



From Pastor Bill

I don't let go of Summer very easily. I am a big fan of warm weather, long periods of daylight, festivals, and other outdoor activities. I love the season when I can ride my bike the most. I mourn as I think about putting my bike in hibernation mode.

But life and creation have this way of moving on, of taking us into another season—and in this case, the season of Fall. Fall, while clearly not in my eyes the amazing season of Summer, brings, nonetheless, its own glory—multicolored leaves, high school football, donuts and cider.

For me, Fall in the Midwest is a preparatory time. It is preparing us to the harshness of winter. It serves to remind us that built into life is the movement toward death. The leaves fall and we are put on notice that death is on its way, that life includes disintegration, which is why, for me, Fall is sometimes an experience of melancholy. Summer almost always for me is a time of ecstasy, while Fall makes me more pensive, less ecstatic, and more real.

Actually, I am grateful for Fall, grateful for all the seasons, for life is a wild coming together of joy and sadness, ecstasy and angst, laughter and tears.

Patricia Livingston in a nice little book titled **Lessons of the Heart** writes: "Slowly I [have] grasped that life is filled with contrasts, with seasons, with alternating rhythms, cadences, and forms. In every sense [life] is an interplay of light and dark. Polarities and paradox, creative tension between opposites, form the living-out of our being."

We need Fall. Take advantage of it. Allow it to take you to the melancholy of life. Let it be a time when you can begin to embrace your grief. Let it give you permission to go deeper in life, which is something the church can, and in the case of our congregation, will help you with. As we study, as we worship, and even as we are in fellowship with one another, we can and will probe the depths of life together. We'll share the pain and the joy, the moments of ecstatic life and the moments of troublesome death, the highs and the lows.

Happy Fall! For me, it's not Summer. But it is, nonetheless, a wonderful time to be alive and a phenomenal time to be church together.



From Pastoral Assistant Paula

I would like to take this time to thank the many people who, with their hands and hearts, came together to make the brunch fundraiser for Dar Al-Kalima possible. And thank you for all your generosity as five family scholarships were created for the children at Dar Al-Kalima Lutheran School. What an honor to host Pastor Khader El-Yateem and hear him speak truth to power, not only in relationship to the devastating events that took place on October 7th, 2023 in Israel and the ongoing destruction in Gaza, but how the Palestinian people have lived under horrid conditions within the framework of the Israeli occupation in Gaza and the West Bank.

I realize that many people have reached many conclusions about the political issues of Palestine and Israel over the years, which is why hearing the truth about the genocide of any group of people, and the persecution of the Palestinian Christians from one who has lived it, was vital to how we view justice for the marginalized, the poor and the oppressed. Jesus was born at a time when Roman Occupation ruled the land and the people. Today, we live in a time when Israeli Occupation and the Israeli military laud their power over innocent people and the death of Palestinian women and children (16,500 dead children; 10,000 missing; 95,497 injured as of Sept. 17, 2024 and thousands of Israeli deaths and injuries), Israeli and American hostages still remain in captivity, over 705 people have died in the West Bank and over 5,000 people injured, have become a way of living for both the people of Israel and Palestine. And I say, "Lord have mercy. Have mercy on us."

One of the things Pastor El-Yateem told me on my first trip to the Holy Land was this: There is a lot of education that has to happen. He was right. My heart aches for my friends in Bethlehem. My heart aches for all people who live with the evils of war and misplaced power. So thank you, Pastor El-Yateem, for working tirelessly on behalf of justice for all people; for empowering us with your words, and encouraging us to speak on behalf of those who cannot. We are also encouraged to write our U.S. Representatives, Senators and the President. We can be a voice of justice right here in Muskegon, Michigan. We can make a difference.

The book of Micah speaks words of judgment and hope. Judgment for the powerful leaders; hope for the people without power. So what does God require of us - both individually and as a community?

To do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God. Come...let's take a walk.

With a grateful heart,
Paula







HALLOWEEN EVENTS

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 26 from 4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
Watch for news for candy donations.
Trunk volunteers contact Emma via text (712-395-0502) or email (emma@firstlutheranmuskegon.org)

HAUNTED HOUSE

Middle School/Confirmation Students
October 26, 7:00 p.m.
More details to come!



