



# *First English Lutheran Church*

## NEWSLETTER

July 2023



### FELC Mission Statement

By the grace of God First English Lutheran Church will grow as one family of faith, secure in the knowledge of Christ's gift of salvation, proclaiming God's love for all.

Pastor Denise Fossen

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson,  
*Missionaries/Tanzania*

Barbara Wegner, *Parish Secretary*

Liz Ketz, *Financial Secretary*

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First English Lutheran Church  
9 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Ortonville, MN 56278





## *From the Pastor*

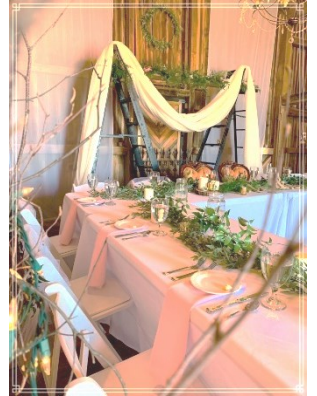


*Matthew 22.9: Go therefore into the main streets and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.*

I'm writing this in anticipation of our niece's wedding this summer. It's been a few years since family or friends have had a wedding celebration, so we are happily anticipating this one.

One of the best parts of the wedding, for me anyway, is the meal – the wedding banquet. Yes, it might be cold when you receive your plate, and yes, it might not be the meal you would have chosen, and yes, the dessert might not be what you expected, yet the whole meal is covered and based in love.

God's kingdom is like that wedding banquet: created and served in love. Every time we have Holy Communion, we are participating in a meal created in love and based on love. "Given for you" in remembrance of Jesus' life-giving act on the cross. Forgiveness freely "Given for you." God's abundant mercy lovingly "Given for you."



Another enjoyable part of a wedding celebration is the gathering of friends and family. When we gather at the Lord's Table, we are gathered as one in God's family, united in our baptism and united in God's love.

As we bring gifts to celebrate the wedding couple's love, God gives us the free gift of forgiveness through the sacraments and gives spiritual gifts at our baptism. God loves to shower us with gifts that encourage our life in Christ, our relationship with God, our relationship with each other, and our relationship with creation. God loves to see our love grow with God and with each other, just as we love to see the newly married couple's love grow.

As many wedding celebrations end with joyful dancing, I encourage you to celebrate God's love for you -- maybe with a little two-step or polka or waltz? In any case, bask in the never-ending love that God showers on you every day.

Celebrating with you,

*Pastor Denise*

### **FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING Council Minutes – June 5, 2023 (not yet approved)**

Members present: Pastor Denise Fossen, Kristi Ehrenberg (president), Marilyn Chindvall (vice president) and Lay Ministry, Becky Parker (treasurer) and Stewardship, Gayla Athey-Youth & Family, Marla Strei -Evangelism, Kaitlyn Burdorf-Christian Education, Glenn Henningson-Church Properties, and Barbara Wegner-Secretary.

Meeting was called to order by President Kristi Ehrenberg at 7:54 pm.

Approval of May Minutes. Becky & Kaitlyn **MSP**.

Approval of May Treasurer's Report - We didn't take from the operating reserve in May, but monthly offerings were down compared to May of last year. Cumulatively we're ahead of last year's general offering. Marla & Glenn **MSP**.

**Board of Lay Ministry** — Marilyn Chindvall – WAM didn't meet. June 18th Pastor Denise will be gone, Marilyn Hanson will lead service and Pastor Renee will preach by Zoom. Instead of contemporary service we will have a favorite hymn sing. The Endowment & Finance committees didn't meet, so there were no minutes to approve. Marilyn hasn't gathered members for the safety committee yet, but she did get a copy of the safety procedure from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Cloud. It addresses fire, evacuation, severe weather, containment, shelter-in-place, and lockdowns. This will be a good starting place for discussion when the safety committee is put together.

As for the question of livestreaming the funeral, the board of Lay Ministry feels that Marina should be compensated if she's doing extra work & Mundwiler charges. She is sometimes compensated by our recommended amount for an honorarium that Mundwiler tells the families about. Kristi mentioned it's not extra time or work for Marina. She's also being compensated for her hours by FELC. Lay Ministry felt 2 weeks was long enough for the video to be on our Facebook page. Marla & Kaitlyn thought 30 days would be a fair time. There was discussion about limiting it to just members and how that creates a grey area and would be awkward and/or offensive to provide it based on membership. It was discussed that some people might not want their funerals to be livestreamed and it was asked if we could livestream on our website rather than Facebook. Though perhaps possible, it seems like it would be difficult to put it on our website without livestreaming on FB. Becky mentioned we wouldn't want the liability that comes with charging if technical errors could happen. Council clarified that livestreaming would be a voluntary service, only available if people specifically ask, with no additional fees and no ties to membership. The videos will be removed from FB 30 days after the service.

