



AT FIRST LUTHERAN

## GOOD NEWS! JULY 2018

All of this and more on the web at  
[www.FirstLutheranOnAlaska.org](http://www.FirstLutheranOnAlaska.org)

SEE ALSO...

-  [facebook.com/1stlu](https://facebook.com/1stlu)
-  [instagram.com/1stlu](https://instagram.com/1stlu)
-  [twitter.com/1stlu](https://twitter.com/1stlu)
-  [1stlu.org/cal](http://1stlu.org/cal)
-  [pinterest.com/firstlu](https://pinterest.com/firstlu)
- [#faithalive365](https://www.facebook.com/firstlu)

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STANTON



I remember learning in high school about John D. Rockefeller and how he created a monopoly in the oil business through "vertical integration."

Vertical integration is one of those phrases you have to learn for a vocabulary test and then never have to know again, but I think it's worth knowing about as we think about where our church has been and where we're trying to go.

By 1911, Standard Oil controlled 85% of the US Oil industry. Notice: Standard didn't own 85% of just the oil, but the whole industry... mineral rights, pipelines, refineries, gas stations and every other part of the industry from the beginning of production to the moment a consumer made a purchase. By owning every part of the business, Rockefeller could control supply, driving up demand whenever he felt like it. By being so large, he could squeeze out competition and become "too large to fail" (to use a 21st century term).

There was a time not so long ago when individual churches tried to behave like a vertically integrated monopoly, becoming so large and independent that they wouldn't need anyone else. Dominate the "religious marketplace" and squeeze out the 'competition' as though churches are playing a zero sum game. In this model, 'membership' at a church meant you never stepped foot in another church

**Thriving churches  
in 2018 build and  
maintain robust  
partnerships.**

**First Lutheran has  
been developing  
partnerships for  
many years.**

building... unless it was for a funeral or a wedding (maybe).

The religious world has changed a lot in the last 20 years, though. Although still important, the building and the programs have waned in importance. Generation X, Y, millennials and Generation Z don't care about the denomination name or doctrine as much as how a church's beliefs shape their actions. Who do you welcome? Who do you serve? Who gets to lead? How can I contribute?

Providing opportunities for hundreds of people to serve, lead or contribute

## NO WORSHIP ON JULY 4

The Fourth of July falls on a Wednesday this year, and there will be no worship service that day.

their gifts is a challenge. And to do so, thriving churches in 2018 build and maintain robust partnerships. First Lutheran has been developing partnerships for many years. The most obvious and longstanding is the place we have within the La Crosse Area Synod of the ELCA. Nearly 10% of First Lutheran receipts are passed on to the work of our synod, which passes on 50% of its receipts to the Churchwide Unit of the ELCA. These are monies that support Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (for almost 80 years!), Lutheran Disaster Response, seminaries, missionaries and so much more. But just in the last 10-15 years, First's role within our synod has changed as we have claimed stronger partnership with our local Campus Ministry that serves UW-L, Viterbo and Western. We are also more closely tied to Sugar Creek Bible Camp and Lutheran Social Services. Serving college kids, summer campers and those who are most vulnerable

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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## Back-to-School Shoes

The First Teen Clothes Closet is again partnering with Trinity Lutheran in La Crosse and the Children's Clothes Closet there to provide back-to-school athletic shoes for children and teens in the Northside neighborhood.

Last year we donated 167 pairs of shoes! We would graciously accept donations of NEW athletic shoes appropriate for teens (men's sizes 7-13, women's sizes 5-12) or monetary donations to buy shoes for teens. Donations should be brought to the church office.

*Deadline: August 6.*

## What We Need:

The First Teen Clothes Closet is seeking a small (dorm-sized) refrigerator and a paintable or white dresser in good condition. If you have either of these items to donate, please contact the church office or a committee member.



We're moving! While the current location has served us well, the steering committee has felt for some time now that it doesn't serve our

guests as well as we wish it would. Our location in Onalaska is convenient for us, but not as convenient for the majority of the region's teens in need, many of whom live on the north side of La Crosse with limited access to transportation, making it difficult to get to downtown Onalaska on weekends and evenings. While we have had success with our shuttle from the Children's Clothes Closet at Trinity Lutheran Church, we believe there are many more teens we should be serving, so we are taking that collaboration to the next level.

The First Teen Clothes Closet is relocating to space available at Trinity Lutheran, so we can provide families with a single stop for clothing for both children and teens in a location that they can more easily access. We hope to be in place before the Aug. 13 shoe distribution and block party at Trinity.

Here's how you can help:

1. Pray for a smooth transition to our new location over the summer.
2. Help with the transition itself—we will need volunteers to assist with taking clothes off the racks & shelves at the current location; disassembling & reassembling racks & shelves in our new location; and moving clothes to the new location to get everything set up.

All of these tasks will be done from mid-July through early August.

We'll need willing hands and legs to relocate clothes from the second floor of the house to the downstairs so that

the shelves can be taken down—this could be a great volunteer opportunity for teens!

We need a few mechanically-minded individuals to disassemble, move and reassemble all of the shelving and racks.

And then we'll need more "movers" to get the clothes to Trinity and onto racks and shelves in our new location.

Specific dates and times are still being nailed down, so watch for information on the church and Clothes Closet Facebook pages or in the bulletin and additional emails. If you can help with one of these tasks, please contact a committee member or the church office so we can notify you directly when we have more specifics.

