



Special Congregational Meeting
Sunday, August 19
9:30 a.m.

Voting members of First Lutheran Church are notified of a special congregational meeting to be held on Sunday, August 19, at 9:30 a.m. (between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. worship services) The agenda is:

- ☞ Approval of the recommendation, by the Commission for Facilities and Property and Church Council, to proceed with improvements to the church parking lot with an approximate project cost of \$30,000.

First Lutheran seeks to be a place of welcome for all people in all that we do. First Lutheran is blessed with a beautiful church home with many welcoming attributes. In past years, FLC leadership made wise decisions about the facility in terms of a site with good visibility and a handicapped accessible building. These choices have had an impact in creating a congregation growing in mission.

In recent years, we have been blessed with increased participation in worship services but we realize that this also creates congestion in the parking lot. Healthy churches need adequate parking throughout the week, not just on Sundays. FLC leadership teams have been planning for improvements to the parking lot, both in resurfacing and adjustment to allow for better drainage, and realignment to allow for maximum parking spaces and better traffic flow.

This improvement is planned to be completed prior to the fall/winter season. Estimates from contractors place the cost of the project at approximately \$30,000.00. A fundraising campaign is underway. As of July 22, \$6,985.00 has been received towards this project. You can track the progress of this project on the "parking lot" chart in the church Gathering Space.

Please plan to be in attendance at this meeting and give prayerful consideration to your participation in this upgrade. Thank you for your faithful giving in mission at FLC!

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“Come to me and I will give you rest...”

Dear Friends in Christ,

The end of summer is quickly approaching. How many of us have found time for some R & R? One of the greatest stress factors for families today is being overworked and not taking time to rest. Jesus understood the importance of rest and made it a point to get away both with His disciples and by Himself from time to time in order to rest and rejuvenate. It was Jesus way of “recharging” His spiritual, physical and emotional batteries.

There is a story about two woodsmen. One day one woodsman challenged another to an all-day tree-chopping contest. The challenger worked very hard, stopping only for a brief lunch break. The other man had a leisurely lunch and took several breaks during the day. At the end of the day, the challenger was surprised and annoyed to find that the other fellow had chopped substantially more wood than he had. “I don’t get it,” he said. “Every time I checked, you were taking a rest, yet you chopped more wood than I did.” “But you didn’t notice,” said the winning woodsman, “that I was sharpening my ax when I sat down to rest.”

When Jesus sought solitude He would take time to pray. In a sense this was like sharpening His axe so that He would be better prepared to meet the demands placed upon Him. Intentionally spending time with God is an important aspect of our rest.

In the Old Testament, the idea of rest was tied up in the divine concept of Sabbath. In Exodus 31:13-14 we read: “Tell the people of Israel to keep my Sabbath day, for the Sabbath is a sign of the covenant between me and you forever. It helps you to remember that I am the Lord, who makes you holy.”

Yet we live in a day when everything is supposed to be done quickly and efficiently. We eat fast foods and drive in the fast lane. And when we come to church, we want our worship served up quickly so we can get on to other things. We tend to blame everything around us for our restlessness

(family, work, our fast paced culture), but maybe the real reason for our lack of rest is our own avoidance of spending time with the One who can satisfy our needs and bring rest to our souls.

If you are weary – Jesus says,

“Come to Me and I will give you rest.”

If you’re hungry – Jesus says,

“I am the bread of life.”

If you’re thirsty – Jesus says,

“Come to Me and drink of the living water that leads to eternal life.”

The search to satisfy these needs on our own leads to a dead end. Our lives do not have to be chaotic. In the beginning the book of Genesis tells us that God created order out of chaos. It is not God’s desire for us to live chaotic lifestyles.

We are commanded and we are encouraged to find rest in Jesus Christ in every season of the year.

In Christ,

Pastor Nate Bjorge



Worship Life

Praise Team Formation Event

Thursday, August 30
6:30-8:30 p.m.

If you are interested in serving as a vocalist with the praise team, come to learn about the vision for this ministry and spend time singing with the band as we assemble two worship teams for the fall schedule. Vocalists should be active, worshipping members of FLC, able to read music, blend with a small group of voices, willing to serve in leading worship a minimum of two times per month, and attend rehearsal on Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Kate Bjorge at 632-0748, or via e-mail at 5bjorges@clearwire.net

Praise Team Rehearsal

As we prepare for the fall worship schedule, the Praise Team will resume rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. beginning Thursday, August 16. For more information, contact Kate Bjorge at 632-0748.

