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PERMIT NO. 5



#### **JUNE 2021**

The Newsletter of First Evangelical Lutheran Church 561 Chestnut Street Taylors Falls, MN 55084-1110 651-465-5265 www.tflutheran.org

### **SUNDAY**WORSHIP Iune 6: Indoor

June 13: Outdoor June 20: Indoor June 27: Outdoor Online Worship available every Sunday, please check out our website: www.tflutheran.org or our YouTube Channel: First Evangelical Lutheran

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Church of TF.

Monday 8:30am—1:30pm Tuesday 8:30am—12:30pm Thursday 8:30am—11:30am Hours may vary - please visit the website for

updates.



Our Saint Paul Area Synod Assembly was May 14-15, again conducted via Zoom. It's a pretty efficient way of doing the business of the church, but it is far from ideal. I think what I miss the most is gathering for worship with 400+ people who love to sing and celebrate our oneness in Christ. I miss also seeing colleagues and friends from around the synod.

This year's theme was "Waiting In Hope." It comes from Psalm 130, a familiar Psalm shared by many who find themselves in challenging times of life. Verse 5 expresses our need and longing for God's presence in difficult circumstances as well as confidence that God will respond: "I wait for you, O Lord, my soul waits; your word is my hope." Certainly this past year and more has given all of us times when we resonate with these words, wanting God to be there for us and to find hope in the midst of everything that is going on.

The keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Joy J. Moore, reflected on the words to the early church that the author of 1 Peter was writing to, and asked us to also mull over what we are waiting for. As we were sent off into small groups to share our answers, one of the people in my group talked about how often she hears people waiting for things to get back to "normal." But her response to what she was waiting for, maybe hoping for, was that we as a church will not be satisfied with going back to normal. She wondered if it might actually be better for us to not only accept, but embrace and in fact strive for change - for a change of perspective on what it means to be the church in today's polarized world, for a change in our practice of living out what it means to be an "evangelical" church, and a change in our practices of truly loving one another. My response to what I am waiting for I think goes well with this woman's response. I hope more of us, myself included, will be willing to be vulnerable and see this not as a weakness, but as a strength that leads to more openness and a willingness to learn from each other.

With that, let me also share **The Road Toward Racial Justice Initiative** promoted by the synod that will require us to not only change, but also be vulnerable with each other. These are Bishop Lull's words in her annual report about this initiative:

The COVID-19 pandemic is not the only crisis that confronted us with urgency this past year. It is imperative that we come together now to address the toll that generations of racism and racist practices have taken in our church and in our nation. The broad initiative for doing so in this synod is called The Road to Racial Justice.

I am moved by the number of individuals, groups and congregations that have already set a course of listening, learning, repenting and changing attitudes and practices. In other communications and at the assembly itself, you will hear more about this common work.

I hope you will personally join me in four practices, which are designed to help us together move forward on this journey. They are:

**Pray** daily for God to continue to open my mind and heart for transformation, which shows respect to persons in all their diversity.

**Engage** in regular and honest conversation with another person, who can help me see bias in my speech, attitudes, or actions that I may not recognize on my own.

**Participate** in a study or exploration group, designed to widen my understanding of the lives and stories of persons of color.

Embrace opportunities to be in conversation with someone from a race other than my own and to listen to their experiences with racism.

I hope you can agree that going back to "normal" isn't where God is leading us. It is also good to know that we are not in this journey alone. We wait in hope that God is truly leading us, that as the saying goes, "God's mission has a church." Hopefully that is freeing to know that God is working with us and among us and that we truly are in this together. May God grant us the courage and wisdom to move forward in faith!

Pastor Dwight Rudquist

#### **PASTORAL**VISITS

Over the past year, Pr. Dwight has visited church members by request only due to many safety restrictions. As those restrictions are being lifted, Pr. Dwight is available for visits on a more readily basis. Please call the church office to arrange a time and date if you are interested in a visit from Pr. Dwight.



