



The Visitor

October 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

Preach the gospel at all times, and if necessary, use words.
St. Francis of Assisi

The Lutheran Church celebrates the festival of Saint Francis of Assisi on October 4. Born in 1181, Francis was the son of a wealthy Italian cloth merchant. In a public confrontation with his father, he renounced his wealth and future inheritance and devoted himself to serving the poor. Francis described this moment as being “wedded to Lady Poverty.” Under his leadership the Order of Friars Minor (known as the Franciscans) was formed, and they took literally Jesus’ words that his disciples should take nothing on their journey and receive no reward for their work. Their task in preaching was to use words if necessary. Francis had a spirit of gladness and gratitude for all of God’s creation.

This commemoration has been a traditional time to bless pets and animals, creatures Francis called his brothers and sisters. You may certainly bring your pet to church for a blessing on Sunday, October 2, either during or after worship - just make sure the pet can be contained or controlled. Otherwise, join us on October 2 at Mr. Ed’s Farm from 3:00 - 5:00 pm for a tour of the barnyard animals, a hayride, and some refreshments around the campfire. The cost is \$7.00 per person and the sign-up is on the Welcome Table in the narthex.

I was first introduced to Francis back in high school on a trip to Santa Fe, New Mexico where I visited the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi. Something about Francis intrigued me, even though

I didn’t understand what it was at the time. Over the years, my interest in Francis and Franciscan spirituality has grown, and during the depths of the pandemic, I decided to participate in one of Fr. Richard Rohr’s online courses called “*The Franciscan Way: Beyond the Bird Bath.*”

Through this class we learned that many of the things we have traditionally attributed to St. Francis most likely - and in some cases, absolutely - were not actually said by Francis. For instance, Francis didn’t say: “Preach the gospel at all times, and if necessary, use words” — though he did say something similar. And the *Peace Prayer* (“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace ...”) that we will say together at the end of our liturgies in October — that was written just before World War I by a French priest, not by Francis.

What I have come to realize is that even though Francis didn’t write these prayers or say these exact things, they are no less true or important or moving. And the reason why they were attributed to him in the first place is because they embody the spirit of the saint whose life was dedicated to preaching the gospel, mostly through deeds, and when necessary, with words. The gospel Francis “preached” was a message - and really more of a lifestyle - of love for God, for neighbor, and for all creation. He lived this good news of peace and reconciliation, humble service, bold inclusivity, and boundless compassion as an imitation of Jesus in the gospels.

This is perhaps the most Lutheran way we can celebrate the festival of St. Francis — to be inspired by him to trust in, and to live and love more like, Jesus. I wonder what that will look like for me this month. What might that mean for you? Are there things we need to start doing or letting go of? Are there commitments - like worship, study, fellowship, or service - we need to make or renew? Are there relationships - with God, our neighbors, or creation - we need to re-prioritize? Now is a good time to pray, as Francis often did (and, yes, this one is legitimately his): “Who are you, Lord my God, and who am I?”

Peace and all good.

+ Pastor John Dietz

LORD,
make me an instrument of your peace,
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday to the following congregants!!!

10/1 Andy Hoertsch
 10/2 Cheryl Forstrom
 10/3 Gracie Stimac
 10/4 Jackie Prescott
 10/5 Todd Stavnes
 10/6 Art Lind, Bonnie Duncan
 10/7 Dolly Johnson, Carly Kolden
 10/8 Steph Weyrauch
 10/10 Joann Koschak
 10/13 Tore Tuin, Amy Fearin, Conner Perkins
 10/15 Shellie Stilinovich, Elliana Kasola, Jordan Jespersen

10/17 Olivia Ridlon
 10/19 Dawn Lind, James Kolden
 10/20 Sandra Warner, Thomas Mandt
 10/21 Ben Castagneri
 10/25 Steven Leslie, Nancy Maki, Sandra Larson, Mayzie Inforzato
 10/26 Cindy Brandt
 10/27 Rolland Maki
 10/29 Kristie Pintar
 10/31 Carly Inforzato

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:

July: \$7,824.00
 August: \$8,990.00
**September:
 \$6,887.85**

Strengthen Our Foundation:

Total as of September
 25th: \$53,456.00



The Smorgasbord is back in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, October 27th from 4:30-6:30!

After 2 years of take-out only, we are finally able to have in person dining!

Tickets will be on sale starting on Sunday, October 11th in the Narthex. Reserve your ticket in advance or pay at the door.

