



**First Lutheran Church,  
Newton IA**

**2019**

## **First Epistle**

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From the Pastor...

### **WHERE ALWAYS IS HEARD AN ENCOURAGING WORD**

*"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up."*

**1 Thessalonians 5:11**

If we are nothing else, First Lutheran Church **MUST** be a place where people can come in the confidence that they will be encouraged in their faith journey **REGARDLESS** of where they're at.

For example, I'm told someone came to church (who hadn't been here in a while) and was greeted with the words, "Hey, where have you been? We haven't seen you in a while"... or something to that effect. While I'm sure the words were well-intentioned, or maybe a good-natured ribbing, they can often be discouraging and hurtful.

We need to remember that life gets in the way sometimes, and that regular church attendance can often be difficult for some people. But unless we walk a mile in their shoes, we have no idea what conflict, illness, pain, or commitment has kept them from joining us on Sunday mornings... or what struggles they have overcome just to show up! In those instances when they can be with us, we need to celebrate!

Just as we celebrate when the whole family gathers for the holidays and special events... and we get to see those who have been unable to be with us. It is then that we give them a hug and remind them, "Great to see you!!!"

Would I love to see a full house every Sunday? Of course! I love my church family and I miss folks when they can't be with us! But the reality of this world is that often times, there will be something keeping us from being with our church family on Sunday mornings. My prayer is that you would join us when you can so that we might celebrate an awesome God together as **ONE** family.

Thanks for your partnership in this amazing ministry!

Living in God's Amazing Grace!

**Pastor Mark**

<b>Sunday Worship</b> <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday Fellowship</b> <b>10:30 a.m.</b>
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## First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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### Pastor's Office Hours

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Do not forget  
Father's Day is  
**June 16th.**

**NO** matter if your  
father is here with  
you, if he is no longer  
with us, or if you just  
want to celebrate our  
Father God in heaven.  
Remember to take a  
moment to just say  
thank you for all that  
they have done!

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

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 June,  
Peanut butter, and canned soup  
(Tomato, Chicken noodle, Cream of  
Chicken, Veg. beef ect..) have been  
requested.**

There is a basket in the narthex for all  
food pantry items.



### Chancel Flowers

June 2—

June 9—

June 16—

June 23—

June 30—

### Fellowship

June 2—

June 9—

June 16—

June 23—

June 30—

**Please sign up to provide flowers and fellowship.**



6/1 Krista Baumgartner  
 6/2 Audrey Lucas  
 Hailey Sumpter  
 6/4 Bruce Coyle  
 6/5 Dotty Mittelstadt  
 Steve Wright  
 6/7 Fran Lucas  
 6/10 Bob Floss  
 6/11 Corinne Coyle  
 6/14 Neal Hayden  
 6/17 Don Monroe  
 6/19 Eric Karsten

6/21 Judy Swenson  
 6/26 Anna Coyle  
 6/27 Kurt VanDam



### ***Wedding coordinator:***

The church council is seeking a wedding coordinator, must be a member of the congregation. If you are interested, want additional information, or even have someone to suggest for this position, please speak to a member of the council.



### ***After Hours Security!***

When coming in the church after hours please lock the door behind you as you come in. This will prevent anyone from coming in after you and will make sure the door is locked as you leave.

Thank you!

**Thank  
You!**

### **Wednesday Night Community Dinners:**

**THANK YOU** to the people that helped with our Wednesday Night Community Dinner this past month! Wednesday Night Community Dinners will take a break over the summer and resume back at the Methodist Church on the last Wednesday in September . Please keep the hungry in your prayers, donate to the food pantry and drop off fresh garden produce at the Salvation

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The next clothing give away will be Saturday, June 8. To prepare we are gathering summer clothing, We also welcome those who want to help set up on Friday, June 7, 5pm Or during the event on **Saturday, June 8.**

Other ways to help- donate money to purchase new underwear. Last winter we collected new socks and underwear- we could have given away more!!

If you are a Thrivent Member waiting for a way to use your action plans consider this event. We can assist you with the application, and promise to do the shopping for you!! The action plan card we had last year provided new socks and underwear for over 30 persons.

May-be you would prefer to bring the workers some lunch? The folks who work at the clothing give away don't get away for lunch we would appreciate someone bringing in something simple for lunch, like some peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and grapes! or whatever else you like to cook. Lunch is needed for only 4 persons.

Visit with Judy Monroe for additional details.



## **SUMMER CLOTHING**



**GIVE AWAY**

## **Synod assembly:**

Pastor Mark, Judy and Mark Monroe and David Goos represented First Lutheran at the Synod Assembly May 10 and 11 in West Des Moines.

