
August 2022 Newsletter



Pastor Carlin's Page

Recently, I was rereading a classic Christian book by Dietrich Bonhoeffer called "Life Together." I had forgotten some of the sound advice he gives Christians on living in community. I was struck by the advice he gives to anyone who may have ill or bad thoughts or feelings toward another. I will not quote him verbatim; however, the just of his argument was that if we are harboring ill or bad feelings toward someone else to pray for them. He is quick to remind us that they may not change the thing or behavior we find annoying; though, as he says it is difficult to be mad at someone or hold something against them if we pray for them.

Certainly, this is true. Often, the change needed in any situation is not by the other or having them removed from the equation as many often seek; in essence it is us who needs to change. Seldom do we consider our actions and look inward for the answer. Most of the time we feel the solution to our ills and problems rests outside ourselves. This sometimes may be the case but more often than not the answer lies squarely on and in us. Bonhoeffer's theory is not original, Jesus made the case for this type of juxtaposition himself in "The Sermon on the Mount:" (Matthew 5:43-48)

Love Your Enemies

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the

just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, ^[b] what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

For when we pray for another, we are reminded of God's grace and mercy to us. And if he applies this grace and mercy to us then we can most certainly apply it to others. For just like the one who we harbor ill will towards we have been redeemed by Jesus sacrifice. Therefore, we are joined with them by Christ, In Him, With Him, Through Him. We cannot change others and many times they never change to our satisfaction, however, as we begin to look at the situation through the eyes of Christ we become changed and renewed in Jesus.

Grace and peace to each of you from Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord!!

Pastor Carlin

THANK YOU

Another Happy Birthday Celebration:

Thank you Stacy Eilts and my wonderful Summer School class. You made my 81st birthday so happy! We had a great lesson on the Armor of God. Brooks got to put on the suit of armor. We learned about the Shield of Faith with the story "The Fiery Furnace." God took care of those three men just like he takes care of us.

After the lesson, Stacy brought out cupcakes and "noisemakers". The kids sang to me and counted how old I am by fives and added a one.

I was given lots of hugs and I LOVED it all!!!