Adults: \$16 Children 10 & under: \$9

There will be continuous seating from 4:30-6:30 pm. Take-outs will not be available.

Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a variety of Scandinavian food!

Check out the Welcome Table for volunteer and donation sign ups.

Proceeds will go to the dishwasher fund.





Youth Events

Confirmation Schedule

October 5	Unit 1: Session 2	Beginnings: Learning about Creation
October 12	Unit 1: Session 3	Beginning: Learning about Sin
October 19	No Confirmation	MEA Weekend
October 26	Unit 2: Session 1	God Forms a People: Learning about Abraham and Sarah
October 27	Service Event:	Help serve/ bus tables/ wash dishes at the Smorgasbord
October 29 – 29	Confirmation Retreat at Camp Hiawatha	Worship God + Strengthen Faith + Build Community + Serve the Neighbor

Camp Hiawatha Confirmation Retreat October 28-29

- We will spend some quality time together at Camp Hiawatha – worship in the chapel, eating great food, playing games, and enjoying the camp ... gaga ball, sauna, campfire.
- This retreat is open to all youth in Grades 6+ but we especially want Confirmation students to attend this important community building event.
- Cost is \$50/ per person
- Adult drivers and chaperones needed ... helping adults and one of their children go for free
- Talk to Pastor John with any questions or to volunteer as a helping adult!

Sunday School Schedule

October 2	Afternoon Fellowship Event	3:00 pm Mr. Ed's Farm <i>St. Francis of Assisi</i>
October 9	Class	Ten Men Healed
October 16	Class	The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
October 23	No Class	MEA Weekend
October 30	Fellowship Event	Halloween Fellowship

Halloween Fellowship October 30 On the Sunday closest to Halloween, all kids and families are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and do some trick-or-treating from table to table in the fellowship hall following worship. We will have some fun games and a craft to do as well.



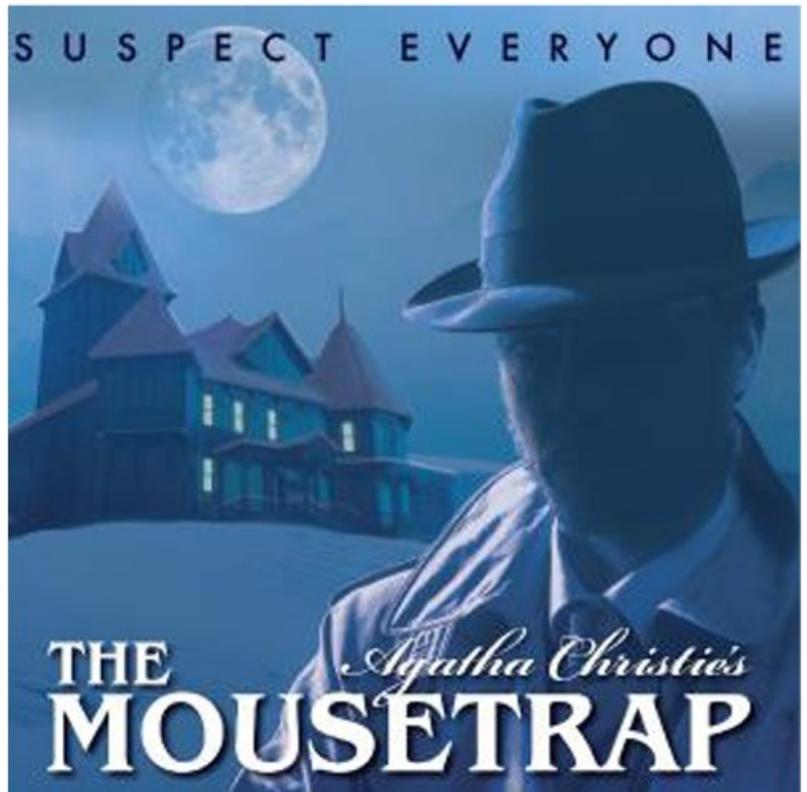


First Family & Friends - 3F

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, lunch and *The Mousetrap* play in Duluth and the Festival of Music and Light at Camp Hiawatha. More information and sign-ups will be available soon!

