

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHIMES

September 15, 2010
Volume 49, Issue 18
www.firstgeneseo.org

Sharing Christ's Love

WORSHIP WITH US THIS WEEKEND!

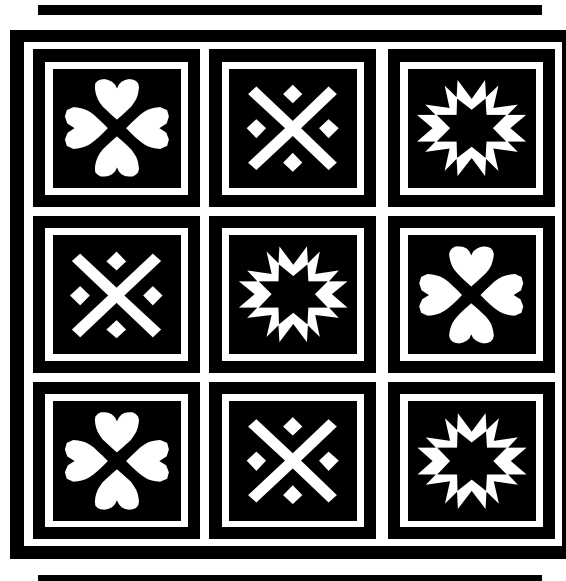
Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Lutheran World Relief

Quilt Dedication

September 25 & 26, 2010



Come and admire the beautiful quilts that were made by the "Cover Girls" with your donated materials. The Faithtime children have also made quilts as part of their September focus on stewardship. These lovely quilts will be displayed and blessed during the services to comfort those in need around the world. After worship, you are invited to the Fellowship Room where you can take a moment and add a few stitches to personalize the quilt that is in progress!

FIRST NOTES:

—C.O.O.L. Sunday School begins Sept. 19 at 10 a.m.

—New Member Orientation on September 19 & 26 in the Fellowship Room.

—Trinity Flu Clinic on Friday, October 1 from 10 a.m. to Noon in the Fellowship Room.

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR



Belonging to First Lutheran Church

As a pastor, I have bet my life on this one idea. That a life lived within the Church is better than a life lived outside of the Church. At the end of the day, I don't care where a person goes to Church – I just want them to go to Church. In fact, that's what I tell the couples whose weddings I preside over. My advice to the engaged is simple. Find a church home and grow together in faith, hope and love.

A good church home gives you a place to belong. A place to grow in your faith. A place to be spiritual formed in the ways of God. A place to develop lasting and profound relationships with God and God's people. A place to serve the needs of others. A place to be held spiritually accountable and challenged. A place to be lifted up and strengthened. A good church does this and so much more.

Where are you on your spiritual journey? Have you plateaued and are wondering what's God up to next in your life? Have you had a negative church experience and wondering if you ever want to be a part of a church again? Have you just moved to town and are looking for the right church home to join? Have you worshipped with us at First and are ready to belong to this place?

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, the 900 members of First Lutheran Church and I invite you to belong to this parish and our ministry. On Sundays, September 19 & 26, from 11 a.m. until noon, First Lutheran Church is offering a two part New Member Orientation. The orientation will meet in our Fellowship Room near the kitchen. If you plan on attending, be sure to sign up at the Welcome Center or call our church office at 944-3196. Childcare will be provided.

On September 19, our focus will be two fold. The first focus is learning about the identity of First Lutheran Church. We will speak about our identity as Lutheran Christians. Just to give you a head's up, it's all about grace! The second focus is experiencing our building. Everyone attending will be given a tour of our facility.

On September 26, our focus will be two fold once again. The first focus will be meeting our leadership team and hearing about the ministry they share. This includes both our staff and congregational officers. The second focus will be upon membership. We'll explore what our 900 members are all about and how you can join with us in our common mission of sharing Christ's love.

My tenure as pastor began on November 15, 2006. As I approach my 4th anniversary of serving First Lutheran Church, I remain honored and excited to belong to First Lutheran Church. This is a parish that embodies its mission. We are a community of faith that shares Christ's love with one another in fellowship, with our community in service and with God in worship.

If you are looking for a place to belong, come and learn more about First Lutheran Church in New Member Orientation. This may well be exactly what you are looking for.

—Pr. Arthur

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ
has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
Romans 15:7*

September 18 & 19, 2010

17 Pentecost/The Blessing of the Harvest

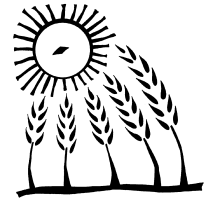
As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers rather than owners of all that we have. People of faith believe everything good in our lives comes from God. Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need. Over the course of all three services, all farmers will be invited to bring forward a symbol of the harvest as we pray for abundance and safety for this harvest season. This weekend's texts include Amos 8:4-7, Psalm 113, 1 Timothy 2:1-7 and Luke 16:1-13.

