



## The Wind of the Holy Spirit



*Pr. Jason Burggraff  
Senior Pastor*

As the month of May breezes into the month of June, we in the Church are also brought from the season of Easter to Pentecost. This year on the Day of

Pentecost, (which is always on a Sunday since it is 49 days after Easter Sunday), our Gospel reading is from John 20:19-23. It's when Jesus finds the disciples on the night of Easter: They're all huddled up in the locked house, and Jesus tells them: "peace be with you." Then he breathes on them and says: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

If that sounds familiar, that is because we also heard it on the second Sunday in the season of Easter. This story is so important that we hear it twice, and I suspect that is because we so often overlook the central foundation of what Jesus is giving not only to the disciples, but to the whole

Church, including you! He gives them the authority to forgive sins through the Holy Spirit. On that day of Pentecost, we see the church grow as the Word of God is preached, and the Holy Spirit gives faith to 3,000 people! The message was based in the authority given the disciples and you: to forgive the sins of any. That authority was the foundation of the early church, and it is the foundation of the Church today as well. As we tackle all sorts of challenges and questions on a congregational level here at First Lutheran, know that this forgiveness of sins in Christ alone is our foundation. It is the basis for all that we do, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Does it ever seem like we are the disciples huddled up in the locked house, with the news of Jesus' resurrection? Well, just as Jesus showed up to the disciples, so too does he come to you. Knowing that He is here, giving the same authority, we are freed to embark in all sorts of ways to share this Word, assured that the Word accomplishes that which it sets out to do.

With our ministry site profile completed and approved by the Church Council,

our Call Committee has been busy searching and researching names of potential associate pastors to interview. We have a promising list and are open to suggestions from the congregation. The call committee is also looking at the possibility of calling an associate pastor outside the job description of Youth and Family Pastor if the interviewee would be a good fit for FLC—while continuing our search for a youth and family pastor.

Our staff and Youth and Family Board have also been working hard not only finishing up the program year with Confirmation, Sunday School, Wednesday School, and Youth Group, but reimagining our youth and family ministry and interviewing and filling two important staff roles in this ministry area.

Where the Word God is preached and the sacraments given—there is the Church. There is the Holy Spirit being breathed on you, giving faith as your sins are forgiven. People of First Lutheran, this is our foundation and our hope. Peace be with you!

## Happy 90+ Birthday!

*Below are members of our congregation who turn 90+ this month. If you see them around church, wish them a great day!*



- June 3—Carl Naessig
- June 7—Milton Mutch
- June 8—Doug Uthe
- June 18—Lavonne Gibson
- June 20—Neva Erickson
- June 28—John Rezac
- June 30—Leslie Hernes

# Committee Updates

## June Special Offering: Church on the Street



*Pastor Chris Matson  
Church on the Street*

It is our mission at Church on the Street to take the gifts of the church out to the people who, for whatever reason, cannot come inside.

The ministry is designed around what we have found through years of deep listening that folks need most: to encounter the love of our risen Lord in supportive, non-judgmental, and tangible ways. We are a community that gathers around word and sacrament in Heritage Park, in the Coliseum inside the Multicultural Center, in a borrowed office at the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House, in coffee shops, and on the sidewalks of Sioux Falls, and we are a community that gathers in the laundromat to help folks pay for laundry, feed them a meal, pray

together, and celebrate and lament life together with regular and brand new folks each time. Because of generous donations from partners like First Lutheran Church, we can get the items someone needs when they move into their new place or provide a bus pass for a day. The requests

are varied, and the gratitude folks express comes in hugs and smiles. Lives are changed by knowing the church will reliably show up and walk with them on the hardest days and rejoice in the great days.

Over the years, First Lutheran Church has provided office space, volunteers, food, financial donations, gift cards, quilts, Christmas gifts for families, and prayers, and you've hosted worship services, special events, and spaces for funerals and weddings.

God is working through our partnership to be the body of Christ in so many ways. Thanks be to God for you and for all the ways you take care of your neighbors near and far.