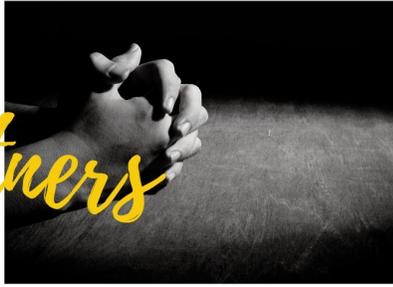
Join us for a day in Duluth as First Family & Friends attend Agatha Christie's classic whodunnit, *The Mousetrap*, hosted by the college of St. Scholastica. We will enjoy a meal together before show time, so we will plan on leaving shortly after worship to get to Duluth by around noon, have lunch and be at the Mitchell Auditorium for the show by 2:00 pm. Sign up is at the Welcome Table. Cost for the event will be announced in the next few weeks during worship announcements. Space is limited on the bus to 40 people, so make sure to sign up soon!

The Mousetrap is a classic "Whodunnit" created by master mystery writer Dame Agatha Christie. A snowstorm strands 7 strangers in Monkswell Manor outside the city of London. The unexpected arrival of a police sergeant and the news of a hastily murder puts all guests on edge. It soon becomes apparent that one of the snowbound guests are in danger. As the body count rises, they all begin to turn against one another. Will the sergeant solve the mystery before more guests die? Is he involved? Join us for the world's longest, continuously running production, celebrating 70 years on the London stage in 2022!



Join us on October 2nd at 9:00am if you are interested in offering special music during worship. 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. We will be making a plan for meeting and practicing a few songs before service!

Prayer partners



2022-23 Prayer Partners

If you are interested in joining this year's Prayer Partner group, please fill out the form below and turn it in to the office by Monday, October 10th. You can hand it to Lynn Schweiberger or Rian after church on Sunday or bring it to the office. This year, we will be sending out cards to our Prayer Partners and next September, at the big reveal, we will be exchanging gifts. If you have any questions, feel free to call the office.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

BIRTHDAY _____

ANNIVERSARY DATE _____

Hobbies: _____

Restaurants: _____

Shopping: _____

Recreation: _____

Relaxation: _____

Other: _____

Prayer requests: _____

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2022

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

Call to order at 10:44 by Lynn Schweiberger. Prayer by Pr. John

Secretary's Report: Nancy W. motioned to approve, Dave Peterson 2nd-approved.

Treasurer's report-referred to Fort & Co Financial report

Jeff Hakala presentation 10:45-11:05

Property Committee Report-Painting of offices, waiting on bid from Steinbrecher. Remodel of kitchenette-Gloria Maras is looking into

Old Business- Confirmation set for 10/30-4 kids to be Confirmed. Sunday school rally done today. Pastor John bought a laptop. Dishwasher in kitchen-waiting on bid from Iron Range Plumbing for install.

New Business- Pr John's Instillation set for November 13th-Bishop will be attending, suggested catering. Christmas Eve on Sat. Sunday service on Christmas-may not do Christmas Day service. Clean up day for the church- date to be determined for renting a dumpster

Pastoral Updates-No updates- Pr. John had to go do Sunday school.

Lord's Prayer by Lynn Schweiberger. Nancy motioned to adjourn, Sheryl 2nd.

Next meeting on October 16, 2022

All Saint's Sunday is on November 6th, 2022

Please let Pastor John know if you have names to include for All Saint's day. You can call the office or talk to him following Sunday service.

New Members to welcome to First Lutheran Church!

- ◆ James , Jane, Ruby, Joseph and Bentley Plese
- ◆ Diane Rindahl



OCTOBER 2022

2201 3rd Avenue East
 Hibbing, MN 55746
 (218)263-8388
 Email: office@firsthibbing.org



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Office Hours Monday: 8am-4pm Tuesday: 8am-4pm Wednesday: 8am-4pm Thursday: 8am-4pm Friday: 8am-12pm Saturday: CLOSED Sunday: 9:30am Worship						1
2 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:00 am Sunday School	3 10:00 am Staff Mtg LSS 12:00-2:30 1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Club 7:00 pm At-Atton	4 LSS 10:30-6:00	5 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Confirmation	6	7	8 LSS 11-2
9 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:00 am Sunday School	10 10:00 am Staff Mtg LSS 12:00-2:30 1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Club 7:00 pm At-Atton	11 LSS 10:30-6:00 Fellowship Hall in use All Day	12 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Confirmation	13	14	15 LSS 11-2
16 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:00 am Sunday School	17 10:00 am Staff Mtg LSS 12:00-2:30 1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Club 7:00 pm At-Atton	18 LSS 10:30-6:00 6pm Fellowship Hall in use	19 No Bible Study or Confirmation	20	21	22
23 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship No Sunday School	24 10:00 am Staff Mtg LSS 12:00-2:30 1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Club 7:00 pm At-Atton	25 LSS 10:30-6:00	26 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Confirmation	27 Smorgasbord 4:30-6:30	28 Confirmation Retreat at Camp Hiawatha	29 LSS 11-2
30 9:30 am Worship Confirmation Sunday 10:30 am Halloween Fellowship	31 10:00 am Staff Mtg LSS 12:00-2:30 1:00 pm Hobby Quilt Club 7:00 pm At-Atton					Check out the FLC website www.firsthibbing.org Don't forget to "Like" our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/firsthibbing