### New Members Welcome!

If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact the office at 651-465-5265.

#### **LIBRARY**HOURS

Monday 8:30am-1:30pm Tuesday 8:30am-12:30pm Thursday 8:30am-11:30am

### COUNCILMEETING

Council will meet June 13th at 10:30am

#### MONTHLY GIVING REPORT

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. —2 Cor. 9:7 (NIV)

<u>Budgeted Weekly Expenses: \$2771.60</u>	
04/25 Giving:	\$1,225.00
05/02 Giving:	\$2,400.00
05/09 Giving:	\$2,010.00

Thank you for your faithful giving. Please contact FELC Treasurer, Becky Hulden with any questions or concerns at: 651-465-3631 or rhulden@gmail.com.

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Please contact the church office if there are any errors or omissions. Thank you.

06/27

06/29

06/29

Leslie Smith

Roger Gustafson

**Cachael Huntington** 



1051 Mulberry St, Taylors Falls MN

### Volunteer **Appreciation** and Open House

Friday, June 11, 1:30pm to 3:00pm

### The Lodge of Taylors Falls

RSVP by calling 651-240-0140

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer at our Assisted Living Community? Have you volunteered with us in the past? Please join us in this Volunteer Appreciation Open House. We would love to meet you and invite you to see all of our current volunteer opportunities!

The Lodge of Taylors Falls, managed by The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society, is a 24 unit Assisted Living Community, nestled on a wooded lot, and surrounded by the beautiful St. Croix River Valley. We currently have openings for our 1 bedroom apartments. If you or a loved one is seeking a senior living community that focuses on your needs, and shares your values, please call today to schedule a tour! 651-240-0140

## Harmony in the Park



Wednesdays, starting at 6:30pm Concert starts at 7:00pm June 2 - August 5, 2021

Deutschland Meats will have BBQ, and Trinity Lutheran youth will have snacks, beverages & ice cream available. Bring your own lawn chair. Fun for the whole family! Lions Park Band Shell next to Lindstrom City Hall 13292 Sylvan Ave., Lindstrom, MN 55045

SCHEDULE: June 2: The White Sidewalls ~ June 9: Buddy Holly ~ June 16: The Dweebs ~ June 23: The World According to Garth SPECIAL 2 hour show ~ June 30: A Hard Days Night ~ July 7: Bob and the Beachcombers ~ July 14: Monroe Crossing ~ July 21: Darlene and the Boys ~ July 28: Back Up and Push (Bluegrass) ~ Aug. 4: Rockin' Hollywoods



## **Summer Camp 2021**

Visit their website for a full up to date covid plan and procedure.

Visit our website: www.lutherpoint.org for more information, a full summer schedule and information on summer camp discounts & incentive discounts!

We have brochures at the church - call the office for more info!

Join us this summer as we dive into the stories and teachings of Exodus has to offer and learn with us as we adventure through being both Broken & Blessed.



### FREE FRIDAY CONCERTS 6:30 PM JUNE 4 CITY OF TRAILS FEST THE JORGENSENS BAND 11 SWONGOS & HOUNDS 18 BBQ & BLUES NIGHT 25 PAT DONOHUE & THE PRAIRIE HOME ALLSTARS 2 KIDS & FAMILY NITE 9 BIG BAND & HORNS WANNIGANS WEEKEND! 16 VAN HALEN TRIBUTE SCHOOL OF ROCK SHOW 17 THE UNDERGROOVE REX CACTUS + COMEDY 23 JIMMY BUFFET NIGHT

30 @ POLK COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 6 COUNTRY NIGHT WITH USA'S #1 JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE SHOW 13 THE GIT BACKS 20 BLUEGRASS NIGHT W STRINGSMITHS BAND 27 KIDS & FAMILY NITE 28 FALLS' MUSIC FEST AT THE POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS WITH CHRIS KROEZE BAND BEER BBQ RIBS + MORE

### Announcing the 2021 St Croix Falls **Music On The Overlook Summer Concert Series**

~ Spread out ~

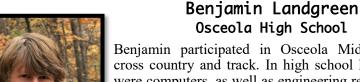
~ Be Safe ~

~ Bring your own lawn chair ~

~ Enjoy The Music ~



Sunday
June 6, 2021
9:00am Worship
Cupcakes & Coffee
outdoors to follow.



