



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH CHIMES

*Sharing Christ's Love*

June 2019  
Volume 58, Issue 6  
[www.firstgeneseo.org](http://www.firstgeneseo.org)

**WORSHIP WITH US THIS WEEKEND!**  
Saturday 5:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m.



## “To Mars and Beyond”

July 7-11 ~ 5 to 8 p.m.

Hop in our spaceship and join us for “*To Mars and Beyond*” VBS where kids discover the wonders of God’s universe! They’ll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God’s power can take them. Along the way, they’ll learn how God walked with heroes of the Bible, and that God is always with them, too.

Our VBS is open to all children in our community who will be 3-years old by July 7<sup>th</sup> and potty trained through kids going into 6<sup>th</sup> grade! Cost is \$10 per child with a family maximum of \$30. Make sure to fill out the enclosed registration form today and drop it in the drop box by the office, or in the offering plate! And remember none of this would be possible without volunteers!

For more information about volunteering, please contact VBS director Morgan Sarber at (309) 714-2732 ([worship@firstgeneseo.org](mailto:worship@firstgeneseo.org)) or Director of Youth & Family Ministry, Haylee Gustafson.

## Cycle To Synod

This year marks the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Cycle to Synod event. The objective of this event is to raise money to support ELCA World Hunger. Members of Northern Illinois Synod congregations will ride their bicycles to Augustana College, Rock Island, over the course of 3 ½ days. Our congregation will be a host congregation, welcoming cyclists overnight June 12 & 13. We are looking for volunteers to host cyclists overnight in their homes (*on a bed or couch*) and also to help serve breakfast at the church on Thursday, June 13. You can sign up at the Welcome Center. If you would like to make a donation to World Hunger in support of the cyclists, visit [nisynod.org/cycletosynod](http://nisynod.org/cycletosynod). See Pastor Matt with questions and for details.



# *Summer Rhythms*

Church life is filled with rhythms. There's the weekly rhythms of our staff and office – Monday morning counters and staff meeting, Wednesday programming, Thursday bulletin printing, and then the weekend worship services always come, without fail, whether we're ready or not. There's a monthly rhythm – Ministries and Cabinet on the second Monday, Council meeting on the third Monday, GMA and Conference meetings like clockwork on their designated days. And of course, there's the dependable rhythms of the church year – Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost (*and the long green season*), Reformation, All Saints, Christ the King, and we start again.

Summer is a time for new rhythms. Christian education and youth programming move from weekly offerings to several special events, like Confirmation Camp and Vacation Bible School. The preschool classroom and teachers have a bit of respite. Sanctuary Choir and Glory Ringers get a break (although our Praise Teams power on!).

Our worship life this year has changed for the summer, too. Last fall, when we held Town Hall meetings regarding worship times changes, we heard the congregation's desire for one worship Sundays. This summer, we will continue Saturday Informal Worship at 5:30 p.m. and have one worship on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. In our church year, summer is "ordinary time," but we are working hard to plan worship that expresses God's extraordinary grace in our lives.

In June, we will practice hospitality as we welcome cyclists from the Northern Illinois Synod. These cyclists will be making their way over several days and many miles to Rock Island, to raise funds and awareness for ELCA World Hunger. (*See front cover*)

At the end of this month, you are all invited to join the Kamprath family at Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon, Illinois, for Family Camp. You can register online at lomc.org for the June 30-July 3 session. Cost is \$250 for a family of 4 to stay in Freedom Tree Village (*includes all meals, lodging is air-conditioned with private bathrooms*), and there are less expensive options if you wish to bring your RV, camp in a tent, or stay in the bunkhouse. See me if you are interested and I will give you all the details!

This month, I also ask you to hold us in prayer as we move forward with interviews for Director of Worship & Music. We received many applications and have chosen candidates to interview. Please pray for the candidates, for our staff, including Interim Director Morgan Sarber, for our Congregation Council, and for our Interview Team, including myself and Pastor Matt.