Council Highlights

- † Approved ministry description and salary revisions for Becky Nelson as Director of Music.
- † The August council meeting is Tuesday, August 14.

First Lutheran Church Web Site

Check out the church web-site at www.flclittlefalls.org—add it to your favorites list and keep checking to see what's new! Registration forms for VBS and Youth and Education Ministries are now available to download. You can read the newsletter there and check the calendar for church events! Check out the links to devotional and prayer resources. Thank you to Lynn Kull and his company, Zebulon Images, for design and on-going maintenance of the site.

Pictorial Directory 2007

Who's new in your family of faith? Can you keep track of all the faces, names and relationships around you? In the three years since we published our last pictorial directory, many changes have occurred – new worshipers, new pastors and leadership, new faces in families.

All worshipers at First Lutheran Church are invited – encouraged – requested – to participate in our 2007 Pictorial Directory!

Olan Mills will produce this year's directory. Photographers are scheduled to take photographs of your family on the following dates:

Wednesday, August 29 3:00-9:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 30 3:00-9:30 p.m.

Friday, August 31 3:00-9:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 27 3:00-9:30 p.m.

Friday, September 28 3:00-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 29 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

To schedule a time, please stop by the table in the gathering space on Sunday mornings. You may also call Teresa Herzog (632-2978) or the church office (632-6667) to sign up. Please plan 45 minutes to 1 hour for your appointment; you will not have to return to FLC for a follow-up appointment.

Each household photographed will receive a complimentary copy of the pictorial directory, and a free 8"x10" photo just for coming in! Participants will also have the opportunity to purchase additional photos if they desire.

We hope that by offering some summer dates and some fall dates, we will be able to involve more people in photos. Pastor Nate and Pastor David both strongly encourage your involvement (it will help them to know your name, too!)

FLC's pictorial directory will not be complete without you in it! Sign up today!

Adult Opportunities

Women's Circle "Mission Circle of Joy"

All women are welcome to come to an organizational meeting for a monthly morning circle group to be called "Mission Circle of Joy." We will meet on Tuesday, August 14, at 9:00 a.m. at church. We will choose a Bible Study and a mission project at that time. Please be in prayer about your participation in this group and about the study and mission project. All ideas are welcome. For more information, contact Naomi Engel, at 632-3167.

Women's Bible Study "Living Beyond Yourself" Galatians 5:22-23 Wednesday, September 19

Fifty women have been greatly blessed by Beth Moore's "Believing God" DVD Bible Study at FLC this summer. Several women have requested that we continue with another of Beth Moore's studies.

A new study begins on Wednesday, September 19, at 9:00 a.m. (an early morning time is available pending interest). "Living Beyond Yourself," a ten-session study based on Galatians 5:22-23, will guide participants in a study of the fruits of the Spirit, and leading a Spirit-filled life. Come and be blessed.

Watch for sign-up on the ministry opportunity sheet or call the church office at 632-6667. Please register by August 31 so that member workbooks may be ordered. For more information, contact Naomi Engel, at 632-3167.

Men's Morning Bible Study Wednesday, October 3, 6:15 a.m. Saturday, October 6, 8:00 a.m.

All men of the congregation and friends are invited to a Men's Bible Breakfast study. We will meet during the first week of each month on Wednesday *or* Saturday morning at the church. Come for one or both studies.

Our first study will look at **DISCIPLESHIP** - *BEING A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART*. The study looks at The Fighting Spirit, Total Commitment, Obedience, Teachable Spirit, Spreading the Word, and being God's man at Home.

Our purpose is to go beyond simply reading the Bible and gaining an understanding of Jesus' ministry with his earliest followers. The goal is to look at our own discipleship in light of Jesus' relationship with his first disciples. We will discover how our own relationship can grow in depth and practice as we too follow Jesus.

The weekday study begins Wednesday, October 3. We'll meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6:15 a.m. for breakfast. The study will be completed by 7:40 a.m. to allow time to get to work. The weekend study will meet the first Saturday of each month beginning on Saturday, October 6, at 8:00 a.m. and include breakfast. There is a possibility to meet more often if interest exists.

You are welcome to attend either study – come when you are able, leave when you must. In order for us to have enough breakfast/rolls ready, we ask you to please register by Monday, October 1. Watch for sign up on the weekly ministry opportunities sheet or call the church office at 632-6667.

If you have questions or would like more information, please talk with either of the pastors.