Benjamin participated in Osceola Middle School cross country and track. In high school his interests were computers, as well as engineering related trades courses. He has completed many building projects at home, including designing and constructing a simulation cockpit, an elevated bike rack for repair work, and various portable computer apparatuses. His passion is biking. He has made several long trips on his Trek and is participating in his first mountain bike race in May in Rochester. He enjoys his job at Dick's Fresh Market in Osceola and will work with his dad in construction this summer as well. Benjamin plans to attend Lake Superior College in Duluth this fall in their PC Support Technician program.

### Isaac Moberg Chisago Lakes High School

Isaac played percussion freshman year. He was involved with his church youth group doing many volunteer opportunities (Feed My Starving Children, Summer Mission Trip, Together With Friends, Maple Syrup Ministry, Youth Worship Band . . .) He also took piano lessons freshman and sophomore year. He ran for the CLHS Cross Country Team all through HS and tried out Track as well. He works for Wal-Mart and the Taylors Falls Scenic Boat Tours. He cares deeply about people and makes sure we know it! He always knows how to make you laugh and smile! Isaac plans to attend UW Superior in the fall, but has yet to determine a major.



### Molly Moberg Chisago Lakes High School

Molly has been in CL Marching band, Class Band, and Jazz Band through out HS playing the flute, piccolo, piano, and even the accordion! She took piano lessons 3 years of HS and Flute lessons 1 year. She has done numerous Honors Bands and been nominated for the Mississippi 8 Band Junior and Senior Year. She has been on Math League, NHS, and LINK Crew. Ran all 4 years for Cross Country and Track as well. She has maintained a 4.0 even through COVID! She works at Wal-Mart

and the Taylors Falls Drive Inn restaurant. She is a great resource for shopping, technology, music, fashion, and is very loyal. Molly is still deciding between UW Lacrosse and UM Winona. She is hoping to major in premed and minor in music.



JOIN US FOR A GRAD PARTY HONORING:

## Isaac & Molly Moberg

OPEN HOUSE:
Saturday, June 19th 1 - 5:00pm
American Legion Hall
807 E Pine St
St Croix Falls, WI 54024
RSVP: cmoberg@isd2144.org

by June 12th



### **Council Meeting Minutes**

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church May 16, 2021, 10:00 am at church Next meeting June 13, 2021 after church

"To worship God as an intergenerational praying community, learning God's Word, and building lasting relationships as we grow in God's love and grace."

**Members Present:** Wendy Szczepanski, Rose Anderson, Miriam Flysjo, Becky Hulden, Pastor Dwight Rudquist **Members Absent:** Craig Loen

#### A. Opening Devotions – Wendy

June - Pastor Dwight

#### **B.** Sharing Story

Pastor Dwight, Wendy, Becky

### C. Pastor's Report- Pastor Dwight

Pastor has met with the Re-opening Task force to determine the protocol for moving worship indoors. The first indoor service will be May 30. The Task Force has composed a letter to be sent out this week explaining the safety protocol to be followed for safe worship inside.

We will continue with outside worship on non communion Sundays this summer.

June 6 Baccalaureate will have cupcakes to celebrate the graduates.

We will return to Service teams so one person will contact people to be lectors, and serve coffee and doughnuts on 2nd and 4th Sundays outside. The coffee will be served in disposable cups out of the window. Church will purchase doughnuts for the summer. Becky will find volunteers for June.

Pastor Dwight recorded and presided over the Sunday services in April. He had multiple phone visits and a few in person visits with members. He attended Zoom meetings for council, confirmation, Interim pastor, Synod assembly and Reopening Task force.