As summer marches on, we will continue our faith journeys together. We will worship, we will play, we will rest, we will work. We will dwell in God's Word. Our garden will grow and bring forth vegetation, and our faith will grow and bring forth works of love. Thanks be to God.

—*Pastor Laura*

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**June 1 & 2, 2019 — Easter 7**

This weekend's texts include Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 and John 17:20-26.

**June 8 & 9, 2019 — Day of Pentecost**

This weekend's texts include Acts 2:1-11; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:14-17 and John 14:8-17, 25-27.

**June 15 & 16, 2019 — The Holy Trinity**

*Happy Father's Day*

This weekend's texts include Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5 and John 16:12-15.

**June 22 & 23, 2019 — Pentecost 2**

This weekend's texts include Isaiah 65:1-9; Psalm 22:19-28; Galatians 3:23-29 and Luke 8:26-39.

**June 29 & 30, 2019 — Pentecost 3**

This weekend's texts include 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1, 13-25 and Luke 9:51-16.

**Thank you Jackie Nystrom!**

The members of First Lutheran Altar Guild would like to share our deepest appreciation for the dedicated service of Jackie Nystrom. Jackie has faithfully served on altar guild for almost 40 years! In fact, we think Jackie is our longest serving altar guild member ever!

From preparing weekly communion, to setting up for weddings, baptisms, funerals hanging banners and decorating for holidays, Jackie has always been willing to volunteer her time wherever needed. She is a true blessing to First Lutheran.

In thankfulness of her many years of continuing service, Altar Guild will be providing the altar flowers in her honor the weekend of June 1 & 2. Thank you Jackie!!

*"Well done, my good and faithful servant"*

*Matthew 25:23*

**FIRST  
WORSHIP  
& MUSIC**

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*Please keep the following Lifelines petitions in your prayers:*

**World and Community:** For our leaders: President Donald J. Trump and Governor J.B. Pritzker. For all who work for peace and justice. For those serving our country in the military, especially Raul Falcon, Jakob Gradert, Brian Hanshaw, Taylor McKean, Jessica Ruggles, Christopher Unrath, Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders.

**Church:** For our bishops: Rev. Elizabeth Eaton and Rev. Jeff Clements. For our partners in ministry: Pastor Daniel Meyan and the people of Osupuko Parish in Tanzania, Rev. Raja Socrates, Bishop of the Arcot Lutheran Synod, India. For missionaries who share the Gospel around the world, especially Abby Larson and her colleagues, Young Adults in Global Mission. For Another Child Foundation. For Catherine Nelson, seminary student. For Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. For our pastors, parish staff, Preschool staff and Church Council (names listed on pg. 10).

**Health and Wellbeing:** Myles \_\_\_\_\_ (*Kathy Nelson's friend's grandson*), Ron Alhorn, Diana Baca, Brian Baker (*Doris Swanson's nephew*), Colin Correll (*Steve & Jodi Martin's friend*), Dea Curry (*Sue Conrad's sister*), Joan Elden, Julie Elden, Kurt Horberg, Pastor Virgil Juliot, Les Matson (*Steve & Jodi Martin's friend*), Steve Morgan, Rudy Rexroth, and Peggy Schram (*Doris Swanson's daughter*).

**Joys:** On the baptisms of Maybree Carol Ficken, daughter of Michael & Crystal Ficken and the granddaughter of Mike & Margi Ficken and Brian & Diane Converse; Kathryn Lowe, Ashton and Easton Lowe, twin sons of Jared & Kathryn Lowe and the grandsons of Jayson & Diane Lowe.