Blessings,  
Pastor Chris Matson

FLC members can give to Church on the Street through weekly offering, [online](#), or through our Church Center App.



## On The Road!—Nursing Home Holy Communion Services



*Donna Jahr  
Care & Health Board*

First Lutheran Church is on the road again! Twice each year, the Board of Care & Health Ministries, together with the pastoral staff, has

the privilege of bringing communion to members and residents in senior living facilities. We sing hymns, hear a devotion, and share holy communion. What a

blessing!

Shortly after Easter, we began our tour of 11 senior communities located throughout Sioux Falls. Attendance at the services has varied depending on the size of the facility and the level of nursing care provided, but the acceptance of our program has always been high. We have been warmly welcomed by residents and staff and encouraged by many to return more often. In addition to the worship, we enjoy coffee and cookies with the residents before concluding our time together. Great fellowship and priceless

conversations!

The Care & Health Board is proud to be involved in this outreach program. Each service involves a preacher, assistant, and musician, plus board members for hospitality. It is a commitment for all participants, and the board gives a special thank you to the traveling team—Pastor Jason, Pastor Bob, Pastor David, Pastor Dennis, Deacon Robin, Colleen Kokenge (graduate in Theological Studies), and our musician, Gerry Kropp. This would not happen without their cooperation and participation. Praise be to God!

# Smiles & Laughter Abound: FLCW Fashion Show!

*By Marcia Huffman, FLCW co-president*

One hundred FLC women and guests enjoyed a fun-filled evening on May 4 at "First's Fashion Fandango!" Lola Coon, aka Designer Delilah; and Marcia Huffman, aka Fantasia Fashion; emceed the FLCW/WELCA Whimsical Light-Hearted Style Show. Brenda and Alexandria Plimpton and Amy and Kaylee Pearson, escorted by Rocking Roger Coon, modeled the "designer fashions!"

After a delicious potluck supper of salads, desserts, croissants, and punch served by

Ruth and Lois Circles, the crowd listened attentively as the designs were described and modeled, and then the ladies voted on their favorite fashion.

The winner, Kaylee Pearson, aka Belinda Bloomers, sashayed down the runway wearing a pair of flower-studded bloomers and a short "crop top" covered with various fruits and vegetables. She wore a wreath of "blooms" on her head and carried a bouquet of fantasy fur flowers that were made by her grandmother in 1972 and are still blooming! Elizabeth Wood took home the prize as the

top designer having created Belinda's ensemble. Fourteen fashions were modeled on the white runway, all created by designers Sharyl Wolf, Elizabeth Wood, Julaine Walker, Lola Coon, and Marcia Huffman.

Judging by the laughter and applause, it was apparent the audience as well as the models and designers were having a good time. Stay tuned for news of the next FLCW/WELCA Meeting coming in September. You are always welcome, and we would love to have you join us.



# Youth & Family



*Valerie Pherson  
Children's Minister*

On Sunday, May 7, our high school seniors were recognized with their final milestone breakfast and celebration followed by the 11

a.m. worship service and the presentation of the quilts. This is one of our smaller classes, with 11 students, but that did not stop the excitement of getting

their beautiful quilts made by our FLC Quilters!

It was a wonderful celebration as they enter into this next chapter of their lives. Reflecting on their time at First Lutheran, the seniors have fun memories from Youth Group, singing in Sunday School, Lock-Ins, playing games with their friends, and asking the Pastors questions in Confirmation.

In thinking about the future, Elliot Whitney says his faith will help give him the strength he needs as he faces

new challenges. This celebration was all about wrapping them in prayer and encouragement as they take their faith into young adulthood.

Siri Larson said this was meaningful to her because she will be able to take a piece of the congregation with her wherever she goes in the future.

What a gift for us to share this blessing with these young adults preparing to go out into the world, knowing they have a God who loves them, goes with them, and nothing will separate them.





For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.  
 Jeremiah 29:11



## Choir School takes on the Mini Apple!



*Matt Tylutki  
 Children's and Youth  
 Music Director*

In May, the FLC Choir School hit the road as they traveled to share music and fellowship with congregations in the Twin Cities.