The Synod Assembly is a time to share ministries of the local synod and the ELCA. We had the opportunity to learn about how the monies congregations send to the synod support ELCA missions in Iowa, the nation and around the world, including learning about ways the synod and the national ELCA can support local congregations. We approved the suggested increase in compensation for rostered ministers and lay leaders, and supported an updated recommendation for parental leave. We learned about how the ELCA interacts with elected legislators in Washington DC to recommend policies important to social ministry, and supported a resolution to urge legislators to maintain funding for a critical hospital for Palestinians.

We also had the opportunity to attend small focused sessions on a variety of topics. We are returning with a wealth of information we look forward to sharing with specific committees and the congregation as a whole.

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## **VBS Joint Service!**



We will have our VBS joint service along with First Presbyterian, and United Presbyterian churches on June 23, 2019 at 10:00 am with fellowship following service.

## Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for June 17-21 from 9-11:30 for our annual Vacation Bible School! Our theme this year is ROAR and it looks like it is going to be so much fun for all ages! We will again be combining with First Presbyterian and United Presbyterian churches for this week of fun. Bring a friend or two along and join us on this adventure. VBS is open to preschool through 6th grade. Kids just finishing 6th grade through high school are greatly appreciated as Junior Helpers that week! Adult helpers would be appreciated too! Please let us know if you can help. Here is a registration form and will be available at the office and in the narthex through June.



2019

VBS



### REGISTRATION FORM

June 17 – June 21

9:00 am-11:30 am

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

School Grade at present time \_\_\_\_\_

Parents'/Guardians' Names \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Child \_\_\_\_\_

Who will be picking up your child from WOW?

Relationship to Child \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions \_\_\_\_\_

## Prayer Corner



We pray for our families, friends and church family. Lord, we thank you as we start off our summer months. We enjoy the new warmth of your world. We try to have looser schedules but connect with our loved ones more. We give thanks for all the father figures you put in our lives to help and guide us. We rejoice to come together with our friends from First Presbyterian and United Presbyterian as we enjoy another fun week of shared Vacation Bible School and it's Sunday celebrated with energetic singing and dancing. Guide us in how best to enjoy your beautiful creation. We continue to pray for our congregation, our leaders, our community and our world. Amen.

## Zinga Update!

Things are busy in Zinga as work teams and medical students arrive for a busy season. By now, the birthing center should be nearing completion. Last month, Sele and his team was grinding the terrazzo floors and wiring the building. The next step is installing doors and hanging the suspended ceilings; then, buying and installing the sanitary fittings. At the same time, they were smoothing the walls of the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) building, and getting ready to start putting the roof on the Maternal and Child Health building.

The successful Easter challenge grant made all this work possible. Soon, the Children's Hospital at Zinga will be able to admit mothers for childbirth.

Look for the May Zinga Update from Paula Lofstrom to be posted soon on the Zinga bulletin board in Fellowship Hall!

For our Tanzania Mission,  
Marie Quanbeck



*June 4th Is  
Newton CSD's Last  
day of School!!!*

**VOSH Southeast – Vieques, Puerto Rico**  
**April 13<sup>th</sup> – April 20<sup>th</sup> 2019**



**CLÍNICA DE OPTOMETRÍA**



Clínica de Optometría, del 15 al 18 de abril de 2019, atendió unas 1,219 personas. Gracias al apoyo de VOSH Southeast y de todos ustedes:

**Transportación terrestre Aeropuerto Internacional-Ceiba provista por:**

Hima- San Pablo

**Alimentos provistos por:**

Arenamar Sunbay Café, At The Waves, Rincón del Sabor,

Bigotes, Marna Mia, Biekes Bistro, Rising Roost

**Voluntarios:**

Isaían Pérez, Jeremy Colón, Yency Santos Santos, Yariel Santos Santos, Carlos Millán Hernández,

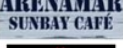
Hatuey Connolly Molina, Venus A. Hernández

Gracias al Municipio de Vieques por las facilidades y GRACIAS a su personal, GRACIAS Haroniz

y Carmen. Agradecimiento especial a Moraima y Elba, no hay para agradecerles por tanto.

GRACIAS VIEQUES

Gracias por ajustes en tarifas para alojamiento a Casa Amistad & At The Wave.



Vieques, Puerto Rico is an island located 6 miles southeast from the main land with a population of 9,300 people. The island consists of 90% Hispanics and most speak both Spanish and English. In September 2017, Vieques was hit by hurricanes Irma and Maria, that devastated the island. This tragedy resulted in the only hospital shutting down, leaving the people of Vieques with minimal health care. Because of this tragedy VOSH Southeast lead a humanitarian aid trip in order to help the people of Vieques.

