



The Visitor

September 2022
Fall Edition

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

John Dietz

Secretary

Rian Johnson

Organist

Elaine Sweeney

Custodial Services

Melissa Peterson

PARISH COUNCIL

Lynn Schweiberger

Nancy White

Gen Lervik

Mary Maki

Stephanie Skraba

David Peterson

Kay Dague

Connie Bryant

Sheryl Tokarczyk

CONGREGATIONAL TREASURER

Mary Maki- Interim

CHURCH CAMPUS AND EVENTS

- **Building is open to the public**
We are open for **in-person**
Worship Sundays at 9:30 am
- Sunday services are also available
live and rebroadcast on local
channel 5, through the HPAT in-
ternet channel and the church's
YouTube channel
- Hand sanitizer is available in mul-
tiple areas of the church and
masks are recommended.
- **Check out our new website!**
The address is still the same,
but it is definitely new and
improved!! The website will
continue to be updated and
be a source for all of our up-
coming events and links!

WORSHIP & MINISTRY

Sunday Morning Service

Sundays at 9:30 am

Telecast live HPAT channel 5

Rebroadcast:

9:30 pm Sundays

8:00 pm Wednesdays

2:00 pm Thursdays

HPAT internet channel

First Lutheran's YouTube channel

Weddings:

Make arrangements in advance by
contacting the church office.

Baptisms:

Make arrangements in advance by
contacting the church office.

Pastoral Care:

Contact the office.

CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY: 8:00-4:00

TUESDAY: 8:00-4:00

WEDNESDAY: 8:00-4:00

THURSDAY: 8:00-4:00

FRIDAY: 8:00-12:00

2201 3rd Avenue East, Hibbing, MN 55746

Tel: 218-263-8388

Pastor email: pastor@firsthibbing.org

Office email: office@firsthibbing.org

Website: www.firsthibbing.org

"Like" our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/firsthibbing

Subscribe to First Lutheran Church's YouTube channel

Pastor's Perspective | September 2022

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven

Ecclesiastes 3:1

I shared on my first Sunday with you in worship that it was good to be back here at First Lutheran Church in Hibbing ... and not just “back,” but it was - and is - good to be *home*. While it might be exceptional, it certainly isn't unheard of for a pastor to return to a parish they had previously served. And in my first weeks with you, I have already heard a lot about “coming back” and “returning” and even some “getting back to normal” comments. And yes, being back brings a lot of familiar feelings and I find myself in some nostalgic conversations with folks ... and it's good to reminisce and catch up, for sure.

But we know that we have to not just look forward, but we need to move forward as a church. I've already met with the council and have talked with other members about things we can do that will help us renew First Lutheran Church together. That's our immediate focus: renewing our relationships, our identity as a congregation, and our mission as church.

Renewing our relationships - with each other and with God - happens in Word and Sacrament worship, in fellowship, in learning, and serving together. First Lutheran Church is the kind of community people want to be a part of because there is a

genuine spirit of hospitality and kindness here. Renewing our identity as a congregation, as we come out of a long period of Covid closure and multiple pastoral transitions, will take time and effort as we explore what God's plan is for First Lutheran. But know this: we are a vital

congregation with gifts to offer, and I think that hasn't always been the message we're used to hearing. Renewing our mission is all about looking for ways to live out the baptismal promises: living life together, worshiping God, proclaiming Christ in word and deed, caring for others and the

world, and working for justice and peace. How is God calling us, First Lutheran Church, to be part of this work?

I am so grateful to be “back” with you as we look forward to this time of renewal. Thank you, once again to your Call Committee - to Stephanie Skraba, Paul Tokarczyk, Barb Bautch, and Paul Stavnes - who worked with the Council and the Bishop's Office to make this exceptional call a possibility. And thanks to all of you - the people who are First Lutheran Church - for trusting me with the Word and Sacrament Ministry among you, and for calling me to servant leadership in this community and for this new season.

Peace and all good.

+ Pr. John Dietz





HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday to the following congregants!!!

