

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

1200 4th Avenue

Worthington, MN 56187

(507) 376-6148

Fax: (507) 376-6149

Email: felcwgt@frontiernet.net

Web Site: felcwgt.org

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Monday through Friday

WORSHIP: 8:00 am and 10:00 am

COMMUNION: First and Third Sundays

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 am (Sept.–May)

CONGREGATION OFFICERS

GARY GERDES, PRESIDENT –

(507) 376-3574

LISA WALDNER, VICE PRESIDENT -

(507) 372-4597

MARY LARSON, SECRETARY –

(507) 376-9182

CHURCH STAFF

RICHARD RICKER--Pastor

Natalie Zinnel--Administrative Secretary

Amy Lein--Youth & Family Director

David & Robin Stoyke--Custodians

Lola Geisendorfer--Parish Visitor

Pam Fleming--Worship Planner & Visual

Coordinator

Eric Parrish--Choir Director

Jacque Frerichs--Organist/Choir

Accompanist

Lois Gruis--Bell Choir Director

Lori Nienkerk--Choir Accompanist/

Organist

Dennis Selberg--Treasurer

Deb Koob--Financial Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

**FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH, WORTHINGTON, MN**

God has called us, the baptized members of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Worthington, Minnesota, to proclaim the Gospel and make disciples of all people.

Living out our Mission

In obedience, we commit ourselves to the Lord's ministry rooted in a fertile agricultural prairie of God's creation. Relying on the promise of the Holy Spirit, and through Word and Sacraments, we will grow toward wholeness through worship, learning, service, witness, support, and fellowship.

Adopted 5-31-87

Reflections

"The Phone Is Ringing"

"All progress in pray is an answer to prayer, our own or another's . . . In every act of prayer we have already begun to do God's will, for which, above all things we pray. The prayer within all prayer is, 'Thy will be done.'" (Forsyth 1954)

Prayer is God's crowning gift. Yet—prayer is our main work. These two facts must always be held together.

Praying is our way of keeping contact with God, He made prayer possible when he came as one of us to live with us and to die and be raised for us. He is always available, always.

Sometimes, usually in untroubled times, we take this for granted. In these times our prayers often become a kind of chit-chat—expressing our views and feelings. Often we grow sentimental and tend to romanticize.

This kind of praying, though not what we would call vital prayer, is just fine with God. His main concern is that we keep communication lines open. Sometimes we use the telephone just to hear a friend's or loved one's voice, after all.

When pleasant times cease, and we are besieged by bad news—a death, an accident, a moral lapse, a defeat, a frightening doctor's report, loss of a job—we must not panic and say, "Where is God now?" He is where he was in pleasant days, at the other end of the telephone line.

In such times, if we listen closely, our phone is ringing. God is calling. He is saying to us, "I am as near as breathing. Keep talking to me. My grace is still sufficient."

Keep talking—and listening. He has not changed or moved away. His will is that we let him love us, that we let his arms hold us,

and that we let his mercy wash away our sins and our fears.

His will is that we hear him calling us, by name.

“Rejoice always, pray constantly” (1 Thess. 5:16-17)

God’s Peace, Pastor Richard

Lessons and Themes for the Sundays in August, 2009:
8/2/09: 9th Sunday after Pentecost
“We Live As One”

Psalm 78:23-29
Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

8/9/09: 10th Sunday after Pentecost
“We Can Imitate the Character of Jesus”

Psalm 34:1-8
1 Kings 19:4-8
Ephesians 4:25-5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

8/16/09: 11th Sunday after Pentecost
“We Can Live in God’s Wisdom”

Psalm 34:9-14
Proverbs 9:1-6
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

8/23/09: 12th Sunday after Pentecost
“We Are Able to Stand Against the Devil”

Psalm 34:15-22
Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

8/30/09: 13th Sunday after Pentecost
“Jesus Is Life”