We will continue to use space at the house for sorting donations and having

teens approve the clothes before offering them to our guests.

We hope the congregation will join us in our excitement about the potential we have to serve more teens in need by taking the clothes to where they live, rather than expecting them all to come to us.

*First Teen Clothes Closet team,*

*Lori Lunney  
Shari Hegland  
Bridget Crave  
Patty Shepard*

[firstlu.org/1stteencloset](http://firstlu.org/1stteencloset)  
[facebook.com/1stteencloset](https://facebook.com/1stteencloset)  
[instagram.com/1stteencloset](https://instagram.com/1stteencloset)  
[closet@firstlu.org](mailto:closet@firstlu.org)

## READINGS FOR JULY

Sunday, July 1	Mark 5:21-43
Wednesday, July 4	1 John 1:5-2:2 <i>(no worship on this day)</i>
Sunday, July 8	Mark 6:1-13
Wednesday, July 11	1 John 4:1-6
Sunday, July 15	Mark 6:14-29
Wednesday, July 18	1 John 4:7-21
Sunday, July 22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
Wednesday, July 25	Ruth 1:1-22
Sunday, July 29	John 6:1-21

*Above are the tentative readings scheduled for July. Readings used during worship are determined by the pastors on a weekly basis, and therefore are subject to change.*

*You can also view this list online and subscribe to receive them as an email at [1stlu.org/readings](http://1stlu.org/readings).*

Join us for...

# RAFL

## RANDOM ACTIVITIES FIRST LUTHERAN!

We know there are a lot of RANDOM ACTIVITIES that you plan at the last minute, and that it'd be fun to meet up with other folks. This is where RAFL comes in: it's a Facebook Group created for members of First to invite one another on random activities.

Going to the pool? Invite others to join you.

Want to sit with others at Moon Tunes?

Post in the RAFL group, and invite others to join you. Want someone to hike with?

RAFL is the place to connect.

This is a great way to get to know others in the congregation better in a social setting, in an informal way.

Join the group. It's open to all.

The prize for everyone is getting out and having fun together... it's a win-win!

Go to

**1stlu.org/RAFL**

and join in the random, spontaneous fun!



## Always wanted to try paddleboarding or kayaking?

Or looking to join some others from First Lutheran in a fun afternoon? **July 29, noon–4pm** is your chance to rent a paddleboard, kayak or canoe and paddle with other folks from First Lutheran. If fishing, Frisbee golf, or watching others is more your thing, you can do that, too. We will meet up at the Pettibone picnic shelter. This is for teens, adults of all ages, singles, families, friends, in other words, **EVERYONE**.

Bring your own lunch, or order a box lunch in advance and we'll have it there. Eat, then head out on the water.

Costs: paddle board rental \$10, kayak and canoe rental \$7, box lunch \$7. Bring your own beverage.

All rentals are for 4 hours and include life vest.

**Please RSVP at [1stlu.org/paddle](https://1stlu.org/paddle) so we can plan for food and have your paddling equipment reserved for you.**

See Bridget Crave with questions: [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto:bridget@firstlu.org)



## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

### CAP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

#### PLEDGED DOLLARS:

**\$1,032,789**

#### GIFTS RECEIVED:

**\$306,771**

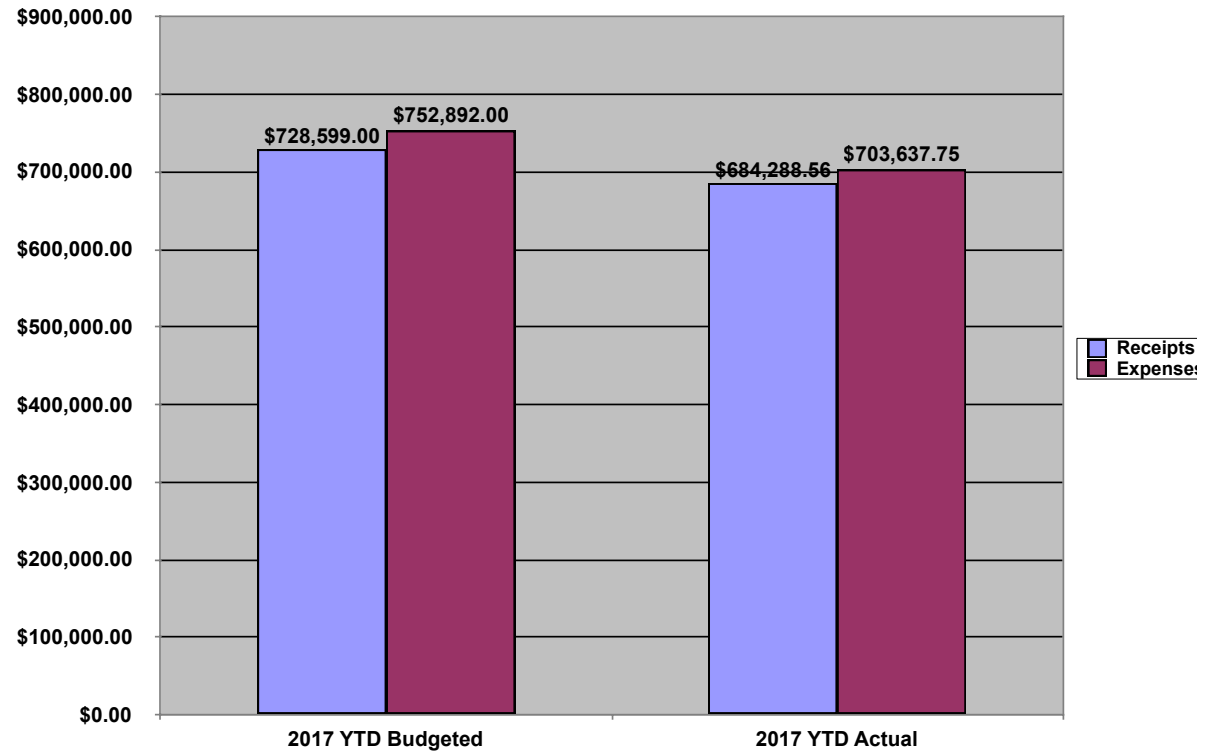
#### PROJECTS COMPLETED:

#### HVAC CONTROLS

#### ED BLDNG ROOF

#### COMING SOON:

#### PARKING LOT REPAIRS



The following is a financial summary through the end of May:

Actual receipts - \$338,508.44

Budgeted receipts - \$365,450.00

Actual expenses - \$330,145.22

Budgeted expenses - \$349,353.01

Our total receipts through the end of May fell short of the current year budgeted amount by \$26,941.56. Our total giving (general fund and other miscellaneous offerings) fell short of our current year budgeted amount by \$23,754.17 or 7.9%. In addition, our total receipts through the end of May fell

short of our total receipts through the same period last year by \$10,569.40 or 3.7%.

As noted above, our expenses are less than budgeted through the end of May by \$19,207.79. The majority of this favorable variance is due to the timing of certain expenses.

In summary, we budgeted for a surplus of \$16,097.00 through the end of May and have realized an actual surplus of \$8,363.22.

In addition to the above noted operating receipts and expenses we received \$45,673.49 for our capital campaign in May and incurred expenses associated with our capital campaign of \$60,727.16. The majority of the expenses were associated with roof repairs made to the education

building. Cumulative receipts and expenses associated with our capital campaign through the end of May are \$352,445.42 and \$191,714.50, respectively.

As always, full details of this report are available by request in the church office. Also, everyone is welcome to attend a finance committee meeting—we meet every month, on the second Wednesday, at noon in the Thomas Room.

*Respectfully,*

*Finance Committee*

## EVENTS

Sign up for most events happening at First Lutheran on our website at [1stlu.org/signup](http://1stlu.org/signup)

### DRAWING FROM THE WELL

**Next retreat: Sat., July 14, 11:30am–2pm, at David Reay's**

This group is for women of First and the greater La Crosse area seeking to support one another in their spiritual growth. This month we'll meet for lunch and conversation at David Reay's at 11:30am, then head out for a hike for about an hour for those interested. Hike recommendations are welcome. Come and get to know other women of the church, or renew friendships. RSVP to [bridget@firstlu.org](mailto:bridget@firstlu.org).

### FOUNDATION MAKES ANNUAL ALLOCATIONS

The First Lutheran Foundation has made its annual allocations to church programs and community organizations. The funding furthers the work of these church-related ministries: Milestone Ministry, Helping Hands, prayer shawls, and Youth Gathering and mission trip expenses. The Foundation made financial contributions to these area charitable organizations: Our Savior's Lutheran Church women's clothes closet, Sugar Creek Bible Camp, Holmen Area Youth Partners, Onalaska Food Pantry, New Horizons, St. Clare Health Mission and Salvation Army. The Foundation also makes a contribution to First Lutheran's general fund.

**FIRST  
FEST**  
★  
**SUNDAY  
SEPT 10**

Join us  
Sunday, Sept. 9  
11:30am–1:30pm  
for music, food, fun  
and fellowship!  
**FREE AND  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**  
*(so invite your friends!)*

*A New York Times  
Best Seller!*

# THE GIFTS OF Imperfection



Let Go of Who You Think  
You're Supposed to Be  
and Embrace Who You Are

YOUR GUIDE TO A WHOLEHEARTED LIFE

**Brené Brown, Ph.D., L.M.S.W.**

**Wednesdays, July 11–Aug. 15, 7–8pm**

All are welcome to join a 6-week study of the first half of Brene Brown's book, *The Gifts of Imperfection*. Reading and thoughtful discussion required each week. Meeting as a group will include watching a video, discussion and sharing. Beth Miller will lead the group.

**RSVP at [1stlu.org/brenebrown](http://1stlu.org/brenebrown) by July 9**  
*min. attendance: 3 participants*

**Through many partnerships, our work extends into places of need locally, regionally and globally.**

has always been important to First Lutheran. But in the last decade or so, we have increased our giving and presence within these ministries.

At our annual synod assembly in June our synod formally established a companion relationship with the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, which is in addition to the companion relationship we already have with the Lutheran Church of Peru and the domestic companions we share ministry with in the Southeastern synod of the ELCA, which covers Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky and Tennessee. These invaluable partnerships broaden our understanding of Christ's presence and work amongst God's people.