Board of Lay Ministry approved Barbara's summertime hours. She said summer has slowed down work a bit & talked with Pastor about the best times. She will work 6 hours less a week: Monday 8-3, Tuesday 8-noon, Wednesday 8-noon, Thursday 8-3, and Friday 8-noon. Pastor Denise will be around in the afternoons Monday and Tuesday, and sometimes on Wednesday. But she does pastoral care when she can on Wednesdays and Thursdays. There is a sign on the door with office hours, and there will be a message on it giving Pastor Denise's cell number in case of pastoral emergencies. As for the by-law changes for the endowment committee, the board of Lay Ministry did not want to approve it before the Endowment committee had a chance to look it over. The Endowment committee should approve it, then Lay Ministry. Because the endowment committee doesn't meet until July, we will move the by-law change to the January meeting.

**Board of Evangelism** – Marla Strei – Evangelism wanted to note that Marilee Haukos & Deb Henningson should be added to the election agenda as they are leaving and Marge Dragseth should be added to the ballot as she's willing to serve on Evangelism. No one can attend the Synod Assembly. The date of September 10th for God's Work Our Hands is fine. The Fairway View Hymn Sing will be June 14th at 4:00 pm, led by Marla Strei, and musically accompanied by Lisa Berdan. The Hymn Sing will be patriotically themed as it is Flag Day. The next hymn sings will be July 12th at 4 where Marilyn Hanson will accompany, and August 9th at 4 with Amy Adelman accompanying. Mission Emphasis Sunday is tentatively set for Sunday, November 12th or 19th and discussion was held about possible topics. There were no transfers in or out. Directory planning will be looked at in the fall. Evangelism felt the funeral videos should be available to all and removed after 30 days and that the Endowment committee should approve the by-law change first. Lastly, a special thank you to Kim Anderson for the instructional book for hosting the broadcasts at Fairway View. This is a helpful tool. Thank you, Kim!

**Christian Education** – Kaitlyn Burdorf – No one can attend the Synod assembly. Concerning vBS there are volunteers, but more will likely be needed. Sunday School (SS) was great this year and attendance didn't lessen much after Christmas. Christian Ed. enjoyed singing with the senior choir and performing at the nursing home, both of which they would love to do again. They will plan next year's SS lessons at their next meeting. August 27th is the suggested date for Backpack Blessing. Ortonville school starts Aug. 28th. The board considered September 17th for Rally Sunday. The board is open for dates for the confirmation reviews and were thinking that bible presentation should be after Rally Sunday, so possibly September 24th. They will figure out how many bibles are needed & let the office know to order them. Pastor Denise asked if VBS will do the Sunday Worship on July 23rd. Carmen has been talking with Green Lake about this & Kaitlyn wasn't sure. Sara Wollschlager will be added to their ballot.

**Youth & Family** – Gayla Athey – Adopt-a-highway ditch walk went well and the board voted to continue this service project. Minister Jim from Holden (Beardsley) and Trinity (Clinton) came to discuss the prospect of some type of cooperative youth ministry and leader. Kristi discussed our Youth Director job postings, hours, and what our budget is. The meeting went well. There are 18 kids going to summer camp. There is an ELCA youth gathering next summer in New Orleans. There are no plans for a mission trip right now. There are no additions to the ballot.

**Stewardship** – Becky Parker – Julie wrote a blurb for the bulletin about consistent giving for the summer and we will have that this week and Becky will give a short Temple Talk. Stewardship is fine with September 10th for God's Work Our Hands. The board is full and no one's term is ending. According to the by-laws of the congregation we shouldn't have authorized the spending of \$56,000 for the roof since it was not budgeted. It should have gone before the congregation. Stewardship Board makes a recommendation to disperse funds from either Minnwest Checking and/or the Ameriprise Investment Fund to pay for the roofing in the estimated amount of \$56,000. We haven't received a bill yet and have been instructed not to pay it. The board suggests leaving the decision of where the funds come from to the finance committee. Kristi mentioned we had a time constraint in making this decision to roof because they were going to be doing the half that was covered by insurance soon. This recommendation will go to the congregation at the annual election meeting on June 25th. Kristi read from a note from Art saying shingling is totally done, however the heat tape has to be re-done and the cross on the bell tower has to be reinstalled so we're not going to pay the bill until we know those items are done.

Approval of Stewardship's recommendation being added to the Annual Election Agenda. Marla & Gayla MSP.

**Church Properties** – Glenn Henningson – Dean wasn't here so there were no notes from Dean. The water fountain will cost about \$3,000 to fix. There was discussion on if it had to go to the congregation if it wasn't budgeted, but it should count under "Maintenance & repair." A suggestion was made to ask the Endowment committee for funds to cover this. To repair the sidewalk and sinkhole, we were given an estimate of \$8,800. Glenn didn't see any deterioration in the sidewalk problems. Both repairs together would eat up the repair budget of \$11,000. No one seems to be bothered by the sidewalk and it's marked well which is our responsibility to do. We will keep monitoring the sidewalk issues. There is a desire for the water fountain to be fixed before Vacation Bible School, so that will be a priority and Glenn will ask the Endowment committee for funds for capital improvement to help cover it. It may be a bad time to work on the sidewalk because the construction work has been shaking the building. The tile work in the Altar Guild & Storage rooms is done. Prior to the meeting, it was reported that Dale Price & Glenn Berdan should be placed on the ballot for this board.