September 25 & 26, 2010

18 Pentecost/Lutheran World Relief - Quilt Dedication

Consideration of and care for those in need especially those "at our gate," is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed. This weekend's readings include Amos 6:1a, 4-7, Psalm 146, 1 Timothy 6:6-19 and Luke 16:19-31.

FIRST WORSHIP & MUSIC



Please keep the following Lifelines petitions in your prayers:

World and Community: For our leaders: President Barack Obama and Governor Pat Quinn.

For regions suffering with violence: Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan. For those soldiers in harms way: Christopher Ayers, James Bent, Brian Fink and Joshua Rowold.

Church: For our bishops: Rev. Mark Hansen and Rev. Dr. Gary Wollersheim. For our partners in ministry: Pastor Paul Metili and the people of Osupuko Parish in Tanzania, Rev. Vijayakumar, Bishop of the Arcot Lutheran Synod, India and the Northwest Haiti Christian Mission in Haiti. For missionaries who share the Gospel around the world, especially Katie Blobaum and Randy & Carol Stubbs and family. For Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. For our pastors, parish staff, Preschool staff and Church Council (names listed on pg. 8).

Health and Wellbeing: Bob & Vi Anderson, Doug Anderson, Norris Bennett, Pr. Denver Bitner, Sarah Bognanno, Elwyn Borkgren, Mike Bowen, Ryan Brandemeyer, Karis Breeden, Kari Bridgewater, Jackie Burns, Karen Chenoweth, Erma Cikanek, Richard Collins, Jeff Dahl, Mary Ann Daniels, Katelyn DeRycke, Lori Dodge, Betty Drefchinski, Charles Drummond, Kim Ehlinger, Aaron Elmendorf, Judy Enos, John Fair, Bonnie Falkenstien, Fred Falkenstein, Ruth Floto, Marlene Franklin, Lee Fulton, Roy Gentry, Bill George, Rob Gilmore, Vicky Goff, Ida Goldsmith, Ed Goodall, Loretta Grassel, Patricia Green, Carolyn Griffin, Leslie Hamilton, Kirsten Haneberg, Arliss Heist, Christina Henry, David Howe, Sharon Hulick, Dee Johns, Colleen Johnson, Elna Johnson, Virgil H. Johnson, Laura Keser, Kevin Klemmer, Elise Lambert, Chuck Landon, Larry Larson, Gail LaVinn, Katie Lawless, Bev Lewis, Larry Lowery, Bill Lundy, Pam Martens, Jim Mason, Kathy Mayerle, Holly McDonald, John McDowell, Sarah McFeggan, Madison McQuery, Pastor Barbara Melaas-Swanson, Pam Minnaert, Voy Mitchell, Christina Nelson, Jenna Noel, Nancy Noord, Vicki Orsi, Mary Ortega, Carole Pruitt, Lois Puls, Bob Pyevich, Tammy Quade, Styph Palmer, Jessie Rayns, Jeff Renihan, Linda Rice, Mary Ann Rodems, Austin Ross, Andrew Roth, Ruth Ruda, Betty Satterlee, Barb Schroeder, Barb Sierra, Norma Smith, Luke Snodgrass, Cary Stach, Mark Stader, Linda Steimle, Bill Stenzel, Basil & Ethel Stewart, Fran Swanson, Mildred Swanson, Juanita Terpening, Nicky Tesson, Dolores TwoBears, Charlotte Vandemark, Mitzi Ware, Jim Weisser, Mike Winter, Jon Zahn and Eldon Zimmerman.

Joys: Pr. Juliot and Judy DeBeover has a great time on the Honor Flight. Gene Belvel, Jo Ann Bengtson, Christopher Cassens, Quinn Collins, John McKean and Maudie Short are improved. Twins, Danielle & Samantha Noe are home and doing well. James Harwood is doing much better taking care of nephew after brother's death.

Sorrows: On the death of Roger Amundgaard, member; Ray Nowland, grain bin accident; and Carolyn (AJ) DeSplinter's mother.

Thanksgiving: Jeff Libby has returned safely from overseas military duty.

If you wish to submit a prayer request, please contact Sue Wolf in the church office at 944-3196 or by e-mail prayers@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 Arthur at home at 309-944-2034.