Traveling in three large vans, we left on a sunny Friday evening after school. On the road, one of the vans allegedly made it all the way through "99 bottles of coke on the wall," while in another van we competed to see who could count the most cows. When we arrived at the hotel, the pool was an instant hit, and we slept thinking about what the next day would bring.

Saturday was a day full of music making. We began the morning with our friends at St. John's Lutheran Church in Howard Lake, MN. There we met Pr. Paul Koch, a seminary friend of Pr. Jason, and Nicholas Hinson, a fellow St. Olaf-trained organist and director of music, along with their children and youth singers and ringers. After a morning of making music and playing kickball

on the church lawn, we were fed lunch and set out for Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis where we were greeted by stunning architecture amidst the Minneapolis skyline. We rehearsed with organist and director of music, Isaac Drewes, along with the Central Lutheran Choristers. Then we toured the organ chambers and had the chance to climb the many steps to their bell tower and play the carillon for all of downtown. To close out the day, we sang and rang at Central's Vespers service collaborating alongside members of their choir and choristers. We followed the service with a time of pizza and fellowship served in the great hall.



The next day, Sunday, we traveled back to St. John's to sing and ring for their morning service. We enjoyed singing and ringing praises with their adult choir and children's choir and bells. Then, to close out the weekend, we celebrated with a trip to the Mall of America to ride rides for the afternoon before heading home worn out from the busy weekend. We were filled with joy from the hard work of music making and strengthened friendships with our fellow choir members.

I would like to thank all of the people who made this experience possible for our young musicians at FLC. The hospitality of St. John's and Central Lutheran was appreciated by all who were on the tour, and the help of van drivers, food servers, equipment carriers, parents, and hotel staff all made for a smooth and enjoyable experience. This tour was an extremely formative and positive one for all who were able to attend. We hope to continue to tour with the Choir School in years to come, and we thank FLC for its support and the fundraising efforts of our families, which makes trips like these possible.

# April Gifts and Memorials

## FLC Foundation

**In memory of Cathy Christopherson**  
Carlyle and Janet Naessig

**In memory of Marcene Scully**  
Paul and Jean Colon

**In memory of Ruth Werner**  
James and Sandra Fink  
Dorothy Grevlos

**In honor of Lottie Rollog's birthday**  
Carlyle and Janet Naessig

## First Lutheran Church

**In memory of Doris Grasma and David Bean Sr.**  
Betty Gednalske

**In memory of Dr. Berger**  
Melana and Paul Berger

**In memory of Ruth Werner**  
Jennifer Morse, Ray & Carol Funke

**In memory of Vivian Bauer**  
Elizabeth Bauer Bergstrom

## Lankfort Art Series

**In memory of Cathy Christopherson**  
Doris Bushard, Mary Eich

## Lowell Elementary

**In memory of Cathy Christopherson**  
Jeffrey and Sarah Herbert

## FLCW

**In memory of Ruth Werner**  
Paul and Jean Colon

## Media Ministry

**In memory of Cathy Christopherson**  
Betty Gednalske, Chad & Carolyn  
Hoyme, Donna Willadsen, Dr. David

& Becky Kruse, FLC Women of the ELCA, Howard & Arlene Bich, Kathleen Stelzer, L. Marilyn Moseson, Lillian Carlson, Franklin Pudas, Mike & Gloria Simpson, Milt Mutch and Ellie Marshman, Roger Lamp, Scott and Marilyn Korsten Charitable Fund, Sherrie Schroden & Marge Oolman, Shirley Drobny, William & Rachel Burggraaf

**In memory of David Bean Sr.**  
Jean Hoff

**In memory of Doris Grasma**  
Jean Hoff

**In memory of Lowell Wetrosky**  
Larry & Betty Olson

**In memory of Ruth Werner**  
Barb Matson, Jean Hoff, Shirley Drobny

## FLC Quilters

**In memory of Ruth Werner**  
Phyllis Day, Herb & Fran Garn

## FLC Men's Workshop

**In memory of Norm Ekeland**  
Douglas & Mary Fast, Robert & Kim Elliot

## Lutheran Men In Mission

**In memory of Norm Ekeland**  
Paul and Jean Colon

## Music Ministry

**In memory of Cathy Christopherson**  
Alan & Penny Thorson, Ben & Kari Mahowald, Beverly Hallstrom, Carol Bormann, Carol Carney, Cheryl Ann O'Brien, Cheryl Satterlee, Colleen

