

**FIRST
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

President

Bryan Friedman

bryanfriedman@yahoo.com

641-792-3934

Vice-President

Eric Jordan

ec.jordan@mediacommbb.net

Secretary

Kay Hesse

ckhesse@me.com

(641) 521-8370

Treasurer

Corinne Coyle

corinnecoyle9@gmail.com

515-669-2983

Administrative Assistant

Nicole Vitales

office@newtonfirstlutheran.org

641-792-3934

Office Hours
Monday—Friday
8:30 am -
12:30 pm



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



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**THE COVENANT FOR THE SHARED MINISTRY
HAS PASSED BOTH CONGREGATIONS!**

After a short delay, we have received word that Congregational UCC (our neighbor to the west) unanimously passed the sharing agreement at a congregational meeting on June 26! Once the document has signatures from both congregations, the agreement will be sent on to the governing bodies of each congregation (for us, that's the synod) where the search for a shared pastor will really get underway. We are optimistic that this will widen the pool of candidates and hopefully get us one step closer to having a pastor to lead our congregations. If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to reach out to us!

--First Lutheran Call Committee

Church Council Meetings Review :

Present: Corrine Coyle, Bryan Friedman, Steve Putz, and Allison Bartholmey

Call to Order: Friedman called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

Devotions: Putz provided an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes: Council reviewed the minutes from the May 19, 2022 meeting. Coyle moved to approve. Putz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Reception of Petitions/
Communications:** None

New Business:

* Shared Ministry with UCC Update: First Lutheran approved the shared ministry agreement on May 22. UCC has failed to have a vote on the joint agreement yet, due to a lack of quorum of their members. They plan to have it approved soon so the formal call process can get underway.

* Lutheran Church of Hope: Council discussed the fact that Lutheran Church of Hope of West Des Moines had a meeting on June 2nd in Newton to promote starting a local branch of their church.

* Altar Care Procedures:

Council reviewed the detailed notes that Pat Foote had provided to instruct how to perform altar care duties.

* Synod Assembly Recap: Coyle attended the Synod Assembly in May as the representative of First Lutheran. She provided Council with a summary of some of the highlights.

Old Business:

Upgrade to the Treasurer's Computer: A new computer is in place in the office and the financial data has successfully been transferred to it. The new computer works much faster.



Continued on pg. 2

Treasurer's Report: Coyle presented the May financial statements and explained the notable items.

Calendar Review: The draft of the July calendar was reviewed. Due to scheduling conflicts, it was suggested to change the date of the July Council meeting.

Committee Reports:
Property: Putz provided updates on some of the current yard work projects around the church.

Faith Formations: Bartholmey reported that there was some interest in a later summer Vacation Bible School, but that no details were yet arranged.

Next Meeting: Tuesday July 19th.
Coyle has devotions.

Adjournment: Bartholmey moved and Putz seconded to adjourn at 7:32pm. Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted:
Bryan Friedman

Zinga News Update!

One ongoing aggravation anywhere in Tanzania is the nearly daily power outages. Almost all power in Tanzania is hydroelectric. But in recent years, rainfall has been below average, and during the dry season when rivers and reservoirs are lower than normal, there simply is not enough water to turn the turbines. What power is available is distributed by way of power sharing, so that when the power is out in one city, it comes back on in another. The problem is that there is no schedule, so it always comes as an inconvenient surprise. The power may be off for ten minutes...or for four days.

Enter a generous donor from Idaho! A \$25,000 *Christmas in July* challenge grant for the construction at Zinga has been issued, to be used where most needed.

One thing Tanzania has lots of is sunshine! After some discussion, a decision has been made to investigate the cost of going solar. Reliable solar power will make all the difference for the safety of the patients and the ability to serve them. To jump on this opportunity to double your gift, go to <https://www.ihptz.org> and click on Donate. Or you may write a check to First Lutheran with Zinga Challenge in the memo line, or write your check to IHP-US and hand or mail it to Duane Quanbeck, who has joined the IHP-US board as treasurer. No gift is too small! The children of Tanzania will thank you.



Thank you from Jim and Gloria Grant

The family of Jim & Gloria Grant want to say thank you for all of the sent cards, monetary donations, and for everyone that attended our 70th wedding anniversary party Saturday, June 25th. We have been greatly blessed.

Thank you!



July 2022, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

God's work. Our hands.

As a social ministry organization of the ELCA, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) is so thankful for your partnership in ministry! Thanks to you, we are able to provide education to parents of young children, empower Iowans with disabilities, and offer critical mental health care to community members of all ages. This month, we would like to give special thanks for those of you who have made LSI a focus on your congregation's "God's work. Our hands." project.