9/1-Don Foster
9/4-Lynn Schweiberger, Cheryl Elj
9/5-Rochelle Pearson
9/6-Carla Arens
9/7-Sherin Elj
9/8-Delores Lund, Stephanie Skraba
9/9-Helen Larson
9/10-Janelle Lund
9/11-Betty Aanes, Emma Kangas, Liz Kolden
9/12-Cary Rhude
9/15-Jacob Erickson, Tara Johnson

9/17-Carol Shuper
9/20-Donald Johnson, Frank Pingatore, Cheryl Witton
9/23- Marty Vadis, Bre Long
9/24-Tony Larson, Lukas Haverkamp, Arlene Gustafson, Mazie Englund, Ruby Johnson
9/25 Dick Jenko
9/27-Lisa Brant, Louisa Skraba, Marcy Berg, Connie Bryant, Gavin Schweiberger
9/28-Kay Dague
9/29-Emily Willard, Greg Gargano
9/30-Mark Barsness, Alexis Walters

Church Finances

Many thanks to all who support First Lutheran Church and its extended ministries. FLC's General Fund contributions fuel this congregation's operational needs and extended ministries. **General fund offerings are shared** with our NE MN Synod and the ELCA Church-wide office to help ELCA Bible camps, youth ministry, seminaries, global outreach, various endeavors to promote peace and justice, and administrative costs. **Thank you to everyone who continues to support the ministry at our church!** Please continue to send in your offerings to help us continue to operate in our community.

"Strengthen Our Foundation" is our campaign to raise \$150,000 to help cover some of the costs of the repairs and projects that we have done and projects that we will need to have done. We appreciate any and all help that we receive, helping to maintain our beautiful building! God bless!

General offerings:

June: \$9,515.18
July: \$7,824.00
August: \$8,990.00

Strengthen Our Foundation:

Total as of August 31st: \$53,341.00



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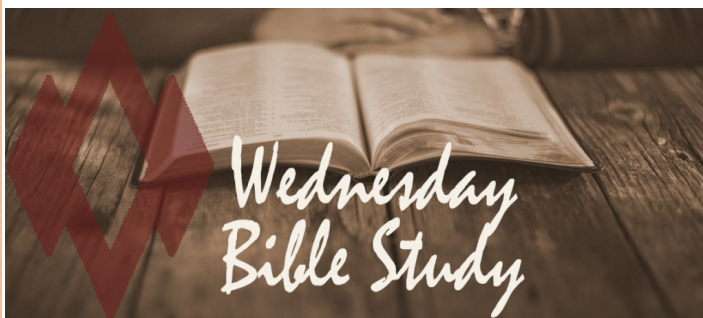
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We are re-forming our church property committee and are inviting any and all interested in being part of the work of upkeep of the building and grounds here at First Lutheran to an introductory meeting on **Tuesday, September 13 at 4:00 pm** above the offices. Attending this meeting does not mean a lifelong commitment to a committee, but it would help us know who is interested and able in doing things around the church,



Wednesdays are a time to explore the Bible here at First Lutheran Church! Join us this Fall as we begin our Wednesday morning Bible Study. We will be meeting in-person at **10:00 am** in the fellowship hall with an option to join on Zoom. This year, we will enjoy the adult version of what our young people will be learning about in Confirmation - the main stories, characters, and themes of the Old Testament, our first Bible Study will be held on



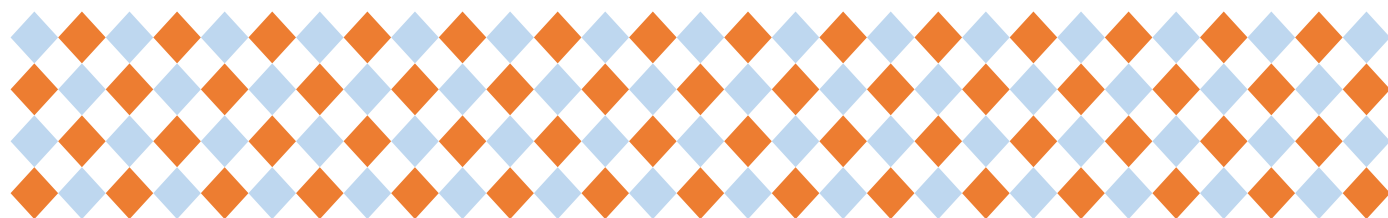
MUSIC MINISTRY

Anyone who is interested in offering special music during worship is encouraged to talk with Pastor John. Whether you'd like to play an instrument, sing a solo, or be part of a small group, we are excited for the variety of musical gifts the members and friends of First Lutheran might offer. Beginning in October, we'll be gathering a small group that will meet on Sunday mornings before worship to practice a few songs that we will offer as special music, to help lead the liturgy, or as



First Family & Friends - 3F

We're excited to be offering some fun outings beginning this October - open to all families and friends of First Lutheran Church. The former FOY (Fountain of Youth) events will be open to anyone interested in taking part - but we will be sure to highlight if events or activities are especially geared for mostly Kids, Families, or OWLS (Older, Wiser LutheranS). If you'd like to contribute ideas for 3F (**First Family & Friends**), let Pastor John or a member of the council know - we'd appreciate the guidance. But for now, plan on joining us this Fall for a trip to Mr. Ed's Farm, a ride on the Northshore Scenic Railroad, and the Festival of Music and Light at Camp Hiawatha. More information and sign-ups will be available soon!



