



First Hearts August 2020

1207 North Broadway Knoxville, TN 37917

T: 865-524-0308 Email: office@firstknoxville.org



From the Pastor

I'm sitting at the dining table. A plate from our collection of cast-offs and random pieces found at thrift stores has crumbs from the ham sandwich I just finished as a late lunch. Kids are playing boardgames or listening to

music and dancing. I'm looking out the windows as the trees sway in the yard from a slight breeze. I've got that nagging voice in my head that reminds that I have no idea what to write for this newsletter.

Though I do know that I'm trusting the kids to keep playing and getting along while I'm writing. Trusting. Trust. A hymn starts playing in my mind. From whence it came, I know not. "I am trusting thee Lord Jesus, trusting only Thee;" . . . "I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead; Every day and hour supplying, All my need." (LSB 729 st 1, 4)

In all things we trust. I trust my kids will play nice. I trust when crossing the street that no one will come careening around the corner at breakneck speeds. I trust that when I go out to eat I won't get food poisoning. I trust that the stovetop is going to work when I cook dinner for the family. I trust that my car will start in the morning. I trust I won't be electrocuted while flipping on a light switch.

We trust in many things all the day long. However, all of these examples of trust: kids playing, crossing the street, eating food etc are all microcosms of our ultimate trust which is a complete reliance upon God. He revealed Himself to us. He came to us and called by name and said that He is the Lord our God who brought our forefathers up out of the land of Egypt. He provided for them, we can trust that He will provide for us.

We continue to place our trust, our reliance, solely upon Him. He bids us to come as spiritually poor beggars with nothing to offering in return except sin. He takes that sin and gives us righteousness.

So, with confidence we trust that He will guide us through this life, this pandemic, this time. We trust that He is working through His first article gift of doctors, nurses and medicine. So we hold them daily in prayer.

We trust that He will continue to use us here at First Lutheran as a shining beacon proclaiming His 200 proof Gospel for Knoxville. We trust that His Word, Baptism, Absolution, and Holy Communion will continue to be His tools for keeping us in the one true faith. We trust that He won't let us going through life alone. He is with us.

We trust His Word. We trust His guidance. We trust despite the darkness of our roads. He will not forsake us. His hands let nothing falter. We trust because He alone provides all that we need for this body and life.

"We are trusting Thee to guide us; Thou alone shalt lead; Every day and hour supplying all our needs."

Pastor Ed Maanum



Weekly Events

Divine Service 9:00 am

Divine Service 10:30 am

Board Happenings

8/11 - School Board 6:00 pm

8/11 - Elders Meeting 6:30 pm
8/15 - Trustee Workday 9:00am
8/25 - Planning Council 6:00 pm

Other Church Activities

8/3 - Ladies' Bible Study 7:00 pm

School Happenings

8/5 - 8/7 - Teacher In-Service
8/10 - Orientation and Opening Services (ECE - 5pm; K-8 - 7pm)
8/12 - First Day of School!

Monthly Readings

	Aug. 2 (Proper 13)	Ninth S. a. Pentecost	Is. 55:1-5	Psalm 136:1-9 (23-26)	Rom. 9:1-5 (6-13)	Matt. 14:13-21
	Aug. 9 (Proper 14)	Tenth S. a. Pentecost	Job 38:4-18	Psalm 18:1-9 (7-16)	Rom. 10:5-17	Matt. 14:22-33
	Aug. 16 (Proper 15)	Eleventh S. a. Pentecost	Is. 56:1, 6-8	Psalm 67	Rom. 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32	Matt. 15:21-28
	Aug. 23 (Proper 16)	Twelfth S. a. Pentecost	Is. 51:1-6	Psalm 138	Rom. 11:33- 12:8	Matt. 16:13-20
	Aug. 30 (Proper 17)	Thirteenth S. a. Pentecost	Jer. 15:15-21	Psalm 26	Rom. 12:9-21	Matt. 16:21-28

:



In Other News

Stewardship

Winston Churchill reportedly said, “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill then, our lives are defined less by what we have gotten and more by what we give away.

Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserve because of sin. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death, and hell. So it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got us for Himself, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it is also for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. Giving softens our hearts and frees us from the worries of this world and making a living. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get.

That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives – our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor, and servant to others?” to “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But, when we give, we do not have less, and we do not become less. We have more and become more. Because when we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the divine nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

Wedding. Dear fellow Saints of First Lutheran: You are invited to the wedding of Eric Lintz and Kristin Strandberg. Their nuptials will take place on Saturday, August 22, 2020 at 4:30pm here at First Lutheran Church.