**Thanksgiving:** Connor Luxmore has returned safely to the US. Griffin Fleming has returned from deployment.

**Sorrows:** On the deaths of Robert N. Beyerlein, member; and Mike Chavez, father of Andrew & Meredith Holt.

*If you wish to submit a prayer request, please contact the church office at 944-3196 or by e-mail [prayer@firstgeneseo.org](mailto:prayer@firstgeneseo.org). If you or a member of your family have a medical procedure planned or are admitted to the hospital, please call the church office. In the event of an after-hours emergency please contact Pastor Matt at 703-505-9517.*

**FIRST  
PRAYER**

## FIRST MINISTRIES



### GIFT (*Growing in Faith Together*)

Adult Small Groups will continue to meet on Sunday morning. For the summer months, we will have one combined small group meet in Conference Room A at 10:15 a.m. New Participant books for the summer quarter are available in the church office. The theme for the summer quarter is “Living in Covenant,” and during the month of June we will explore God’s covenant with us in Jesus Christ. At the end of the June, we begin a 5-week excursion at Jesus’ feet, listening to his teaching in the Sermon on the Mount. Here’s the June lessons:

**June 1 & 2 — Jesus Institutes the New Covenant** (*Mark 14:17-24; Hebrews 8:6-7, 10-12*)

**June 8 & 9 — Jesus Seals the New Covenant** (*Mark 15:6-15, 25-26, 33-39*)

**June 15 & 16 — The New Covenant’s Sacrifice** (*Hebrews 9:11-22*)

**June 22 & 23 — Hearts United in Love** (*Colossians 2:1-15*)

**June 29 & 30 — Jesus Teaches about Right Attitudes** (*Matthew 5:1-12*)

Classes for Children and Youth are on break until September.



### Pentecost Musical ~ Soul on Fire

Come out and celebrate Pentecost with our 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> graders as they put on their rendition of the upbeat musical “*Soul on Fire, Sharing the Good News with the World*” on Sunday, June 9 at our 9 a.m. service! Our students will help us all take a look at the word “fire” from several different angles. How can we light a fire, how do we put on the armor of God for protection, and how can we keep these fires burning brightly!

### Capital Campaign 2020-2021

#### *Share In The Joy*

All members and friends of the congregation are invited to participate in our final **Capital Campaign, Share In The Joy**. Our final campaign will be a 2-year campaign, and at the conclusion of the campaign, our mortgage will be paid and we will no longer have any building debt! We are asking for one-time gifts and two-year pledges so that we can reach our goal. After our final mortgage payment is made, we will plan a celebration! If you need a pledge card, please contact the church office or pick one up at the Welcome Center. Pledges and gifts can be turned in to the offering plate or the drop box at any time.

### Thank You

Dear First Lutheran Church,  
I would like to say thank you very much for your generous scholarship. This money will be used towards the 2019-2020 academic school year. I am currently attending the University of Dubuque where I am majoring in Flight Operations. The scholarship will be used to help me cover my tuition in order for me to complete my degree and continue to pursue my dreams in working in the aviation field as a pilot.

Thank you again,  
*Allison Yager*

## Outreach Ministry's Volunteer Recognition

Many members of this congregation give of their time, talents and treasure help people, projects and organizations outside the walls of First Lutheran. We notice and want them to know that their efforts are appreciated. Each month we will recognize a FLC individual or group of individuals that are doing "God's Work" in our community and beyond.

In our continued effort to recognize First Lutheran members who go above and beyond for our community we would like to recognize our Geneseo Fire District volunteers. Among the many first responders and firefighters are our own Dirk Wildemuth, Dan Palmer, Dusty Stees and Brett Stees. These men volunteer for the fire district outside of their professional occupations. They take time away from their families for training and for emergency response events. And as most of their families will tell you...many calls come just at family supper time, the middle of the night or in the most frigid or dangerous weather. Our prayers and thanks for them, their families and those who unexpectedly receive their services in times of need.

## FIRST MINISTRIES



**DIRK WILDEMUTH**  
**DAN PALMER**  
**DUSTY STEES**  
**BRETT STEES**

### A Word of "Thanks" and a Word of "Welcome"

We say "thank you" to Kathi Fluck for her dedicated work as Financial Secretary! And we say "welcome" to Deb Spence, who has been appointed as our new Financial Secretary. Deb works with our weekly counter teams, our Parish Accountant, and our Finance and Stewardship Ministries. Her duties include completing data entry for your giving information, producing periodic giving statements, managing the envelope program and electronic giving, and helping with the Capital Campaign and the stewardship program. Please call the church office and leave a message for Deb or e-mail her at [financials@firstgeneseo.org](mailto:financials@firstgeneseo.org) if you have any questions for her.