Our First Teen Clothes Closet has partnered locally with what is now the La Crosse Foundation for the last three years so that we can provide shoes, hygiene products and new

underwear for youth who need them. We have also been collaborating in important ways with other clothes closets at Trinity on the northside and Our Savior's downtown. As our lead volunteers assess the status of our clothes closet, they have recommended (which the Vision and Leadership Team approved in June) a move: let's bring the Teen Clothes Closet to the people who need it rather than asking them to bring themselves to us. The aforementioned Trinity Lutheran has its own kids clothes closet and has the space to spare for our teen clothes as well. Building on this partnership, then, we will be using the next couple of months to relocate our Teen Clothes Closet ministry to Trinity in hopes that more teens will make use of the generosity of our members. Nothing else really will change as our members will still contribute and sort clothes, receive clients and manage the publicity. The only difference will be where it all takes place.

First Lutheran is changing lives, but not just while our members are gathered in our walls. And not just within these walls! Through many partnerships, our work extends into places of need locally, regionally and globally. We won't even attempt to create an institution that doesn't need anyone else in order to thrive. Instead, First Lutheran will stand with others who seek to "proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made and work for justice and peace."



Pastor Jason Stanton  
jason@firstlu.org

## WHAT IT MEANS FOR ME TO BE A COMPANION MINISTER



One Sunday after church service, there were tables set up with lists of different opportunities to volunteer. I thought this would be a way to give back for the caring and kindness, I received after my husband passed away. I added my name to a couple of lists and then came to the companion ministry list, which was asking for volunteers to bring communion to those who were unable to get out. I wondered if I would feel comfortable doing that and was I good (spiritually) enough? I remembered some of my elderly family members having communion brought to them and how much they appreciated that. So I decided to try it. It is one of the best things I do! I enjoy visiting with each person and hearing their stories. They have a strong faith and receiving communion means a lot. I feel doing companion ministry has strengthened my own faith. They always say to me, "Thank you, thank you for bringing me communion" but I tell them, "Thank you for letting me."

Nancy Thorson

*The gift of communion is Christ's invitation for us all. Homebound members or those in nursing home care cannot make it to church and still would love to also receive that gift. Companion ministers help provide the service of delivering communion to them. They visit these members, usually monthly, give them communion, and have wonderful conversations. Good friendships are formed and the members receiving the communion feel grateful for that gift. If you love visiting with and helping people, consider becoming a companion minister. It is a very fulfilling job. Talk to one of the pastors for more information.*



# HOSPITALITY MINGLERS



I have a wonderful friend who loves connecting people to one another. Whenever she gathers people, she will introduce everyone to everyone. I come into her house and she asks me right away "do you know everyone?" I usually say yes, because I usually do, but she still goes around introducing me to her family and friends. She wants us to feel connected with one another. It would be wonderful if we had people like my friend, here at church who wanted everyone to feel connected.

A hospitality mingler could be that person. Someone in the narthex mingling with everyone and helping people make connections. If someone needed to know about a class, Sunday school, or an event, the mingler would take that person to the Welcome Center, so our welcome center staff could help them out. The mingler could help someone connect with someone in their same circumstance like those with children, empty nesters, those retired or anything that would connect them. Our minglers would not stand inside the door, waiting for people, but be among them getting to know all who came into church. They could help people find their name tags or help them make one. They could help a young family coming in to find the nursery and activity bags, or let them know about Frolic and Sunday school.

We could also have hospitality minglers in the sanctuary, getting to know those who sit regularly in the same pew. They could introduce newcomers to our regulars. They could help find seats when church starts getting full and encourage people to move to the middle or sit closer to the

front. They could help a visitor find a place to sit, maybe next to a regular attendee, so the regular attendee can help the visitor navigate through our worship service. They could get an offering envelope if someone forgot theirs at home. Making sure that if someone with a cane, walker or in a wheelchair feels comfortable going up for communion or if they would like the a pastor to come to them.

In this way, with minglers in the narthex and in the sanctuary, we will begin making connections with one another that are more genuine than a "good morning" at the front door. As people gather together, within the narthex and then within the sanctuary, these spaces begin to look like the Kingdom of God, where the world and the Word meet. For Jesus said in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

So many of us do this already; we welcome each other with a gracious "How are you?" "How've you been?" "It's so good to see you," so now instead of just doing this with those we know, how about doing it with everyone. If we had a small group of minglers starting to do this each Sunday and Wednesday, I would hope that by their example, all of us would be minglers for God.

*Kathryn Pedretti*  
Director of Servant Ministries  
kathryn@firstlu.org

# GO AND DO LIKEWISE LUKE 10:37

## PARKING LOT MINISTRY

The parking lot ministry needs warm and friendly faces to greet guests and worshipers who come into the parking lot, giving help if needed at the entrance door and giving umbrellas to those who need one when it's raining. Come to the welcome center to receive more information and sign up to help.

## SUNSHINE BOYS

The Sunshine Boys meet at First Lutheran on the **first Thursday of the month at 9am** to help with outdoor or indoor projects. Rolls and coffee are supplied to replenish your reserves! Dues are free!