Meet and Greet. We have an exciting opportunity for you. During the months of August and September on Thursday evenings from 6-8pm, the Board of Elders at First Lutheran will be hosting a “meet and greet” with Pastor Ed, Jenna and their wonderful kids. It is also a chance to meet your newly appointed Elder and their family (example Elder Joe LaDue has all households with last names A-B). See the list below to look for your new Elder and what date to attend the meet and greet. The meet and greet will be held on the lawn outside the church entrance off of Wells St. Stop by for a few minutes to say “hello” or stay for the whole time. Refreshments will be provided.

Aug 6, 6-8pm Members (N-R) Jered Sprecher
Aug 13, 6-8pm Members (A-B) Joe LaDue
Aug 20, 6-8pm Members (G-I) Greg Buckner
Aug 27, 6-8pm Members (J-L) Jon Eimmerman
Sept 3, 6-8pm Members (S-T) Mike Anderson
Sept 10, 6-8pm Members (V-Z) Matt Sanderson
Sept 17, 6-8pm Members (C-F) Don Linde

Sept 24, 6-8pm Members (M) Kevin Booth

Oct 1, 6-8pm (rain date?)

Morning Devotions. Starting August 3, Pastor will be having morning devotions in the church at 7:30am. The devotions will be each Monday-Thursday. They will take around 15 minutes. You are invited to come and join in.

Starting a Prayer Circle- We are starting a Prayer Circle for our church and school. If you would like to be a part of this ministry by praying for others, please email Beth Buckner at 1916buckner@comcast.net. Or if you have a prayer request that you would like for this group to pray for, please call the church office or Pastor Ed, and it will be passed along to the group. If you have any questions, please call Beth Buckner at 789-6490.

Emergencies or Support. If you have an emergency or are in need of pastoral support, you can reach Pastor Maanum at (719) 696-1487.

Online Services: Please visit the church website www.firstknoxville.org to view our worship services and to participate in worship at your home. There are also links for Bible study and other resources.

Facebook Page: Follow First Lutheran on Facebook for all the latest updates:

<https://www.facebook.com/KnoxFirstLutheran/>

News from First Lutheran School

The summer is drawing to a close, and First Lutheran is looking ahead to another fantastic school year. While school this year will certainly look different, we are keeping classes self-contained, teachers and k-8 students are wearing masks, hand washing will become second nature, and surfaces will be cleaned more than you can imagine, we are working hard to do what we can to keep our students in the classroom. Obviously, the teachers and staff of First Lutheran will always keep the health and safety of our students' paramount, but additionally this pandemic has provided an opportunity for us to consider what is important: our faith and our relationships.

When the teachers met over the summer, one idea we kept returning to was *hope*. Through faith in our Savior Jesus, we can have hope even in the most challenging situations. With that in mind, we chose as our theme verse for the upcoming year Romans 13:15 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." When things seem uncertain, and you aren't sure what the coming weeks, days, or even hours will bring, we still have hope. What a blessing that is! What a fantastic gift we can share with our students and their families as we help them grow in faith and Christian love.

While there are still questions about what exactly the school year will look like, we have hope, not just a dream or idle fantasy, but a deep faith and even if worldly concerns seem over whelming, we know that one thing will remain true, salvation through Christ.

This hope is what First Lutheran School is truly about. It is not about the earthly things like reading, writing and arithmetic (though we do a great job with those). It is the Holy Spirit working in the hearts of our students so that they too may "abound in hope" long after they graduate and leave our halls.

Finally, we ask that as we begin this year you, as part of First Lutheran and its mission, keep the students, teachers, staff and families in your prayers.



August

Anniversaries:

8: Chris & Rose Broyles; Carroll & Sherry Ward

24: Doug & Martha Rodenbeck

19: Gene & Ruth Franklin

28: Steve & Rebecca Keyes

20: Erik & Emily Blomenberg

30: Marc & Lois Blais

Birthdays:

1: Mindy Lovelace

17: Roger Bartholomay; Steve Killian; JoAnn Niedens

2: John Mueller

18: Terrie Yeatts

3: Gary Boatman; Noah Broyles

19: Chris Cox, Ruth Franklin

4: Sharon Mueller

21: Phyllis Nall; Dawn Roberts

5: Jered Sprecher

22: Nathan Baum; Sabrina Broyles; Robbie Miller

9: Christina Boatman

23: Emily Keyes

10: Kim Robinson

26: Chris Broyles

12: Kevin Holliday; Tyler Ward

28: Keith Hodson; Carl Testerman

13: Doug Bales; Shellia Byrd; Zach McSween

29: Eric Lintz; Annie Miller; Larry Miller

15: Wendy Appleton; Gary Munsey

30: Jackie Wheat

16: Rex Bartholomay

31: Olivia Wolford