FIRST PRAYER

FIRST MINISTRIES

New Member Orientation

Are you interested in becoming a member of First Lutheran Church? Would you like to know more about what it means to be a Lutheran Christian? We invite you to join with our 900 members. On September 19 & 26, Pr. Arthur will be leading New Member Orientation. Each session will begin after the second service which concludes at 11 a.m. The orientation will end by Noon. Child care will be provided. If interested, be sure to sign up at the Welcome Center. Please read the opening article to learn more!

Special Thanks

On behalf of the staff of First Lutheran Church, thank you to everyone who made our Peder Eide event so wonderful. From those who set up, to those who cooked, to those who sold concessions and everyone else who served in any way, thank you for making this weekend so special. Lastly, we offer our gratitude to the family and friends of Ruth Ann Phillips whose memorial made this weekend possible.

—Pr. Arthur

Pastor's Class

Every Wednesday, a pastor's class is offered from 6:30-7:15 p.m. in Conference Room A. Currently, Pr. Arthur is teaching a four part series that examines the lives of four people of faith from the New Testament. Here's the remaining schedule:

September 15 People of Faith: *Mary the mother of our Lord*

September 22 People of Faith: *Lydia*

On September 29, Pr. Arthur will begin teaching a six part series that will examine the *Book of Romans*. The focus will be *What must I do to be saved? Romans 3:9-31*

To see a complete listing of the studies, log onto www.firstgeneseo.org.

Lutheran World Relief—

Quilt Dedication

Come and admire the beautiful quilts on September 25 & 26. The Cover Girls share the Lutheran World Relief Mission: Affirming God's love for all people, we work with Lutherans around the world to end poverty, injustice, and human suffering. The Faithtime children have also made quilts with this mission in mind.

- Help is needed to pack Lutheran World Relief items on Monday, September 27 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Room.
- Bar soap (*bath size preferred and in original package*) and new or gently used blankets will be accepted through Sunday, September 26. Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office.
- Monetary donations will be accepted to offset the cost of shipping the quilts and kits. Special envelopes will be available that weekend in the service folders.

First Book Club

The title of the book for October is *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* written by Jamie Ford. This is a tender and satisfying novel set in a time and place lost forever. *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* gives us a glimpse of the damage that is caused by war—not the sweeping damage of the battlefield, but the cold, cruel damage to the hearts and humanity of individual people. Especially relevant in today's world, this is a beautifully written book that will make you think. And, more importantly, it will make you feel. Hurry and purchase your copy today at a bookstore near you!

Sunday School News

Our rotational Sunday School schedule begins on Sunday, September 19! All children ages 3 through grade 6 are welcome.

- 3- and 4-year olds go directly to their single-based classroom in our Zaccheus' Tree House at 10 a.m.
- Kindergarten through grade 4 go directly to their Sunday school rooms by 10 a.m., using the staircase at the south end of the Fellowship Room. The children will be greeted as they arrive.
- The 56'ers—New this year in our Sunday school program is that the 5 & 6th graders will be in a traditional classroom with the same teaching team all year. We will be focusing on a pre-confirmation curriculum for this group so they can dive deeper into the lessons. We will also be planning special projects and social times for this group.

The 56'ers should go directly to Sunday School Room #2 on second floor at 10 a.m.

Registration forms will be available at the registration table in the Fellowship Room on Sunday, September 19. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Schefsky, Director of Children's & Faithtime Ministries at 944-3196 (lschefsky@firstgeneseo.org).

FIRST MINISTRIES

C.O.O.L.



Congratulations!

The First Lutheran men's softball team took 1st place in the season ending double elimination tournament. The team also finished the regular season with the best record. The trophy and photo are on display in the Fellowship Room. Great Job!

First Lutheran Youth—F.L.Y. with us!

Confirmation—Janet Larson will continue to teach the large group lesson during the month of September. Together we will learn more about the Ten Commandments. Here's the remaining schedule for September:

Sept. 15 — *The Third Commandment*

Sept. 22 — *Service Project* (As a group, we will be working outside with Jerry Klavohn, Building & Property Ministry, sprucing up the church grounds! Please wear old clothing and bring gloves, if you wish.)

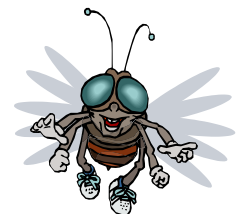
Sept. 29 — *Fourth Commandment*

Senior High Youth Ministry

The Youth Room is open every Wednesday at 4 p.m. for youth in grades 9-12 to hang out, play games and socialize in a supervised environment. Friends are welcome!