## SUGAR CREEK VOLUNTEERS

Sugar Creek needs just one more volunteer nurse, PA or doctor for the week of **July 8-13**. Medical staff volunteers receive one free week of camp for their own child, or they may give the free week to someone else. Interested volunteers may contact us at: 608-734-3113 or [camp@sgrcreek.org](mailto:camp@sgrcreek.org)

## COME FOR SUPPER

First Lutheran is assisting with Come for Supper on **Tuesday, July 24**, at Our Savior's in La Crosse. First Lutheran will help with food donations and volunteering to serve and clean up. The sign-up sheets are at the Welcome Center. Call Gloria Kubiak if you have questions, 608.498.2762.

## NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY

It's a relaxing way to volunteer!  
**Friday, July 27, at 9am**, to assemble the August newsletter. See you there!

## HELPING HANDS

If you need help with small jobs around the house or if you need a couple of meals or groceries delivered, just go to the "Helping Hands" board by the nursery and make out a slip with a description of what you need help with and your telephone number. Then anyone who thinks they can help can take the slip and call the number to work out the details. This ministry is open to all in need of help AND to those who can provide the help. There is no set group of "helpers" so we need involvement from all who can be a blessing to someone else. Thanks!

## WELCOME BASKETS

Welcome baskets are a way to welcome a new neighbor into your neighborhood. The baskets are a gift bag tied with a bow and are filled with goodies from church and from our community. They are available to sign out at the Resource Center across from the church office.

**Volunteer  
Appreciation Picnic**

**Flip Flop 'til You Drop!**

**Sun., July 15, noon–2pm  
at Shelter #1 in Rowe Park**

*RSVP at [1stlu.org/vap](http://1stlu.org/vap)*

We have so many people to  
thank for all that happens  
at First!

**WE'RE HIRING**

**First Lutheran is seeking  
*part-time nursery attendants***

**The position is paid**

**Inquire in the office, call 608.783.2236  
or e-mail us at [office@firstlu.org](mailto:office@firstlu.org)**



**BE A HERO**

**First Lutheran Church-  
Onalaska Blood Drive**

**Monday, July 30  
12:30pm–5:30pm**

**Location:** First Lutheran Church- Narthex of the  
church, 410 Main Street in Onalaska

Visit **[1stlu.org/blooddrive](http://1stlu.org/blooddrive)** or  
call Diane Shuda 608-386-4270  
to make an appointment.

**Appointments encouraged. Refreshments provided.**

**Be a Hero, Donate Blood**

**BLOODCENTER**  
of WISCONSIN™  
PART OF VERSITI



## NO WORSHIP ON JULY 4

The Fourth of July falls on a Wednesday this year, and there will be no worship service that day. The office will be closed on the fourth.

## OPENING: NURSERY ATTENDANTS

First Lutheran is seeking part-time nursery attendants. Nursery kids range from newborn through 4 years. These are paid positions. Inquire in the office, call 608.783.2236 or e-mail us at [office@firstlu.org](mailto:office@firstlu.org).

## BAPTISMAL PREPARATION



A baptism preparation session will be Saturday, August 4, at 10am in the narthex for anyone who is considering or has scheduled a baptism.

To register or ask questions call the church office, 608.783.3326.

## FAITH ALIVE VISITATIONS

A group of First Lutheran members have initiated a new Faith Alive mission. Their goal is to "keep-in-touch" with our fellow members who are home bound.

The visitation team will keep Faith Alive with phone calls, home visits or by mailing notes to remind "at home" members that our church loves and

cares about them. Please notify the church office at 608.783.2236 or [office@firstlu.org](mailto:office@firstlu.org) if you're aware of an individual or care giver who is either long or short-term home bound.

## NEW MEMBERS

*I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."*

We extend a warm welcome to our new members of First Lutheran.

- Gordon & Carol Knudson

## CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY & FRIENDS OF:

- **Almon Ray MacEwen**, husband of Elizabeth MacEwen
- **Chou Moua**, grandmother of the first Hmong family sponsored by First Lutheran Church

## GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

*Thank you for the following memorials:*

### In memory of Genevieve 'Midge' Anderson

- Designated for First Lutheran Foundation Fund: Kevin & Linda Rattle, Lindsey & Ryan Seipp, friends and family of Midge Anderson

### In memory of Marjorie Skogen Prieur

- Designated for Skogen Music Fund: Bev Fuhrman, Arnie & Nancy Holthaus

### In memory of Carolyn Skogen

- Designated for First Lutheran Foundation Fund: Shirley Anderson, Nancy Beguin, Terry Christopherson, Dennis & Mary Every, Marilyn Fox, Bev Fuhrman, Arnie & Nancy Holthaus, Joseph & Sandra Kawatski, Elaine Nelson,

Kathryn Schroeder, Annette & Pete Sherry, Mary Sween, Allan & Carla Townsend

- Designated for Skogen Music Fund: James & Emily Lahti
- Designated for Stained-glass window illumination: Bev & Bob DiNicola
- Designated for ELCA Disaster Response: Gaylord & Esther Dolphin

## DESIGNATED FUNDS

Each month, First Lutheran gives thanks for gifts offered to designated funds. If you plan to make a special gift to First, consider these options. Currently, we are gathering funds for:

- Lutheran Disaster Relief
- Lutheran World Hunger
- Youth Fund (supports campers & mission trippers)
- Helping Hands Fund (for First members in need)
- Samaritan Fund (for non-members in need)
- Halos Project
- Seminarian Fund
- Sugar Creek Bible Camp
- The Property & Grounds and the Music & Worship Teams also have wish lists. Contact Pastor Stanton to inquire how your gift to either Team could support the ministry of First Lutheran.