Thank you and God Bless.

~~~~Karol Hall~~~~

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### Please Note:

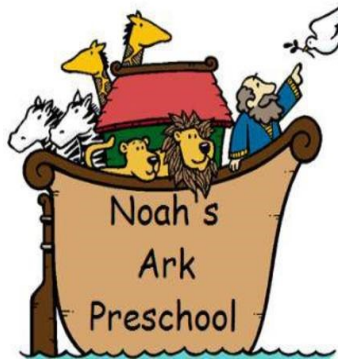
If you have submitted a name for the prayer list & would like them to receive a "Thinking of You" card, please provide the church office with a good address so that the volunteer coordinator can mail the card to the proper address.

Also, please update the office if/when the name on the prayer list can be removed (or any "address" changes).

Thank you.

~Beth Ray~





## August at Noah's Ark

*We had a WONDERFUL turnout at Pre-Registration and are so excited for our enrollment for this next school year! We still have room for more students, so please tell your family and friends and we will be holding Registration on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 11-1 and 4-6.*

*We also offer the option of your 3 year old being enrolled the month AFTER they turn 3! We are so excited to have added this option to our classroom environment!*

*The 3-year-old classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:15-10:15 and 10:30-12:30.*

*The 4-year-old classes are held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:15-11:15 and 11:45-2:45.*

*We still have openings in our 3's PM class on Tuesday/Thursday 10:30-12:30 and our 4's class MWF from 11:45-2:45! Morning classes fill up fast, and our 4 year olds who attended as a 3 year old get first choice! J*

*Noah's Ark offers a safe, Christian environment where we treat each child with the love and respect we believe our Heavenly Father would. Our classes are designed according to a play-based theory while incorporating multiple fine motor and sensory activities throughout their day! We believe children benefit from socializing with peers their age and engaging in many different types of activities to ensure growth for each developmental milestone!*

*Our primary goal is still to ensure the safety of our students; parents and teachers while at the same time promote a **positive and fun** preschool experience.*

*Thank you for your support here at Noah's Ark!*

*Breanne Immke*

*Director of Noah's Ark Preschool*

*Please contact me at [pontiacnoahsark@gmail.com](mailto:pontiacnoahsark@gmail.com) for any questions!*

*Check out our Facebook page too!*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Nursery through adult meets at 9:15 each Sunday.

**COMFORTING (QUILTING) LADIES:** meets to "work" downstairs in the large Sunday School room on Thursdays from 9-11 am.

**ANNA CIRCLE:** Will meet on Thursday, August 4, 2022, @ 1 pm in the Munson Room. Our current Bible study is "Encouraging One Another". We will be discussing Chapter 7—Love One Another, which is based on John 13:34. Visitors and new members are always welcome to join us for Bible study and fellowship.

**KNITWITS:** *Knitwits will be taking the summer off and will resume in the fall.*

**JOYFUL WOMEN:** Joyful Women will be taking the summer off and will return in the fall. Joyful Women is open to all women and friends of First Lutheran Church.

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## Vacation Bible School

VBS shirts are still available and are now buy one for \$10 and get a 2nd one free!!!

As of July 26, 2021 the following sizes are available (with available quantities in parentheses).

|       |        |     |
|-------|--------|-----|
| Youth | XL     | (7) |
| Adult | Small  | (8) |
| Adult | Medium | (3) |
| Adult | Large  | (4) |

Please stop by the office from 8-3:30 M-F to get yours today!!!



Lutheran World Relief

### **Mission/Social Committee Project: LWR School Kits**

Impossible to believe, but it is once again time to think of collecting supplies for school kits that are distributed to needy children throughout the world. We will run the collection from mid-July through September. Again, there will be bins placed at the entrances to the church. I will also run off extra sheets near the bins, so feel free to take on for when you are shopping.

Items needed for the School Kits:

- \* 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper 8" x 10 ½" (**NO** loose-leaf paper)
- \* 30 centimeter rulers, or rulers with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- \* Pencil sharpeners
- \* Blunt end scissors (**NO** pointed ends)
- \* Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- \* Black or blue ballpoint pens (**NO** gel ink)
- \* Boxes of 16 or 24 crayons (**ONLY** sizes)
- \* 2 ½ inch erasers

**NOTE:** LWR **cannot** accept any supplies other than those on the list. We ended last year with an abundance of pencils that will carry over to this year. We are usually mostly in need of the spiral notebooks, as **FOUR** of them go in each kit. Please make sure they are the 70-sheet, 8 x 10½ spiral notebooks. They are often sold for 15-25 cents during the back-to-school sales during July & August.

Last year we delivered 98 school kits for distribution! Hopefully, we can do as well this year. Thank you to First Lutheran for your support and generosity.

