



**First Lutheran Church,
Newton IA**

2018

First Epistle

From the Pastor...

As Mothers Day and Fathers Day approaches, I need to share some dark secrets of my past with you. You need to know that I had the “meanest parents in the world”!

Don't believe me? Listen to this. When other kids had doughnuts and sugary cereals for breakfast, I had to have eggs, toast, and oatmeal. While other kids were having a coke and candy bar for lunch, I had to have a sandwich and carrot sticks. And I'm guessing that my supper was different as well.

I'm ashamed to admit it, but my parents actually had the nerve to make us kids work! We had to wash dishes, take out the garbage, scoop snow, mow the lawn, and weed the garden. I am convinced that my parents would lay awake at night, thinking up more things for me to do!

And by the time I was a teenager, they had grown even “meaner”! They would embarrass me by always wanting to know where I was at, who I was with, and when I would be home. And even if I was out late on a Saturday night, they would wake me up the next morning for Sunday School and Church!

In spite of the “harsh way” I was raised, I guess I turned out okay. (Although some people might disagree with that!) My brothers and sisters grew up to be great people as well. Maybe my “mean parents” knew what they were doing after all! They insisted that we grow up to be honest, responsible adults who would make a commitment to serve our families, our communities, and our churches.

Thanks be to God for giving me the “meanest parents in the world”... because they understood that I DIDN'T need another friend. I needed good parents. And my parents DIDN'T give me everything I wanted... but everything I needed.

Living in Gods Amazing Grace!
Pastor Mark

Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m.

Sunday Fellowship
10:30 a.m.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

309 E. 3rd St. N.,
Newton, IA 50208
Phone: 641-792-3934
Fax: 641-792-3937

Email:
office@newtonfirstlutheran.org
www.newtonfirstlutheran.org

Pastor Mark Holmes
pastor@newtonfirstlutheran.org
515-321-4882

President
Judy Monroe
mmonroe@pcpartner.net
641-792-4950

Vice President

Secretary
Deb Rose
deborah.rose65@gmail.com
641-521-6415

Treasurer
David Goos
goos2104@iowatelecom.net
641-792-8818

Administrative Assistant
Kellie Kramer
office@newtonfirstlutheran.org
641-792-3934

Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday
1:00—5:00 p.m.
or by appointment

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Sunday Potluck will May 6th!

We are starting the beautiful month of May with a potluck to reconnect with our church family before we go off on our very busy schedules to all sorts of adventures! We hope to see you there!



Please remember, if you are having trouble hearing: Listening devices are available. Please ask an usher.



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

The Food Pantry would like us to emphasize a specific item each month. **Remember, you may bring any item** you wish, but spreading this among the contributing congregations keeps a steady supply of their most basic needs coming each month. **For the month of May, pancake mix, muffin and bread mixes and syrup have been requested.** There is a basket in the narthex for all food pantry items.

Thank you for being so generous.

Chancel Flowers

May 6—
May 13—
May 20— Monroe
May 27—

Fellowship

May 6— Potluck
May 13—
May 20— Sandquists
May 27— Faith Formations

Please sign up to provide flowers and fellowship.

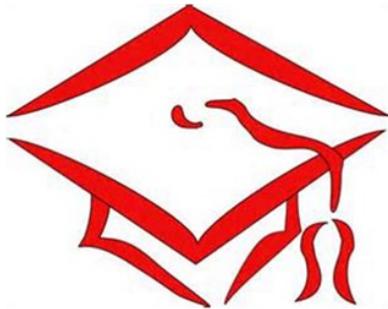


5/5 Gary Johnson
 Heidi Sumpter
 5/6 Andrew Shockey
 5/7 Gloria Grant
 5/8 Isaac Friedman
 5/12 Lane Rose

5/14 Janice Olson
 5/15 Sara Shockey
 5/18 Eric Jordan
 5/19 Brian Rose
 5/20 Alice Klopping
 5/23 Sarah Sandquist
 Marv Zimmermann
 5/26 Ben Breuer
 Claire Breuer
 5/28 Colleen Spain
 5/29 Madison Christy
 5/31 Andrew Weiland

Congratulations to First Lutherans 2018 Graduates!

We will celebrate with them on Sunday, May 27th!



Bethany Baumgartner
 Michael Hodnett
 Audrey Lucas
 Marcelina Marvelli
 Liz McVey
 Brad Portner

God bless



Don't Forget:
 Office closed
 on May 28
 Memorial Day



Wednesday Night Community Dinners:

THANK YOU to the people that help with our Wednesday Night Community Dinners! Wednesday Night Community Dinners are at the Newton First United Methodist Church, southwest across the street from us, and our next meal is on the 23rd. **Please come and help as many hands make for light work. Come help Jesus feed the hungry.**



Thank You

May Choices in Mission is Friends in Hope

Friends in Hope is a group of volunteers in Newton that offer resources and encouragement. They provide guidance and support and encourage regular communication with the individuals that they are assisting. The idea is to give a hand up rather than a hand out. This will be our Choices in Mission emphasis for May.

