First Hearts

August 2019

First Lutheran Church

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FROM PASTOR ROCKEMANN

One day the Green Bay Packers under their great coach, Vince Lombardi, were playing the Detroit Lions. Even though they were one of the greatest football teams ever assembled, this day the Lions were whipping them. In the first half, the Packers just couldn't do anything right, and of course, Coach Lombardi always hammered on the importance of execution—doing it right! Mercifully, the first half came to an end, and the players knew that Lombardi was going to be very angry with them at half time. They were going to have to endure his yelling for their sloppy play. To make matters worse, as Lombardi was walking across the field to the locker rooms, a player from the Lions yelled some insulting slur at him.

In the locker room, the Packers settled in for what was sure to be an explosion from Coach Lombardi. However, it a most mild-mannered way, he suggested some ways to improve both their defensive and offensive play. All the while, his players waited for what they were sure would be a fiery explosion from him. But it never came. Just before they were to go back onto the field for the second half, Mr. Lombardi said, "And, oh, by the way, fellows,"—the players thinking, uh-oh, here it comes—"just remember," Lombardi continued, "We are the Green Bay Packers. Now go out there and act like it!"

They did. The Packers came from behind and beat the Lions that day!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ: that's the way it is with us, too. The Holy Spirit reminds us daily that we are the very sons and daughters of the Heavenly Father, through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus, for us (Romans 8:16). Called out of the darkness of our sin and death into the marvelous Light of life in Christ, we strive to live that way. We are people of the Light, reflecting Him Who is our God and Lord (Matt. 5:16).



Upcoming Events

8/25 Rally Day Sunday

9/15 Mitebox Sunday

Fellowship 9:00

Sunday School 9:15

Worship Service 10:30

Monthly Readings:

9/1- Prov. 25: 2-10, Heb. 13: 1-17, Luke 14: 1-14

9/8 – Deut. 30: 15-20, Philemon 1-21, Luke 14: 25-35

9/15 – Ezek. 34: 11-24, 1 Tim. 1: (5-11) 12-17, Luke 15: 1-10

9/22 – Amos 8: 4-7, 1 Tim. 2: 1-15, Luke 16: 1-15

9/29 – Dan. 10: 10-14, 12: 1-3, 1 Rev. 12: 7-12, Matt. 18: 1-11 or Luke 10: 17-20

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"Just remember who you are, "says the Holy Spirit to us daily." Baptized into Christ, you belong to Him and no and nothing can change that! Be who you are—live your faith. (Ephesians 6:11-13). The victory has already been secured for you!"

Pastor Rockemann Vacancy Pastor

Weekly Happenings

Sunday: Fellowship 9:00AM, Bible Class 9:15AM,

Divine Worship 10:30

2nd and 4th Tuesdays: Quilting 9:30 AM (Meeting Room)

Wednesday: School Chapel at 8:30AM, 5:45PM Hand bell Rehearsal, 6:00PM New Testament Class with Pastor Shultz, and 7:00 Choir Rehearsal

Board Happenings

9/3- Stewardship 7PM

- 9/14- Trustee Workday 9AM
- 9/10- School Board 6PM

9/10- Elder's Meeting 6:30 PM

Prayer Requests

Serving Our Country: Brett Anthonijs, Robert Boatman, Isaac Davis, Chad Kaiser, Adam Smith, Jeff Stone, Neil Whitehead, and William Smolter

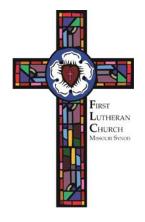
Members: Brion Bissell (needs kidney), Eric Lintz, Margot Bridges (homebound), Carl Testerman (stroke), Gene Franklin, the Varner family, Don & Carolyn Weaver, Karla Hood, Kris Weaver, Mike & Mary Jones, Harold & Katherine Whitaker (homebound), Don & Sandy Linde, Sharon Mueller, Marilyn Wing (homebound), Douglas Rodenbeck(transition to being homebound), Jim and Rosa Beck, and the family of Shawn Hunze. For condolence cards, please mail them to:

Sherril D. Hunze

121 Indian Valley Rd

Huntsville, AL 35806

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Non Members: Jonathan Campbell (Diane Baum's co-worker's brother) fighting infection after an appendectomy to remove his ruptured appendix, Steven Dew (Carolyn Weaver's friend), Bill Flynn (Sharon Mueller's brother), whose cancer has returned Ken Hamilton (father of Anna Marie Hamilton, UT student from Alabama) Judy Hamrick (Shirley Watson's neighbor) with a tumor that is growing, JoAnn Harbaugh (Kathleen Holliday's mother) Cheryl Hooks (Diane Baum's friend) undergoing months of chemotherapy after removal of part of her colon and intestines due to cancer ,Helen Linderfelt (Lynda Graves' friend) Joyce Lipscomb (Rick Elmore's friend) Annette Lotivio (Marc Blais's friend) with pancreatic cancer, Joanne Mattingly, Joan Mincey (Shirley Watson's friend) with stage 4 COPD and breast cancer Karen Nall Travis Parrott (the Wolford's sonin-law) needing a kidney transplant Tom Roberts (Sara's grandfather) with Alzheimer's Daniel Rule (the Slifkas' friend) suffering from RSD, Kristy Shirk (Lynda Graves' friend) with cancer of the sinuses Barbara Thornton (Janice Kaiser's relative) Sam and Alex Weaver, and Jean Anderson (Mike Anderson's Mom)

Stewardship

What is a steward? Most people will say a steward is a manager.

That is correct, but it is only half right. A steward is indeed a manager, but he is a manager of what does not belong to him. Someone else is the owner, and the steward manages the owner's property on the owner's behalf.