**Motion:** Becky made the motion that Dwight Rudquist be paid vacation time for June 27. Seconded Wendy. Motion carried.

Lowell Nelson's memorial Service will be Aug 21.

### D. Treasurer's Report - Becky

Our April offering of \$9952 was adequate for our budget.

We are at 10 out of 12 months (83.3% of the budget year) our income is at 82% and our expenditures are at 90%"

Second draw PPP of \$15,500 has been deposited in a special checking account.

**Point of clarification**: the \$1000 moved from Klinke fund to the Samaritan fund is a tithe from a \$10000 gift received.

### F. Production equipment for church service -

Do we really need to spend \$8000 on production equipment when there are fewer than 15 people who watch the video now that we meet in person? Angie will record the Sunday service and post it later on Sunday without editing it.

**Motion**: Becky made motion to allow Angie to research and purchase a digital video recorder for up to \$1000. Second Rose. The video recorder will be paid for out of account 3020. Motion passed.

**Motion:** Wendy made a motion to pay Angie a stipend of \$1000 to reimburse Angie for using her phone for work. It will be paid out of account 3020. Second Miriam. Motion passed.

### G. Annual Meeting, August 8

Pastor Dwight will meet with Becky, Janelle and the Finance Committee to draft a proposed budget for next year.

Angie will ask for reports.

### H. Motion to adjourn Rose, second Becky.

**Coming up:** Together with Friends, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am - noon

June 22,24 Baptist Church June 29, July 1,6,8 Lutheran Church July 12,15, 20,22 Baptist Church

### INDOOR WORSHIP GUIDELINES

To make worship safe and workable, here is what you need to know:

#### Before you arrive

- If you do not feel well, please do not come. Online worship services will still be available for viewing.
- Review the following "Should I be Attending Worship Services at My Church?" check list. Found on our website.

### When you arrive

- Please use the parking lot back door to enter the church.
- You will be greeted at the entrance to the sanctuary and reminded of the expectations for all worshipers.
- You will be asked about your wellness and health.
- You will be asked to sign in after reviewing the wellness and health guidelines.
- You will need to have a mask for everyone over the age of 3, we will provide masks if needed.
- You can pick-up a bulletin and communion elements as needed.
- You can place your offering in a basket as you arrive.
- Follow the directions of where to sit there will be specific locations in the pews for where to sit, to ensure safe distancing.

### While you are in the church building

- Masks will be required at all times.
- Social distancing will need to be maintained.
- Congregational singing is allowed.
- There will not be a social or coffee time before or following worship while indoors.

### When you leave

- There will not be an opportunity to socialize in the church building.
- You may exit using the front street doors or the back parking lot door.
- Please allow appropriate spacing between you and others while leaving the building.
- If you choose to socialize in the parking lot, please maintain social distancing and masks.

Visit our website for the complete reopening letter.



2020-2021 Council/Officers:

Wendy Szczepanski—President
Craig Loen—Vice President
Becky Hulden—Treasurer

Miriam Flysjo —Secretary

**Rose Anderson** 

Financial Secretary

Jerry Rhoads

## Church Office 651-465-5265

www.tflutheran.org

Pastor Dwight Rudquist c: 651-829-4884 pastorrudquist@gmail.com

Angie Linngren
Ministry Coordinator,
parishc@tflutheran.org

Please hold the ministers and council members in your prayers that God would give them the wisdom, strength, courage, patience and perseverance to serve this community of faith as they lead us in our mission for the sake of the world and the glory of God.

Next council meeting will be in June 13th at 10:30am.

### Mission Statement

The mission of FELC is to worship God as an intergenerational praying community, to learn God's Word, and to build lasting relationships as we grow in God's love and grace.

(Mission Statement approved 2017)

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations." Psalm 90:1

Please send submissions to: parishc@tflutheran.org

Articles due the 10th of each month.