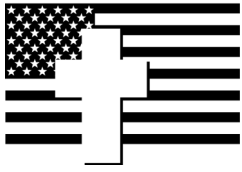
During September we will continue to focus on the *Values of Leadership*. Through Bible Study, conversation and special guests, together we'll grow in our capacity to be leaders in life. Be sure and plan to join Pr. Arthur, Tim Oloffson and John Puls in the Youth Room on Wednesday nights from 6-7:30 p.m.

- **Sept. 15** — *Respect*
Treat people as they should be treated
(*Matthew 5:43-38 & 8:5-13*)
- **Sept. 22** — *Selfless Service*
Put the welfare of others before self
(*John 8:1-11*)
- **Sept. 29** — *Honor*
Live up to all of your Values
(*Matthew 7:1-5 & 8:1-4*)



F. L. Y.

FIRST MINISTRIES



“One Nation under God”

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 14 at 9:30 a.m. (*Veteran’s Day Weekend*).

This is the date for the dedication of our new Veteran’s Memorial Garden! In addition to the dedication service, the VFW will be on hand to “*post the colors*.” It should be a very special day in the life of our congregation and we hope everyone can join us.

- Just a reminder...we are continuing to compile a list of all First Lutheran Veterans. We would like to also honor our veterans by including this list in our dedication booklet. So if you or a loved one has served or is

serving in any branch of the military, please be sure to send the information to Bob & Judy DeBoever at 12302 N 2100 Ave., Geneseo, IL or email rdb1965@geneseo.net. This includes anyone who served in *any* branch of our military (*such as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, National Guard or Coast Guard, etc.*) and all those who have ever served on active duty, as a reservist, or are currently serving. The deadline for submitting a name is October 15. If you have any questions, please contact Bob or Judy at 944-6343.

First Friends: Senior Luncheon

The next First Friends luncheon will be our 2nd annual “*Oktober Fest*” celebration on Thursday, October 14 at noon in the Fellowship Room. Enjoy a delicious feast of German food followed by musical entertainment provided by the Kitchen Band. See you there!

First Health and Wellness

Healing Service: The Litany of Healing with remembrance of Baptism, laying on of hands and anointing with oil, if desired, will be included in the 5:30 p.m. service on Saturday, September 18.

Diabetes Support Group: “Helping Hands” will meet on Tuesday, September 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Room at First. Kim & Brook Zarfes, both of Geneseo, will talk and demonstrate “*How Dogs Sense High and Low Blood Sugar*.” The organization is open to anyone who is directly or indirectly affected by diabetes. For more information, contact Gary or Mary Anne Daniels at 944-2404.

—Joan Holt, RN, PN
Director of Care Ministries

Public Flu Clinic at First

Friday, October 1 from 10 a.m. to noon

The cost is: Flu Shot \$35.00
Pneumonia \$55.00

Trinity’s VNHA Flu Crew will be here to vaccinate people ages 9 and up, children ages 9-17 must have a parent or guardian sign the consent. Flu and pneumonia shots are no cost to those enrolled in original Medicare Part B. (*They will not be accepting any private insurance coverage including Medicare Advantage plans.*) Cash or checks will be accepted. A consent form for people to sign and educational materials will be available. The nurses will also be able to answer specific questions about flu and pneumonia. A flu shot and pneumonia shot may be given at the same time (*in different arms*). If not given together there is a 2 week wait between the two. The seasonal flu shot this year includes the H1N1 strain that people received last year. It also includes the H3N2 strain that is being talked about in the news. It takes 2 weeks to have full coverage from the flu shot.

A Special Note of Thanks!

Working through Churches United, First Lutheran Church provided dinner to 68 low income people on Monday, August 30. A big *“Thank You”* to the First Lutheran Preschool staff, Ruthie Carton, Mary Williamsen and Margi Ficken for providing dessert and serving the dinner and also to Marilyn Juliot, Dianne Peterson and Linda Storm for providing desserts. Our next meal is scheduled for Monday, November 29! If you or your group would like to help serve, please contact Barb Burghgrave at 944-7622.

Social Ministry Meal Team,
—Roger Peterson & Barb Burghgrave

Thank You!

We would like to thank the church for helping us with our trip to Haiti and for keeping us in your prayers. It was a life changing experience to a country that needs so much help.

—Lesli & Bethany Storm

We would like to thank all of the members of the church who contributed medical and food supplies, they were greatly needed and put to good use. Bethany was even able to work in the medical clinic one day doing wound care. We appreciate your kindness.

Thanks again,
—Lesli, Bethany, Emily Storm
& Teri Minnaert



Women’s Ministry

Women’s Circles—First Lutheran offers three women’s circles that meet monthly for Bible study and fellowship. All women are cordially invited to attend any of the circles. **Hannah Circle** will meet on Thursday, September 30 at 7 p.m. at Arlene Gesme’s home, 1543 Crimson King Ct, Geneseo.