Adia McDuffey Walker SVOSH – IAUPR -Inter American University of Puerto Rico, School of Optometry invited Dr. John Spencer of VOSH Southeast, to Puerto Rico last year to discuss the option of having a joint optometry humanitarian aid trip along with the students of Optometry to the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico in 2019.

The idea for visiting Vieques in April 2019 started to develop after conversations with Dr. Hector Santiago IAUPR and Adia McDuffey IAUPR about the logistics of the trip and how the optometric students would be involved working with the

Optometrists doctors from VOSH. Invitations were sent to volunteers of different backgrounds to be involved and the response was incredibly awe-inspiring. The team for the mission consisted of four optometrists, an ophthalmic assistant, three certified opticians, six students of IAUPR, three retired volunteers, one history teacher, three undergraduate students, one high school student, three business executives, one chef, and a swimming life coach.

The team was referred to Venus Hernandez, our host in Vieques, who started contacting hotels and was able to acquire in kind donations from the Wave Hotel and Casa de Amistad for accommodations, local restaurants that provided our meals, HIMA-San Pablo Hospital in San Juan for transportation services, the interpreters from the Boys' and Girls' Club, the municipality of Vieques who allowed us to use their beautiful service center to have our eye clinic and the local people who wanted to support the mission. Venus did a great job advertising the eye clinic across the island and making sure that everyone could attend this event, even the homeless.

The clinic opened for three and a half days from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm and was located in the service center of Vieques. The set-up of the clinic consisted of the following stations: Registration of the patients, visual acuities, eye pressure test, dilation, blood sugars, blood pressure, refraction, disease/internal exam, dispensing, and ordering of glasses. The team of the six students from IAUPR did an amazing job caring for the patients and learning. They also were able to work as a team and making sure that every patient was helped with their eye care needs.

The VOSH SE team provided free eye examinations for 1,218 patients and new sunglasses for the majority of them. We dispensed readers to those in need of near vision focus. With the collaboration of Essilor, one of the world's largest lab in America, we were able to provide patients with the necessary prescription eyewear.

Essilor Vision Foundation provided extraordinary support with the donations of approximately 432 prescription glasses (frames and lenses) through the Changing Life Through Lenses program. A local San Juan Lab, Caribe Opti Lab, also filled 63 complex spectacle prescriptions and provided a generous discount.

Patients will obtain their eyeglasses approximately one month after the mission and the glasses will be dispensed at the service center in Vieques with the help of IAUPR optometry students and faculty and Venus Hernandez.

The patients with eye disease such as cataracts, glaucoma, diabetes, and pterygium were referred to an ophthalmology clinic on the main land of Puerto Rico. Those patients were provided with eye drops and artificial tears. The patients were also educated by Dr. Mario Paulino, a local physician, on the prevention and follow up for their specific disease based on their blood sugar levels and blood pressure taken at the clinic, and overall eye condition. Dr Paulino spent a vast amount of time during the clinic with each patient making sure they understood the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and diet and controlling their diabetes and hypertension.

One of the most unforgettable experiences was the patient recognition and appreciation. Patients would stop us when we were walking around town to say thank you; they expressed that they felt forgotten after the hurricane disasters. This made us feel like a part of the community and it helps to understand the impact of doing a mission in a place like Vieques. We were welcomed as one of them, we're part of the bigger picture and a larger family tree because of the connection with them.

The team had opportunities to enjoy the beauty of the island, its secluded beaches, ocean views, delicious island cuisine, snorkeling, and kayak tours of Bioluminescent Bay (or Mosquito Bay) where microorganisms give the water a blue-green glow. We also learned of the interesting history and culture of this amazing island and its people.

There are many people and organizations to thank for the success of this mission in Vieques including the generous monetary donations received from the following: The Harbor Church, SuEllen Brauer, Mariex Farms, Carolyn Kay Hesse, Bruce and Corianne Coyle, David and Jayne Goos, Mark and Jody Holmes, Dennis and Arlene Dobesh, Iowa Church members, Andres and Adrienne Torre, and Thomas and Teresa Hayden; these donations funded the purchase of glasses. Thank you to Mission Matters - Allina Health and National Vision for their financial support. We also grateful for the generous donation of sunglasses from EyeStyles Optical, frame trays from Dave Rogers of Westgroupe, reading glasses, sunglasses and frames from RestoringVision.org and National Vision, glasses cases from Allina Health, organizational support from Susan Stees of VOSH Southeast, equipment lending from VOSH/International and equipment repair from Walman Instruments. Again our partnership with Essilor Vision Foundation and Caribe Opti Lab and all of the above cannot be underestimated.

