



# the Spire

MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2021 SPIRE

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: (651)388-9311  
office@firstlutheranrw.com  
www.firstlutheranrw.com

## FIRST LUTHERAN STAFF

**Arthur Sharot: Senior Pastor**  
ext. 15 / arte42@gmail.com

**Marilee Anderson: Director of Music**  
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**Tina Goeman: Director of CYF**  
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**Syl Andersen: Custodian, PT**  
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**Brian Fladhammer: Maintenance, PT**  
H: 651/388-2675

## 2021 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alyson Kloeckner - Treasurer  
Joe Rice - Finance/Stewardship  
Wendy Erickson - President  
Life and Growth/Personnel  
Cyd Mark - Worship & Music  
Jean Fjelsted - Worship  
Mary Weberg - Christian Action  
Mark Jaeger - Property  
Jon Ubbelohde - Property  
Judie Bowes - Vice President/Personnel  
Elaine Ahern - Youth and Family  
Julie Laidlaw - Youth and Family  
Penny Oleson - Secretary/Stewardship  
Jean Dosedall - Life and Growth

## We're Open!!

Sunday Worship at 9:30am  
Saturday Worship at 5:30pm

## TO MASK OR NOT TO MASK

As of May 15 following the CDC recommendations masks will be optional for those fully vaccinated. We will keep socially distant especially from those unable to be vaccinated like children. If you wish to continue to wear a mask you are more than welcome. There will be no judgement if you wear a mask or if you don't. We will not be asking for verification of vaccination. We will be on the honor system.

If you come in the building during the week we ask that you wear a mask in the hallways as there are children present.

Please contact the church office if you have any questions about our safety plans.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

All the worship services will be available on-line at [www.firstlutheranrw.com](http://www.firstlutheranrw.com).

The service for Sunday mornings will be available at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday so you can watch it live or watch the video later.

## PRAYER MINISTRY

Kaitlynn Kukuska, Jenny Edmonds, Bob Swanson, Horst Radtke, Crystal Swanson, Doris Johnson, Bob Weir, Jim Miller, Cheryl Youmans, Dylan Michel family, John Oleson, Edla Bodelson, Leah Larsen, Grosso family, Richard Jonas, Joan Grottan, Brooke Bowen, Art Haage, Gerald Lein, Beverly Lein, Jeff Reames, Virginia Pirius, Jason & Jeremy Fregien, Nette, Joan Helmer, Denise, Ron Anderson, Judy Hultquist, Carol Hallstrom, Jane Schwartz, David Harley and Dave Mullenback.

## FROM THE PASTOR

We are heading into summer. It will seem like the first summer in a long time. How about a hobby for the summer? How about a holy hobby? I saw this meme on Facebook that came from the Episcopal church. It said, Love your neighbor, love you neighbor, line after line and next to each one was a bible verse. But I couldn't find it when I went back to copy it so I googled, Love thy neighbor bible verses and there is a ton of them. Did you know that loving you neighbor was such an important theme in the Bible? Maybe God is trying to tell us something. I picked out some of my favorites.

**Luke 10:27** "And he answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself'"

**1 John 4:20-21** Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**Philippians 2:4** "Do not be interested only in your own life but be interested in the lives of others."

**Romans 15:1** "So those of us who have a strong faith must be patient with the weaknesses of those whose faith is not so strong. We must not think only of ourselves."

**Leviticus 19:18** "Never get revenge. Never hold a grudge against any of your people. Instead, love your neighbor as you love yourself. I am the Lord."

**Romans 13:8** "owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law."

**Matthew 7:12** "so whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the prophets."

**Deuteronomy 15:11** "There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land."

**Romans 15:2** "let each of us please their neighbor for their good, to build them up."

**Hebrews 6:10** "For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward God's name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints."

**1 John 3:18** "Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."

**Galatians 5:13-14** "You my brothers and sisters, we were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge in the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'"

**Matthew 5:16** "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

**2 Corinthians 1:4** "who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."



This hobby idea wouldn't be very structured. You can fulfill it anyway you'd like or as the opportunities come up. Just keep "love your neighbor" in the back of your mind. When an opportunity arises you will be ready to be a neighbor. Remember what Jesus said, The neighbor is the one that helps the one in need.

Have a great summer.