Psalm 15
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Praise the Lord

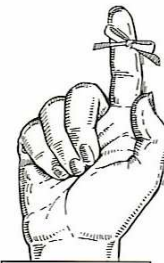
The following is the financial report for First Lutheran as of June 30, 2009:

General Fund:

Bal. 5/31/09:	(\$14,050.64)
Inc., June	\$24,687.14
Exp., June	\$24,632.91
Bal. 6/30/09:	(\$13,996.41)

Building

Bal. 5/31/09:	\$26,982.57
Inc., June	\$638.00
Exp., June	\$0.00
Bal. 6/30/09:	\$27,620.57



DON'T FORGET
TO TITHE WHILE
YOU'RE AWAY

Sunday Servants

If for any reason you are unable to serve on the Sunday indicated, please trade with someone else on the list or find a replacement and contact the church office so that the names can be listed correctly in the church bulletin. **Please watch the mail for the post card. This is a temporary schedule for the month so it may change. Thank you.**



Tape Duplicator: Roger Larson

Van Driver:

8/2	Dennis Selberg
8/9	Byron Swart
8/16	Mark Broich
8/23	Terry Bramel
8/30	Doug Frisch

Acolytes (Contact Person: Julia Berger, 376-6906)

8/2 8:00 Zachary Kempema
Nathan Faragher
10:00 Troy Feller/Sydney Burns
8/9 8:00 Miles Veen/Tyler Faragher
10:00 Rebecca Christensen
8/16 8:00 Colton Poppema
Nick Demuth
10:00 Nathan Patten/Troy Feller
8/23 8:00 Trevor Wietzema
Nathan Faragher
10:00 Zachary Kempema
8/30 8:00 Miles Veen
10:00 Rebecca Christensen

Ushers (Contact Person: Julia Berger)

8/2 8:00 Nathan Lowe
10:00 Jordan Gieselman
8/9 8:00 Ashley Veen
Shelby Faragher
10:00 Kinzie Myrom/Eric Koob
8/16 8:00 Lauren Stanton
Matthew Poppema
10:00 Chelsey Isder
Haley Rogers
8/23 8:00 Courtney Faragher
Logan Waldner
10:00 Emily Anderson
8/30 8:00 Nathan Lowe
10:00 Jordan Gieselman

Greeters (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

8/2 8:00 Arnold Waldner Family
10:00 Matt & Teresa Widboom
Family
8/9 8:00 Rosann Boots/Agnes Cross
10:00 Jeff & Sandy Randall
8/16 8:00 Worrell & Betty Bremer
10:00 Jean Johnson/Betty Burns
8/23 8:00 Dave & Robin Stoyke
10:00 Dean & Marlene Swanson
8/30 8:00 Kevin & Arlene Lowe
Family
10:00 Merle & Pat Elsing Family

Lectors (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

8/2 8:00 John Vihlen
10:00 Brandon Berger
8/9 8:00 Julia Berger
10:00 Rich Liapis
8/16 8:00 June Boots
10:00 Marlene Swanson
8/23 8:00 Matt Russell
10:00 Lola Geisendorfer
8/30 8:00 Ross DeWitt
10:00 Robert Bents

Coffee Servers (Contact Person: Church Office, 376-6148)

8/2 Loren & Dorothy Bauman
Daren & Julie Bauman
8/9 Roger & Marjorie Larson
Merlin & Aldyne Robinson
8/16 Dana White/Karen Lewis
Edna Koster
8/23 Bill & Sylvia Jacobson
Gary & Marless Milbrath
8/30 Doug & Julie Christensen
Greg & Nicole Kempema

Contemp. Liturgist (Contact Person: Pam Fleming, 376-5429)

8/9 8:00 Ed Philipp
10:00 Lisa Waldner
8/23 8 & 10 Kyle Fleming
8/30 8 & 10 Margaret Erickson

Liturgist (Contact Person: Pam Fleming, 376-5429)