Food Pantry collection

The Geneseo Food Pantry is collecting rice (*instant or raw*), noodles, macaroni, instant potatoes, catsup, mustard, cake mixes & frosting, bathroom tissue, paper towels, generic Tylenol, ibuprofen and the following items for school age children (*from preschool through high school*): light-weight clothing & jackets, gym shoes, long sleeved shirts, sweatshirts and jeans to share with those in need in our community. Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office.

- Thanks to everyone who takes the time to grow, harvest and donate garden produce to the Food Pantry!

Intouch Adult Day Services

Intouch is the largest adult day service in Illinois. It provides adults with the opportunity to maintain their residence in the community while providing peace of mind for their loved ones. Their “wish list” for September is *foil, Saran Wrap, plastic see-through 8 to 16 gallon tubs with lids, plastic utensils, decaf coffee & tea, paper towels, Dawn dishwashing liquid, dish clothes & towels, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, fabric softener sheets, body wipes, Suave body wash, hair conditioner, 100 watt light bulbs, medium hot glue sticks, tacky glue, blocks of construction paper (red, green, blue & brown), card stock, craft foam (all colors), acrylic paints, large erasers, small & medium sizes of ceramic greenware or bisque, Bingo prizes, birthday cards, potpourri, fleece, music keyboard, I-pod, laptop computer and VCR*. Donations may be left in the basket outside the church office.

Thank you so very much!
To the Congregation of First Lutheran,
Thank you so much for responding to our need. The budget cuts are greatly lessened by your generosity, prayers and good works.
Thanks for caring. God’s blessings to you all!
—Stephanie Cartwright &
Connie Doran, Executive Director
of Freedom House



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FIRST LOOK . . .

Preschool Classes M-F 9:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
September 16, 2010
9:30 a.m. Program Staff
11:00 a.m. All Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Preschool Board Meeting
September 18, 2010—Blessing of the Harvest
5:30 p.m. Informal/Healing Service
September 19, 2010—Blessing of the Harvest
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10:00 a.m. Sunday School P3-6 Grade
11:15 a.m. Faith Reborn Rehearsal
11:15 a.m. New Member Orientation
2:00 p.m. Private Retirement Party
September 20, 2010
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
2:00 p.m. HHH Set Up for Event
5:30 p.m. Music Therapy Class
7:00 p.m. Council
September 21, 2010
8:00 a.m. HHH Auxiliary Membership Event
10:00 a.m. Project Linus
6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 8976
6:30 p.m. Glory Ringers Bell Choir
7:00 p.m. VDC Men
September 22, 2010
9:00 a.m. Cover Girls
12:00 p.m. HC Health Dept. Home Services Meeting
3:15-8:15 p.m. Faithtime Schedule
6:15 p.m. Hearts on Fire Rehearsal
8:15 p.m. Joyful Spirit Rehearsal

September 23, 2010
8:00 a.m. HC Health Dept. Mental Health First Aid
2:30 p.m. LWR Quilt Set Up
September 25, 2010—Quilt Dedication
5:30 p.m. Informal Worship
September 26, 2010—Quilt Dedication
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10:00 a.m. Sunday School P3-6 Grade
11:00 a.m. Lifelines Prayer
11:15 a.m. New Member Orientation
September 27, 2010
9:00 a.m. Pack LWR Quilts
10:00 a.m. Bible Study
5:30 p.m. Music Therapy Class

Wednesday Faithtime Schedule

3:15 p.m. Check In, Snacks, Games & Bible Lesson (Grades 1-6)
4:00 p.m. Faithtime Troupe (Grades 1-3) Celebration Choir Youth Room Open
4:30 p.m. Sonshine Choir Faithtime Troup (Grades 4-6)
5:00 p.m. Faithtime Check Out (Grades 1-6)
5:00 p.m. Psalm 150
5:00-6:15 p.m. Dinner Served
5:30 p.m. Confirmation
6:00 p.m. Senior High Ministry
6:30 p.m. Adult Education
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

September 28, 2010
6:30 p.m. Glory Ringers Bell Choir
6:30 p.m. Helping Hands Diabetic Group
7:00 p.m. VDC Men
September 29, 2010
3:15-8:15 p.m. Faithtime Schedule
6:15 p.m. Hearts on Fire Rehearsal
8:15 p.m. Joyful Spirit Rehearsal
September 30, 2010
9:30 a.m. Program Staff
11:00 a.m. All Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Hannah Circle at Arlene Gesmes