None of this could be possible without the dedication of the outstanding volunteers involved with the Vieques eye care clinic, from various educational and professional backgrounds for preparing for the mission, for caring for the patients and learning new skills, for translating and so much more. Everyone and their skills played an integral role in the success of this campaign. Of note, this was SuEllen Brauer's 20<sup>th</sup> VOSH mission! Congratulations SuEllen!

## **Volunteers**

John Spencer OD,  
Clinic director and co-lead  
Lisa Weber OD  
Andres Torre OD  
Thomas Hayden OD  
Dennis Kimmel COT  
Pilar Lozano ABOC, co-lead  
Pafoua Yang ABOC  
Gloria Torson ABOC  
SuEllen Brauer  
Dana Garvey

Jeff Hommes  
Marta Latorre  
Beth Peterson  
Dee Ann Ross  
Julian Spencer  
Cece Spencer  
Greta Peterson  
Adrienne Torre  
Molly Weber  
Terri Hayden

Irina Yakubin, Optometry Student  
IAUPR  
Amy Rojo, Optometry student IAUPR  
Binu Koruthu, Optometry student IAUPR  
Ume Chowhan, Optometry Student IAUPR  
Estefany Colon Lopez, Optometry Student  
IAUPR  
Gabriela Maldonado Torres, Optometry  
Student IAUPR

### ***Happy Father's Day!***

At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day. Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families. Many of the boys and young men that LSI serves in our Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers have never had a positive male role model in their lives. But our caring volunteers and staff members are there to help guide them. You are making all of this possible through your support of LSI. Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

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 [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://Facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

### ***A New Life***

A year and a half ago, Kevin was homeless. He struggled with substance use. He didn't have a car. Or a driver's license. Or a job. Then, his world turned upside down and all at once, his priorities shifted. He found out he was a father to a beautiful baby girl, Willow. Kevin immediately began rehab and fought hard to build a healthy lifestyle. After months of hard work and efforts to get clean, Willow was placed in Kevin's care while her mother received treatment for her substance use disorder. Kevin turned to LSI's Early Childhood Services for support and a community to help him create the best home for his daughter. After starting services last year, Kevin can't imagine life without LSI.

Through regular in-home visits from Lindsay, his LSI worker, Kevin is helping Willow develop her language and speaking, as well as her motor skills.

Now one and a half, Willow is learning to use pens and markers, and loves writing and coloring. Her favorite book is a present from her dad – a picture book of the ABCs. Kevin now has sole custody of Willow, and he works closely with her mother to ensure she gets regular visits. His life has changed for the better, and he credits Lindsay and LSI for walking alongside him on his journey.



"LSI teaches you to think about all the little things we often overlook as parents. And we learn to appreciate those little things more because of it," Kevin says. "LSI is teaching me to be the best father I can be."





# JUNE 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	3	4 Newton CSD Last day of school! 	5 6:00 Property Meeting	6	7 N.H.N. Clothing Give Away (set up.)	8 N.H.N. Clothing Give Away 10 am- 1 pm
9 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship	10 N.H.N. 4-8:00 pm	11	12	13 6:30 pm Council Meeting	14	15
16 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 	17 VBS Starts 9-11:30 am	18 VBS 9-11:30 am	19 VBS 9-11:30 am	20 VBS 9-11:30 am	21 VBS Ends 9-11:30 am	22
23 10:00 am VBS Joint Worship Fellowship to follow	24 N.H.N. 4-8:00 pm	25 9:00 am Dorcas	26	27	28	29
30 9:30 am Worship (Healing Service) 10:30 am Fellowship						

## June Serving Schedule

	Acolyte	Council on Duty	Lector	Ushers	PA	Children's message
June 2nd	Clair Breuer	Marie Quanbeck	Jayne Goos	Dirk Amundsen, Alex Anderson	Duane Quanbeck	Allison Bartholmey
June 9th	Blake Baumgartner	Krista Baumgartner	Jim Lammey	Lee Swenson, Aaron Bartholmey, Dennis Porter	David Goos	Aaron Bartholmey
June 16th	Hailey Sumpter	Jane Johnson	Marie Quanbeck	Bob Floss, Stan Kirchhoff	Deb Rose	Deb Rose
June 23rd	Leo Friedman	Jim Lammey	Evelyn George	Jim Lammey, Gary Johnson	Duane Quanbeck	VBS
June 30th	Thomas Hodnett	Lynette Birkenholz	Pat Foote	Captain's	David Goos	Robyn Friedman

First Lutheran Church  
309 E 3rd St N  
Newton, IA 50208

# Come Join Us!

**First Lutheran, First Presbyterian,  
United Presbyterian**

**June 17-21**  
**Vacation Bible School**  
(Details and sign-up form inside)