Pastor Arte

JUNE PRAYER & ACTIVITIES 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 11:00am Staff Mtg 3:30pm Piano 4pm Property 5pm Bells of the Bluff 5pm Executive 6pm Team Mtgs	2 8:30am Men's Bible Study-Fellowship Hall	3	4	5 5:30pm Worship
6 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Hour 10:30am Sunday School	7	8 11:00am Staff Mtg 3:30pm Piano 4pm Finance 6:30pm Council Mtgs	9 8:30am Men's Bible Study-Fellowship Hall 1pm Quilting	10 1pm Red Cross Blood Drive	11 11am Red Cross Blood Drive	12 5:30pm Worship
13 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Hour 10:30am Sunday School	14 5pm Learning Circle Bd Mtg	15 11:00am Staff Mtg 3:30pm Piano 7pm Eve Circle-Fellowship Hall	16 8:30am Men's Bible Study-Fellowship Hall	17	18	19 5:30pm Worship
20 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Hour 10:30am Sunday School	21	22 11:00am Staff Mtg 3:30pm Piano	23 8:30am Men's Bible Study-Fellowship Hall 11am Mary Circle 1pm Quilting	24 7pm MOPS	25	26 5:30pm Worship
27 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship Hour 10:30am Sunday School	28	29 10:00am Martha Circle-Fellowship Hall 11:00am Staff Mtg 3:30pm Piano	30 8:30am Men's Bible Study-Fellowship Hall			

These are the readings for June

WEEK OF JUNE 6th

**Genesis 3:8-15**

*God confronts Adam and Eve in the garden*

WEEK OF JUNE 20th

**Job 38:1-11**

*The creator of earth and sea*

WEEK OF JUNE 13th

**Ezekiel 17:22-24**

*The sign of the cedar, planted on the mountain of Israel*

WEEK OF JUNE 27th

**Lamentations 3:22-33**

*Great is the Lord's faithfulness*

# COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes  
May 11, 2021  
Fellowship Hall

Devotions: Penny Oleson

## Call to Order

**Secretaries Report:** Approved

**Treasurer's Report:** A strong financial month. Approved

Staff Reports:

- Pastor - Received
- Music - Received
- Youth & Family/Technology - Pending

## Ministry Team Reports:

Worship & Music

- Summer choir will be starting soon. A "show-up and sing" choir. Stay tuned for more information!
- Regular style of communion is still on hold.

## Property

- Sprinkler Update (Dry system only): A second opinion recommended pulling 4 random sprinkler heads and have those tested, then determine next steps. More to come!
- Sylvander and the A/C units: Unit 12 in sanctuary can be replaced for a lower cost. Unit 14 needs full replacement. We will conduct the annual inspection to determine if there are issues with other Units.
- Gas Fire Pit - While reviewing it as tiles continually fall off, it was determined the fire pit is not in good shape and should be replaced. The next Spire will have a request for donations to purchase a new fire pit.
- Garden Fountain - Al and Carol are ending their service in this area, so will need to recruit someone else. Al will meet with the person who will maintain it going forward. In the Spire, property will request volunteer(s).
- No Spring Clean-up this year.
- No movement on the stoves being sold.
- Coffee Hour outside will continue -- We are currently looking at prices to purchase a coffee bar/ bistro cart to use outside and that will store supplies.
- The new fence around the daycare looks great!

## Life & Growth

- Rally Sunday plans continue (Hold the date: 9/12/2021)
- We received magnets to send out to new Red Wing residents who have registered with Welcome Wagon.
- Mother's Day flowers were passed out at both services
- Ice Cream Social will be in August
- Father's Day -- Handing out Candy Bars at both services

## Stewardship - no meeting

## Youth & family

- VBS August 2-5, evenings, with a light/bagged meal. We will be using SPARKS as the curriculum. More to come!

## Christian action

- Frosted Flakes is the new "FLC Cereal of the Year!"
- New Habitat for Humanity House will be on Seymour Street - more to come!

## Personnel - no meeting

## Old Business:

- Discuss quorum- subcommittee (Judie to lead)
- Draft the Change
- Get notices out on a timely manner
- Boy Scout bench color - placing right out the back door. Dark Gray.
- Rally Sunday is 9/12/2021 - more to come  
all council members should try to make it that day.
- We will have huge tents and a bouncy house (children only).
- Food - Pulled pork, sides

## New Business:

- Discussed open/locked entry points during the day – we will be leaving the East handicap door unlocked.
- Offering envelopes – Stewardship to determine who wants envelopes and who does not. Survey in bulletin, Spire, pledge cards. Penny, Aly, and Stewardship to meet mid-summer and begin a plan to kick-off prior to Stewardship drive.
- Update on Food Shelf giving - We collected 129 pounds of food of which 32 pounds was cereal!
- A Silver Conversation - The cabinet of donated Silver in office is being emptied and the cabinet stored.
- Wendy will inventory what we have, including any names on the items in order to locate family members who may want the piece(s).
- A list of the inventory, along with any names on the piece, will be put into the Spire requesting members claim or take the piece.
- If no one claims a piece, we will have it appraised and sell it.