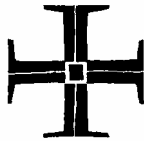
Financial Update

2007 Mission Plan Budget	
January—July 22:	\$ 231,763
Actual received	
January—July 22:	\$ 203,591

Thank you to all who faithfully contribute to our shared ministry at FLC!

Summer finds many of us traveling and vacationing. Mission and ministry continues here at FLC. We especially appreciate your mail-in offerings when you are unable to be in worship.

You are also welcome to participate in an electronic funds transfer giving plan, Simply Giving. Simply Giving is a program sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans which allows you to automate your giving. This benefits FLC by ensuring regular giving throughout the year and benefits the giver by saving time. There is no fee to FLC or the giver for using this program. Please see Sue or Gloria in the church office to enroll.



Staff Ministry Team Opportunity

Education Coordinator

If you have a heart for people and the desire to share the love of Jesus with all God's children – here's an opportunity for you! This part-time position will work with the pastors, Commission for Education, Sunday School and VBS staff, and Preschool Advisory Team to organize and oversee Education programs here at FLC. Applicants for this position will need the following gifts: communication and organizational skills, attention to detail, self-direction, excellent computer skills, and ability to work in a team environment. Applications and ministry description are available in the church office or on the church website at www.flclittlefalls.org Application deadline is Wednesday, August 15.

Via de Cristo/Cursillo Ministry Potluck

Sunday, September 9, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

The First Lutheran Cursillo/Via de Cristo ministry invites you to have dinner with us and learn about the Via de Cristo community and up-coming weekends.

We will gather in Stoltz Hall on Sunday, September 9, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Come after the Arts & Crafts Fair, bring the kids, meet those who have attended (and led) Via de Cristo renewal weekends. Find out if it's for you! For more information, contact Mary Larson at 632-8203

Upcoming Minnesota Via de Cristo weekends:

2007

August	Maplewood, Minnesota
October	Bloomington, St. Stephen's Lutheran
October	Duluth, Our Savior's Lutheran

2008

January	St. Paul, Gustavus Lutheran
February	Wahpeton, ND, Bethel Lutheran
May	Ramsey, Lord of Life Lutheran
July	Brainerd, First Lutheran



Fair Trade Coffee

Thank you for your continued support of the Fair Trade Coffee Project! We continue to serve Equal Exchange certified organically grown coffee at all FLC church functions. Coffee is available for you to purchase for your own use or for gifts. Breakfast Blend – 12 oz. package is \$6.00, Decaf – 12 oz. package is \$7.00. You may pick up and pay in the church office. Your purchase supports small farmers around the world with a fair price for their labor. Thanks!

Mission Opportunities

Luther Crest Scramble A Fun(d) Raising Golf Tournament Monday, August 13 Help a Kid Go To Camp!

Why not get a foursome together and spend a fun day playing this “Best Ball” tournament on the course at Lake Geneva, Alexandria. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m.; “shotgun start” tee time is at 11:00 a.m. Supper will be served at Luther Crest at 5:00 p.m. The fee is \$100.00 per person. \$60.00 is a donation to Luther Crest, \$40.00 covers green fees, cart rental, and meal.

Last year’s tournament made a significant impact on the camp’s ministry. To register, please call the church office. Registration deadline: Tuesday, August 1.

Green Fair and Peace Concert Wednesday, August 8 4:00-8:00 p.m. St. Francis Campus – Outdoors

Come for an afternoon of ecological awareness with music, food, activities and information about how we can all make differences that will benefit our earth. A number of children’s activities will be available. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jennifer Basch at (320) 632-0691 or info@fslf.org.

St. Francis Music Center invites you to their third annual Concert for Peace. The concert is Wednesday, August 8, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The theme of music performed will be “peace” and other positive messages. All area music groups, especially church choirs, are invited to perform. Vicki Spofford directs the combined chorus. Don’t miss this opportunity for a community get-together and sharing of musical talent. Free and open to the public. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. For more information, contact (320) 632-0637.

Oasis/Share A Meal Community Paint A Thon

Can you spend a Saturday morning helping to paint a home for a local resident? This annual event on Saturday, August 4 is a great time to assist others right here in our own community. Let’s be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Confirmation students—this is a great service project. And hey! You get a terrific breakfast! BYOB (Bring Your Own Brush!). For more information or to sign up, call the church office. FLC team coordinator is Harold Henagin, 468-6924.