**PASTOR'S REPORT** – **Worship:** During the summer, WAM selected setting four to be used. Weekly creation of visuals for children's message and sermon are completed and emailed to Marina to use during the service. We had in-person worship every Sunday in May at FELC, in person live at Fairway View May 7th and June 4th, and using computer to play the service at Fairway View on May 14th. Barbara showed me the book Kim Anderson put together for FVW; she did a nice job. **Pastoral care:** Richard Anderson's funeral on May 9th. Ann Lundberg's private burial May 26th. In the planning stages for a memorial service for Ken Henneberg which will be June 29th. Weekly bible study continues Tuesdays at Fairway View. When I've been unable to lead it, the parish nurses or others have led the study from a leader's guide I put together for them. Pastoral care continues in person, by phone or text, or mailed cards. May was a busy month with hospitalizations and an assortment of pastoral care concerns. **Confirmation:** The 7-8th graders had their last class on May 10th. The 9th graders had their last class on May 24th. They are working on finishing up their year-end test, missed lessons because of absences, and their final faith statement/creed. Some of them are working on their worship notes, too. I'll be meeting individually with those not having everything completed to date. **Synod:** I've been watching videos and reading reports in preparation for the SW MN Synod annual assembly June 9-10th. Part of the business meeting is the recognition and appreciation of ordained pastor's and their ministries. I will be recognized for ten years of ordained ministry. **Miscellaneous:** The week of May 15th I was in Minneapolis for continuing education. I enjoyed worship, preaching, and lectures. Minister Jim from Trinity in Clinton met and discussed sharing youth leadership opportunities and covering for each other's vacations. I did a near-death visit on Mother's Day night. **Upcoming:** I'll be on vacation Tuesday, June 13th through Monday June 19th. Minister Jim Rach from Trinity in Clinton will be available for emergency pastoral care.

Glenn said there was \$5,000 dollars in the bell fund so he will get it looked at by Chuck after the road opens. Becky asked about last-minute registration for the Synod assembly but the registration deadline had passed.

Next council meeting will be on August 7th at 7:00 PM  
Motion to adjourn – Marla & Glenn MSP.  
Closed with Lord's Prayer at 8:44 pm.

# Youth News July 2023

😊 We rejoice that Poppy, Sailor, Tessa T, and Maizie were able to change their time at Green Lake to the week of June 18-22<sup>nd</sup> so not to miss out on our VBS week here at church.

😊 This month we have 14 more young people attending Green Lake Bible Camp. Please add these youth to your prayers for a safe and inspirational time this month.

July 16-20: Jace, Vada, Wiley, Dawson, Gibson, Reba, Cody, Justice, Mya, Landri, and Jaxson.

July 23-27: Livia.

July 30-Aug 3: Jordan and Riley.

😊 Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held this month from July 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. The time will be 3:00-7:00 PM each day. Children should bring their own water bottles with them each day. Supper will be served for those attending and helping out.

😊 We still are looking for a person to fill the position of Youth Director. Please prayerfully consider if you could be that person or someone that we could try to talk to about taking the position.

😊 Thank you to Sharron Johnson, Lois Bergeson, and Russ and Ronda Thielke for donations in memory of Ann Lundberg. (The checks were inadvertently left in an envelope in my desk, and I apologize for their lateness.) Thanks to Pat Collins and Mary Lou Olson in memory of Mick Boone. Also, thanks to Jim and Ranet Schmeichel for the donation in memory of Ron Thompson.

# VBS

## Parish Nurse Article for July

*El Sali - "God My Strength"*

*El Sali is a Hebrew name meaning "God My Strength, God my Rock". In Exodus 15, Moses calls God his strength when going through the parted Red Sea and saving the Israelites from Pharaoh's army.*

*God promises to be our strength when we call on Him. He loves you wants His joy to be your strength. (Nehemiah 8:10)*



## CHURCH NEWS

**Newly Elected Council Members** will be installed during our church service on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Our new members voted in last month are Michelle Bauer (Board of Lay Ministry), Sara Wollschlager (board of Christian Ed), Dale Price & Glenn Berdan (Board of Church Properties), and Marge Dragseth (Board of Evangelism).

**Vacation Bible School starts July 24<sup>th</sup>** at 3:00 pm. VBS runs 3-7pm each day, Monday through Thursday. Children should bring their own water bottles with them each day.

**We are looking for volunteers** to prepare and serve coffee on Sundays going forward.

Please contact the office if you are willing to help. If there is no one willing to help, we may not be able to hold coffee fellowship.



**We are seeking to fill** the FELC Youth and Children Program Leader position. It will start at approx. 20-hours per week, Mon-Fri, plus limited evenings and weekend hours for youth ministry activities and chaperoning youth events and trips. There is potential for future growth in hours with program growth. If you or someone you know is interested, drop off your resume and references at the church office or e-mail it to pastor@firstenglish.net.

**MAY THE GOD OF ALL CONSOLATION be with**

... the family of Wilbur 'Swede' Anderson on his passing on June 7<sup>th</sup>. His funeral was held at First English on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

...the family of Mark Block on his passing on June 16<sup>th</sup>. His funeral was held at First English on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

... the family of Wally Sayles on his passing on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. His funeral was held at First English on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

... the family of Ken Henneberg on his passing on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. His memorial service was held at First English on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT** for Ricky Anderson Jr., Carol Barrett; Glenn Berdan; Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Brandi Tweeter; Clara Zeek; Paul Erdman; Beckett Foster; Baby Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; Baby McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; Jerry Stotesbery; and Terry Ward. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Janet Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; & Eleanor Nickolauson. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict. If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office.