## LATEX- & NUT-FREE CAMPUS

A reminder to all members that First Lutheran is a latex- and nut-free campus. Please do not bring food containing nuts or nut butters of any kind onto the church campus. This is for the safety of all of our members. Thanks!

## HOSPITAL REMINDERS

**For Gundersen:** be sure to alert the hospital of your church affiliation when they ask, and they will release your name to us when we call.

**For Mayo/Franciscan Healthcare:** it is important that you or a family member contact us at the church office: 608.783.2236. Mayo no longer lets churches know who is a patient at their hospital.

## SUBMITTING NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

To have your announcement in the monthly newsletter, send it to [newsletter@firstlu.org](mailto:newsletter@firstlu.org), or give it to Andy in the office. Deadline for the newsletter is always noon on the 15th of each month.

To have your announcement in the weekly announcements pages handed out each weekend, send it to [announcements@firstlu.org](mailto:announcements@firstlu.org), or give it to Andy in the office. Deadline for the weekly announcements is always noon each Wednesday.





OLDER WISER LUTHERANS



June found the OWLs taking a river boat cruise on the Mississippi out of Winona. It was a beautiful day with warm breezes and a very entertaining captain. We had the boat to ourselves, which made for a comfortable cruise for the 32 who attended. Photos on this page are from the boat cruise and the May Amish tour.

July is the one month of the year the OWLs take a break. There will be no potluck or outing in July. Enjoy your summer vacation. We will be back in full swing in August. Please save **Wednesday, August 15**, for the potluck and **Friday, August 24**, for our annual outing to the Commonwealth Theatre in Lanesboro. Hope to see everyone in August.

*The OWLs are a group at First that welcomes anyone, First Lutheran members or not, who are 55+. For information or to ask questions, contact Brian Narveson at [owls@firstlu.org](mailto:owls@firstlu.org).*



STUDENT'S NAME: .....

STREET ADDRESS: .....

CITY: ..... STATE: ..... ZIP: .....

HOME PHONE: .....

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: .....

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL: .....

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER: .....

ALLERGIES OR SPECIAL NEEDS: .....

GRADE COMPLETED: .....

**SHIRT SIZE  
(PLEASE CIRCLE ONE):**

Youth Extra Small

Youth Extra Large

Youth Small

Adult Small

Youth Medium

Adult Medium

Youth Large

Adult Large

*A suggested donation of \$15/child or  
\$40/family is welcome and appreciated  
and will help cover VBS expenses.  
Thank you!*

## VOLUNTEER FORM

NAME: .....

STREET ADDRESS: .....

CITY: ..... STATE: ..... ZIP: .....

EMAIL: .....

CELL: .....