8/2 8:00 Rich Liapis
10:00 Ben Christensen
8/16 8:00 Ryan McGaughey
10:00 Kinzie Myrom

Synthesizer (Contact Person: Pam Fleming, 376-5429)

8/9 8: & 10 Katie Fleming
8/23 8 & 10 Cindy Swart

**Nursery Attendants (Contact Person:
Church Office, 376-6148)**

8/2 8:00 Diana & Dana White
10:00 Marcia Liapis
Lola Geisendorfer
8/9 8:00 Ruth Yeske
Norma Woodbury
10:00 Nancy & Alyssa Berg
8/16 8:00 Pat & Lynette Demuth
10:00 Marj Broich
Marilyn Frisch
8/23 8:00 Julie Bauman
Theresa Rotert
10:00 Gene & Charlene Wachter
8/30 8:00 Robin Stoyke
Winora Hallstrom
10:00 Merle & Pat Elsing

**Busy Bags (Contact Person: Sara Barber,
360-1368)**

August: Pam Fleming
September: Julie Christensen
October: Paula Laffrenzen
November: Dana White

August Birthdays

2 Elmer Mick
2 Stacy Schreiber
3 Troy Fitzhugh
3 Jason Gerdes
3 Lisa Severance
3 Korey Stinehart
5 Amanda Wilkening
6 Joshua Burch
6 Cyrus Eisele
6 Bruce Kraft
7 Bruce Livingston
7 Sandy Randall
9 Harvey Berg
9 Tom Bomgaars
9 Tony Potts
10 Glenda Lais
10 Katie Randgaard
11 Lesa Johnson
12 Cy Amundson
12 Marjorie Livingston
14 John Milbrath

14 Logan Rogers
15 Terry Langland
16 Lonnie Myrom
16 Nancy Myrom
17 Marjorie Larson
18 Loren Bauman
18 Gene Christensen
18 Pat Elsing
18 Josh Koob
18 John Olson
18 Lauren Stanton
19 Jean Black
19 Cassie Hurlbut
19 Linda Towne
20 Troy Feller
20 Sandy Poppema
21 Bernice Melom
21 James Olson
22 Duane Axdahl
22 Andrew Berg
23 James Laffrenzen
23 Orville Lien
23 Kathleen Myer
24 Hunter Boomgarden
24 Judy Gerdes
25 Marj Broich
25 Vernon Mews
25 Don Wasmund
26 Ron Almjeld
26 Judy Frazee
26 Mary Toso
26 Todd Waller
27 Haley Rogers
27 Gerald Wachter
27 Dennis Zierke
28 Adam Feller
28 Ashley Feller
28 Jan Larson
29 Rich Liapis
29 Margaret Shipley
30 Nicole Kempema
30 Marless Milbrath
31 Edna Koster

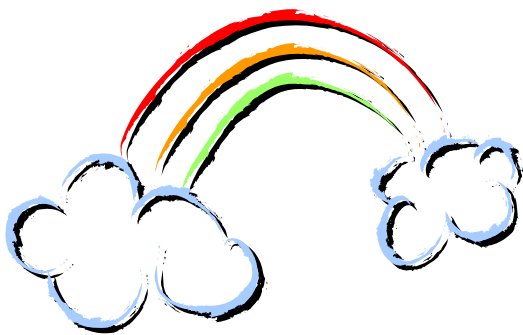


Seasoned Citizens: We have some exciting programs coming up for our Seasoned Citizens and we pray that many of you will join us for these events. On Thursday, August 13th, we have invited the American Lutheran Senior Saints to join us for lunch at 11:30. Rev. Steve Olson, (son of John and Peggy Olson) from Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Dassel, MN will share with us about a painting they found in a storage closet in their church. Evidently, it had been hung in the church at one time and then tossed into the closet. They found that it was painted in 1837 by Ary Scheffer, a French painter of Dutch extraction. Come and hear the rest of the story! Sign up in the church office so we will know how many will be there for lunch. Also, invite others that may be interested in this news worthy story.