Linda Frank, School Kit Chair





# Food Pantry Needs

Thank you to all who have continued to generously donate food and supplies to the

Livingston Area Food Pantry during the coronavirus pandemic. The pantry has remained open with limited hours and drive-through pick ups to ensure the safety of the workers and clients. The mission and social committee continues to monetarily support the pantry, especially during these difficult times when so many are unemployed and money is tight. During the month of **August** we will collect (especially personals) **laundry soap, dish soap, bar soap, female hygiene products (sanitary napkins & tampons), toilet paper, facial tissues, paper towels, COMPLETE pancake mix, & syrup.** And, as always, any food or “non-essential” item is appreciated. All donated items should be **NON-PERISHABLE & NOT OUTDATED**, please.

I realize the list is long. Please feel free to choose as few or as many items as you wish. Moreover, the pantry encourages us to purchase items inexpensively at Dollar Tree and Dollar General.

The church is open daily (M-F) from 8:00 am-3:30 pm. The grocery carts are located in the fellowship hall & by the ramp door, and I check them weekly to make deliveries to assist in feeding our community members. I truly appreciate the support members of First Lutheran have given to our pantry for so many years. Bless you all for your generous and giving hearts! ~~Chris Lauritzen~~



Questions?? Please contact Jessica Warren for updates.



# August Birthdays

|                   |      |                    |      |
|-------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| Neil Marsack      | 8/5  | Grace Brown        | 8/20 |
| Roger Ruther      | 8/5  | Ryson Eilts        | 8/20 |
| Brett VonHolten   | 8/6  | Beth Ray           | 8/22 |
| Stewart Alvey     | 8/7  | Kurt Swenson       | 8/22 |
| Ted Cagley        | 8/10 | Sherrill Wilson    | 8/22 |
| Laura Baumgardner | 8/11 | Joni Gibson        | 8/24 |
| Kurt Lauritzen    | 8/11 | Hattie Koeller     | 8/25 |
| Peggy Mundschenk  | 8/11 | Violette Torkelson | 8/25 |
| Aaron Adcock      | 8/13 | James Onken        | 8/27 |
| Michael Carlson   | 8/15 | Preston Brown      | 8/28 |
| Tom Goley         | 8/16 | Richard Hiatt      | 8/29 |
| Angel Hall        | 8/18 | Devon Pritchard    | 8/30 |
| Tyler Monahan     | 8/18 | Landon Jordan      | 8/31 |



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## 2022/2023 CONFIRMATION CLASS

*Please continue to watch this space for additional information regarding the fall classes. There will be 4 students in the 8th grade class and ? students in the 7th grade class.*

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REMINDER—If you wish to make a contribution to the church and are uncomfortable/unable to attend in person, you may mail it, drop it off between 8 am & 3:30 pm or use the PayPal option.

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## ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** Bible Study is taking a break until the fall.

**Sabina: Tortured for Christ, the Nazi Years:** The movie Sabina was shown at First Lutheran in March. If you missed the showing and would like to see it, the DVD is available in the church office to borrow for viewing. Please sign the sign-out sheet when you take the movie out and please return it within a week.

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## Prayer Works



## Please Pray for our Members & Friends:

Robbie Becker, Phyllis Bradley, Sharon Carr, Deb Follmer, Kerry Foster, Dawn Graves, Shelley Hodgson, Carol Jones, Jim Jones, Mike Muzzarelli, Rupert & Cindy Rodriguez, Cheryl Weber, Stephen Weber, Cindi Arnold, Pastor Gabe Baumgardner, Jonathan Becker, Charoletta Bergin, Windy Birch, Roy Bracy, Sam Carlson, Debbie Clardy, Marsha Follet-Pauly, Katherine Harding, J. Sunday Joyner, Wolf Knappe, Bill Liptak, Owen Lyons, Chris Miller, Jakob Miller, Rochelle Nolan, Stacy Nutgrass, Michael O'Shea, Matt Perry, David Robinson, Chris Ross, Anita Sands, Francis Schumacher, Jr., Gail Shaffer, Kathy Telford, & Pat & Jerry.

**CHILDREN:** Finn Bennett, Elliot Buchheit, Lucy McKinley, & Jalene Woolford

### ***Let us pray for the following members who are homebound or nursing home***

*Evenglow Lodge: Helen Rigg, Blanche Swedlund, Harley & Marian Mayer*

*Evenglow Inn: Delores Schultz*

*The Pointe: Judy L Sykes & Maurine Kalkwarf*

*Homebound: Phyllis Bradley, Stephen Weber, & Jim Jones*

## Meetings in August

**Monday, Aug. 1 @ 9:15 am  
Pastor-Bible Study @ The Pointe**

**Monday, Aug. 1 @ 6:30 pm  
Euchre**

**Thursdays @ 9 am  
Comforting Ladies (Quilters)**

**Thursday, Aug. 4 @ 1 pm  
Anna Circle**

**Tuesday, Aug. 9 @ 7 pm  
Church Council**

**Monday, Aug. 15 @ 9:15 am  
Pastor-Bible Study @ The Pointe**

