



FIRST LUTHERAN C H U R C H

The Visitor is the monthly newsletter for the members and friends of First Lutheran Church

July 2023

Parish Staff

Pr. John Dietz, pastor
Rian Johnson, secretary
Melissa Peterson, custodian
Elaine Sweeney, musician

Parish Council

Lynn Schweiberger, president
Kay Dague, secretary
Barb Bautch
Connie Bryant
Pr. John Dietz
Gen Lervik
Mary Maki
Dave Peterson
Stephanie Skraba
Sheryl Tokarczyk
Nancy White

Office Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00 am- 2:00 pm
After 2:00 pm by appointment

Contact Us

2201 Third Avenue East
Hibbing, Minnesota 55746
Call the office: 218-263-8388
Email Rian: rianjohnson@firsthibbing.org
Email Pr. John: pastorjohn@firsthibbing.org



Follow us on Facebook at:
firsthibbing



YouTube Channel:
First Lutheran Church- Hibbing, MN

Join us!

Sundays

9:00 am Choir Practice
Second and Fourth Sundays

9:30 am Worship
Service of Holy Communion

10:30 am Fellowship
Conversation and refreshments

Mondays

9:00 am Staff Meeting

Tuesdays

11:00 am Lunch & Learn
June 13, July 11th, August 15

Baptisms Weddings & Pastoral Care

Please contact the church office to schedule a Baptism or a Wedding in advance. If you are seeking pastoral care for yourself or a loved one, please contact the church office to set up an appointment or call the pastor directly in an emergency. Always leave a message at 218-969-5108.

Hibbing Public Access TV

Watch on channels 805 or 118.5 or on the website:
hpat.org- go to **Educational Access** and scroll down to
First Lutheran Church
Live on Sundays at 9:30 am
Rebroadcast on Sundays at 8:30 am, Wednesdays at
8:00 pm, and Thursdays at 2:00 pm



ELCA

Pastor

One of the things I have always loved about the Lutheran Church is our understanding of the communion of saints. Beyond that connection between us and those who have gone before us, that communion looks like a very real interconnectedness between people and churches in the here and now.

When I was in college and involved in Lutheran Campus Ministry I first was introduced to the word “symbiosis.” It has to do with two or more different organisms or organizations that work closely together to the benefit of all involved. As an example: back then, the ELCA provided resources (money and clergy) to support campus ministries for its college students, and in turn many of those same college students entered church vocations as pastors and deacons for the ELCA. It was a symbiotic relationship. Through our cooperative efforts, everybody got what they needed.

Over the years I have appreciated that sort of interdependence – that we exist not just to ourselves and for ourselves, but as individuals, as congregations, and as a Church – we are in this together. We support one another to do the work we have been called to do in the world around us.

This Summer, I am encouraged by these connections we have. In mid-July I will be attending a continuing education event hosted by the ELCA for Rostered Ministers (pastors and deacons). The theme is “Rekindle the Gift within You.” We will spend the week in Phoenix being supported in our vocations by leaders from around the Church. I am grateful that Pastor Bruce Dissell will be preaching and presiding here at First Lutheran on July 16, the Sunday I will be gone.

We are also excited to have Bishop Emeritus Thomas Aitken with us on Sunday, July 23. Now retired after serving twelve years as our bishop, he will be visiting Minnesota and among his many stops is First Lutheran. Bishop Aitken is an engaging and fun preacher and we look forward to his time with us.

While Elaine is on vacation that day, a musician from one of my former parishes will be with us as well. Amy Szumal is an accomplished musician and is featured every Summer in the Organs in Revue recital series. It will be a good day.

When I was pastor at Eveleth and Palo, one of my other church musicians was Steve Solkela – of the “Steve Solkela’s Overpopulated One Man Band.” Steve is fast becoming an Iron Range icon, and is well loved for his music and humor. This summer, Steve is making the rounds at area churches leading his very own Polka Mass and First Lutheran is one of his “gigs.” Join us on Sunday, August 6 for what’s sure to be a one-of-a-kind Polka Mass.

Another one of our great symbiotic relationships is between First Lutheran Church and Camp Hiawatha (Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry/ VLM). During the week of August 7-10, VLM will be here at First to host the Hibbing Community Day Camp/ Vacation Bible School. We can only get this kind of quality programming and lively leadership from our church camp staff. We’re working with Our Savior’s on this project, too. Please do sign your kids and grandkids up for this event – and consider being a volunteer for it yourself!

As you can see, all sorts of deep connections make it possible for good things to happen. I love that this summer is going to be a fun success because of camp counselors coming from various colleges around the country, musicians from parishes across the Range, a retired pastor and bishop willing to continue to exercise their gifts, and all of you who come to worship, continue to support the many ministries happening here, and who pray for each other and for me. We are truly all in this together, and that’s the way it should be.