On a planned day in September, each congregation is encouraged to reach outside of the church and do good deeds in the community by participating in a project for "God's work. Our hands." This is a perfect opportunity to combine community projects with a special project for nonprofits like LSI, whether it's raising money or contributing in-kind gifts.

We thank you for your service! If you are interested in supporting the Iowa children and families served by LSI or would like to get involved in a "God's work. Our hands." project with LSI, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

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 LSI (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 and Facebook.com/LSI.Iowa.

Restoring Hope

Over the last year, LSI and its many community partners across Iowa have come together in a time of need. When hundreds of Afghan evacuees needed a place to call home in Iowa, LSI rose to the challenge to provide crucial resettlement services. Supporters from across the state rallied together to provide financial support; they put together almost 600 welcome boxes so every individual had what they needed when they arrived; and they volunteered their time to provide assistance with transportation and housing during a distressing time.

In our offices in Des Moines and Sioux City, LSI was able to hire additional staff who speak 14 different languages. In December 2021, for the first time in 10 years, LSI began welcoming new arrivals to Iowa, and we have since welcomed more than 165 individuals – including many families – to their new home in Iowa. Thanks to the support of our partners, Iowa continues to be a space of welcome, a place where individuals can find safety, security, and a community where they can rebuild their lives.



Neighbors Helping Neighbors



Neighbors Helping Neighbors is sponsoring a new project this summer. Due to the abundance of clothing drive projects around town in the past few years, this summer NHN will be collecting items needed by school teachers and school nurses, which the school budgets typically do not cover, yet many families cannot afford to provide for their children. We will be collecting these items at churches during the summer and delivering them to the schools during August

before school opens.

The teachers and nurses have identified these supplies as the ones needed most.

- Sticky-notes
- Brand new children's jeans, sweat pants, socks and underwear are also needed.

- pencils*
- Kleenex*
- poster board
- index cards
- post-its
- expo markers*
- binders*
- glue sticks*
- scissors
- composition notebooks- these are the ones with the sewn in binding
- mints (for coughs, cough drops cannot be dispensed)
- ear buds
- pencil eraser tops
- loose leaf paper
- expo erasers
- crayons
- 2 pocket folders- in solid colors
- disinfecting wipes*
- Sheet protectors
- Highlighters
- Binders

Nurses:

- granola bars***
- peppermints
- life savers (sore throats)
- bandages
- ace bandages
- bandaids- all sizes
- kitchen sponges and ziploc bags (these make reusable ice packs)
- refillable water bottles

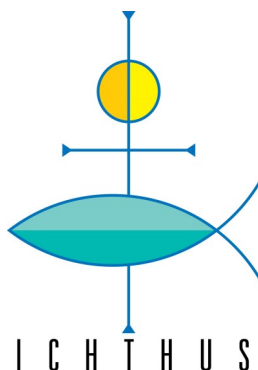


HAPPY
Birthday
FROM YOUR
CHURCH FAMILY

Steve Hodnett 07/04
Carson Sumpter 07/04
Leo Friedman 07/06
Talia Friedman 07/08
Victoria Jordan 07/08
Lonnie Portner 07/08
Barb Anderson 07/13
Elizabeth Ketcham 07/13
Allison Bartholmey 07/18
Anna VanDam 07/22
Todd Lucas 07/27
Erik Vokes 07/28
Joey Lammey 07/30
Jeremy Sumpter 07/31

Christian symbol

FISH—The first letters in the Greek phrase “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior” spell ICHTHUS, or fish. Early Christians used the sign to convey their faith and avoid persecution. In the gospels, fish are part of several miracles. They also represent people who need to be “caught” for Christ. Today, a fish bumper sticker is a popular indicator of Christian faith.



Please remember to sign up to donate chancel flowers.
The Flower Chart/Sign Up Sheet is located in the
Narthex

Prayer

*God of freedom, I pray
for the time when all
“earth and heaven [will]
ring ... with the
harmonies of liberty”
It’s the middle of summer,
Nourish growth in my
heart as you do crops in
fields and produce in
gardens this time of year.
God, may each of us
know your love. Show me
how to bless someone
with your care. In your
Holy name Lord, Amen*

Bible Quiz

In Luke 15
Jesus tells
three para-
bles. Which
of the fol-
lowing is not
one of them?



- A. The Parable of the Lost Sheep
- B. The Parable of the Lost Son
- C. The Parable of the Lost Pearl
- D. The Parable of the Lost Coin

Answer on Pg. 6

All we need to know

When a loved one dies, we have questions: What caused the death? When will the funeral be? What form will our grief take? Some deaths also bring spiritual questions: Where was God? Is our loved one with God now?