They mentor individuals and families on a one-on-one basis and help with housing, personal care, home furnishings, childcare, employment, and language barriers. Friends in Hope also can assist with transportation to medical appointments, assist with budgeting, help people find food assistance within Newton, help with clothing for work interviews, and networking with others in Newton.

There are no direct financial support sources in place to make this program work, they rely on donations from people like you and me. Please support this group during May and your contributions will be matched up to \$2,500 from the Mission Support Fund. May God bless the volunteers who make this happen.

Honor Mom and Dad with a gift that will go on to change lives.

Give in honor of Mom and Dad, and share Christ's love with our neighbors in need all around the world. Shop ELCA Good Gifts and choose from 50 gifts that grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives.

Our new, limited-edition cards can be customized and sent just in time for Mother's Day and Father's Day. You can also print and email a card at any time. All card options are free with your donation and available after checkout.

Donate by midnight on May 3, 2018,
to guarantee delivery in time for Mother's Day.

Prayer Corner

We pray for our families, friends and church family. Lord be with us in all we do in our busy month. The month of May gives us much to celebrate honor and remember. We honor our mothers and all those who have mothered us in our lives. We celebrate with all our graduates on the completion of a large learning task and look with hope to their future endeavors. We honor and remember all those men and women who dedicate their lives to the task of keeping our country and people safe with service in our military. We spend time gathering with our families, friends and community as we set our sites on our plans for the upcoming summer season. We continue to pray for our congregation, our leaders, our community and our world. Amen.

Upcoming Activities

Police Appreciation Breakfast

A police appreciation breakfast is being planned for sometime the week of June 11. David Goos would like to organize 5 to 6 people to work on ideas for this, put a menu together, and also work on a way that we could help the department with any needed equipment. If you're interested please contact David at 641-5 21-8367, or goos2104@iowatelecom.net.



Fourth of July Float

First Lutheran will again be having a float in the Fourth of July parade. If you are interested in helping design the float, paint or prepare items for the float, or ride on the float, please let David Goos know. The biggest need that we have right now is to find a place where we can construct the float. This would need to have a fairly high door that would allow a hayrack inside. If you have any ideas please share those. David- 641-5 21-8367, or goos2104@iowatelecom.net.



Summer Clothing Drive

Neighbors Helping Neighbors summer clothing give away will be June 9. We need your help! As you sort your spring/summer clothing and make decisions not to keep something- please consider donating to this cause. Due to storage considerations we will start collecting clothing the final week of April. We can use clean clothing in good repair.

Please realize that we will throw away clothing that is not fit to be worn, and do not bring it to us. Everyone wants to look presentable. Do not bring winter clothing at this time.

You may bring the donations to First Lutheran Church office during office hours (8:30-12:30 M-F).

Zinga Update

Paula and Denny are back at Zinga, and the latest update has arrived. The long rainy season has gone on longer than expected, and the roads on the hospital grounds are more like canals than roadways, and it is hard to tell where the ditches are. Sele has to guide drivers coming in from outside, so they stay on the roads and reach the outpatient department safely.

Just before Easter, Duane and I took the postpartum kits to Independence, Missouri, to be loaded on the container that is now on its way to Zinga. The Franciscan Mission and a Missouri congregation donated time and money to pay part of the cost of shipping this container. Duane and I were impressed with the dedication of the volunteers we met there.

Another exciting development is that the matching gifts grant for the ambulance was met!

Here is part of Paula's update in her own words:

"You again responded to the challenge presented by a board member and Yay! We have received the match necessary to add over \$8,000 now to the Ambulance Fund. Thank you!! The balance in the account now is \$18,360.00. We're actively shopping now for a used ambulance.

It would be hard to describe how happy we are to be "home, at last," here at Zinga. We have been back about a week and a half and are falling back into our usual routine. It's hectic, it's sometimes a bit stressful, and it's just wonderful. Home at last.

We are so grateful to The Franciscan Mission Warehouse in Kansas City for loading the container for us that is now on its way to Tanzania not only with medical supplies from them, but the additional items you sent and the money to help with the shipping costs. We thank each and every one of you who contributed items for the container, nursing books, quilts, baby clothes, diapers, feminine products, Beanie Babies, and so much more."

Please check the Tanzania Mission bulletin board for more on the progress at Zinga, and for the reflections of the current volunteers.