Peace and all good.

+ Pastor John Dietz

UPCOMING EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR

July 3 & 4 Office closed for Holiday Weekend
July 13—21 Pastor on Continuing Education
July 26 Lunch & Vista Fleet Harbor Cruise
August 6 Polka Mass with Steve Solkela

July 12 Camp Day at Camp Hiawatha
July 23 Bishop Emeritus Thomas Aitken visiting
August 2 Organs in Revue recital & lunch
August 7—10 Day Camp/ Vacation Bible School

Worship God

Volunteers and Ministers of the Liturgy NEEDED

Please consider your availability and sign up to help make worship happen here at First Lutheran. We are looking for ushers/ greeters, readers, assisting ministers (to distribute Communion), and altar servers (to light candles and carry the cross). Sign ups are on the Welcome Table in the narthex. Thank you!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Choir Practice & Special Music

A group of us is meeting on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 9:00 am to practice a song or two that we present during worship. This is a no commitment, come as you are group. It would be great if you joined us for a song or two! Do you have a special musical talent you'd like to share? An instrument you play, a song you'd like to share? Let Pastor John know – we'd love to hear it.



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

JULY 2

Romans 6:12-23

No longer under law but under grace

Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18

Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing.

Matthew 10:40-42

Welcome Christ in those he sends

JULY 9

Romans 7:15-25a

The struggle within the self

Psalms 145:8-14

The LORD is full of compassion.

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The yoke of discipleship

JULY 16

Romans 8:1-11

Live according to the Spirit

Psalms 65:[1-8] 9-13

Your paths overflow with plenty.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The parable of the sower and the seed

JULY 23

Romans 8:12-25

The revealing of the children of God

Psalms 86:11-17

Teach me your way, O LORD.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The parable of the weeds

JULY 30

Romans 8:26-39

Nothing can separate us from God's love

Psalms 119:129-136

Your word gives light and understanding.

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Parables of the reign of heaven



Bishop Emeritus Thomas Aitken

Join us for worship on Sunday, July 23 when Bishop Emeritus Thomas Aitken will be preaching at First Lutheran Church. Bishop Aitken served as bishop of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod from 2008 through 2020 until his retirement. He and his wife, Beckie, live in Washington state and spend time in the summer with family and friends back in Minnesota, including us here at First Lutheran – Hibbing.

Summer Worship at Chapel of the Pines: May 28 – September 3

If you are planning to be up at Side Lake this Summer, know that you are welcome to worship at Chapel of the Pines, an ecumenical chapel just outside of McCarthy Beach State Park. The clergy from First Lutheran, First Presbyterian, Our Savior's Lutheran, and Wesley United Methodist churches take turns presiding at the 11:15 am services each week. Pastor John will be at the Chapel on June 4, July 2, and August 13. On August 13 members and friends of First Lutheran plan on gathering for lunch at the Riverside following worship at the chapel!

TV Broadcasts of the Liturgy

If you would like to dedicate one of the Sunday morning live televised broadcasts of our service in honor or in memory of someone special, please call the office. The \$20 donation is used to pay for the upkeep and replacement of the audio-visual equipment we use to reach out to the community. Thank you!

Hibbing Public Access TV

You can watch First Lutheran's services on local access TV and on the web. If you or a friend or loved one is unable to be here in person, or if you would like to encourage someone to join us by giving them a chance to see who we are and what we do, have them go to HPAT channels 805 or 118-5, or on their website: hpat.org — go to Educational Access and scroll down to First Lutheran Church. We're live on Sundays at 9:30 am and rebroadcast on Sundays at 8:30 pm, Wednesdays at 8:00 pm, and Thursdays at 2:00 pm.

YouTube and Facebook

First Lutheran has a YouTube channel where you can watch any of our televised services. Go to First Lutheran Church- Hibbing, MN for the archive of services. And remember to like us and follow us on Facebook at [firsthibbing](https://www.facebook.com/firsthibbing). Any time you see a post from church, consider liking and sharing it so more people see our posts. Thanks!

Grow in Faith

July Lunch & Learn

Join us on Tuesday, July 11 at 11:00 am in the Fireside Room for Lunch & Learn. We'll enjoy lunch together and learn about a topic. This month we will discuss the Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective. How do we as Lutherans engage with the culture we are in as citizens, as a congregation, as a denomination? What is our role in politics? What about Christian Nationalism? Let's have lunch and learn about it!