GATHERING YOUTH GRADES 6-12

CHARGE

NOVEMBER 8-10, 2024
GREAT WOLF LODGE - TRAVERSE CITY, MI
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

November 8-10 Great Wolf Lodge

This youth gathering is for grades 6-12 at Great Wolf Lodge. Programming includes worship, small groups, skill shops and time in the water park. Cost is \$95 per person, and you must sign up with Laura Lucht or Emma Johnston by October 6.



High School Faith Formation Cass
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Led by Jeff Lucht

Care Ministry

“Go and spread God’s love through helping others.” For the past thirty years, First Lutheran has helped each other and shared God’s love by utilizing Stephen Ministry as a care model. After much discussion with Pastor Bill and Paula about the current needs of our congregation, we have made the decision to expand our care ministry by developing a care ministry team. This model of care enables more people in the congregation to serve and use their individual gifts.

Our newly created Care Ministry will include more visitations and serving communion to our shut-ins or those who are temporarily unable to attend services. Parishioners who wish to care for others as part of this team will receive training. So whether you are new to First Lutheran or have been a Stephen Minister in the past, this may be the perfect time to step into service.

In October, we will offer 7.5 hours of training in three (2.5) hour training sessions. If you have a desire to assist others, this may be the ministry for you. Upon completion of training, you will be commissioned into this ministry and be a part of this vital service in our church.

Some areas in which we need ministers are as follows:

- Visiting the homebound, taking communion and sharing Christ’s love
- Meeting with those who are hospitalized
- Visiting those in nursing facilities
- Calling and checking on those who haven’t attended worship for an extended period
- Facilitating Grief Share classes (13 weeks)
- Visiting those who are experiencing a life crisis or life change

The faith community at First Lutheran has always been eager to serve and care for one another as part of our mission. Please prayerfully consider being a part of this vital ministry as we continue to serve one another through Christian love. If you would like more information or would like to sign up for our training sessions, please sign up on the sheet provided at either information station. You may also ask Pastor Bill, Paula, Shar, Diane Madej, or Evie DiPiazza for more information.

In Christ’s love,
Lynda Ferry



ANNUAL PLEDGE FOR 2025

While I joined the Lutheran Church 7 years ago, I still have Catholic friends, some of them in “religious life” such as contemplative nuns. When birthdays come near, I naturally turn to religious themed birthday greeting cards. Usually I say, “Nah, I can’t do this. They must get plenty of these.” And I look for something with humor or satire. The same goes to my “holy” Lutheran friends.

So, we’ve been asking you to make a generous pledge with spiritual and compassionate motives. After all, utility bills must be paid. Building and ground maintenance is ongoing. Staff need a living wage, job security, and benefits just like everyone else. Children want to be taught.

So, it’s not only kindness and charity,
but give according to our ability.
We are giving for all that we have received.
This time in a lighthearted vein,
We ask you to pledge kindly
I do not write poetically
My poet contacts claimed having a dry season.
So, I turned to Artificial Intelligence for reason.

Joe Labiak
Stewardship Chairperson

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2024 IS PLEDGE DAY

Give with a smile

In a quaint little town where the steeple stands tall,
The Lutherans gather, inviting us all.
They've got bake and rummage sales and dinners so grand,
To fundraise the coffers, a biblical plan!

