

Reverend's Reverie

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As I sit and write this, it is the evening before my first surgery. It is a minor surgery, but still I find myself somewhat hesitant. I'm not worried about the surgery itself, and I'm not worried about something happening to me. What I am hesitant about is the fact that for a period of time, I will have absolutely no control. I simply do not like being out of control. Certain circumstances with a very negative impact from my youth has embedded that drive deep within.

A loss of control in our lives instills fear within us and that worry can cause us to take drastic measures to ensure there is never a time where we are unable to control our surrounding or our circumstances. However, it is that very fear and worry that we are encouraged over and over again in Scripture to set aside. Jesus said to his disciples, *"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body...can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest?"* (Lk 12:22–26)

As Christians, or as I prefer, Followers of the Way, we should really spend some time practicing the fine art of being out of control. In fact, being out of control is perhaps one of the greatest Christian realities. Don't get me wrong, God does not micromanage our world and our reality. We have free will. The Holy Spirit may whisper to us and urge us to follow a particular path, but our free will gives us the ability to ignore that urging. We can say no. However, when we surrender our control over to God, and truly give in to what it means to love God with all our heart, mind, and strength, and truly focus on the holy... holy... holy... calling of loving neighbor as ourselves, not only does the light of Christ change our lives, but as the light of Christ shines through us, it changes the lives of all those it touches.

Peace and blessings to you in Christ and may you always be out of control,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "R. D. ...", is positioned at the bottom center of the page.

Your church council met in September after a summer break. Topics covered during the meeting were:

1. We need a few volunteers who are willing to offer home communion to those unable to attend services. Please contact Pastor Carr if you are willing.
2. Work bee was scheduled and completed. Thank you to all the volunteers! We had a great time while doing good work.
3. Contracts for snow removal are being solicited for the coming winter. With all the activities around the church we need consistent snow removal.
4. Preliminary inspection of the sanctuary roof shows significant wear. We will need to address this problem soon.
5. Parking lot repair is needed and preliminary bids are being solicited.
6. Saturday services have shown significant interest by both Sunday worshipers and new worshipers.

Stewardship

Our building and grounds are old and in need of constant repair. We need your continuing help and support to allow us to celebrate God's grace at First Lutheran in Iron River for another 100 years. Please consider adding to your offering additional money to support our facilities improvement. God bless...

	Income Actual	Expenses Actual	Variance
August	\$10,645	\$27,586	(\$16,491)

CHURCH



COUNCIL

Happy Birthday and Anniversary to everyone!

Birthdays

October 1 Ken Maki
October 1 Tristan Nelson
October 3 Bob Buzakowski
October 4 Judi Hemeleski
October 4 Megan Quayle
October 6 Jeannie Cyphers
October 10 Sharon Dedo
October 15 James Garavet
October 17 Dale Holm
October 17 Gale Holm
October 19 Mavis Goodman
October 21 Jensen Detterbeck
October 22 Donna Sheldon
October 22 Janet Nocerini
October 24 JoAnn Wedegartner
October 25 Heather Bennett
October 26 Joyce Holm



Anniversaries

October 24 Lowell & Carol Tresseder



Kim (Bittner) and Levi Geneman on
their marriage, September 7th.





Ensemble

Ensemble is back after a break for the summer and are gearing up for another year. We are always looking for singers and musicians.

The Ensemble rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 6:00. We sing on most Sunday mornings.

Sara Ehlert is our conductor.

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WELCA) News

WELCA resumed meeting on September 16th with a luncheon and busy agenda. We packed quilts and baby bundles to be shipped to Lutheran World Relief. We also outlined projects and events for the upcoming year. Look for new WELCA booklets soon to be printed. Also, the FALL FELLOWSHIP DINNER will be held on October 13th following the Sunday service. This year our theme is "Your favorite dish". You all have at least one! Please consider bringing one to share. There will be a sign up sheet in the Luther Room.

Next WELCA meeting is October 14th at 11:00AM in the Luther Room.

Reminder

Our newsletter is always available to view online at:

www.firstlutheranironriver.com

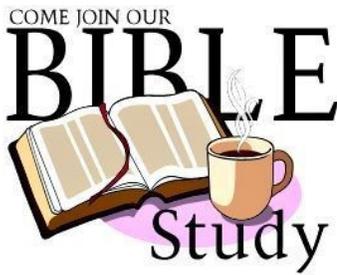


Spoiler alert...

A Charles Dickens Christmas

Coming December 4th, a Charles Dickens Christmas. Pastor Carr will be presenting this series for our Advent services. We are looking forward to this exciting look into the Victorian era of Christmas celebrations. Services will be Wednesday nights, December 1st through 18th, at 6:00 pm.





Bible study is back! We meet Monday mornings at 10:00 or Monday nights

at 6:00. Consider coming to either or both. We are studying Paul. The man and his writings.

SOS, Service on Saturday 4:30 PM

Don't forget about our Services on Saturday. We are

excited so many have attended. It is a contemporary service, with communion, led by our Praise Band with lots of songs. Come join us!