## Council Highlights for May 20, 2019

### Action Items

- Council appointed Bek Hartman as the Youth delegate for Synod Assembly.
- Council approved the appointment of Deb Spence as the Financial Secretary.

### Old Business

- An update was received on the hiring process for the Director of Worship & Music. The team is reviewing applications, and interviews will be held in the coming weeks.
- Work continues on the insurance claim from the incident in February; new carpet has been selected and installation will be scheduled.

### New Business

Funding requests for new Senior High curriculum and software and training for the updated Shelby system were also approved.

### Financial Report

#### General Fund Offering:

April actual	\$27,822
April budget	\$39,550
YTD actual	\$155,743
YTD budget	\$145,500

#### Net Income Over Expenses:

April actual	\$3,308 deficit
April budget	\$1,969 surplus
YTD actual	\$13,142 surplus
YTD budget	\$15,178 deficit

## FIRST MINISTRIES



### Scholarship Spotlight

Congratulations to the following eight applicants who will receive a scholarship for the 2019-20 school year.

*Bek Hartman*

*Maddie Fitzpatrick*

*Hannah Himmelman*

*Sydney Himmelman*

*Griffin Tracey*

*Carly Luciani*

*Bailey Winfree*

*Allison Yager*

Best wishes for a successful school year!

Scholarship Committee,  
*Mandy Baumgardener, Mark Luciani,  
Haylee Gustafson & Pastor Matt*

### Confirmation Water Wars!

Confirmation students are invited on Thursday, June 13 from 5:30- 7:30 p.m. Get ready to play some water themed games and work on a service project! There will be food and pop! Bring a friend or two! It will be a blast! Let Haylee Gustafson, Director of Family & Youth Ministry know if you are interested in coming!

### Youth Lock-In

Incoming freshman and up are invited to Hard Questions Youth Lock-In on Friday, June 21 from 7 p.m. to 10 a.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in Kewanee. We will meet at FLC parking lot at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, be sure to eat dinner before you come! We will return to Geneseo at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday. Be sure to bring your own drinks and a snack to share. Breakfast is provided. Bring a friend! RSVP to Haylee Gustafson by Wednesday, June 19!

### Did You Know?

We will be having 7 students going to LOMC Confirmation Camp June 23-27 in Oregon, IL. They will be getting to see the Camp at its fullest! Hiking, ziplining, canoeing, learn about God's Word and much more! Please keep them in your prayers.

### Advocates for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI)

Services of Illinois (LSSI) gathered in Springfield on May 9, 2019 celebrating Lutheran Day and learning about the issues and challenges of the child welfare, human services, and healthcare organizations that partner with LSSI to bring healing, justice and wholeness to the clients they serve. The organizations giving presentations included Illinois Collaboration on Youth (ICOY), Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois (CBHA), Illinois Partners for Human Service, and clergy and lay members from various churches. Lutheran Day was sponsored by Advocate Healthcare, Lutheran Child and Family Services, LSSI, and the Northern Illinois Synod of the ELCA.

The challenges facing Illinois today are a result of years of declining dollars allocated to the state budget for human services, which impacts the ability of these organizations to provide timely and effective care for their clients. We also heard personal testimonies from the organizations and clients who have persevered through difficult circumstances and months/years to reach an outcome that reunites children and families, provides counseling, foster care, help with the problems of addictions, aging and numerous other problems. The goal of the work of these organizations and LSSI is to improve the well-being of our communities and help everyone reach their full human potential.

We made visits to the offices of our elected officials giving information on some senate and house legislation asking for their support in passage of these bills. Next we gathered in the Rotunda of the Capitol where the "Paul Simon Courage in Public Service Award" was presented to Representative Greg Harris, followed by a prayer service for the Executive Branch, Illinois Supreme Court, and State Senators and Representatives. The day concluded with a group picture on the steps of the Capital Building.