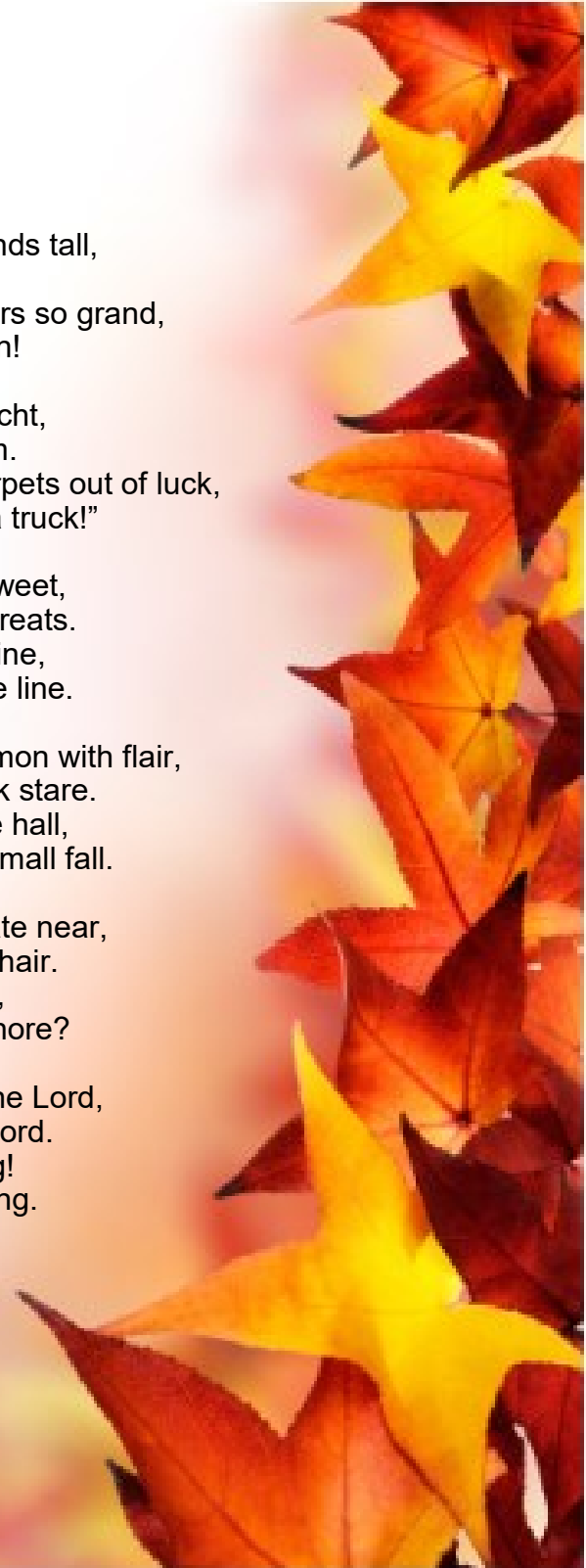
"Give generously!" cries Pastor McUetrict,
With a grin so wide, it's almost a whim.
"For the church parking needs patching, and our carpets out of luck,
And the youth group's new bus was hit by a truck!"

Oh, the joy of the pitch, so earnest and sweet,
With homemade pie crusts and delicious treats.
The pie may be perfect, the cookies divine,
But our wallets are groaning as we toe the line.

"Remember the widow's two mites," says the sermon with flair,
As we hand over cash with a nervous, blank stare.
"Your sacrifice matters!" rings through the hall,
Yet I'm wondering if they'll notice if I take a small fall.

But lo, I've been summoned, the offering plate near,
And with trembling fingers, I shift in my chair.
Do I dare give all, or keep a bit more,
To save up for groceries or a trip to the shore?

So next time you're asked, in the name of the Lord,
Remember the satire, and hold your accord.
For a well-fed wallet helps you to sing!
But a generous heart is a wonderful thing.





Yoga Classes Resume Monday, October 7

Every Monday-Chair Yoga 5:45p.m. (those who are comfortable in a chair or standing)

1st and 3rd Mondays-Gently Restore Yoga, 7:15 p.m. (great for beginners, experienced, and those who need a little more ahh and stress relief)

2nd and 4th Mondays-Soul Flow Vinyasa, 7:15 p.m. (those more familiar with yoga looking to add strength, flexibility and challenge to their practice)

Anyone with questions or concerns can reach Sandy Hutchins preferably by text at 231-903-5227 or email at Sandy.lyn.hutchins@gmail.com

Official Acts



Deaths

Kay Diane Meyers

Date of Birth: 7-24-1944

Date of Death: 8-24-2024

Bradley Hyde

Date of Birth: 9-6-1947

Date of Death: 8-29-2024

Linda Sahlhoff

Date of Birth: 6-30-1943

Date of Death: 9-10-2024

First Communion

September 15

Cassidy Alger

Noah Ziemelis

Ellery Dewey

Madison (Madi) Stewart

Bowling for All

Bring your family and friends to our Bowling Party on November 10. We will be having lunch at the church at 12:30 p.m. and leave around 1:30 p.m. to go to Northway Lanes. Two games are included in the cost. You may play more on your own if time permits. Cost for lunch and bowling is \$15.00 per person. If you just want to bowl, the cost is \$9.00. **You must RSVP on sign-up sheet as soon as possible to reserve lanes.** Sheets are on the information stations.

Please contact Stan Daszko at 231-343-4486 or Cameron Moore at 231-742-1467 or Deb Roest at 231-744-1936 or Diane Kroll at 231-557-4637 for more information.