**KDIO BROADCASTS**

... (June 4<sup>th</sup>) was sponsored by your gifts to the endowment fund.

... (June 11<sup>th</sup>) was sponsored in memory of Jerry & Katie by the family of Marge, & the families of Jenny Odden, Emily Mueller, Kirsten Karels, and Kevin Dragseth.

... (June 18<sup>th</sup>) was sponsored in loving memory of our Dads, Mick Boone and Wes Strei from Richard & Marla Strei and family.

... (June 25<sup>th</sup>) was sponsored by Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg in honor of this year's graduates, especially Nathan From NDSCS.

**Green Lake Lutheran Ministries' annual Quilt auction** will be on July 21-22. Donations & participation have a huge impact on their ministry endeavors all year. You can donate a quilt, silent auction item or make a donation. Ask the office for a donation form for your quilt or silent auction items! Turn them in no later than July 12. Visit <https://www.gllm.org/quilt-auction.html> for more information.

**THE PINK ENVELOPES**

for each month are for designated funds. You may designate your extra gift to any fund you wish. Our Board of Stewardship also designates a special emphasis for each month of the year. September special gifts go to the Endowment Fund which helps cover the cost of the KDIO broadcasts when we do not have a weekly sponsorship.

Thank you for supporting FELC's giving emphasis!

- January .....Technology Fund
- February.....Service Trip Scholarship
- March..... Big Stone Lake Area Food
- April..... SWMN Funding Initiative
- May..Global Missions - Companion Synod South Africa
- June.....Someplace Safe
- July.....Families in Need**
- August..... Baptism Chests
- September.....Endowment Fund
- October.....Jaycees Project Christmas
- November.....God's Work, Our Hands/Service Projects
- December.....ELCA Missionaries

**July 2023**

Designated Funds

**Building (please specify)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Operating Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Other** Families in Need \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank You from Larry Helgeson*

Larry Helgeson sent flowers to First English on June 25<sup>th</sup>. This was his message to you all:

*Please accept the gladiolus bouquet of flowers as a token of appreciation for the prayers and the cards from Day of Love these past 4 ½ years. June 25, 2023 is the fourth anniversary of my bone marrow transplant (aka stem cell transplant.) The chemotherapy treatment for multiple myeloma did not end with the transplant. My maintenance chemotherapy has me taking chemo pills for 21 days each month followed by 7 days off. I also receive two other chemo drugs by infusion once a month plus a drug to boost my immune system.*



*Your prayers and this chemotherapy regimen has made the cancer cells undetectable in my latest blood tests and my last bone marrow biopsy. Thank you!*

*Open Your Heart Summer Challenge*

While children are out of school for the summer, many families struggle to increase their food budgets to ensure they have enough food to feed themselves and their family members. Due to pandemic relief programs that have expired and the inflation we are experiencing, households are faced with not having enough to eat. The Prairie Five/Big Stone Lake Area Food Shelf saw a 66.7% rise in household visits from 2021 to 2022 and we continue to stand ready to meet the rising need in our community. To help us ensure our community members have the food resources they need, we are participating in the Open Your Heart (OYH) Summer Challenge. Open Your Heart helps fund solutions to end hunger and homelessness in Minnesota. Our goal this month is to raise \$5,000.



As we take part in the OYH challenge during the month of July, the funds raised will be proportionally matched up to \$4,000 based on how much each participating food shelf raises. Help us rise to the challenge and consider making a financial contribution to the Prairie Five/Big Stone Lake Area Food Shelf during July and help those who rely on us to meet their daily food needs.

Please send checks payable to: Prairie Five/Big Stone Lake Area Food Shelf, 125 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ortonville, MN 56278.

**29<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutheran Men in Mission Golf Tournament**

**Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at Redwood Falls Golf Club**

Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup> Registration Deadline



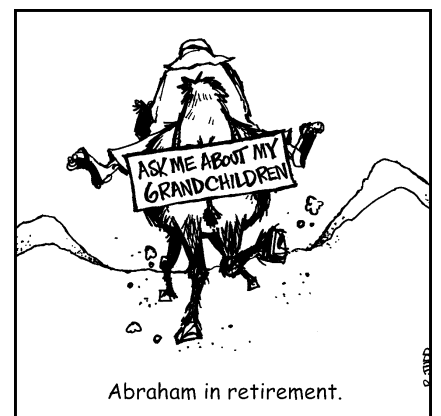
*The vision of Lutheran Men in Mission is for every man to become a bold, daring follower of Jesus Christ.*



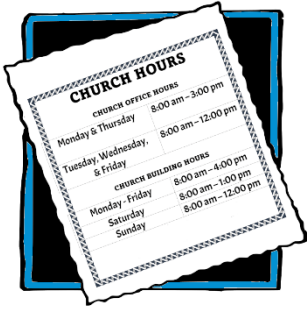
The profit from the LMM golf tournament goes into the LMM's Fund for Leaders Endowment to help grow leaders in Rural Ministry.