Youth Events

Join us after worship on Sunday, September 11th for a "Packet Picnic" informational Fellowship to get all the details on upcoming Youth Events. Pastor John will be going over a packet of info regarding Sunday School and Confirmation. If you are planning on your littles going to Sunday School, or your older children starting in Confirmation, make sure to come to this meeting to hear about all the exciting things coming up! Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 18th, and Confirmation will begin on Wednesday, September 21st at 7:00pm right here at First Lutheran.

Prayer partners



Prayer Partner Dinner

When: Wednesday, September 28th at 5:30pm

Where: First Lutheran Fellowship Hall

It's time for the big reveal! Come, enjoy a light dinner in the Fellowship Hall and meet the person who has been praying for you all year! Bring a final small gift for your prayer partner with a signed card to reveal who you are! Information on the 2022-23 year will be available at the event. If you haven't been involved in the Prayer Partners before and would like more information, call the church office or speak to Lynn Schweiberger.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

August 21st, 2022

Present: Pastor John Dietz, Lynn Schweiberger, Gen Lervik, Stephanie Skraba, Kay Dague, Connie Bryant, Dave Peterson. Zoom: Sheryl Tokarczyk

Call to order at 10:58 by Lynn Schweiberger. Prayer by Pr. John

Secretary's Report: Dave Peterson motioned to approve, Gen Lervik 2nd-approved

Treasurer's report-referred to Fort & Co Financial report: Kay motioned to approve, Steph 2nd-approved.

Property Committee Report-Iron Range Plumbing fixed laundry tub and removed garbage disposal, reactivated water softener, basement floor needs to be repaired/painted due to water damage. Melissa Peterson knows someone who may be able to do painting. Dave Peterson cleaned out parsonage gutters. Property committee to look at gutters.

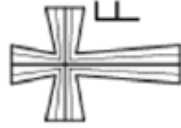
Old Business- New copier is here and running. Suggested to do the new directory next spring as people are coming back, may check out Emily Law, tabled to talk to others.

New Business- Confirmation: how to do things differently: FLC doing confirmation on our own starting September 21. Dinner for confirmation 2x/year. Sunday school starting up on September 18th and seeing where it leads. Fountain of Youth-need ideas-using camp late Sept. Nursing home-Pr. John doing Guardian Angels every other month. Bible Study starts September 21 10am- will follow confirmation. Laptop for Pr. John-Rian will shop for Computer-Connie motioned to approve, Dave 2nd-all in favor, approved. WELCA request monetary support for dishwasher- \$6,000 needed, \$4,600 raised already, discussion tabled til next meeting-need to get bids.

Pastoral Updates-Barb Tanem broke her wrist, No other updates. Pr. John asked for suggestions.

Lord's Prayer by Pr. John

Meeting adjourned at 11:43am. Next meeting on September 18, 2022




FIRST LUTHERAN
CHURCH

September 2022

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(218) 263-8388
Email: office@firsthibbing.org