PASTY SALE

Our annual pasty sale is underway! Make sure your orders are received by October 20. There is an order form in the newsletter.

Sunday School

Our Sunday School is back! We meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00am starting with an opening welcome in the sanctuary. We are looking forward to an exciting year. We have two new teachers and 24 students who are excited about our new day and time. Seventh graders are reminded that Sunday School is mandatory if you will be confirmed in 8th grade. It is part of the two year program. If you can't join us every Sunday, come when you can.



Altar Guild volunteers

We need volunteers for Altar Guild. Giving of your time is a valuable donation to our church. Please contact Lynn Karvala for information.



Baptism



On August 18, Livi Jeanette and Landon Dean Geneman were baptized here at First Lutheran. They are the twin son and daughter of Kim (Bittner) and Levi Geneman. God's blessing to these two beautiful babies.

God's work. Our hands.

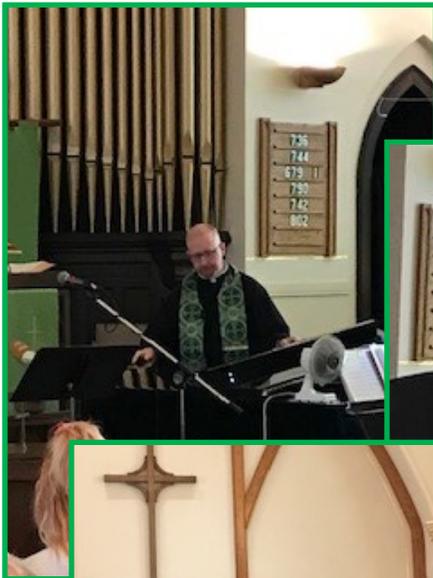
September 8th was God's work, Our hands Sunday. 60 quilts, 80 diapers for 20 baby bundles, 40 Bibs for Care Centers, 26 pillowcase dresses, and 18 school packs were all blessed by Pastor Carr. Our quilters have been very busy this year. Thank you for all your beautiful creations!



Piano Dedication



On July 28th, we had the dedication of our new piano. Bernie Timbrook, Evelyn Tucker's son-in-law, was our guest soloist. We are very thankful to the many donors who helped us achieve this goal. Sara Ehlert also graced us with a beautiful arrangement of *Amazing Grace* by Gene Roberson Thank you Bernie and Sara.



Bernie Timbrook



Sara Ehlert

Work Bee Volunteers September 21st

A busy day for our fix up, clean up and paint up work bee. Twelve members of our congregation came together for hard cleaning, heavy lifting, along with many laughs. Lunch and fellowship followed.

Check out our clean curtains in the Luther Room and Sunday School rooms.



Back Row: Pete Wedegartner, Paul Lamour, Keith Aho, JoAnn Wedegartner, Holly Rybicki, and Lynn Karvala

Front Row: Tom Karvala, Curt Poulos, Helen Berglund, and Jana Aho.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH – PASTY SALE

OCTOBER 26, 2019

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

_____ X \$5.00 _____ WITH onions Paid _____ Not Paid _____

_____ X \$5.00 _____ withOUT onions Paid _____ Not Paid _____

Pasties are to be picked up between 10:00am and 12:00 Noon, Saturday October 26, 2019 at the Stambaugh Elementary Gym (side entrance).

Delivery is available with a minimum order of 6 pasties – please let us know in advance.

Orders can be turned in at the church office or by calling the office at 265-9518 or calling Tom Karvala at 906-367-0007

Orders **MUST** be received by Sunday October 20, 2019!



Annual Fall Fest & Quilt Auction

Saturday, Oct 5th

Mark your calendar and help celebrate and support the incredible ministry that occurs at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp.

Our Annual Fall Fest, which raises vital funds to expand the mission and ministry of FLLC, has been held for 22 years. On this beautiful fall day at camp, you'll enjoy a fabulous brunch, shop at the Country Store, and get ready to place your bid at the live quilt auction in the Chapel.





October



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		9:00 Quilters 6:00 Pub Theology At Kermit's	5:00 Out-reach			4:30 Contemporary Service
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee/fellowship 10:00 Service		9:00 Quilters 12:00 Music & Worship		6:00 Ensemble Rehearsal		4:30 Contemporary Service
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee/fellowship 10:00 Service Fellowship Potluck After Service	10:00 Bible Study 11:00 WELCA 6:00 Bible Study	9:00 Quilters 10:00 Finance 6:00 Council		6:00 Ensemble Rehearsal		4:30 Contemporary Service
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee/fellowship 10:00 Service PASTY ORDERS DUE	10:00 Bible Study 6:00 Bible Study	9:00 Quilters		6:00 Ensemble Rehearsal		10-12 Pasty Pick up @ school 4:30 Contemporary Service
27	28	29	30	31		
9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee/fellowship 10:00 Service	10:00 Bible Study 6:00 Bible Study	9:00 Quilters		Halloween		

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
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First Lutheran Church

Sowing seeds of grace; growing faith in Christ

Come join us!

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Broadcast WIKB 99.1 FM
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www.firstlutheranironriver.com