- Registration: 2:30 pm & Shotgun Start: 3:00 pm
- Price: \$75.00 per golfer and includes Golf Cart, green fees, meal, prizes, and a donation to LMM.

Teams will be 4 or 5 members. If you don't have a full team, ad hoc teams will be formed at the tournament.



Abraham in retirement.



## Parish Secretary Summer Hours

Monday: 8:00 am-3:00 pm,  
Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm,  
Thursday: 8:00 am-3:00 pm, &  
Friday: 8:00 am-12:00 pm.  
This is 6 hours less a week than our regular hours.  
Please plan accordingly. Thanks!



Our Church building hours are staying the same. The building is open at 8:00 am every day of the week and closes at 4:00 pm Monday – Friday, 1:00 pm on Saturdays, and noon on Sundays.

### Upcoming Stonecroft Ministries Sponsored By Women’s Connection

Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm at  
Tabor Methodist Church.  
The cost is \$6.00, and there is a  
free nursery available by reservation.

**Speaker:** Sally Hjelle of Savage, MN  
“Accentuate the Positive...  
Eliminate the Negative”

**Special Feature:** Larry Helgeson of Ortonville  
The museum is a gold mine of treasures  
& Larry will expound on a few.

**Music:** Jason Helgeson of Ortonville – Soloist  
**FOOD WILL BE SERVED & ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**Southwestern Minnesota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God’s work. Our hands.

The congregations and all the baptized who are the Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are claimed by this mission: God places us in cities, farms and towns together under one prairie sky. The Risen Christ surprises us with opportunities to plant God’s Word in the world.

Walking together in confidence, we cultivate life-giving congregations, nurture partner ministries, and cooperate in the life of the ELCA.

By God’s grace, together we have what we need.

*‘As members of the ELCA, we believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. With our hands, we do God’s work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ’s name throughout the world.’*

## SW MN SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The Southwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly was held June 9-10 at Gustavus Adolphus College, St Peter. Our Pastor Denise was one of those attending this assembly. The theme of the Assembly was, “Embody the Word,” which was present throughout the weekend. The Assembly was able to see the many gifts of leaders, both lay and rostered, from around the synod showcased in videos, worship, workshops, speakers, and around your tables.

The Assembly received reports and learned about our many ministry partner organizations. They welcomed ELCA staff member Rev. Kevin Jacobson, Director for Global Personnel, who provided a churchwide update and met with the Companion Synod Committee on their partnership with their Companion Synod in southern Africa. Their speaker, researcher Matt Bloom, lifted up factors that contribute to well-being and resiliency, particularly in the relationships and culture of churches and their leaders. Business included electing new governance leaders, approving constitutional changes, and adopting the budget for fiscal year 2025 and recommended compensation guidelines for 2024. They celebrated anniversaries and retirements and gave thanks for the life and ministry of pastors who have joined the heavenly chorus. And worship included singing hymns led by organ and Dakota Road, as well as a new evening prayer liturgy.

### Summary of Assembly actions:

The Assembly elected:

1. Vice President: Ms Maria Lokensgard
2. Synod Treasurer: Mr Bob Haines
3. Synod Secretary: Rev. Ann Zastrow (2nd term)
4. Synod Council At-Large: Rev. Don McKee
5. Synod Council At-Large: Ms Emily Peterson
6. Consultation Committee: Ms Kristen Pierce
7. Consultation Committee: Mr Rick Loeth
8. Discipline Committee: Rev Kathleen Ulland-Klinkner
9. Discipline Committee: Rev Michael Carlson
10. Discipline Committee: Rev Christopher Culuris



\*Assembly Action: SA23.06.03: Motion to approve Resolution 23.01: Recommended Changes to Synod Constitution: Motion approved.

\*Assembly Action: SA23.06.04: Motion to approve Budget for FY2025. Motion approved.

\*Assembly Action: SA23.06.05: Motion to approve 2024 SW MN Synod Compensation Guidelines. Motion approved.

SAVE THE DATE: SYNOD ASSEMBLY JUNE 7-8, 2024  
More Assembly information is posted on the Synod Assembly’s webpage.

# Gifts & Memorials (March 28<sup>th</sup> – June 28<sup>th</sup>)

## **ALTAR GUILD**

In memory of "Swede" Anderson: Jim & Julie Hipple, and Anthony & Jocelyn Schowalter.  
Anthony & Jocelyn Schowalter.

## **BELLS**

Aaron Saeger & Family *in memory of Tom Saeger*, Dean & Karen Strand *in memory of Ann Lundberg* and *in memory of Mark Block*, Garry & Ethel Swenson *in memory of Mick Boone*.

## **CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT**

Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg.

## **DAY OF LOVE**

In memory of Ann Lundberg: Sharon Carlson, Jerry & Kathy Longhenry, Richard & Marla Strei & family.

In memory of Mick Boone: Mel & Jackie Domine, Pat Janke, Liz Ketz, Eldon & Carol Knutson, Larry & Shannon Millerbernd, Nancy Nolop, and Roger & Barb Nornes.

Thanks offering for healing by Eryls Sis.