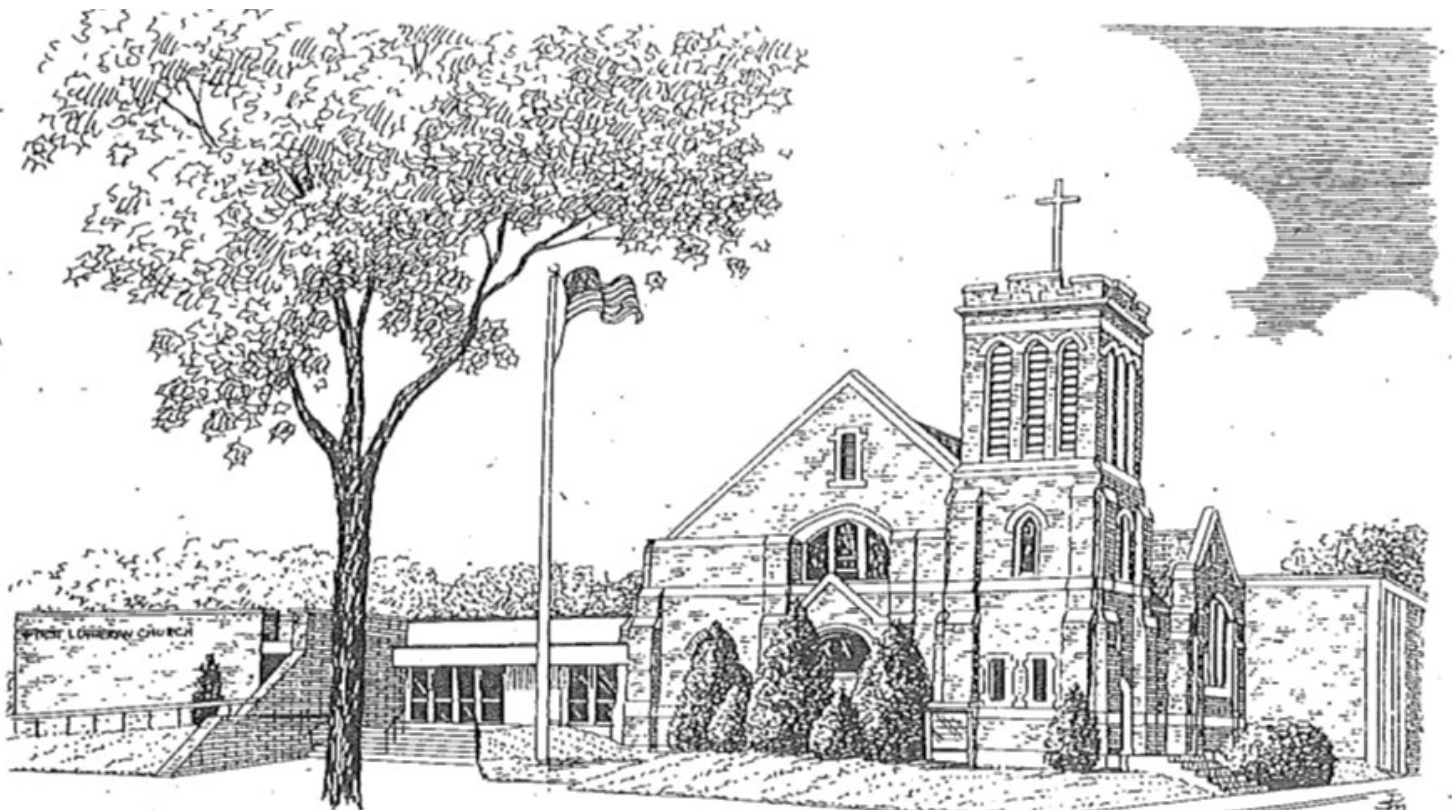
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Check out the FLC website www.firsthibbing.org</p> <p>Don't forget to "Like" our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/firsthibbing</p>				<p>1</p> <p>3:30 pm-6:30 pm LSS</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p> <p>9:30 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Fellowship</p>	<p>5</p> <p>1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Group</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm LSS</p> <p>7pm Alanon</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>11:00 am Endowment Committee Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>3:30 pm-6:30 pm LSS</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:30 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Fellowship</p> <p>Packet Picnic</p> <p>11:00 am</p> <p>Informational Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00 am Staff Mtg</p> <p>1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Group</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm LSS</p> <p>7pm Alanon</p>	<p>13</p> <p>4:00 pm Property Committee Meeting</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>3:00 pm Pastor John Guardian Angels Service</p> <p>3:30 pm-6:30 pm LSS</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Pr. John officiating Wedding in Duluth</p>
<p>18 Rally Day</p> <p>9:30 am Worship</p> <p>10:30 am Fellowship</p> <p>Council Meeting</p> <p>11:00 am Sunday School</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00 am Staff Mtg</p> <p>1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Group</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm LSS</p> <p>7pm Alanon</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>22</p>  <p>3:30 pm-6:30 pm LSS</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:30 am Worship</p> <p>Welcome to Confirmation</p> <p>10:30 am Fellowship</p> <p>11:00 am Sunday School</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00 am Staff Mtg</p> <p>1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Group</p> <p>3:00 pm-6:00 pm LSS</p> <p>7pm Alanon</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study</p> <p>5:30 Prayer Partner Dinner</p> <p>7:00 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>29</p> <p>3:30 pm-6:30 pm LSS</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>Office Hours</p> <p>Monday: 8am-4pm</p> <p>Tuesday: 8am-4pm</p> <p>Wednesday: 8am-4pm</p> <p>Thursday: 8am-4pm</p> <p>Friday: 8am-12pm</p> <p>Saturday: CLOSED</p> <p>Sunday: 9:30am Worship</p>



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THE VISITOR

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