& Larry Kokenge, David & Linda Munson, David Danielson, David Johnson, Denise & Brian Aamlid, Dennis & Jane King, Dennis Knutson, Diane Cramer, Don & Florence Toft, Ronald & Cynthia Moegenburg, Donna Jahr, Dr. Howard Peterson Jr., Dr. V.R. & Mary Brandenburg, Elaine Berg, Eunice Mansfield, Gretchen Graves, Janet Nash, Jean Hoff, Jeffrey Toft, Jim & DeAnn Clark, John Paulson, Kathy Borns, LaMoyné & Karen Pederson, Marilyn McLeod, Marilynn Haddorff, Margorie Krueger, Martin & Mary Oyos, Michael & Lois Rocklage, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kropp, Norma Schmidt, Pamela Hoiland, Patricia & Orrin Townswick, Paul & Barbara Halstenson, Paul & Jean Colon, Paul & Madeleine Jahr, Peter & Marilyn Hegg, Phyllis Day, Richard Lauer, Roseaen Olson, Sandra Holleman, Sandra Pederson, Sarah Abbas, Scott and Diane Atchison Charitable Fund, Shirley Stenseth, Stanley & Sandra Christopherson, Terry & Cynthia Cosand, Tom & Martha Nelson, Tracie Osthus, W. Don & Judith Erickson, W. Thomas & Mary Simmons, Yvonne Behrends, Mark & Jean Bubak

## Music-Agape Ringers

**In memory of Cathy Christopherson**  
Susan Engfelt

**In memory of Ruth Werner**  
Karen Hohman

**In memory of Andrew Hunter**  
Cheryl Satterlee

# Life Transitions

## Deaths:

April 15:  
Ruth Werner

## Baptisms:

April 23:  
Thomas Aaron Brockhoff, son of Jordan and Zachary Brockhoff

# Thank You, April Media Sponsors

## April 2, 2023

- The telecast on KSFY was sponsored in memory of Shirley Messner by Bob Messner and family. Shirley's birthday would have been April 5.
- The broadcast on KELO-FM is sponsored in honor of Elaine Johnson, Mary Ellen Lantis, and Rick & Judy Berdahl and their families by Mike & Gloria Simpson.

## April 9, 2023

- The broadcast on KELO-FM was sponsored in memory of Orville & Sadie Doescher and James & Evelyn Williams by the Bob Doescher family.

## April 16, 2023

- The broadcast on KELO-FM is sponsored in memory of Cora Boneff through earnings from a bequest she made to First Lutheran Church Foundation.

## April 23, 2023

- The telecast on KSFY was sponsored by Jack and Amanda Leaders through a special gift to the First Lutheran Church Foundation.

## God's Grace: Our Heritage and Future



*Jean Hoff  
Campaign  
Coordinator*

Well, it is my hope that the reception desk will be completed by the time you read this article. We had a small “oops” the

day the stone was delivered. The crew from the stone company dropped the piece that faces west, so that piece needed to be replaced. Thankfully, the stone company had to replace it, and there is no additional cost to the church.

### **Here's what's is happening on the roofs:**

The Tower Entrance roof is going to be fixed. The bid was signed, and we are on the schedule at ARS.

The Atrium roof had four spots that were repaired. ARS, the roofing company, has indicated we could get 3-4 more years out of the Atrium roof. This time frame is dependent on the type of winters we have in the next 3-4 years.

The Chapel Roof had one area of concern, and it was repaired.

The roof above the Pentecost room has an area that needs to be replaced. ARS is

sending us a bid for that work.

