



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
MISSOURI SYNOD • KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE



First Hearts May 2021

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From the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last month we started our discussion on the Five Pillars of our Mission Statement: Worship. This month our pillar is Education.

In Deuteronomy 6, Moses reminds the people of Israel to love the Lord their God “with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.” They are to teach their children who God is and what He has done for His people. “You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

In 2 Timothy, Paul mentions Timothy's grandmother Lois and mother Eunice, as the ones who passed on the faith to Timothy. From their instruction Timothy knew the Holy Scriptures.

In Luke 18, Jesus takes and blesses the little children, the infants, the nursing children. Doing so He gives a warning about the one who leads them astray with false teachings, false and wrong education.

First Lutheran has been blessed in this regard. We, as a school and congregation, teach our children the important things, the eternal things of God. We teach them Law and Gospel. We teach the Word.

As Christians we are encouraged to teach the Word at home, both formally and informally. Every day. 365 days a year. That's how often we need it. At Church and at home, we are called to teach our children God's Word.

Luther knew this well. Before every section in the Small Catechism he writes, "As the head of the household should teach his family." This means that the instruction of the Pastor is, by nature, inferior to the instruction laid out by the child's own father. The father may not have received the same instruction as one who is called and ordained. However, his example, love, patience, humility, encouragement, and steadfastness in the Word speaks volumes compared to the comparatively few hours of instruction with the Pastor.

But you are not alone in this endeavor to teach your children the Word! Starting this fall, we'll be introducing a new catechism memory program for our youth. This will include public recognitions and prayers when sections are learned at home. The children will also receive various rewards, for lack of a better word, for their continued education. Catechisms, Bibles, Hymnals, and instruction for families on how to use them as devotional materials at home. Learning and growing is life long. Let's equip our youth to be Lutheran!

I encourage you to take a look again at Ms. Jessie's newsletter article from April to see if our school is right for your family or families you know. Hint: It is! I also implore you to take advantage of the different Bible Studies we have here. There's the LWML's women's study on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. We also have a men's study and breakfast on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. Not to mention Confirmation, Adult Instruction, Sunday morning Bible Class, and Sunday School which will be resuming soon.

Speaking of Sunday School, if you're High School aged and older and are interested in leading, assisting, teaching, or subbing, please let me or one of the elders know.

Next month, we'll discuss the Third Pillar: Witness.

Pastor Ed Maanum



Weekly Events

Sunday - Divine Service 8:30 am and 11:00 am; Bible Study 9:45 am

Board Happenings

5/11- School Board 6:00 pm

5/11 - Elders Meeting 7:00 pm

5/18 - Planning Council 6:30 pm

Other Church Activities

5/1 - Men's Bible Study 8:00 am

5/2 - Confirmation 9:45 am

5/10 - Ladies' Bible Study 7:00 pm

5/15 - Men's Bible Study 8:00 am

5/15 - Work Day 9:00 am

5/16 - Confirmation 9:45 am

5/16 - Youth Group (immediately following 11:00 am service)

5/20-5/22 - Youth Rummage Sale

5/24 - Ladies' Bible Study 7:00 pm

School Activities

5/18 - Kindergarten and 8th grade Graduation

5/19 - ECE Graduation

5/19 - Last Day of School

5/26 - Summer Day Camp Begins

	May 2	Fifth S. of Easter	Acts 8:26–40	Psalm 150	1 John 4:1–11 (12–21)	John 15:1–8
	May 9	Sixth S. of Easter	Acts 10:34–48	Psalm 98	1 John 5:1–8	John 15:9–17
	May 13	The Ascension of Our Lord	Acts 1:1–11	Psalm 47	Eph. 1:15–23	Luke 24:44–53
	May 16	Seventh S. of Easter	Acts 1:12–26	Psalm 1	1 John 5:9–15	John 17:11b–19
PENTECOST	May 23	The Day of Pentecost	Ezek. 37:1–14	Psalm 139:1–12 (13–16)	Acts 2:1–21	John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15
	May 30	The Holy Trinity	Is. 6:1–8	Psalm 29	Acts 2:14a, 22–36	John 3:1–17

In Other News

Stewardship

St. Paul teaches us: “Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches” (Gal. 6:6). In other words, ministers of the Gospel are supported by the offerings of those who are served by them.

And this is how the church lives even now. But this deserves closer examination. For it instructs us not just *that* we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four little words: “In the same way ...”

St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel with the sacrificial giving of individual members on the example of the Old Testament people who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices. We’re to support the Gospel ministry “in the same way.” But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites?

Moses records this: “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year.” (Deut. 14:22). The Levites were supported by the tithe, 10 percent of all the yearly yield of that which was harvested

Does that seem like a lot? If it does, ask yourself: Is the church’s job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites’ job in the Old Testament? Back then, there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham. In Matthew 28, Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations, and there are churches and ministries all around the world! How could we support this new Gospel ministry with anything less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

In the same way – and in response to His fatherly divine goodness and mercy – we gladly give to those who proclaim to us “the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light.” For once we were not a people, but now we are God’s people; once we had not received mercy, but now

we have indeed (1 Peter 2:9–10).

Board of Trustees – Special Project List

Doc Sternberg and the Board of Trustees have put together a list of (11) key projects for facilities improvements for the church and school. (See attached below). The dollar amounts, shaded in green are the estimated amounts needed to complete each project, with the column on the right showing what has been raised thus far. As of this past Sunday, there are (4) projects that have been fully funded but there are many important projects that are still in need of donations.