We are God's stewards. Our stewardship is that God has made us managers of what belongs to Him:

"For we brought nothing into this world, and we cannot take anything out of the world" (1 Tim. 6:7)

Everything that we have and everything that we are comes from God's fatherly divine goodness and mercy. God is the owner. This is not only because He created all things; He is also the redeemer. He has redeemed – that is, purchased – and won all things. Therefore, it all belongs to Him. We are simply managers of everything in this world. Like Joseph in Egypt, we are put in charge of managing what belongs to God.

Think about that for a minute. The all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise God has asked us to manage his possessions on His behalf here on earth. And by doing this, He invites us to take part in the allocation of His good gifts. He wants us to give our input and advise Him in where His gifts are to be used. What a privilege indeed. But what a responsibility!

"Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required" (Luke 12:48b).

We are not the owners. And while He puts us as managers, we are still to do with His property what He wants done with it. That means we need to know what He desires and wills for His property. How do we know this? How can we know the will and mind of God?

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We find the will of God in the Bible. There God tells us what His will is for all of His gifts. He tells us how we are to spend our time and use our talents and treasures. He instructs us in the use of our minds, bodies, and souls.

And that is stewardship. It is simply doing what God wants us to do with what He has given us.

In Other News

Ask Pastor Schulz about Monday Bible study of the books of the New Testament beginning with Acts. The class begins Wednesday, September 4, from 6:00 to 7:00PM in the meeting room. Everyone is welcome!

55 Alive: On Thursday, Sept. 19th, we will have Cassie Nall, Weather Meteorologist, at WBIR-TV at 12:00 noon with a delicious luncheon -\$7.00/person. Cassie was born and raised in Florida and attended Florida State University for 4 years in Tallahassee and it was there that she had an interest in being on-air. She can't wait to discover all the amazing things eastern TN has in store for her! Hope to see you on Thurs. the 19th!

News from First Lutheran School

The start of the year is always a whirlwind. Everyone is excited to return to learning, but there are still those moments when we find ourselves struggling to get back into the rhythm of school. Nevertheless we are glad to be here. One might even say we are joyful.

As a school, our theme this year is Joy: Yesterday, Today, Always based on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. With this theme, we wanted to celebrate our past as we mark our 150^m anniversary, but we also wanted to look toward the future and the blessings God has in store for us.

One of the best parts about working in a Lutheran school is that every day you are able to celebrate something. It is a blessing to be surrounded by such joyful children. Sometimes the joy is because we passed a spelling test, or maybe we are joyful because there were tater-tots at lunch. I particularly like the students who are filled with joy just to be here. These students greet you in the hall with the biggest smile on their face, and you can't help but smile in return.





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I know the reason we are able to be so joyful here is because Christ is at the center of everything we do. When our theme verse reminds us to "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." There aren't any conditions or exceptions; we should be perpetually be rejoicing, praying and giving thanks. With God's help we strive for just that, and at First Lutheran that joy takes many forms:

Joy in Worship- Every Wednesday we come together for chapel where together we pray, praise and give thanks. This quarter we are also gathering offerings to support Lutheran Braille Workers which is a ministry that provides Bibles and Christian reading materials to the blind and visually impaired.

Joy in Fellowship – Germanfest was a great success for the School. Our PTL works tirelessly to ensure that things run smoothly and that everyone has a great time. The generosity of our school families and the community was evident in numerous silent auction items that were donated and sold to support the school

Joy in Learning - We dove right into the academics this year. Kindergarten is reviewing their letters. First and Second grade learned about the brain and how it works. Third grade is proving themselves to be very capable mathematicians. Fourth and Fifth Grade are already on their third novel. Sixth grade is traveling back to ancient history while Seventh and Eighth dive into learning about motion and Newton's Laws.

Joy in Teaching – Last, but not least our incredible staff have worked hard to ensure that this school year is going to be a success. They know their students and how they learn; in response, they create lessons that engage and inspire. Most importantly every teacher here puts Christ first in all they do which means the students continue to grow in faith and Christian love.

As always, remember to keep our school, its students, families, teachers and staff in your prayers.

	Jessie Irwin, Principal
Anniversaries:	
9: Howard and Monika Rash; Dave and	Tammy Wheat 26: Mark and Michelle Tillman
Birthdays:	
1: Dennis Graves; Nathan Sanders	5: Veronica Bartholomay; Kevin Broyles; and Dolly Roth
6: Carrington Tillman	7: Delaney Smolter
8: Alexus Gibson; Janie Lanham	10:Ariane Blais 12: Elizabeth Boyd
13: Emma Brown	14: David Bryant; Sophia Weideman; and Mary Ann Wheat
15: Melissa Hardin; Kirk Tower	16: Tom Bushur; Melissa Lyke 17: Shannon Schell
18: Dylan Baum; Amanda Knopps	20: Mary Bales 23: Jaydealynn Flanigan
24 Kyizer Fielden (Wheat)	25: Cindy Cox 26: Alycia Hacker (Wheat)
27: Hayden Reed; Robert Wolford	29: Beth Buckner; Rebecca Nutter 30: Cameron Mabe

Jessie Irwin, Principal

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Elegant Treasures Sale

Join our neighbors at Christus Victor Lutheran for an "Elegant Treasures Sale". On Friday, September 20 from 9:00AM until 6:00PM and Saturday, September 21, from 9:00AM until 2:00PM you can check the neat items for sale. There will be treasures for everyone and neat crafts. The address is 4110 Central Avenue Pike, Knoxville, Tennessee 37912.

Deadline for October Newsletter is Friday, September 25th, 2019

Sundays - 8:15 AM Worship Service 9:15 AM Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship Service

Rev. Larry Rockemann, Vacancy Pastor, Rev. John Schulz, Pastor Emeritus, Jessie Irwin, Principal

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