The north balcony of the Sanctuary is a concern. There is an area where two parts of the building connect to form a V. There are snow guards in this area. During the winter, ice built up and pushed the snow guards into the corner and created a hole. The church is waiting for a bid on this area of the roof. The property board is aware of all of the issues with the roof and is working to see how all the issues can be resolved. The roof issues are not officially part of the capital campaign.

Now, onto the steeple that is an official part of the capital campaign. A big thanks to Jeff Hartnett for climbing into the steeple and taking pictures of the interior. The interior of the steeple is solid; it is the exterior that has issues. I was looking for someone to use a drone to take pictures of the exterior of the church steeple as well as the entire roof. This went out to people on staff involved in the building operations. Thanks to Jodi Hoyt for knowing a member who had a drone and was willing to come and take lots of pictures. Thanks to Mike Gray for being the member willing to give of his time with his drone. If you see these individuals in passing, please be sure to express your thanks as well. A general contractor will need to be found to do the work on the steeple, and then the slate on the roof will be handled

by a roofing company.

**Sound system:** The sound system group had a meeting with the sound system design company on May 12. Pastor Jason, James Moore, Dave Palmer, Zachary Brockhoff, and I attended the Zoom meeting. Some changes are being made to the design, and we are hopeful to get the final design in three weeks. Once the design is approved, then the bid process will start. The bid process is around 30 days. Then equipment will need to be ordered by the company that won the bid. The delivery of the equipment is one of the bigger questions. The congregation will be kept up to date as to the time frame as we find out more information.

**Furniture:** There has been some concern about the furniture that has been reupholstered or purchased for the Gathering Room, Atrium, and Welcome Center. This money has come from designated accounts that are outside of the capital campaign and general church operating budget. No money from the campaign or church budget has been used to purchase furniture or pay to have any furniture reupholstered. Your concern for money being spent wisely is appreciated.

The church would so appreciate your continued prayers for the capital campaign.

# April Council Highlights

By Michael Kedik  
Council President

- **Update on by-laws and constitution review:** Pastor Jason is assisting the Council by reviewing all changes the ELCA has made since First Lutheran has changed or updated its by-laws and constitution that would be accepted if and when changes would be made.
- **Minutes publishing update:** The online site is live, and minutes have been posted per guidelines. Jodi Hoyt follows a schedule to ensure all minutes are published on time.
- **Ministry Site Profile:** The Council unanimously approved the MSP as written without edits. It has been sent to the bishop's office, and the call process will proceed per schedule.
- **New member list:** The Council unanimously approved as submitted.
- **Finance oversight committee update:** Randy Olawsky, along with the property board, is working on committee membership with more information coming after their first meeting.
- **Roof updates:** Roof issues are being reviewed by ARS, and costs and estimates are forthcoming.
- **Council retreat:** Scheduled for May 13. Outcomes and details of the retreat will be shared with the congregation via an upcoming *First Word* article.

First Lutheran Church  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## Welcome, New Members!

May 13-14, we welcomed new members to our congregation. Please join us in making them feel welcome!

- Melinda Brosh
- David Danielson
- Dr. Taylor Hansen
- Cade Smith
- Dylan Smith
- Thelma Juel
- Kristofer Kimber
- Renee King
- Nancy Krueger
- Thomas Krueger
- Leanne Nesje
- Mindee Mullen
- Mitchell Mullen
- Hudson Mullen
- Ella Mullen
- Ashton Mullen
- Caryn Lengkeek
- Conner Quanbeck
- Elline Satrang
- Tyrell Satrang
- Christine Schafer
- Richard Schafer
- Jeralyn Valdillez
- Ramon Valdillez
- Drew Valsvig

## June Events

- June 2—First Fridays Book Club, 5pm, R Wine Bar
- June 3—Grieving with Grace, 9:30am, Friendship Room
- June 4—Summer Send Off Milestone, all services
- June 6-8—Vacation Bible School
- June 17—Dementia Support Group, 9am, Friendship Room
- June 25—Worship in the Park, 11am, McKennan Park
- June 27—Senior Luncheon, 11:30am, Gathering Room