June Devotions/Treats: To be Announced

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Penny Oleson Secretary

## This and that . . .

To help us defray office expenses, please let us know if you are attending in-person worship and receiving the bulletin. We want to mail the bulletin to only those who are staying home due to Covid. Please call the church office and let us know. Thank You

### Any Changes??

Have you moved, gotten rid your home phone #, added a cellphone #, or gotten a new email address? We would love to have your updated information to add to our records. Please call the office at 651-388-9311. **Thank you!**

### Faith in Action

Need for Drivers! The numbers of drivers are down 20% but the need keeps growing. Please call Faith in Action 651-327-2400 or Diane Ringeisen 651-380-3838.

### Prayer Chain

Would you like to join the Prayer Chain? Pat Swanson is looking for people to join her calling list. If interested please call the office at 651-388-9311. Thank you



### HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

If you would like to participate in Holy Communion as you watch the service online stop by the church office and pick up some communion kits.

## For Sale

The church is looking to dispose of two older commercial grade Vulcan-Hart stoves in the kitchen of the old fellowship hall (basement level). Both stoves/ovens are in working order. If interested in these items please contact the church office. 651-388-9311 or [office@firstlutheranrw.com](mailto:office@firstlutheranrw.com)





# APRIL

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR April 2021

Thank you for your tithes and offerings

OPERATING INCOME	April Actual	Budgeted April	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted
General Fund Pledges	30,535	32,917	135,424	131,668
Mission Support	-	63	10	252
Other Income	5,660	6,694	19,629	19,325
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>36,194</b>	<b>39,674</b>	<b>155,063</b>	<b>151,245</b>
OPERATING EXPENSES	April Actual	Budgeted April	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted
General Operating Expenses	30,140	36,676	129,820	147,052
ELCA Benevolence	2,433	2,083	8,683	8,333
Other Outside Giving	1,324	1,324	5,298	5,297
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>33,898</b>	<b>40,083</b>	<b>143,801</b>	<b>160,682</b>
<b>Income vs. Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,296</b>	<b>-\$409</b>	<b>\$11,262</b>	<b>-\$9,437</b>
Beginning Cash Balance 1/1/21	\$ 234,970	Operating Fund Balance 1/1/21	\$ 4	
Ending Cash Balance 04/30/2021	\$ 273,096	Operating Fund Balance 04/30/2021	\$ 23,466	

## Lighting the Spire

The Spire is lit the month of June in honor of Chuck and Carol Schwartau's 50th wedding anniversary on June 26th.

There is a sign up sheet in the lobby if you are interested in lighting the Spire. The cost is \$25.

### **We extend our prayers & sympathy to the families of the following:**

Gerald "Jerry" Mewhorter passed April 23rd

Eleanor Olson, Marilee Anderson's mom, passed May 2nd

### **HOSPITALIZATIONS AND ILLNESS**

Hospitals no longer notify churches when their members are admitted for care. If you are ill or hospitalized and would like a pastoral visit or to be on the church prayer list, please notify us at (651)388-9311 or [office@firstlutheranrw.com](mailto:office@firstlutheranrw.com).

Martha Circle will meet the last Tuesday of every month at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. We will be following the lessons of the Gather Magazine. New members are welcomed. Any questions contact Judie Bowes or Doris Van Norman.

**Prayer Ministry** needs your help in updating our Prayer list. Please look it over and let the office know if you have any additions or changes (removal) to the list. Call the office 651-388-9311 or send an email to: [office@firstlutheranrw.com](mailto:office@firstlutheranrw.com) Thank you

## First Lutheran Church

615 West 5th Street  
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Address Service Requested

**June 2021**

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# MUSIC MINISTRIES

## Summer Choir

Do you have a friend or family member who likes to sing but hasn't had the time to join our music ministry? Please encourage him or her to be a part of the First Lutheran Summer Choir! We will begin on Pentecost Sunday, May 22 and will continue every Sunday until Labor Day.



Singers can just show up in the music area in church (by the piano) at 8:45 on Sunday mornings. We'll provide a hymnal and music outline, and we won't ask anyone to make a commitment. All ages and abilities are welcome, including families with kids old enough to read and out-of-town visitors. Current choir members, family and friends WELCOME.

Come and join us. Questions? Contact Marilee Anderson. Let's lift our voices in song!!!

## Beginning Handbells

How about ringing some bells? Watch for a beginning handbell class this summer. You know you want to.