

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Today **July 23** **Sharing & Caring Hands**
Youth Mission Trip Commissioning
Parish Nurse @ STJ
9:30am – Worship - Sanctuary

Monday **July 24**
9:00am – Counters – Conference Room
6:30pm – Boy Scouts – Fellowship Hall
7:30pm - B.P. STEP Group – Conference Room

Tuesday **July 25**
9:00am – Parish Nurse here – Office
1:00pm – FLCW Board Meeting – Community Room
1:00pm – Staff Meeting – Conference Room
6:00pm – Bonfire Board
7:00pm – Gospel Christmas Rehearsal @ FLW
7:00pm – Investment Club – Conference Room

Wednesday **July 26**
12:00pm – Pastor's Text Study – Conference Room
1:00pm – O.A. Group – Community Room
6:30pm – Garden Club – Courtyard
7:00pm – Caring Support Group – Conference Room

Thursday **July 27**
10:00am – Seven Continents of Fun & Food – Youth Room & Fellowship Hall
11:00am – Parish Nurse @ HOH
11:30am – Loose Threads – Community Room
6:30pm – Quilting – Community Room

Friday **July 28** **DAYD**
Youth Mission Trip to Niagara Falls, NY
Rummage Sale Items Collected today – see insert for details
5:00pm - 9:00pm – SDA

Saturday **July 29**
Youth Mission Trip to Niagara Falls, NY
9:00am – SDA

PRAYER AND CARE CONCERNS

Please pray for:

Linda Van Ryn	Myrtle Keniston	Bruce Vratsovsky	Don Bakke
Lauretta Welter	Bea Tamminen	Carol Pettis	Rennel Rice
Diane Christiansen			

Please pray for the grieving families of:

Doris Efteland
Sophia Fleming, granddaughter of Dean & Ellie Funk

Have you remembered First Lutheran Church in your will? Do you have living will or health care directive? Consider discussing these questions with your family and family attorney.

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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CRYSTAL

7708 – 62nd Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

July 23, 2017 9:30 a.m.
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

A NOTE OF WELCOME TO VISITORS

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Visitors, we are happy you are here today! If you are a first time visitor, please visit the Welcome Center in the entry way of the church. Pastor Folkerts or another member would be happy to follow-up with you on any questions you have about First Lutheran Church of Crystal. You may also find us on the web at: www.firstlcoc.org

ASL (American Sign Language) translation is available two Sundays each month. Please call the church office for more information.

Today's theme:

Got weeds? They seem to grow well when everything else is withering. Weeds have a way of thriving while the rest of the garden is suffering. That's what weeds do. Jesus uses a parable to describe how the 'weeds' of human nature take advantage of the difficulties of the rest of God's 'garden' we know as the world. The gospel wants us to recognize our potential for 'weediness' but doesn't stop there. The message of Jesus is always about calling us to 'live beyond' our past behaviors, beyond our skepticism. With Jesus, the weeds are never the final crop of life.

PRELUDE "Lamb of God" by Twila Paris Kris Swartchick

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

A READING FROM THE EARLY CHURCH
Romans 8:12-25 pg. 919 pew Bible

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION on screen

OPENING HYMN "For the Beauty of the Earth" ELW # 879

GREETING AND KYRIE booklet pages 2, 3

HYMN OF PRAISE "Glory To God" booklet pages 5 - 7

PRAYER OF THE DAY "The Lord be with you" "And also with you."

Let us pray, God of all things living, Lord of all thanksgiving,

Open our souls to the richness of being alive so we may thrive amid the difficulties of living. Give new voice to our long hidden joy so that each day of living becomes a song of thanksgiving to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

YOUTH MISSION TRIP COMMISSIONING

"Morning Has Broken" (We sing vs. 1 before and vs. 3 after) ELW # 556

MISSION MINUTE

Deacon Kirsten Kessel

GOSPEL VERSE

booklet page 8

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

pgs. 794, 795 pew Bible

SERMON**HYMN OF THE DAY**

"God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" (Vs. 1 – 3) ELW # 771

APOSTLES' CREED**PRAYERS AND SHARING THE PEACE****OFFERING**

Andrew & Kris Swartchick

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" by *Chris Tomlin***SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" (Vs. 1 & 3) ELW # 836

THE LORD'S PRAYER**BENEDICTION****ANNOUNCEMENTS****CLOSING HYMN**

"Let All Things Now Living"

ELW # 881

DISMISSAL**POSTLUDE**

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Thank you to Today's Worship Assistants

Deacon	Kirsten Kessel
Music Director	Martha Otto Honer, M.S.
Organist	Dr. Desiderius Klempay
Cantors	Andrew & Kris Swartchick
Lector	Karen Hogenson
Ushers	Michael LeRoy, Ed Scharber, Al Anderson, Pat Mourning
Sound	Gene Enfield
Projectionist	Jean Brannick
Announcer	Bob Johnson

First Lutheran Church of Crystal and the Minneapolis Area Synod
work together so that all experience:
Gracious invitation into life-giving Christian community
and live in just and healthy neighborhoods.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Altar flowers are given today by Gene & Molly Enfield in joyful celebration of Molly's birthday.

THANK YOU

Thank you Deacon Kirsten for being our guest preacher this morning and sharing God's message with us.

THOSE SERVING AT SHARING & CARING HANDS

Thank you for serving at Sharing & Caring Hands this month: Dan Orcutt, Jack & Betty Gustafson, Dan & Phyllis Reber, Cindy Oswald, Pat & Lisa Beltz and Bette Gustafson.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

There will be a Celebration of Life Service for Doris Efteland tomorrow at 11:00am here at First Lutheran. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. Please keep the Efteland family in your thoughts and prayers.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS ARE NEEDED

We need worship assistants to help with reading the lessons, ushering, sound techs and projectionists on Sunday mornings. The need is even greater in the summer. If you are able to help in any of these areas, please call the church office. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

RUMMAGE SALE – Help Wanted!

Volunteers are needed to help with the Rummage Sale this year. Tasks include receiving items, sorting, tagging, set-up, as well as working during the sale and clean-up after the sale. The sale will be **August 2nd through August 4th**. If you can help in one or more of these areas, please fill out the form in today's bulletin and turn it in to Jackie Mortenson or Rick Burton or the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Jackie at 763-535-2797.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR NEAR FOOD SHELF

It is time to help get NEAR Food Shelf students ready for the start of the upcoming school year. Many school supplies are needed. Most stores will be having sales of school supplies soon, so it is a great time to take advantage of the savings.

Supplies most needed include: Backpacks, 2-pocket folders (red, yellow, green, blue), loose-leaf (wide-lined) paper, pencils, erasers, pencil boxes, highlighters, markers (bold and fine tip) and blunt-tip scissors.

Last year, over 350 local area students received much needed supplies. Thank you for your continued support of the NEAR Food Shelf.

NOTARY PUBLIC

We would like to know if any of our members are a notary public and would be willing to assist other members with notarizing important documents periodically. If you are a notary public and can help, please call the church office and let us know.

NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to thank everyone for prayers, cards and kind words as we mourn the loss of our son, Rick. We are so blessed to have a loving church family.

Duane & Donna Gass