July 12: Day Camp at Camp Hiawatha

Please plan on joining us for a special Day Camp adventure this year. We'll actually be heading to Camp Hiawatha for a full day of Day Camp! Registrations are at the Welcome Table. Cost to you is \$20 deposit per child, the church campership fund will cover the rest. But we do need you to sign-up soon to make the reservation at camp. Deadline for sign-up is already approaching!



Serve the Neighbor

Property Committee: July 11

We'll be holding a Property Committee meeting on Tuesday, July 11 at 4:00 pm in the office area. Anyone who is interested can come be part of this group. We keep things going here at First Lutheran as it relates to the property and grounds – from changing lights to planning for major repairs. All are welcome.

Noisy Offering: July 9

Every Second Sunday in worship we'll be collecting a "noisy offering". So bring some coins to clang into the kids' buckets, and let our monthly noisy offering make a difference in helping end hunger locally and around the world.

Care Cupboard: July 9

The care cupboard gets occasional use by people in need of some immediate and direct assistance, so thank you to all who have made contributions. We'll keep you up to date on how it gets accessed, but please do continue to bring non-perishable food and personal care items to the office Orto the church on the Second Sunday of the month.

July Council Meeting: July 16

Our monthly council meeting will be held on Sunday, July 16 at 10:45 am in the office area. Thank you, council members, for your service to our church!



July 1st:

Jan Hietala, Brian Fearing,
Nancy Welsh

July 3rd:

Shirley Hugger, Sandy Tuin

July 6th:

RaChelle Foster

July 7th:

Jennifer Walters

July 8th:

Cora Skraba, Nakoya
Zozgornik, Tammy Hughes,
Drew Kolden

July 10th:

Roger Lind, Anjelina Jones

July 11th:

Owen Walters

July 13th:

Karyl Giombetti, Katherine
Vucetich

July 17th:

Bob Tokarczyk, Janine
Schwartz

July 19th:

Linda Anderson

July 22nd:

Gary Jones, Rodney Jacobson,
Patrick Welsh

July 23rd:

Ron Vogt

July 25th:

Kamryn Mandt, Ashley Fink,
Stacey Wherland, Sheryl

Tokarczyk

July 27th:

Tammie Stimac, Austin Galatz

July 28th:

Shane Qualley

July 29th:

Anthony Stimac, Thomas
Inforzato, Melissa Peterson

July 31st:

Mikayla Shaffer



First Lutheran Church Monthly offerings

Many thanks to all who support FLC and its extended ministries. **General fund** offerings are used for operational costs, and shared with our NEMN Synod and ELCA Churchwide office in various endeavors and outreach. Our **Building fund** is for covering costs of repairs and projects that we have done or need to have done to our beautiful building!

General offerings:

May: \$11,400.00

Building fund

offerings:

March: \$220.00



June 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

Present: Pastor John Dietz, Lynn Schweiberger, Kay Dague, Nancy White, Mary Maki, Dave Peterson, Connie Bryant

Property Committee Report:

- Waiting for quote for kitchenette remodel
- Energy Audit: Waiting to complete audit until fall.
- Plumbing repair completed for outdoor spigot

Old Business:

- Committee reports: Helping hands: Tabled til July
- Reviewed need to send a letter to congregation concerning changes around the church. Will wait until quotes are recieved and may put article in the newsletter
- Vacation Bible School will be combined with Our Saviors August 6 - 10. Day Camp will be on July 12.

New Business:



- Thrivent Report at the July meeting
- Looking for ideas for God's work Our Hands Sunday. Suggestion to focus on homeless shelter near the church.

Pastoral Updates:

- Provided a list of upcoming summer events

Next meeting on July 16th, 2023

JULY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Ordinary Time 13 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:15 am Pr. Dietz at Chapel of the Pines	3 Office Closed for the Fourth of July Weekend St. Thomas, APOSTLE	4 Office Closed for the Fourth of July Weekend	5 	6 Jan Hus	7	8
9 Ordinary Time 14 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:15 am Chapel of the Pines	10 9:00 am Staff Meeting St. Thomas, APOSTLE	11 11:00 am Lunch & Learn 4:00 pm Property Committee St. Benedict	12 Office Closed First Lutheran Day Camp at Camp Hiawatha 12:00 pm Organs in Revue recital at Faith United LC – Iron	13 Pastor on Continuing Education 3:00 pm Lutheran Worship at Guardian Angels Jan Hus	14 Pastor on Continuing Education	15 Pastor on Continuing Education
16 Pastor on Continuing Education Ordinary Time 15 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Council Mtg 11:15 am Chapel of the Pines	17 Pastor on Continuing Education St. Bartolomé de las Casas	18 Pastor on Continuing Education	19 Pastor on Continuing Education 12:00 pm Organs in Revue recital at St. James Episcopal Church	20 Pastor on Continuing Education	21 Pastor on Continuing Education	22 St. Mary Macdalené, APOSTLE
23 Ordinary Time 16 9:00 am Choir 9:30 am Worship with Bishop Aitken 10:30 am Fellowship 11:15 am Chapel of the Pines St. Birgitta of Sweden	24 9:00 am Staff Meeting	25 Newsletter Deadline St. James, APOSTLE	26 3F Event: First Lutheran on the Vista Fleet Harbor Cruise 12:00 pm Organs in Revue recital at Blessed Sacrament RC Church	27	28 Johann Sebastian Bach; Heinrich Schütz; Frederick Handel	29
30 Ordinary Time 17 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:15 am Chapel of the Pines	31 9:00 am Staff Meeting					Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am – 2:00 pm & later by appointment

