quigley's village introduces a new attribute each week. This video series is fun and interactive very much like the Mr. Roger's public television show. We are excited to be always intentional about the teachings of Jesus and His love for ALL of us!

JESUS
Loves ME
this I know...



Things to look forward to are our end of school Luau summer party on Friday, August 23. We would absolutely love it if our church family could attend, ALL are welcome! Come dressed in your best Hawaiian tropic outfits or just some shorts and a shirt will do. The event will be held in our school playground from 4pm to 6pm. Volunteers are also welcomed!



As we come closer to the end of the school year and the beginning of a new one, we are forever grateful for the Lord's provisions. Please continue to pray for the school, students, families, enrollment and our staff. With challenges there is joy and we are truly blessed to be part of something amazing! Feel free to join along with us at any time. Look for notices of opportunities to participate in school activities and events for the coming year. We hope to work alongside our Mission Development Team to continue to be intentional in building God's kingdom through His word and worship.

Blessings in Christ,

Jill Vidal
Director

"In your presence is fullness of Joy" Psalm 16:11

August



Ushers: Craig Boehne, Dave Lassanske, Don Lammerts

Altar Guild: Jean Hyland, Betty Nelson

Greeters:

August 4 Hazel Benscoter
August 11 Jean Hyland, Betty Nelson
August 18 Connie Kean
August 25 Norma Boehne

Worship Times:

First Lutheran Church English Worship 8:30; Bible Class & Sunday School 9:45-10:45

Grace Lutheran Church: Taiwanese Worship 11:00

Banner Church 10:00-3:00

Generations Church 10:15-2:15

Gatherings:

Preschool Chapel each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Board of Directors meeting, Sunday August 4, 11:00 a.m.

Major Leaguers Senior Luncheon, Thursday August 8, 1:00 p.m.

Round Table, Friday, August 9, 11:00 a.m.

Friends in Deed Trip Saturday, August 10, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday Prayer Group, 9:00-10:00 a.m. contact Jo Tschopp for location

Load the van for Friends in Deed Wednesday August 28, 10:45



July Birthdays

Pat Grabowski August 3

John Klawiter August 4

Marge Markham August 12

Don Lammerts August 15

Not receiving email special announcements and/or prayer requests?? If you are currently not receiving emails and would like to be included please share your email address with Jo Tschopp at jo@tschopp.org or (626)355-9433. If you would like to be a member of the Prayer Chain & commit to pray for the requests contact Jo.

Pastoral Care: Please contact Pastor Ken Frese (310) 398-3741; or Board of Directors, Jo Tschopp (626) 355-9433.

Be Informed:

If you are interested in what is happening at the monthly Directors' Meetings, the monthly financial reports, the reports from SONshine House, the Round Table and other congregational activities you can find the reports in a binder located in the church office. The notebook is updated monthly. Kathy Janetzke or Jo Tschopp can direct you to it.

Death... Then What?

By: Rev. Michael Newman

We all die, what takes place two seconds later makes us wonder. Death is waiting for us all. Practicing healthy living may increase our physical performance but we all die. Complex religions, philosophies and ideologies attempt to tell us what happens after we close our eyes for the last time. Systems of thought offer no solace against the perfect judgment of an all-knowing and righteous God. As God's creatures – as sinners – the end of our days is entirely in God's hands, only faith in Jesus Christ and Him crucified will do us any good.

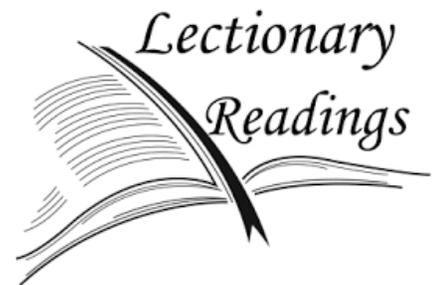


Using weekly videos and a study guide, participants in the Tuesday morning Bible class will explore topics related to death and dying. Beginning Tuesday, September 10, 11:00-noon, we hope many will join us, bring your friends to our air-conditioned Fellowship Room. Call Oscar Tschopp for further information. 626 355-9433

Reading the Lectionaries:

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
August 4	Ecclesiastes 1:12-14; 2:18-26	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
August 11	Genesis 15:1-6	Hebrews 11:1-16	Luke 12:22-34
August 18	Jeremiah 23:16-29	Hebrews 11:17-31	Luke 12:49-53
August 25	Isaiah 66:18-23	Hebrews 12:4-29	Luke 13:22-30

The Old Testament readings for August 4 contain conclusions that King Solomon came to; wisdom, pleasures, and toil are meaningless. The Colossians reading gives us rules for holy living, and Luke writes about the parable of the rich fool. Enjoy the other readings and try to find the connections. Remember these lectionaries are read in churches throughout the world on each of the above dates.



Major Leaguers Senior Luncheon

Bring you friends and neighbors to the bimonthly luncheon, Thursday, August 8, 1:00pm. A cool and refreshing lunch is being prepared for the hot days of August.

Have you ever researched your family tree? I bet you can't top what scholars have found interesting in the family tree of Vincent Van Gogh. See how many of these you can name.



- His dizzy aunt.....Verti Gogh
- His Mexican cousin.....A Mee Gogh
- The cousin's American half-brother.....Gring Gogh

Now it is your turn to name Vincent's relatives, bring your answers to the luncheon.

- The brother who ate prunes_____The grandfather from Yugoslavia_____
- The nephew who drove a stagecoach_____The ballroom dancing aunt_____
- The bird lover_____A sister who loved disco_____
- A niece who travels in a RV_____I saw you smiling_____

Mission Development Team

At our second meeting we continued to dream big, so many thoughts. Christine Geltz shared a spreadsheet of ideas that she gleaned from meeting with Peter Choi, President of the Temple City

Chamber of Commerce regarding the celebration of our 75th anniversary and reaching out into the community. The Concordia Historical Institute from Saint Louis has also sent us suggestions. Check your files and memorabilia, do you have photos, bulletins, booklets, etc. that tell the history? Does anyone have a wedding dress, confirmation outfit, hat, special clothing or artifact from the past? Share your thoughts and ideas with Christine.

Voters' Meeting:

The regular twice-annual voters' meeting was held July 7. Members who attended were served lunch and encouraged to read reports as they ate. Pastor Frese reported on his activities with us, the treasurer's report shows a positive balance. The "Burn the Mortgage" campaign was emphasized as an intentional effort by the Board of Directors to retire the debt. The preschool report shows 30 students enrolled for the summer program. It was suggested we conduct a member survey regarding the best time for worship. Regina Li-Armijo and Sharon Corey were accepted as members of the Voters.

The following members were elected for a one-year term of office:

Chairman – Jo Tschopp

Secretary – Hazel Benscoter

Treasurer – Kathy Janetzke

Board Members at Large – Pat Grabowski, Norma Boehne, Vicki Trepanier, Judy Gunther

Lutheran Hour Ministries:

Daily Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries will help strengthen and encourage your faith. Have them delivered right to your inbox, podcast the audio devotional, access them on your mobile device through the FREE app, or listen with Spotify, iHeart Radio, Alexa, or Google Home. It is easy to sign up. Let Jo Tschopp know if you are interested, for years we have been receiving the Daily Devotions via email. It is easy to sign up. If you can't come to church on Sunday you can listen on radio to the Lutheran Hour sermon Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. The radio station is KBRT 740 AM. You can also access the sermon using Sirius XM 131 at 10:00 a.m.



Friends in Deed:

We have become a "regular" at the Friends in Deed Food Pantry. When I drive up in my van at the end of each month the volunteers know they will be unloading lots of food items from First Lutheran Temple City. This is our third year of participating in this ministry that is dedicated to helping the financially challenged. When I purchase food for the pantry I realize that my contribution can help people divert grocery money to other necessities such as rent, gas, public transportation, and other expenses. In 2017 we contributed 2,122 pounds. We almost doubled that in 2018 by donating 4,235 pounds. At the end of this June we have provided 2,315 pounds. Don't forget to add a few items to your shopping cart each time you visit the grocery store.



Burn the Mortgage!

The principal of our debt is going down. Please help us to lower the principal by making extra contributions. The Board of Directors is considering ways to designate extra funds to the mortgage.