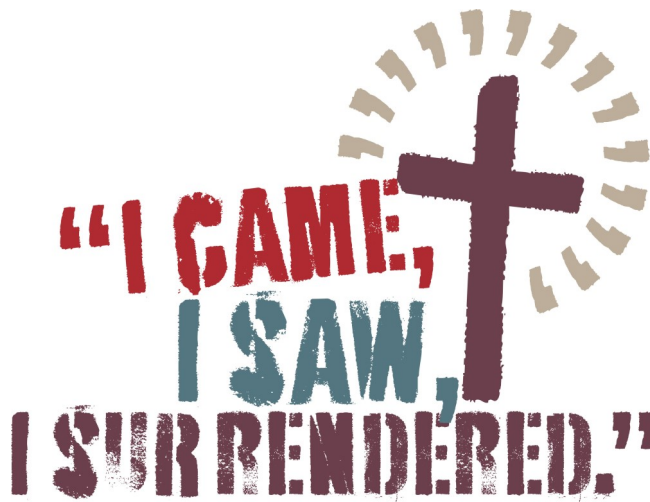
Paul shared deep thoughts about death with the believers at Corinth. His complex ideas might raise further questions, but here’s the key: We don’t need to understand everything right away — not all of Paul’s theology, or everything about God or all the practical matters around a loved one’s death. Here, from 1 Corinthians 15 (NRSV), is what we do know: “Christ has been raised from the dead” (v. 20) — death doesn’t have the final say. “All will be made alive in Christ” (v. 22) — a loving promise God offers to all. “The last enemy to be destroyed is death” (v. 26) — in the end, Jesus will destroy all sickness, pain, sorrow, war, poverty, oppression and even death itself. We are in God’s loving hands. That’s all we need to know.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

Liberty through surrender

To non-believers, talk of finding freedom through complete dependence on Jesus must sound foolish. How can surrendering your desires, time, heart — indeed, your entire life — lead to anything but bondage?

The answer is evident in Jesus' own life and ministry, writes Michael Card in *Immanuel: Reflections on the Life of Christ*. In a twist on Julius Caesar's motto "Veni, vidi, vici" ("I came, I saw, I conquered"), "Jesus lived by the motto, 'I came, I saw, I surrendered,'" Card notes. "By living out this unorthodox pronouncement, Jesus demonstrated that what the world regards as power is really impotence. True victory is only through surrender."



During the 16th century, St. Ignatius of Loyola wrote this prayer of surrender that's still relevant today: "Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding and my whole will. All that I am and all that I possess, Thou hast given me: I surrender it all to Thee to be disposed of according to Thy will. Give me only Thy love and Thy grace; with these I will be rich enough and will desire nothing more. Amen."

The soul as soil

Gardeners who've dealt with inhospitable conditions can relate especially well to Jesus' parable of the sower. Drought, invasive critters and thorny weeds often seem to conspire against growers' efforts. Yet when seeds fall on "good soil," the crop yield is abundant — up to a hundred times what was sown (Matthew 13:8). That parable emphasizes the need for hearts to be receptive to God's Word. But it's also a reminder to plant Scripture persistently. Just as soil and weather conditions change, so may someone's attitude toward

following Jesus. Pastor J. Ellsworth Kalas writes, "Whenever we serve as witnesses to the faith, we must do so with all earnestness, because one doesn't know the season in which the soul currently abides. That uninterested, distracted or unresponsive person may be nearer the Kingdom than we — or they — realize." Kalas adds, "We dare not give up on anyone at any time — including



*The next
meeting will be on
July 6th, 2022
6:30 Pm.*



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

309 East Third Street North
Newton, Iowa
50208

office@newtonfirstlutheran.org

(641)792-3934

Office Hours
Monday—Friday
8:30 am—12:30 pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Rev. Cal Oraw Worship Service 9:30am	4 th of July	5 Property Meeting 6:30 pm.	6 Dorcas 9:00 AM	7	8	9
10 Rev. Cal Oraw Worship Service 9:30am	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Rev. Cal Oraw Worship Service 9:30am	18	19 Council Meeting 6:30 Pm	20	21 Martha Cr. 1:00 Pm.	22	23
24 Rev. Cal Oraw Worship Service 9:30am	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Rev. Cal Oraw Worship Service 9:30am						

Please be praying for all of the Pulpit Supply
Pastors that have so graciously been leading worship.
Don't forget to thank them if you have a chance.

309 EAST THIRD STREET NORTH
NEWTON, IOWA
50208

FIRST
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**Watch Past and Live
services !**

newtonfirstlutheran.org
&
(on Facebook at)
First Lutheran Church-
Newton

Phone: 641-792-3934

E-mail:

firstoffice@newtonfirstlutheran.org



The
POWER OF
Prayer

*Please contact the church office and let us know how we can
pray for you.*