On Thursday, September 10th at 2:00 pm, Vernietta Hansberger will share with us about her mission trip to Tanzania.

On Thursday, October 8th, we are excited to have Tim Graf (Lois and Erving's son) share with us about the ice harvesting business that his grandparents ran in Worthington. He has been sharing this information with many students and groups in the Twin Cities area.

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss any of these special programs.

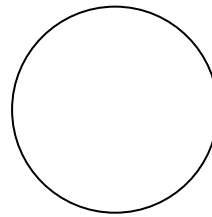


First Lutheran Benefits from your Grocery Purchases. When you buy groceries at Hy-Vee, with the Hy-Vee Gift Card, First Lutheran receives 5% from the sale of the gift card. Get yours today! The cards are available in the church office and between services on Sunday. We have \$10, \$25, \$50 or \$100 gift cards to sell. You pay the full price for the card and the church receives 5%. All the cards are prepaid and are like cash when you purchase them. As of June 30, 2009 a total of **\$15,575.33** has been put into the general fund.

Thank  You

I would like to thank everyone involved in making my quilt. It has already been put to use and will be used much more. Also, thank you to Bobbie Elvin who presented my quilt to me and reminded me that my church family is always around me. Thank you again.

Kahla Gieselman



Hold this circle to your face and blow on it. If it turns green, call your physician. If it turns brown, see your dentist.

If it turns purple, see your psychiatrist. If it turns red, see your banker. If it turns black, call your lawyer and make a will. If it remains the same color, you are in good health, and there is no reason on earth why you should not be in church next Sunday morning!

A Touch of Humor “Children in Church”

A little child in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed the offering plates. When they neared the pew where he sat, the youngster piped up so that everyone could hear: “Don’t pay for me Daddy, I’m under five.”

After a church service on Sunday morning a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, “Mom, I’ve decided to become a minister when I grow up. “ “That’s okay with us, but what made you decide that?” “Well,” said the little boy, “I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen.”

A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon. “How do you know what to say?” he asked. “Why, God tells me,” the father replied. “Oh, then why do you keep crossing things out?”

A little girl became restless as the preacher’s sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, “Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?”

Terri asked her Sunday School class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Kyle’s picture, which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent. “The flight to Egypt,” said Kyle. “I see.... and that must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus,” Ms. Terri said. “But who’s the fourth person?” “Oh, that’s Pontius – the Pilot.”

A college drama group presented a play in which one character would stand on a trap door and announce, “I descend into hell!” A stage hand below would then pull a rope, the trapdoor would open, and the character would plunge through. The play was well received. One day the actor playing the part became ill, and another actor who was quite overweight took his place. When the new actor announced, “I descend into hell!” the stagehand pulled the rope, and the actor began his plunge, but became hopelessly stuck. No amount of tugging on the rope could make him descend. One student in the balcony jumped up and yelled: “Hallelujah! Hell is full!”

Pastor Dave Charlton tells us, “After a worship service at First Baptist Church in Newcastle, Kentucky, a mother with a fidgety seven-year-old boy told how she got her son to sit still and be quiet. About halfway through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered, ‘If you don’t be quiet, Pastor Charlton is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again!’ It worked.”

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather’s lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, “Grandpa, did God make you?” “Yes, sweetheart,” he answered, “God made me a long time ago.” “Oh,” she paused, “Grandpa, did God make me too?” “Yes, indeed, honey,” he said, “God made you just a little while ago.” Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, “God’s getting better at it, isn’t he?”