## **EASTER**

Tyler & Alicia Adelman, Gayle Anderson, Jon & Kim Anderson, Angie Aschwege, Ronald & Ginger Athey, Cody & Jennifer Backstrand, Kevin & Becky Backstrand, Lynn Behnke, Glenn & Lisa Berdan, Keven & Amber Berdan, Lois Bergeson, Mark & Amy Block, Mark & Sandy Brown, Cheryl Carl, Sharon Carlson, Marilyn Chindvall, Ashton & Caiti Conroy, Scott & Lorraine Conroy, Scott Dahle, Chris & Kari Dorry, Dave & Debbie Ellingson, Keith & Lynne Giese, Kyle & Courtney Giese, Mark & Kandi Hamann, Ruth Hansen, James & Kate Heinecke, Vivian Janssen, Sharron Johnson, Terry Kalberg, Matthew & Kirsten Karels, Brett & Kelsey Kaye, Liz Ketz, Arlen & Ardell Lacombe, Nola Lockwood, Jerry & Kathy Longhenry, Ann Mattison, Sara Mattison, Gale May, Marianne Morrill, Doran Nagel, Connie & Carol Newman, Nancy Nolop, Roger & Barb Nornes, Burton Pansch, Christie Petersen, Dale Price, Bruce & Kristi Redfield, Paula Reisdorph, John & Lila Salls, James & Ranet Schmeichel, Sharon Smith, Kathy Stolpman, Dean & Karen Strand, Richard & Marla Strei and family, Steve & Lori Strei, Kristin & Shawn Taffe, Russ & Ronda Thielke, Art & Arlene Vollmer, Joseph & Jennifer Wiik, Josh & Sara Wollschlager, Jonathan & Carol Ydstie, Clara Zeek, and Joshua & Rachel Zinski.

## **ELCA SW MN SYNOD**

Marilyn Chindvall, Mel & Jackie Domine, Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg, Liz Ketz, and Sharon Smith.

## **ENDOWMENT FUND**

Ruth Hanson.

## **FELC WOMEN**

Darlene Mikkelson *in memory of Ann Lundberg*.

## **FOOD SHELF**

Arvilla Bergseth.

## **GLOBAL MISSIONS**

Marilyn Chindvall, Mel & Jackie Domine, Liz Ketz, Sharon Smith.

## **IN-KIND GIFTS**

Marilyn Hanson.

## **KATIE'S KICKS**

Sharron Johnson.

## **KDIO**

Marge Dragseth & family *In memory of Jerry & Katie*, Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg *in honor of this year's grads esp. Nathan from NDSCS*, Evelyn Johnson *in memorial of Greg Johnson & all our military*, Richard & Marla Strei and family *in memory of Mick Boone*.

## **LENT (Katie's Kicks)**

Kevin & Becky Backstrand, Lois Bergeson, Sharon Carlson, Betty Casper, Marilyn Chindvall, Larry & Jyla Dahle, Scott Dahle, Chris & Kari Dorry, Dave & Debbie Ellingson, Kevin & Denise Fossen, Keith & Lynne Giese, Ruth Hansen, Marilyn Hanson, James & Kate Heinecke, Glenn & Deb Henningson, Jim & Julie Hipple, Evelyn Johnson, Liz Ketz, Arlen & Ardell Lacombe, Mike & Nicole Lovgren, Ann Mattison, Sara Mattison, Darlene Mikkelson, Mary Lou Olson, Paula Reisdorph, Sharon Smith, Dean & Karen Strand, Garry & Ethel Swenson, and Robert Swint.

## **MUSIC FUND**

Patricia Janke *in memory of Ann Lundberg*.

## **OPERATING**

In memory of Ann Lundberg: Marilyn Chindvall, Arlene Gustafson, and Eryls Sis.

In memory of "Swede" Anderson: Marilyn Chindvall, Darlene Mikkelson, and Eryls Sis.

Gayle Anderson; Kirby & Mari Athey; Ron & Ginger Athey; Lois Bergeson, Arvilla Bergseth; Sharon Carlson; Betty Casper, Larry & Jyla Dahle; Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg; Marilyn Hanson; Evelyn Johnson; Nancy Nolop; Mary Lou Olson; Glenda Reiffenberger; Sharon Smith *in memory of Mick Boone*, Garry & Ethel Swenson; Robert Swint; Russ & Ronda Thielke; and Clara Zeek.

## **OUTDOOR DIGITAL SIGN**

Garry & Ethel Swenson *in memory of Wilber "Swede" Anderson*.

## **SENIOR CHOIR**

In memory of Mick Boone: Glenn & Lisa Berdan, Lois Bergeson, Marilyn Hanson, Glenda Reiffenberger, Eryls Sis, Richard & Marla Strei and family, Eryls Sis, Dave & Anne Tonn, Brent & Brenda Zahrbock.

In memory of "Swede" Anderson: Ronald & Ginger Athey, Lois Bergeson, Marilyn Hanson, and Glenda Reiffenberger.

Ronald & Ginger Athey *in memory of Bertha Longhenry*, Rob & Kathy Randall *in memory of Duane Ross*, and Glenda Reiffenberger.

## **SOMEPLACE SAFE**

Marilyn Chindvall, Liz Ketz, Darlene Mikkelson, Sharon Smith, Robert Swint, and Jack & Mary Weber.

## **SPECIAL NEEDS**

Sharron Johnson.