**AREAS WILLING TO SERVE:**

Crowd Control

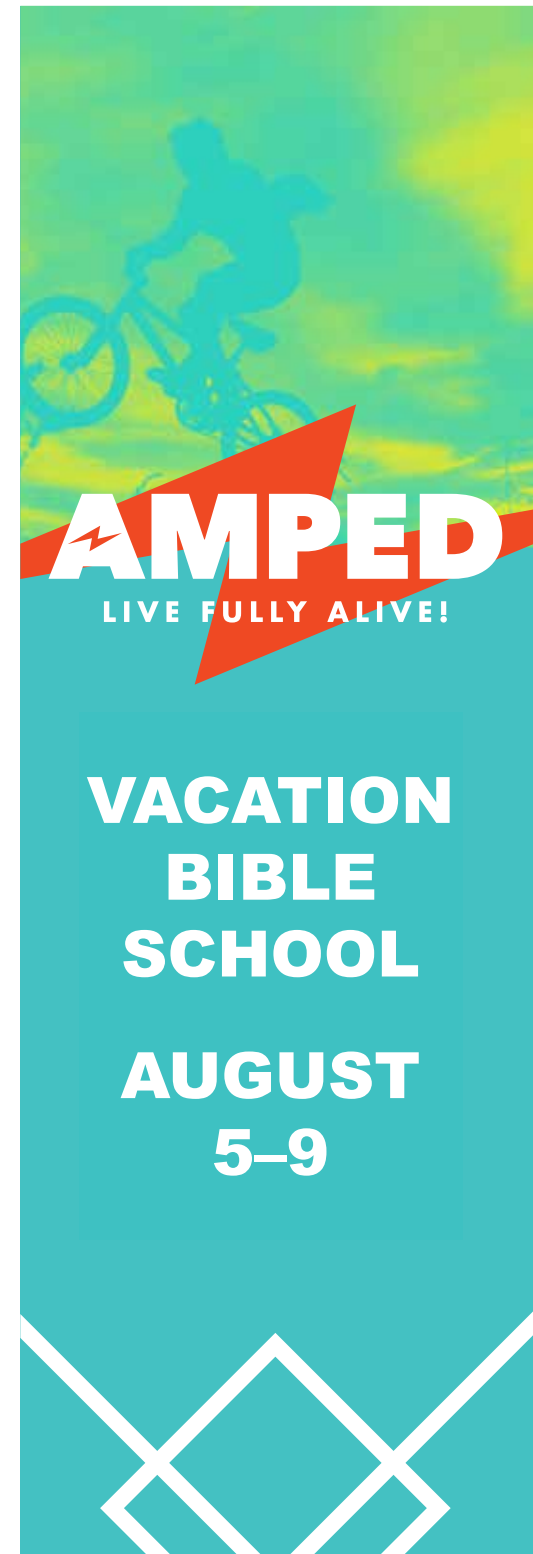
Small Group Leader

Registration

Tech Crew

Host Team

Other





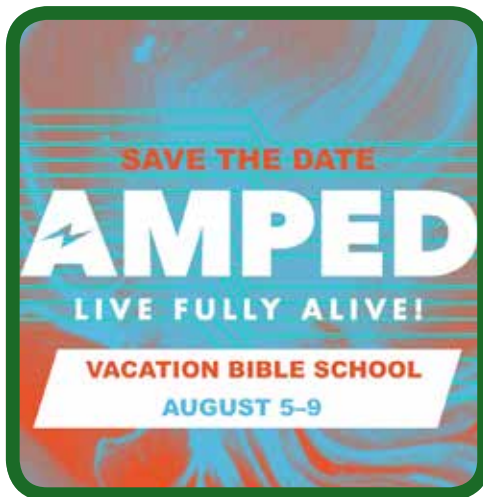
# UP coming youth H EVENTS

Middle school trip to  
Indianapolis  
**July 22-27**



**Young Youth Campfire!**  
More info coming soon!

Vacation Bible School:  
**August 5-9**



Plan ahead to be here for  
Vacation Bible School  
this summer!  
**Sun., Aug. 5 through  
Thur., Aug. 9.**  
For 3 years old and potty trained  
through 5th grade  
in the fall.

Register at [1stlu.org/VBS](http://1stlu.org/VBS)



## ANNUAL QUILT & ANTIQUE AUCTION, CRAFT FAIR & TRAIL RUN/WALK

*Saturday, September 8  
starting at 10am*

Come on out to Sugar Creek Bible Camp for the camps annual quilt/ antique auction and celebration! There will be a crafts fair and a 5K Trail Run and Fun Walk starting at 8am. Lots of good food including BBQ pork and lots of pies! It will be a fun day! Please see the Sugar Creek website at: [sugarcreekbiblecamp.org](http://sugarcreekbiblecamp.org) for information and registration forms.

## CRAFTER'S RETREAT

*September 13-16*

Calling all stampers, scrappers, quilters or whatever your craft! Get away for a weekend dedicated to working on your craft and enjoy some of our programming like campfires, devotions, worship, and more. We'll give you half of an 8 ft table, plenty

of good food and a place to lay your head. Just bring yourself, bedding, toiletries and all your supplies. We'll have morning and evening devotions and a worship service on Sunday.

## ADULT BUS TRIP

*Mackinac Island and Frankenmuth, MI  
September 17-22*

Join your Sugar Creek friends on one of our wonderful adult bus trips! There's no better way to see the country and enjoy all kinds of great shows! All trips are by a motor coach bus with a bathroom. Devotional time, movies, and delicious snacks (courtesy of Chef Gene) are all provided during the ride. Sugar Creek host, Sheila Champlin, will serve as your tour guide and take care of all the arrangements. Cost is based on single, double, triple or quad occupancy unless otherwise noted. Price includes luggage handling. Contact camp for specific costs of each trip.

## VOLUNTEERS

Sugar Creek needs just one more volunteer nurse, PA, or doctor for the week of July 8-13. Medical staff volunteers receive one free week of camp for their own child, or they may gift the free week to someone else. Interested volunteers may contact us at: 608-734-3113 or [camp@sgrcreek.org](mailto:camp@sgrcreek.org)

13141 Sugar Creek Bible Camp Rd, Ferryville, WI 54628

608.734.3113 • [camp@sgrcreek.org](mailto:camp@sgrcreek.org) • [www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org](http://www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org)

# JULY AT FIRST LUTHERAN *see also weekly events list on back*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ELCA Youth Gathering	2 7 PM AA - FS	3	4 No Evening Worship Office Closed Independence Day 8 PM Praise Band Rehearsal - SN	5 9 AM Sunshine Boys 7 PM Women of the House Small Group	6 7 PM AA - FH	7
8 9:15 AM Frolic! - Rm 102 6:30 PM Hospitality Leadership Team	9 7 PM AA - FS	10 3:45 PM Worship & Music Team - NX 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Mtg - MR	11 12 PM Finance Team Mtg 7 PM Gifts of Imperfection Small Group 7 PM Monthly Small Group - UR	12 7 PM Women of the House Small Group	13 7 PM AA - FS	14 11:30 AM Drawing from the Well - David Reay's
15 Newsletter Deadline 12 PM Volunteer Appreciation Picnic - Rowe Park	16 1 PM Elizabeth Circle 2:30 PM Springbrook Worship 7 PM AA - FS	17 5:15 PM Personnel Team Mtg 6:30 PM Vision & Leadership Team Mtg	18 10 AM Ona Terrace Worship 7 PM Gifts of Imperfection Small Group	19 10 AM Deborah's Circle - NX 1 PM Grief Support Group - UR 7 PM Women of the House Small Group	20 7 PM AA - FS	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Coulee Region Ringers European Tour						
Middle School Mission Trip to Indianapolis						
	7 PM AA - FS	4 PM Come for Supper at OSLC 6:30 PM Stephen Ministry Mtg - MR	7 PM Gifts of Imperfection Small Group	7 PM Women of the House Small Group	9 AM Newsletter Assembly - NX 7 PM AA - FS	
29 12 PM Paddlin' at Pettibone	30 12:30 PM Blood Drive - NX 7 PM AA - FS	31	1 7 PM Gifts of Imperfection Small Group 8 PM Praise Band Rehearsal - SN	2 9 AM Sunshine Boys 7 PM Women of the House Small Group	APRIL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	
					JUNE 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	