**Monday, Aug. 15 @ 6:30 pm  
Euchre**

**Tuesday, Aug. 16 @ 11-1 & 4-6  
Noah's Ark Registration**

**Monday, Aug. 22 @ NOON  
Newsletter Deadline**

**Friday, Aug. 26 @ 9:00 am  
Newsletter Assembly**

**HIPAA Laws...**Because of the HIPAA Laws, if you would like the Pastor to visit you in the hospital, **you must call the church office** (or have the Chaplain at the hospital call the office).



## ANNA CIRCLE

Anna Circle will meet on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at 1 pm in the Munson Room. Our current Bible study is “Encouraging One Another”. We will be discussing Chapter 7—”Love One Another”, which is based on John 13:34 . Visitors and new members are always welcome to join us on the first Thursday afternoon of each month for Bible study and fellowship

If you have any questions, please call Lynnette at (815) 796-3216.

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## Comforting (Quilting) Ladies

The Comforting (Quilting) Ladies continue to meet in the large Sunday School room on Thursday mornings from 9-11 am. Anyone is welcome to join us on any Thursday. You don't have to come every week. If you enjoy cutting squares, laying out squares for tops, sewing squares, knotting or pinning hems — come whenever you wish.

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## JOYFUL WOMEN OF FIRST

Joyful Women will be taking a break until the fall. Joyful Women is open to all women and friends of First Lutheran Church. There is no fee to attend.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 815/674-5420.

~~Vicki Day~~

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## JESSE'S RIDE FOR PTSD

Jesse's Ride for PTSD is still planned, but with a TOTALLY different look for 2022.

Michelle Ours has been working with Rada Cutlery Company in order for us to raise funds for “Jesse's Ride”. Please stay tuned to the newsletter and upcoming bulletins for more information on helping out this cause (PTSD—Post Traumatic Stress Disorder).

Additionally, if you feel that this is something you would like to support at any time, please mark your donation(s) accordingly.

The Mission/Social & Jesse's Ride Committee Members

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## Come join the fun every other Monday night



Mark your calendars for the first and third Mondays of the month. Spread the word. .

We will open doors at 6 pm, play begins at 6:30 pm. Cost is \$4/person

We want everyone who attends to feel safe and comfortable. Please do not attend if you do not feel well . If there are any questions, please direct them to Fred Shirley.

Aug 1 & 15

Sept 5 & 19

Oct 3 & 17

Nov 7 & 21

### HOW TO WATCH OUR CHURCH SERVICES ONLINE:

**YOUTUBE:** [www.firstlutheranyoutube.org](http://www.firstlutheranyoutube.org)

*You can also subscribe to our YouTube channel by going to YouTube and searching for "Pontiac First Lutheran"*

**OUR CHURCH WEBSITE:** <https://firstlutheranpontiac.org/live-stream/>

**APPLE TV & ROKU:** *Download an app called "Box Cast" and search for a channel called "Pontiac First Lutheran" Once you find it, make it one of your favorites and you can watch from your tv or phone!*

**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pontiacfirstlutheran/>

*Go to this link and request to be added to the group. Once you are added you will get notifications of our next service and see past services!*

**TWITTER:** <https://twitter.com/FirstPontiac>

*If you have the twitter app, search for "First Pontiac" and you can 'follow' us on Twitter!*



**First Lutheran Church**  
Worshiping Christ - Serving Our Neighbor



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[www.firstlutheranpontiac.org](http://www.firstlutheranpontiac.org)

*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*



**AUGUST  
2022**

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**“Worshiping Christ, Serving Our Neighbor”**

**Weekend Worship Schedule**

**Sat. 5:30 pm**

**Sun. 8:00 am**

**Sun. 10:30 am**

**Sunday School 9:15 am**

**Our Staff**

**Pastor: Carlin Ours**  
**Office Admin: Beth Ray**  
**Acct: Angel Hall**  
**Custodian: DeAnn Dennis**  
**Vol. Coord: Beth Ray**  
**Choir Dir: Joseph Durbin**

**2022 Congregational Council:**

|                                         |                         |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Stewart Alvey, President</b>         | <b>Jim Drengwittz</b>   |
| <b>Michael Carlson, V. President</b>    | <b>Brian Friedman</b>   |
| <b>Jane Yate, Secretary</b>             | <b>Mary Ann Johnson</b> |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                        | <b>Kori Mehrkens</b>    |
| <b>Michelle Janssen, Fin. Secretary</b> | <b>Julie Rapp</b>       |
| <b>Jeff Bressner</b>                    | <b>Cathy Robinson</b>   |
|                                         | <b>Fred Shirley</b>     |