Upcoming Events: August 2 – Organs in Revue Recital and Lunch at First Lutheran | August 7-10 – Day Camp/ Vacation Bible School at First Lutheran

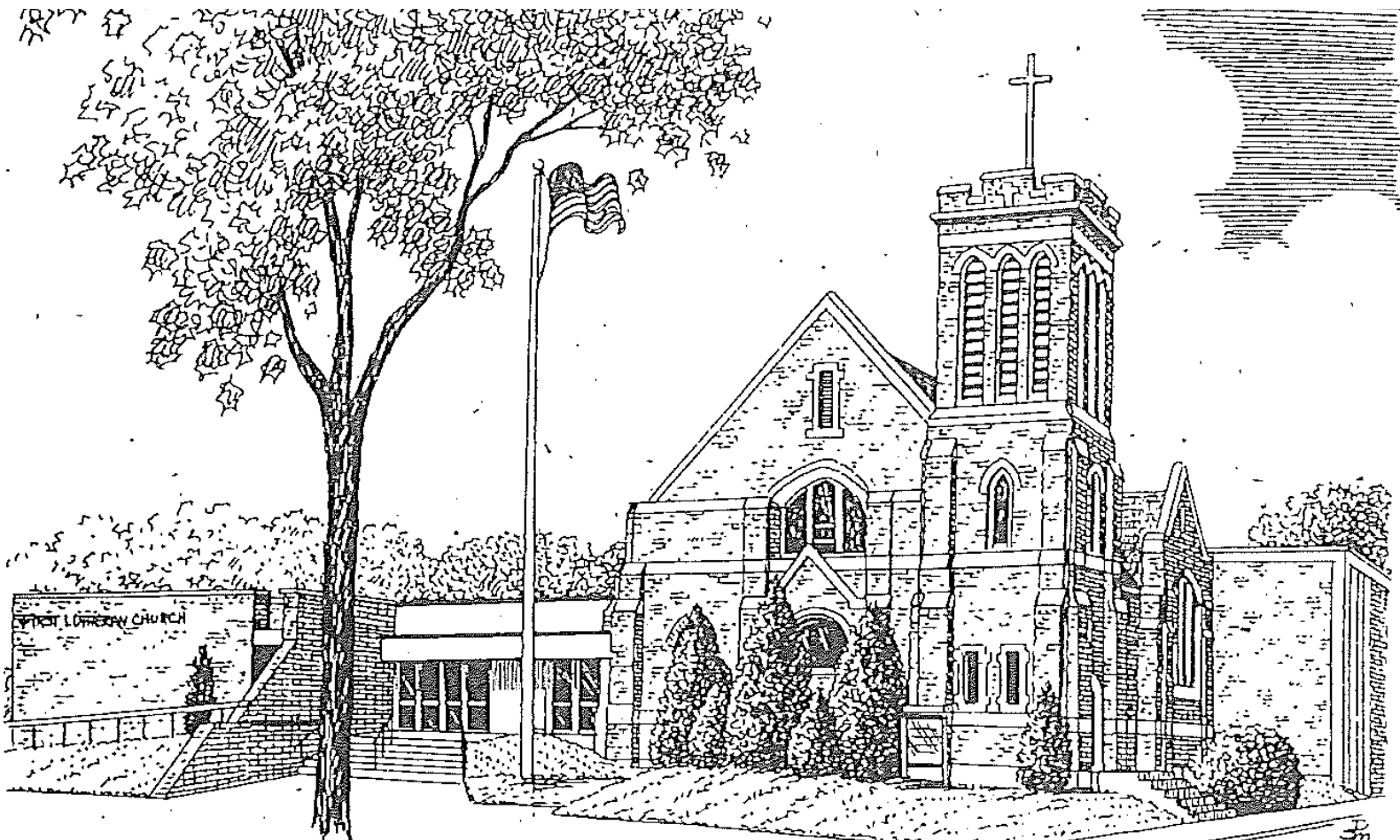


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