Please prayerfully consider contributing to one or more of these funds over the next few weeks and months. If you have any questions about the projects, you can contact Doc Sternberg.

	COLLECTED	GOAL
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL	45,432.36	\$559,500
WHITE HOUSE ROOFING/GUTTERS	\$20,000	\$4,000
WHITE HOUSE WINDOWS	\$4,000	
RUBBER ROOF REPAIRS	\$18,000	COMPLETE
MAINTENANCE ROOFING CONTRACT (X3 YEAR CONTRACT)	\$2,800	COMPLETE
SEAL LEAKING PARAPETS	\$9,100	COMPLETE
BUILDING STABILITY (INCLUDES \$7,000 FOR WASHING, REPOINTING, CAULKING & WATERPROOFING FOR THE 1948 SCHOOL BUILDING)	\$375,000	
SANCTUARY ROOFING	\$60,000	\$5,600
LADIES BATHROOM REMODEL (BY PASTOR'S OFFICE - SEPARATE INTO 2 BATHROOMS, WOMENS & MENS)	\$30,000	
SCHOOL HVAC AIR SANITIZERS	\$3,600	COMPLETE
PAINT THE GYM	\$9,000	COMPLETE
3 REMAINING HVAC UNITS (CIRCA 1978) (\$11,000 EA OR REPLACE AT ONE TIME FOR \$28,000)	\$28,000	

Financial Update: A special thanks to all of those who donated to the Special Offering. We raised \$2,860 above and beyond regular offerings. As a church, we raised over \$45,000 towards the Trustee Projects. In addition, the PTL has raised nearly \$20,000 towards painting the gym and renovating the ECE bathrooms.

	Actual	Budget
Income		
Church	261006	280470
School	740280	671108
Total	1001302	951579
Expense		
Church	245193	244662
School	747250	727671
Total	992444	972333

Wednesday Worship: We will begin Wednesday Evening Prayer Services again on Wednesday, June 2. These services will be at 6:30pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

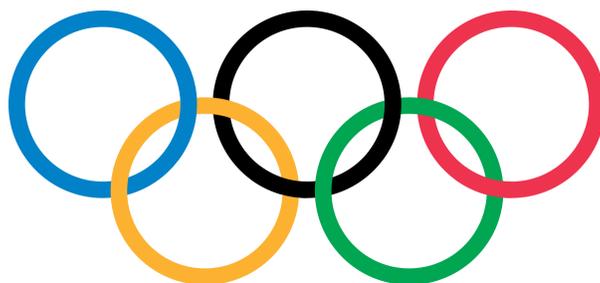
Parrish Education - Are you interested in facilitating Sunday School and VBS? First Lutheran is looking for volunteers to help organize Sunday School and other Parrish Education activities. Please reach out to Pastor Ed or Jered Sprecher.

Youth! Mark your calendars, join in fun and fellowship after 11:00 am church on the third Sunday of every month.

Youth Rummage Sale: The youth will be hosting their annual Rummage Sale on Friday, May 21st and Saturday, May 22nd from 8am to 3pm. Drop off of items will be on Thursday, May 20th from 8am to 8pm. If you have any questions, or need to arrange another drop off time, please contact Shellia Byrd at (865) 300-8350.

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

With the school year coming to a close, we are so thankful that we have been able to provide a safe and loving Christian education to our students here at First Lutheran. While there were definitely many challenges, the accomplishments made throughout the year, have far outweighed the challenges. Thank you to everyone that has helped our school this year whether financially, physically helping with events or maintenance, providing kind words to teachers and/or students, or praying for our school family, we truly appreciate your efforts throughout the year.

We are looking ahead to our amazing Summer Day Camp. This year, the theme is Friendship Games! Students in our summer day camp will learn the core values of the Olympic Games which are **Excellence, Respect, and Friendship!** Each week they will experience social, cultural, and educational activities from different countries all while building friendships and having fun in a loving Christian environment.

We are still enrolling for our summer program, so if you are interested in enrolling your children or know someone that would be interested, feel free to take a brochure (we will have some located at the back of the sanctuary) or contact the director Shirley Eimmerman via email at: seimmerman@firstlutherschool.com.

Hope and many blessings,
Jessie Irwin, Principal



Birthdays:

May 1: Barb Eisold
May 3: Alice Munsey
May 4: Clara Cox
May 5: Morgan Slomski
May 6: Jim Roberts
May 7: Brion Bissell; Nicholas Mueller
May 9: Emily Rodenbeck; Jim Scarlett
May 10: Chuck Baum; Carmine Capparelli; Harrison Killian
May 12: Larry Mabe
May 13: Greg Buckner
May 14: Miranda Witt
May 15: Margot Bridges
May 16: Mike Jones; Kim Mabe
May 18: Heidi Bartholomay
May 19: Joe LaDue; Aaron Wade
May 21: Taylor Day; Angel Mueller; Cutter Tillman
May 22: Michael Warwick; Penny Wright

May 23: Beth Watson

May 25: Chelcie Holloway

May 26: Jeff Wheat

May 27: Olivia Killian; David Norton; Jeffrey Turner

May 28: Liam Milbourn; Benny Samuel

May 31: Scott Testerman

Anniversaries:

May 19: David & Karen Varner

May 26: Mike & Melissa Sanders

May 27: Kevin & Vicki Broyles

May 28: Brad & Bethany Capehart; Don & Terrie Yeatts;

Doc & Kelly Sternberg

May 29: Don & Joy Froemsdorf

May 30: Joe & Angela Lukens