Halloween Costume Party

Dress up in your favorite costume at the Wednesday Night Dinner on October 23. Dinner will be served from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Costume Parade and prizes to follow. Free will offering will support upgrades to the Family Life Center.

Menu includes:

- Severed Chicken Breast
- Monster Chicken Nuggets
- Baked Potato Brains
- Franken Tots
- Corn Casualties
- Devilish Desserts

We are asking for donations for Halloween desserts. Please sign-up at the Information Stations.

Any questions? Call Deb Roest at 231-744-1936 or Diane Kroll at 231-557-4637.



Chimes Assemblers

Thanks to Dave and Theresa Buchan who assembled the September Chimes.

Weekly Offerings

Week ending 8-4-2024

General Fund: \$10,134.51
 Building Rent: \$70.00
 Building Enhancement: \$85.00
 Dollar A Day: \$447.03

Week ending: 8-11-2024

General Fund: \$6,731.00
 Building Rent: \$1,416.00
 Building Enhancement: \$445.00
 Noisy Offering (for Kids Belong): \$300.06

Week ending: 8-18-2024

General Fund: \$8,758.16
 Building Rent: \$155.00
 Building Enhancement: \$270.00
 Noisy Offering (Kids Belong): \$244.69

Week ending: 8-25-2024

General Fund: \$2,809.15
 Building Rent: \$95.00
 Building Enhancement: \$65.00
 Noisy Offering (Kids Belong): \$143.36

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Weekly Scripture Readings</i>
10/6	Gen 2:18-24, Ps 8 Heb 1:1-4, 2:5-12, Mark 10:2-16
10/13	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15, Ps 90:12-17 Heb 4:12-16, Mark 10:17-31
10/20	Isa 53:4-9, 12 Ps 91:9-16 Heb 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45
10/27	Jer 31:31-34, Ps 46 Rom 3:19-28, John 8:31-36



The Fellowship Committee is trying to secure tickets for a Thursday night performance of the *Mona Shores Christmas Tree*. The event usually takes place the first week of December. Stay tuned for more information in the next Chimes.



October Birthdays

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|--|
| 1 | James Sutton
Aubrey Freeman
Alice Workman
Patrick Hansen | 11 | Jeanne Beardsley
Larry Hewitt | 22 | Marilyn Eyestone
Braden (Brady) Lindell
Jordan Pruitt
Kurt Schlager |
| 2 | Alicia Shank
Maureen Preston | 12 | Dawson Wheeler
Travis Wilson | 23 | Amy Morris-Jones |
| 3 | August Frietsch
Joann Petersen | 13 | Kolten Plekes
Rylee Cooke
Lorie White | 24 | Alyssa Glavich
Matt Henry |
| 4 | Tim Rodriguez | 14 | Jesse Cooke
Jerry Mattson
Donn Werling | 26 | Larry Bringedahl |
| 5 | Britta Portenga
Sadie Thomas | 15 | Glenda Borowski
Addi Schmitz | 27 | Marcella Sutton
Melissa Rich |
| 6 | Evelyn Borreson
Thomas Larson
Lanette McCleary
Tammy Dahlstrom | 16 | Larry Holstrom
John Arter | 28 | Lewis Pluger |
| 7 | Raleigh Schmitz
Gloria Peterson | 18 | Greg Shunta | 29 | Sam Udell
Amy Hewitt
Amy Werling
Ruth Basch
Joseph Dick |
| 8 | Marilyn Bradfield | 19 | Linda Dawson
Mimi Irmscher
Matthew Shank
Grace Werling | 30 | Leah Lowry |
| 9 | Jeff Thomas | 20 | Alexis Holmes-Goodwin | | |
| 10 | Jamie Neel
Janet Naymick
Jacob Uetricht | | | | |



Keepers

Gerald and Betty Crenno

1740 Village Dr Apt 318
Village at the Oaks
Muskegon, MI 49442-4288

Theresa Hansen

Robbinswood-Northcrest Campus
2650 Ruddiman Dr
North Muskegon, MI 49445

Rosemary Loch

704 Miller Drive.
North Muskegon., MI 49445

Pat Mullinex

Newaygo County Medical Care
Facility
4465 W. 48th St.
Fremont, MI 49412

Mailing Address:

2284 Riverwood Drive
Twin Lake, MI 49457

Warren Robinson

1845 Moulton Ave
Muskegon, MI 494445-3127

Keith Stapel

1228 Lawrence St
Muskegon, MI 49442

Margaret Tyler

1901 Duck Lake Rd
Whitehall, MI 49461-9719

Marjorie Visscher

White Lake Assisted Living
6827 Whitehall Rd
Whitehall, MI 49461

Dave Walborn

18552 W Spring Lake Rd
Spring Lake, MI 49456

Mary Warden

1740 Village Dr. Apt 222
Muskegon, MI 49442-4283

First Lutheran Church

October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Wednesdays Night Programming</p> <p>5:30PM-Wed Night Dinner 6:00PM-Kids' Music 5-6 years 6:00PM-GriefShare 6:10PM-Bible Study 6:30PM-Kids' Music 7yrs & up</p>	<p>Dollar-A-Day Weekend</p> <p>9:15AM-Confirmation 9:30AM-Kids' Music 3-4 years 9:30AM-Faith Formation 10:30AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 4:00PM-Lion's Club 7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball 11:30PM-MARSP Meeting 3:00PM-Burnished Brass 6:00PM-Lion's Club Meeting 6:30PM-Choir 9:30PM-Compline</p>	<p>9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Staff Meeting 6:00PM-Berry Junction Trail Meeting 6:10PM-New Member's Class **Wed Night Programming**</p>	<p>12:00PM-Lectionary Bible Study 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p>	<p>11:00AM-Memorial Service for L. Sahlhoff 7:00PM-Baton Class 7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>8:30AM-Stephen Ministry 3:00PM-Kids Belong Foster/Adopt Event</p>
<p>5:15AM-Confirmation 9:30AM-Kids' Music 3-4 years 9:30AM-Faith Formation 10:30AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 12:00PM-Bells 6:30PM-Rotary Club Meeting 7:00PM-AA Meeting</p> <p>Marriage Retreat</p>	<p>8:00AM-Muskegon Garden Club District Meeting 12:00PM-Quilters' Group 3:00PM-Sons of Norway Board Meeting 5:00PM-P.E.O. Group 5:45PM-Chair Yoga 7:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming 7:15PM-Gently Restore Yoga</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball 9:30PM-1st on 2nd Quilt Bee 6:30PM-Burnished Brass 6:30PM-Choir 7:30PM-Band 9:30PM-Compline</p>	<p>9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Staff Meeting 4:00PM-Lion's Club Officers 6:10PM-New Member's Class **Wed Night Programming**</p>	<p>12:00PM-Lectionary Bible Study 6:00PM-Private Group Mtg 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p>	<p>5:00PM-Sons of Norway 5:30PM-Bunco 5:30PM-Baton Class 7:00PM-AA Meeting</p> <p>Marriage Retreat</p>	<p>8:30AM-Men's Breakfast 8:30AM-Women's Breakfast</p>
<p>9:15AM-Confirmation 9:30AM-Kids' Music 3-4 years 9:30AM-Faith Formation 10:30AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 12:00PM-Bells 12:00PM-New Members' Potluck 7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>12:00PM-Quilters' Group 5:45PM-Chair Yoga 6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming 7:15PM-Soul Flow Yoga</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball 3:00PM-Burnished Brass 6:30PM-Choir 9:30PM-Compline</p>	<p>9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Staff Meeting 5:30PM-Wed Night Dinner/Halloween Party 6:00PM-GriefShare</p>	<p>12:00PM-Lectionary Bible Study 4:00PM-Outreach Ministry Meeting 6:00PM-Private Group Mtg 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:15PM-Council Meeting</p>	<p>6:00PM-Crafty Group 6:00PM-Baton Class 7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>4:00PM-Trunk or Treat</p>
<p>9:00AM-Ministry Fair 9:15AM-Confirmation 9:30AM-Kids' Music 3-4 years 9:30AM-Faith Formation 10:30AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 12:00PM-Bells 6:00PM-Listening for the Word 7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>12:00PM-Quilters' Group 5:45PM-Chair Yoga 6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming 7:15PM-Soul Flow Yoga</p>	<p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball 3:00PM-Burnished Brass 6:30PM-Choir 9:30PM-Compline</p>	<p>9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Staff Meeting **Wed Night Programming</p>	<p>**Halloween** 12:00PM-Lectionary Bible Study 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p>		