weekly events for

# JULY

at First Lutheran

## SUNDAYS

8:00am Worship

10:30am Worship

## TUESDAYS

9:00am ParentShare - UR

1:15pm Staff Meeting

## WEDNESDAYS

6:00am Courageous Men - FS

6:30am Coffee w/ Pastor Karyn -  
Panera, Onalaska

6:15pm Worship



Gifts of Imperfection  
Starts  
Wed, July 11  
7-8pm



Drawing  
from the Well  
Saturday, July 14  
11:30am



Volunteer  
Appreciation Picnic  
Sun, July 15  
12-2pm



Paddle at Pettibone  
Sun, July 29  
12-5pm



Blood Drive  
Mon, July 30  
12:30-5:30pm

### CALENDAR KEY

CR = Choir Room

FBB = Faith Building Block

FH = Fellowship Hall

FS = Fireside Room

LG = Lounge

MR = Mary Room

NX = Narthex

SN = Sanctuary

TR = Thomas Room

UR = Upper Room

*Events subject to change; up-to-date  
information at [1stlu.org/cal](http://1stlu.org/cal)*

*Subscribe to our Google calendar at  
[1stlu.org/calsub](http://1stlu.org/calsub)*

*Use the QR Codes to quickly add these  
events to the calendar of your smart  
phone or tablet.*

*Tips: focus the code, hold the device still,  
try various distances, & use good lighting.  
Need a scanning app?  
Try [www.scan.me](http://www.scan.me).*





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Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650  
608.783.2236  
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office@firstlu.org  
www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM  
Wednesday 6:15 PM

SUBMITTING NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

To have your announcement in the monthly newsletter, send it to newsletter@firstlu.org, or give it to Andy in the office. Deadline for the newsletter is always noon on the 15th of the month.

To have your announcement in the weekly announcements pages handed out each weekend, send it to announcements@firstlu.org, or give it to Andy in the office. Deadline for the weekly announcements is always noon each Wednesday.

First Lutheran is a congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)



STAFF DIRECTORY

Jason Stanton	Senior Pastor	608.386.6431	jason@firstlu.org
Karyn Bodenschatz	Associate Pastor	608.433.6002	karyn@firstlu.org
Tara Shilts	Vicar		tara@firstlu.org

Bridget Crave	Director of Small Group Ministry	bridget@firstlu.org
Kathryn Pedretti	Director of Hospitality	kathryn@firstlu.org

YOUTH/EDUCATION STAFF

Cassie Carrell	Nursery Coordinator	nursery@firstlu.org
Beth Miller	Sunday School Superintendent	sundayschool@firstlu.org
	Young Youth Director	beth@firstlu.org
Cindy Beach	Confirmation Administrative Assistant	cindy@firstlu.org

SUPPORT STAFF

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Andy Stutesman	Director of Communications & Marketing		andy@firstlu.org
Mike Peper	Head Custodian		mike@firstlu.org
Jerry Yushta	Assistant Custodian		
Mark Koenig	Assistant Custodian		

MUSIC STAFF

Gabriel Hicks	Organist	gabe@firstlu.org
Jim Knutson	Bell Choir Director	jim@firstlu.org
Todd Saner	Senior Choir Director & Contemporary Music Coordinator	todd@firstlu.org

PRESCHOOL STAFF

Melissa Rolbiecki	Preschool Director	608.779.4504	preschool@firstlu.org
Beth Miller	4K Teacher		beth@firstlu.org
Marci Leppert	Preschool Assistant Teacher		
Tracy Stoll	Preschool Assistant Teacher		

VISION & LEADERSHIP TEAM

Larry Schreiner	President
Aaron McDonald	Vice President
Jennifer Wiesjahn	Secretary
Nancy Beguin	
Brandon King	
Diane Shuda	
Shaun Gibbs	



410 Main Street  
Onalaska, WI 54650  
608.783.2236  
[www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org](http://www.FirstLutheranOnalaska.org)

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**  
Sunday 8:00 AM  
10:30 AM  
Wednesday 6:15 PM



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**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.  
edition: July 2018

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To stop delivery: email [andy@firstlu.org](mailto:andy@firstlu.org) or call office at 608.783.2236

**FAITH  
ALIVE!**  
AT FIRST LUTHERAN

**GOOD NEWS**  
JULY 2018

*A New York Times  
Best Seller!*

# THE GIFTS OF Imperfection



Let Go of Who You Think  
You're Supposed to Be  
and Embrace Who You Are

YOUR GUIDE TO A WHOLEHEARTED LIFE

**Brené Brown, Ph.D., L.M.S.W.**

INSIDE

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC  
PADDLE AT PETTIBONE  
COMPANION MINISTRY**

#faithalive365