## **SQUARES**

Sharron Johnson *in memory of Mick Boone*.

## **YOUTH GROUP**

In memory of Ann Lundberg: Ronald & Ginger Athey, Lois Bergeson, Sharron Johnson, and Russ & Ronda Thielke.

In memory of Mick Boone: Pat Collins & Mary Lou Olson.

Marilyn Hanson, and James & Ranet Schmeichel *in memory of Ron Thompson*.



June 2023

Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson  
ELCA Global Personnel

*Dear First English Lutheran Church,*

Nothing can beat the joyful smile of a child, the exuberance in which these kids embrace the ideas of nutrition and gardening is evident. Some of these new opportunities give us a fresh look at our work and impact, and keep us motivated and hopeful for the future. Steve and I are inspired by the young and motivated doctors and nurses with whom we work as well as the students from the village that bring their enthusiasm to the garden.

While Jodi has been busy at Selian Hospital and the school clubs, Steve has been keeping the NICU humming along as well as training doctors, seeing children in his busy clinic, and answering loads of messages everyday from worried parents-- and planning for hosting the next international NICU Conference at the end of October! Stay tuned!!



*Loskito Gardening Club*

*Planting a perennial spinach for the future!*

## **Gardening & Nutrition Club**

I have recently started a gardening/nutrition after school club at a nearby rural primary and secondary school. The area is a semi-arid environment, and we made the most of the rainy season by planting 4 nutritional perennial leafy green vegetables that we hope will provide the students with a boost of vitamins and minerals in their school lunch.

For the gardeners and farmers who are interested... we planted chaya, moringa, new zealand spinach, and sweet potato (the leaves are eaten, not the tuber, and it continues to produce leaves).



## **NICU - PEDIATRIC News**

We continue to remain busy, with pediatrics at Selian Lutheran Hospital and ALMC. Established NICUs at both hospitals often run a combined daily census of 30+ babies, many of whom are born weighing less than 2 lbs. The work of our 11 Tanzanian doctors and 30+ NICU nurses inspire me, and sometimes I forget how far we've come over the past 10 years. Achieving high survival rates and seeing healthy infants and toddlers come back with their mothers to visit us and say "thank you" (see below) offers a deep, soul-filling joy to members of our team, who work long hours in a hospital facing monumental challenges that cannot be easily put into writing.

Last month we were able to send 2 Tanzanian doctors to University of Minnesota for 6 weeks, to attend a Global Health Course and see how pediatrics is conducted in Minneapolis-St Paul. We look forward to their return this week to Tanzania, and their newfound enthusiasm for Global Pediatrics.

In October we will be hosting our 3rd annual "Advancing Care of Critically Ill and Premature Babies in Africa" conference in Arusha. The scope of this 5-day training conference has grown dramatically, as speakers and attendees arrive from across the African continent, Europe and North America. It has become one of the largest clinical neonatology conferences offered in East Africa.

## **Water is Everything**

It is a common saying in Tanzania: Water is Everything. Since my last "weather report", the rains did arrive and we are so thankful. As you know, weather is linked to the nutritional status of the communities and food insecurity is one of our biggest challenges in addressing malnutrition.

The childhood malnutrition that we have been treating through an inpatient program at Selian Hospital has been humming along as well and we have 20+ children coming through the program every month. We also have been able to

share hundreds of boxes on RUTF (Ready to Use Therapeutic Food) with surrounding hospitals and clinics which we received from MANA. Food insecurity is a reality especially in the rural areas so we continue to look for ways to support those who are hungry.



May 2022: Baby Giselle, born at 30 weeks weighing 3 lbs (1390 grams). She spent 33 days in our ALMC NICU.



May 2023: Grace and Giselle. Mother brought her into our NICU on her 1st birthday to say, "Thank you for saving my baby". She even brought a birthday cake for all the nurses and doctors to share! :)

It was a great joy recently to have our Pastor Christian and Molly Ruch here with us! Even though the time was short, we appreciated the opportunity to show them our work and home in Arusha and we were greatly encouraged in the time we had.

There are plenty of days that bring challenges and discouragement, but there are equal amount of days that bring us opportunities and hope. We are grateful for the opportunity to be here in Tanzania and serve this community.

Thank you for walking with us.

*Steve & Jodi*

[www.tanzanianchildren.com](http://www.tanzanianchildren.com) or <https://give.ghm.org/nicu>

New videos are now posted on the YouTube Channel, Neonatology Africa:

<https://www.youtube.com/@neonatologyafrica9640/videos>

Care of hospitalized newborns and children, and training of doctors and nurses, is supported through your donations and through the gifts of churches with the ELCA. Churches and individuals can donate to our support through the ELCA: [elca.org/missionarygiving](http://elca.org/missionarygiving)

Find our names under the drop-down tab,  
Designation: ELCA Missionary Sponsorship

Our mailing address is:  
Steve and Jodi Swanson  
c/o Michael Swanson  
16608 Early Dawn Trail  
Lakeville, MN 55044





## ALTAR GUILD TEAMS – JULY

Sacristy, Sanctuary, Surplices:

Jen & Jaclyn Wiik

Banners:

Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter

Flower Committee:

Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter

## SCHEDULING

### KEYBOARD/ORGANIST

**July 2:** Kathy Haukos

**July 9:** Marilyn Hanson

**July 12\*:** Marilyn Hanson

**July 16:** Lisa Berdan

**July 23:** Carol Ydstie

**July 30:** Amy Adelman

**Aug. 6:** Kathy Haukos

**Aug. 9\*:** Amy Adelman

**Aug. 13:** Carol Ydstie

**Aug. 20:** Marilyn Hanson

**Aug. 27:** Amy Adelman

*\* Denotes Hymn Sing at FWV*

### LECTOR

**July 2:** Becky Parker

**July 9:** Chris Petersen

**July 16:** Lois Bergeson

**July 23:** Kristi Ehrenberg

**July 30:** Barb Wiese

**Aug. 6:** Jim Schmeichel

**Aug. 13:** Marilyn Hanson

**Aug. 20:** Jim Foster

**Aug. 27:** Brent Zahrbock

### ACOLYTES

**July 2:** Ashton S & Miley

**July 9:** Brianna & Madilyn

**July 16:** Chase & Ava

**July 23:** James & Owen

**July 30:** Bryson & Cameron

**Aug. 6:** Eliot & Brandon

**Aug. 13:** Justice & Bryson

**Aug. 20:** Mason & Rylie

**Aug. 27:** Jaclyn & Raimi

### LAY ASSISTANTS

**July 2:** Lori Strei & Marilyn Chindvall

**July 9:** Jim Foster & Terry Kalberg

**Aug. 6:** Becky Parker & Lori Larson

**Aug. 13:** Dave Ellingson & Brent Zahrbock

### FV Neighborhoods

**July 2:** Liz Ketz

**July 9:** Kristi & Darin Ehrenberg

**July 30:** TBD

**Aug. 6:** TBD

**Aug. 13:** TBD

### GREETERS

**July 2:** Mel & Jackie Domine

**July 9:** Bruce & Kristi Redfield

**July 16:** Scott & Julie Schneider

**July 23:** Marilee Haukos & Lori Larson

**July 30:** Marilyn Chindvall & Marge Dragseth

**Aug. 6:** Liz Ketz & Kirsten Karels

**Aug. 13:** Glenn & Deb Henningson

**Aug. 20:** Jim & Neva Foster

**Aug. 27:** Terry Kalberg & Kathy Randall

### SOUND SYSTEM

**July 2:** Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson

**July 9:** Matt Karels & Marina Thomson

**July 16:** Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson

**July 23:** Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

**July 30:** David Ellingson & Marina Thomson

**Aug. 6:** Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson

**Aug. 13:** Matt Karels & Marina Thomson

**Aug. 20:** Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson

**Aug. 27:** Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

### USHERS

**July 2:** Ev Johnson, Kevin Fossen, Dick & Marla Strei.

**July 9:** Glenn Henningson, Ron Athey, Art Vollmer, & Larry Dahle

**July 16:** Dean Longnecker, Josh Wollschlager, Dick & Marla Strei

**July 23:** Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall, Dick & Marla Strei

**July 30:** Rodney Torgerson, Tami Lundberg, Mel & Jackie Domine


**Aug. 6:** Brent Zahrbock, Dean Strand, Vern Nickolauson, & Dave Ellingson

**Aug. 13:** Liz Ketz, Eldon Knutson, Darin Ehrenberg, & Harley Helgeson

**Aug. 20:** Russel Thielke, Warren Wiese, Gale May, & Connie Newman

**Aug. 27:** Eugene Stotesberry, Jim Foster, Gale May, & Keven Berdan.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>July 2023 † † † First English Lutheran Church</b>			Daily Devotions are available @ <a href="http://www.firstenglish.net">www.firstenglish.net</a> click on "Lutheran Faith" & "PRAYERS, STUDY, & DEVOTIONALS"			<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9:00 am Worship – Communion – KDIO Broadcast & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Fairway View Worship LIVE	<b>3</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting	<b>4</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 	<b>5</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9:00 am Bulletins Printed 	<b>8</b> 
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Worship – Communion – Installation of new council members – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Fairway View Worship – Pre-recorded	<b>10</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting 	<b>11</b> 8:30 am Day of Love 12:00 pm Executive Meeting 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	<b>12</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 4:00 pm FWV Hymn Sing 5:15 pm Endowment meeting 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 6:00 pm Finance Meeting 	<b>13</b> 	<b>14</b> 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	<b>15</b> 
<b>16</b> 9:00 am Worship – Favorite Hymns – KDIO Broadcast & Facebook Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship	<b>17</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting	<b>18</b> 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm FWV Donnie's Diner Group	<b>19</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 	<b>20</b> 	<b>21</b> 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:00 am Worship – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship	<b>24</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting 3:00-7:00pm VBS <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>25</b> 8:30 am Day of Love 3:00-7:00pm VBS 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	<b>26</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:00-7:00 pm VBS 5:30 pm TV Broadcast	<b>27</b> 3:00-7:00 pm VBS	<b>28</b> 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	<b>29</b>
<b>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 3:00 – 7:00 pm</b>						
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering – KDIO & Facebook Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Fairway View Worship – Pre-recorded 	<b>31</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting 					