Camp Knutson 21th Annual Quilt Auction Saturday, August 12, 2007

Quilt viewing begins at 10:00 a.m., auction begins at 12:00 noon. Camp Knutson, six miles north of Cross Lake, is dedicated to nurturing the well-being of persons with special needs in a setting which celebrates God’s love for community and creation. In 2006, over 1,000 campers with heart disease, HIV or AIDS, Down syndrome, severe skin diseases, autism or other diseases were served. Campers enjoy archery, horseback riding, boating, swimming and biking and making life-long friendships. Proceeds from the sale are used to benefit campers. For more information about the camp, check out www.campknutson.org.

The quilt donated by the FLC quilters was finished by Teresa Herzog using hand-pieced squares of vintage fabric from an unknown donor in the Grandmother’s Flower Garden pattern, combined with 1930’s reproduction fabrics to make a beautiful heritage quilt. This quilt along with many others will be auctioned on Saturday, August 12, at Camp Knutson. First Lutheran also provides assistance on the day of the sale. Your support of the auction is greatly appreciated. If you would like to attend and share a ride, contact Marlene Williams, 632-4290.

"Children First" Christian Preschool Update

Greetings from the Preschool,

We are excited to begin our eighth year of serving families through the Christian preschool!

This fall we offer the following classes.

- ☺ *Noah's Animals*—for children 33 months to three years old, meeting Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00-11:30 a.m. This class is now half full.
- ☺ *Jesus' Gems*—for four and five year olds, meeting Monday and Wednesday. The morning class is full. We have a strong waiting list for an afternoon class which will meet 12:30-3:00 p.m.
- ☺ *Friday Friends*—an additional class for children 33 months to five years old, meeting Friday from 9:00-11:30 a.m. to give children a three day week. This class is half full.

Please encourage interested families to inquire and register early. Forms are available on the church website, www.flclittlefalls.org

Two families are in need of partial monthly tuition assistance. If you are able to financially assist a family with tuition expense, please let us know.

Watch for the preschool at:

- ☞ Coborn's Brat Stand on Friday-Saturday, August 10-11
- ☞ Arts and Crafts Fair Booth, Saturday-Sunday, September 8-9 (Broadway and 2nd Street)
- ☞ Morrison County Kids Day, Saturday, September 29 at the county fairgrounds

Upcoming dates for preschool families or those interested:

- ☞ Open House for Jesus' Gems (4-5 yr olds) is Monday, August 27, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- ☞ Open House for Noah's Animals (33 mo-3 yr) Tuesday, August 28, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- ☞ Parent Orientation, Thursday, September 6, at 7:00 p.m. at the church
- ☞ Classes begin for students, Monday-Tuesday, September 10-11

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." *Matthew 19:14*

In Christ's Service,
Gail Hittesdorf, Director, (320) 632-2218
childrenfirst@charterinternet.com

Three-Year-Old Enfoldment

Each year we help prepare our three-year-olds for Sunday School by inviting them and their parents to participate in an orientation gathering. This year's enfoldment is scheduled for Thursday, August 2, at 6:30 p.m. Youth and their parents will visit their classroom, meet their teacher, receive a Bible story book, eat lamb cake, and get acquainted with one another. Enfoldment is for any child who is three years old by September 1. Please enroll your child to ensure they receive a Bible at enfoldment. If you have questions, please call Sunday School Superintendents, Lynn Duxbury, 468-2819, Sue Kazeck, 632-1834, or Tracy Wheeler, 749-2440.



Sunday School News

The start of Sunday School is fast approaching. Rally Sunday is scheduled for September 16, 2007. We are working hard on recruiting staff, gathering supplies and scheduling events in anticipation of another exciting year.

We are looking for one more co-superintendent. Please pray about this ministry opportunity and contact one of the superintendents or the church office if interested. Please thank the superintendents for their gifts of time and talent generously offered to the youth of FLC.

The curriculum we offer this fall is *Faith Weavers*—it is Bible-story based and features multiple interesting hands-on activities to appeal to different types of learners.

We will continue to offer Sunday School for children ages 3 and up. Sunday School will begin with worship in the sanctuary for all ages at 9:15 a.m. The first twenty minutes of the contemporary service will include music and a children's sermon which will allow families to worship together. Following the children's sermon, all Sunday School participants will continue with the lesson and activities in the classroom with their teacher. The contemporary service will conclude in time for parents to pick their child up from their Sunday School classroom at 10:15 a.m.

This year we offer an opportunity for families to worship together at the 9:15 a.m. service. The first Sunday of each month Sunday School classes will not meet. Families are encouraged to attend worship together. Sunday School children in the preschool and pre-kindergarten classes (must be age three by September 1, but not yet in Kindergarten) may attend Kids Own Worship on the first Sunday of each month. Of course, families are also welcome to worship together at the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. worship on any Sunday.