*Kathy Nelson,  
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois Advocate*

## LWR Baby Care Kits

Baby Care Kit items are still being collected through the end of June. Here are the items included in each kit:

- 2 lightweight cotton t-shirts
- 2 long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (*without feet*)
- 2 receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel (*up to 52" square*)
- 4 cloth diapers (*flat fold preferred*)
- 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 hand towel (*dark color recommended*)
- 2 or 3 bath-size bars (*8 to 9 oz.*) of "gentle" soap (*in original wrapping*)
- 2 large safety pins

Clothing between 6 and 24 months (*No new born clothing, please*) and may be "gently used and in good condition." Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office.

## Women's Ministry

### Cover Girls Quilting

Come and work with the "Cover Girls" on a variety of projects including tying quilts made of donated fabrics and assembling several care kits for Lutheran World Relief. You are welcome to come any time you can help on Wednesday, June 5 & 12 at 9 a.m. in Grace Place. The need is great!

**Women's Bible Study** will be held on Wednesday, June 19 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Room. We will be using the Lutheran magazine, "Gather" for our study guide. All women are welcome to join us for this time of fellowship and Bible Study.

### First Friends Luncheon

First Friends will meet on Thursday, June 13 at 11:30 a.m. for an 'indoor' summer picnic! Come and enjoy hamburgers & sides. Cost of lunch is \$5. No ants or mosquitos are invited but YOU are. Come, bring a friend, and enjoy food, fellowship and BINGO! Sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office at 944-3196.

## Food Pantry Collection

The Geneseo Food Pantry is collecting *sugar, egg noodles, lemonade mix, mashed potato mix, frosting, plastic utensils, garbage bags, Kleenex, freezer bags and paper towels* to share with those in our community. Donations may be left in the basket by the church office.

### Another way to help!

Please consider donating a new or used fan to the Food Pantry. Most of our clients do not have air conditioning and they appreciate receiving fans to keep them cool. We are also accepting donations of summer clothing, household items, sheets, blankets, towels, kitchen items, small appliances, accessories, toys, books, videos, CDs, games & puzzles.

## A Note of Thanks!

On behalf of the ELCA's Domestic Disaster Relief Program and the Nebraska Synod of the ELCA, thanks to the congregation for their recent donation for flood damages which recently took place in Nebraska. We collected approximately \$1,380 which has been sent to the Nebraska Synod, collecting on behalf of the ELCA. Last count which I had received from various sources was approximately \$1.4 billion in damages and it could be even larger now. However, thanks to the congregation for the money sent to Nebraska for flood relief. Every dollar helps.

*Gary Daniels, hunger contact*



**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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*A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**Rev. Matt Kamprath**  
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cdaniels@firstgeneseo.org

**COUNCIL**

Cathy Runty—*President*  
Scott Fitzpatrick—*Vice-President*  
Brian Hofer—*Secretary*  
Gary Gesme—*Treasurer*

Jodi Barnhart, Roger Bengtson,  
Ray Bergles, Nancy Cassens,  
Gary Daniels, Johanna Hager,  
Cheryl Saint Vincent, Patty Turner,  
Taylor Wildermuth

**Meeting Schedule:**

Cabinet — Monday, June 10  
Ministries — Monday, June 10  
Council — Monday, June 17

**PRESCHOOL STAFF**

Misty Slaymaker, *Director*  
Mary Williamsen, Margi Ficken  
preschool@firstgeneseo.org

**NEXT CHIMES DEADLINE:  
TUESDAY, JUNE 11**

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday  
8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Wednesday  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday  
Office Closed  
Closed for Lunch ~ Noon-1 p.m.

**STAFF SCHEDULE**

**Rev. Laura Kamprath**  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

**Rev. Matt Kamprath**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

**Morgan Sarber**  
Monday-Thursday

**Mary Jo Brummet**  
Monday-Thursday

**Sherry Dickens**  
Monday-Thursday, select hours

**Haylee Gustafson**  
Monday-Thursday