**Bible Readings
For
August, 2009**

1	Job	39-40
2	Colossians	1-2
3	Colossians	3-4
4	Proverbs	1-3
5	Proverbs	4-6
6	Proverbs	7-9
7	Proverbs	10-12
8	Proverbs	13-15
9	Proverbs	16-18
10	Proverbs	19-21
11	Proverbs	22-24
12	Proverbs	25-27
13	Proverbs	28-29
14	Proverbs	30-31
15	Ecclesiastes	1-3
16	Ecclesiastes	4-6
17	Ecclesiastes	7-9
18	Ecclesiastes	10-12
19	I Thessalonians	1-2
20	I Thessalonians	3-4
21	I Thessalonians	5-6
22	II Thessalonians	1-3
23	Song of Solomon	1-3
24	Song of Solomon	4-6
25	Song of Solomon	7-8
26	Isaiah	1-3
27	Isaiah	4-6
28	Isaiah	7-9
29	Isaiah	10-12
30	Isaiah	13-15
31	Isaiah	16-18

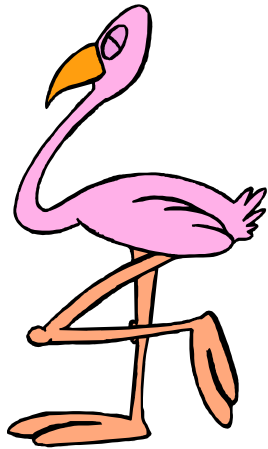
The readings for this month include Paul, wisdom literature and prophets from the Old Testament.

**Psalms
For
August, 2009**

1	PSALM	95
2	PSALM	95
3	PSALM	96
4	PSALM	96
5	PSALM	97
6	PSALM	97
7	PSALMS	98 & 99
8	PSALMS	98 & 99
9	PSALMS	100 & 101
10	PSALMS	100 & 101
11	PSALM	102:1-14
12	PSALM	102:1-14
13	PSALM	102:15-28
14	PSALM	102:15-28
15	PSALM	103
16	PSALM	103
17	PSALM	104:1-15
18	PSALM	104:1-15
19	PSALM	104:16-26
20	PSALM	104:16-26
21	PSALM	104:27-35
22	PSALM	104:27-35
23	PSALM	105:1-11
24	PSALM	105:1-11
25	PSALM	105:12-22
26	PSALM	105:12-22
27	PSALM	105:23-36
28	PSALM	105:23-36
29	PSALM	105:37-45
30	PSALM	105:37-45
31	PSALM	106:1-12

Read the Psalms as prayers. They are prayers that contain all of our emotions and put them plainly before the LORD.

YOUTH NEWS



Flamingo Flurry

It is that time of year again when pink flamingos migrate to new lawns. Frank the Flamingo and his feathered friends are flying around looking for a great lawn to live in, or to just spend the night. Watch out, they might just settle themselves in your lawn. The youth and Amy have spent recent weeks being trained in how to handle these pink pesky creatures. For a small donation, they will gently 'shoo' these pink birds away from your yard. All of the money raised through this event will go towards the expenses of the youth programs. This includes our summer trips, youth group, life light, camperships, and activities for grades K-12. Please help us make this summer fundraiser a fun success! For more information look in your mailbox for a pamphlet, or go to the flamingo table by the narthex entrance to pick up a pamphlet. To target someone just fill out the form on the pamphlet and turn it in with your donation. To buy insurance fill out the form and sign; and then turn the form in with payment to

the church office. If you do not wish to participate, please contact the church office.

God's Peace,
Amy

Youth Updates:

* Mark your calendar! The pool party is August 9th from 6-8, be ready to make a splash by just having fun and in our splash contest! If your last name starts with A-H, please bring a side dish; I-R, bring a dessert; and S-Z, bring a drink.

* There is a box outside of Amy's office for dropping off forms or payments. This is an attempt to keep better track of trip payments and fundraiser donations. Please do not hand forms or checks in to Amy. Rather, put them in the box.

*The Timothy Project, an ELCA training for anyone working with youth, will take place here on August 22nd from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm and includes lunch. The training is good for youth ministers, pastors, parents, youth team members, volunteers, trip leaders, mentors, confirmation guides, and anyone who cares about nurturing faith in young people. Sign up in the church office by the 16th if you wish to participate.