Dates to place on your calendar:

- ☺ Sunday School Staff Orientation – Tuesday, August 21, 7:00 p.m.
- ☺ Rally Day/First Day of Sunday School – Sunday, September 16, 9:15 a.m. (pending complete staff)

Sunday School staff opportunities are still available – Kids Own Worship leaders, teachers, helpers. Contact a superintendent with your interest or questions.

Youth and Education registration forms have been mailed. If you did not receive a form, they are available at the church office or for downloading on the FLC web-site, www.flclittlefalls.org. Please return the completed forms to church as soon as possible so we can plan effectively. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sunday School Superintendents,

Lynn Duxbury, 468-2819
Sue Kazeck, 632-1834
Tracy Wheeler, 749-2440

**Registration for
Sunday School, age 3-grade 12
Confirmation, grades 2-11
Youth Groups, grades 3-12**

Parents of children ages 3 years – 12th grade: Registration packets for Education & Youth Ministry for the coming year are in the mail! Registration and health forms for kids, and a list of opportunities for adults to work with youth, are included. Please note that registration is required for participation in Education and Youth Activities. Additional packets are available in the church office or you may download them from the church website at www.flclittlefalls.org. Forms may be returned to the church office. See the mailing for more details!

Confirmation Ministries

Third Grade: Parents and youth entering third grade are invited to attend an orientation meeting on Wednesday, August 22 at 7:00 p.m. We will discuss confirmation ministry at First Lutheran and the course on Family Devotions to begin in September. Youth will receive their Bibles during worship on Sunday, August 26.

Sixth Grade: During the week of Vacation Bible School (August 6–10), youth entering seventh grade in the fall will be studying the Lord’s Prayer with Pastor Nate and Pastor Dave. A letter containing more information about this class has been sent.

Tenth Grade: Keep working on class requirements and mentor activities – the summer will fly by quickly!

Higher Ground Music Festival 2006 Friday-Saturday, August 17-18 Winsted, Minnesota

Come for the third Higher Ground Christian Music Festival held in Winsted (45 minutes south of St. Cloud) on Friday and Saturday, August 17 and 18. Headliners for the festival are Third Day, Mark Schultz, Superchic[k], Downhere, Chris Rice and many more. Local musician, Jeremy Sanoski will perform. Reserved camping is available on site. Kids age 10 and under are free! Tickets are available by phone at 866-821-5151 or online at www.hgmusicfest.com.

Senior League (Grades 9-12) Paint Ball!

We’re working on a date for a paint ball afternoon in September—watch for the date and get your gear ready.

Vacation Bible School



“A Wild Ride Through God’s Word” August 6-10, 2007 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

VBS is for kids ages 3 through 6th grade. Be sure to invite a friend! At Avalanche Ranch kids will learn that God is real; God is with us; God is strong; God is awesome; and God is in charge. Wah-hoo!

Kids and staff will share their VBS experience in worship on Sunday, August 12. To register, your child must be 4 years old (by September 1) through 6th grade. You can still register—don’t miss it! Registration forms are available in the Gathering Space or you can download a form from the church website, www.flittlefalls.org For more information, contact Tracy Wheeler, at 749-2440.

Can Care Collection

Keep saving those aluminum cans!
We’ll collect again in October.
Save a can – Save the earth – Save our youth budget!

Keep those cans coming!

News of the Family

Baptisms:

Ashley Ann Turkowski and Abigail Adele Turkowski, daughters of Tim and Lori Turkowski, were baptized on July 8, 2007.

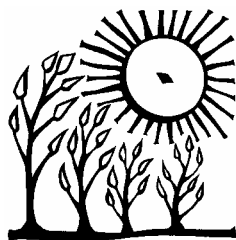
August Family Serving Team Leaders

8:00 a.m. Darla Giles 632-4089

10:00 a.m.

Sunshine Chairperson is Mary Larson. Please call 632-8203 if you know of someone who is ill, hospitalized, etc., so that she may send them a card.

Items for the **September NEWSLETTER** are due on **August 20, 2007!**



Summer Worship Schedule June through August

Sunday Worship at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Summer Worship at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. continues through July and August. Stay after the 8:00 a.m. service, or come early for the 10:00 service, for coffee (leaded and unleaded!), treats and fellowship in the Gathering Space. Everyone is welcome! Enjoy your vacation but don't take a vacation from church! Aren't you glad God doesn't take the summer off?