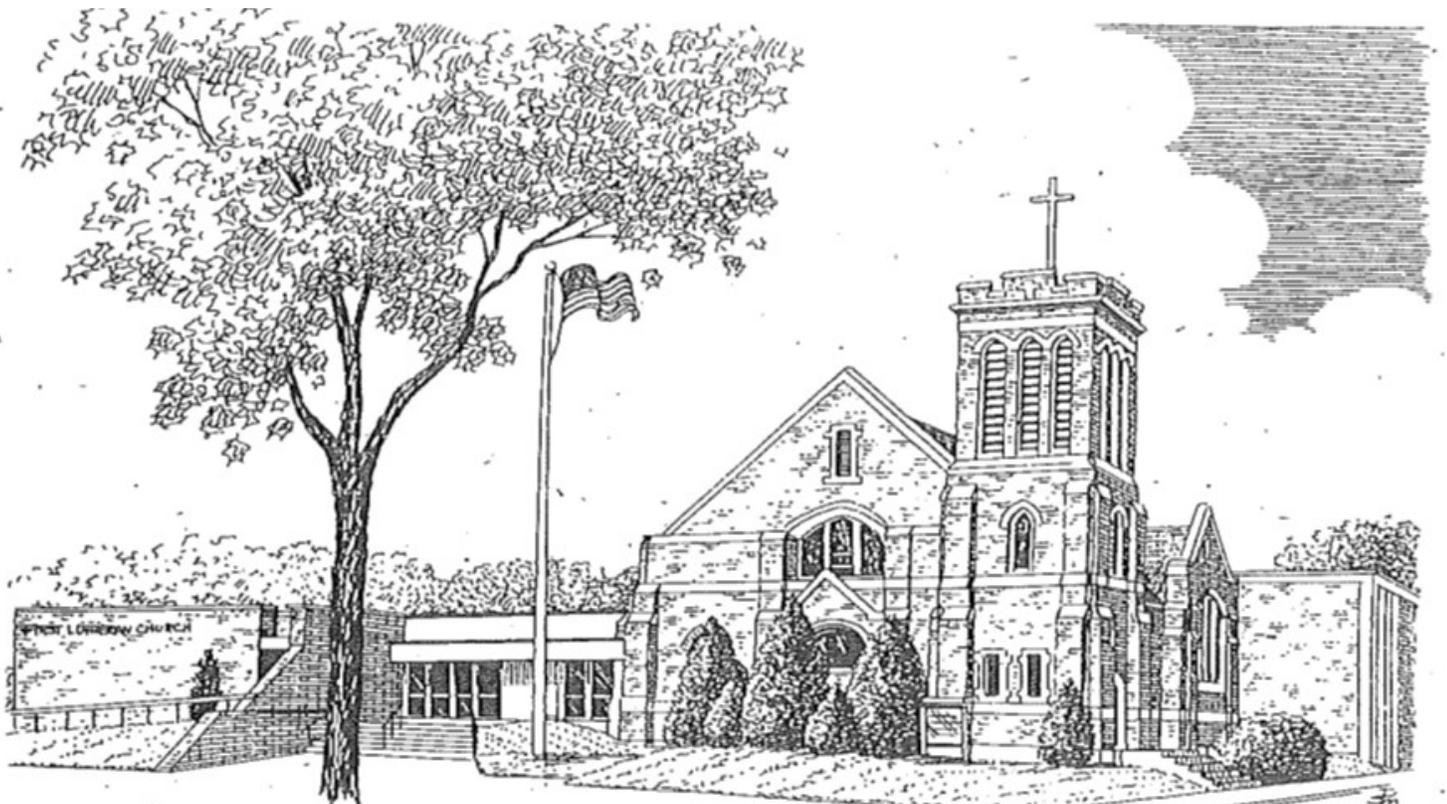




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THE VISITOR

First Lutheran Church
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Hibbing, MN 55746



First Lutheran Church

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