For our Zinga Mission,
Marie Quanbeck
641-521- 4410

***The Third Annual Heartland Gospel Hymn Sing** will be held Saturday, June 9, 2018, at 6:00 PM in the Pella Christian High School Vermeer Auditorium, 300 Eagle Lane in Pella, IA. You are invited to join us for this non-denominational, intergenerational time of singing the heartwarming traditional hymns of the faith. It is going to be a wonderful evening of worship as we all join in singing these familiar songs. The singing will be led by Mr. Tom Brown and a mass choir which will include anyone who wants to sing along with some of our local Gospel singers. Our pianist will be Mrs. Barbara Nunnkihoven. There will be a free will offering received to cover expenses. For additional information, or you would like to be part of the mass choir, please contact Carol Houk at cardonhouk@mahaska.org or Christy Van Zee at vanzeejc@gmail.com or 641-628-1068. The Choir will practice at 5:00 PM on June 9 prior to the hymn sing.*

Bethesda Lutheran Communities

For over 100 years, Bethesda Lutheran Communities has been there to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing for their physical and faith-life needs. We help people at over 240 locations in 13 states, serving the needs of over 1600 people daily. In addition, we have 14 Religious Life staff who work with each person we serve to ensure that they have opportunities to hear about Jesus and grow in their faith. But of course, we don't do this work alone. We depend on the prayers and support of thousands of donors, congregations, church groups and schools who help us each year in so many ways.

Today I would ask that you consider hosting a service project on behalf of the mission and ministry of Bethesda Lutheran Communities this fall. We can help in many ways, with a booklet of ideas to consider (including our Prayer and Postage program, where we ask people to send cards to people with disabilities or making clothing protectors or prayer shawls) and a guest speaker (if scheduling permits). We would love to have an opportunity to share an update on how Bethesda is making a difference in the physical and spiritual lives of people with disabilities and their families. For more information, contact us at development@mailblc.org, call us at 800-383-8743. www.BethesdaLutheranCommunities.org – our website, for general information.

May LSI Update

Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the strong, loving women in your life. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we see thousands of Iowa moms through their journey to build the brightest future for their children.

We see moms turning to LSI's Mental Health or Behavioral Health Intervention Services to ensure their child is receiving the coping skills and behavioral supports they need to thrive. In our Early Childhood Services, we see young first-time moms who are eager to join our parenting education classes and support groups. In 2016, LSI's Early Childhood programs provided support to 552 first-time parents. We are so inspired to hear their stories and see their hard work pay off as they raise our next generation.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember how many Iowa moms are being empowered because of your support. If you are looking for a way to honor your mother this year, please consider giving a gift in her name at LSIowa.org.

Thank you for standing alongside our Iowa families.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

"LSI has been a Lifesaver"

No parent should feel alone or hopeless when it comes to caring for their children's health. But those emotions were common for Judy four years ago.

It started when her son began seeing a litany of different doctors and specialists. Judy needed to coordinate his many appointments and medications, but it was difficult to keep track while still caring for her three other children as a single parent.

Judy found LSI's Pediatric Integrated Health services, which were a shoulder for her to lean on. Judy's LSI worker, Wyndolyn, coordinated medical appointments and counseling sessions. When Judy's daughter required an Individualized Education Program (IEP) at school, Wyndolyn was there to keep in contact with the school and attend IEP meetings with Judy. When Judy's child began attending school at LSI's Breewood Residential Treatment Center, Wyndolyn checked on him and provided updates to Judy. Wyndolyn also helped Judy to set up respite care through LSI's Services for People with Disabilities. Now, Judy can get a much-needed break while her children receive quality care from an LSI respite provider.

"We're one team now, we're on the same page," Judy says. "LSI has been a backbone for me when I wanted to give up. Wyndolyn talks to me when I'm stressed and ready to call it quits. She's really an advocate for my family. LSI has been a lifesaver."



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

Flier courtesy of
First United Methodist Church

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>NO Property</i>	3	4	5
6 9:30 Worship 10:30 Education 11:00 Potluck 6:30 Youth	7 <i>5:00 Bible Study</i>	8	9	10 Good Cheer 6:30 Council	11	12
13 Mother's Day 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship & Education 6:30 Youth Group	14 <i>5:00 Bible Study</i> <i>7:00 Hannah</i>	15	16 9:30 Lois 1:00 Martha 7:00 Eunice	17	18	19
20 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship & Education	21 5:00 Bible Study Newsletter articles due	22	23 5:30 Community Dinner	24	25	26 Lowe/Vokes Wedding
27 <i>Newton Graduation</i> 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship & Education	28 <i>Memorial Day Office Closed</i>	29 9:00 <i>Dorcas</i>	30	31		

May Serving Schedule

Sunday 9:30am	Acolyte	Council on Duty	Lector	Ushers	PA
May 6th	Leo Friedman	Stan Kirchhoff	Marlys Amundsen	Dirk Amundsen, Alex Anderson	Deb Rose
May 13th	Ben Breuer	Deb Rose	Dirk Amundsen	Lee Swenson, Aaron Bartholmey, Dennis Porter	
May 20th	Hailey Sumpter	Marie Quanbeck	Pat Foote	Bob Floss, Stan Kirchhoff	David Goos
May 27th	Blake Baumgartner	Krista Baumgartner	Marie Quanbeck	Gary Johnson, Jim Lammey	Duane Quanbeck

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