

# Faith CONNECTIONS

July  
2008

## NEWSLETTER OF FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

### First Lutheran Church

1180 8th Ave / P.O. Box 546  
Cumberland, WI. 54829

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8 AM - 2 PM

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www.luther95.com/FLC-CWI

Pastor: Tim Schmidt

Email: firstpastor@centurytel.net

Home Phone: 715-822-3265

Office: Dawn Hilde

Treasurer: Lori Nyhus

Organist: Charlene Samlaska

Choir Director: Sharon Schmidt

Handbell Choir Director: Dan Hopkins

Tone Chime Director: Mary Flottum

Librarian: Dawn Totzke

Custodians: Jeff & Julie Anderson

### *First Lutheran Church Council*

President: Mark Gargulak

V. President: Gene Bussewitz

Secretary: Dawn Totzke

### *Ministry Teams:*

Christian Ed

Dawn Totzke, Brenda Blumberg

Church Home Management

Gene Bussewitz

Fellowship & Christian Service

Doris Paulson, Paul Hilton

Financial & Personal Gifts

Jerry Severson

Home Missions

Ron Sandve

International Missions

Jean Odden, Bev Alfonse

Worship & Church Music

Dona Neby

Youth

Phil Flottum, Preston Hopkins



Our confirmation kids at Luther Park Bible Camp with Pastor Tim and our own Chris Olson (counselor).



**Confirmation Reunion Sunday, June 8th.** From left to right Pastor Tim, Jennifer Turcott, Sandi Kolb, Carol Wallin, Larry Paulson, Judy Grzanich, and Fred Sutherland.



## FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

Make a joyful noise to God, all you earth. Psalm 66:1

A highlight of the summer for me every year is Vacation Bible School. I love to see all the activity going on at the church at one time. Dozens of kids together learning, singing, doing crafts and just plain having fun. These last years I have enjoyed doing a lot of the Bible storytelling during VBS and it really is a lot of fun trying to make the Bible stories come to life. The kids have a great time with the whole experiences, and they seem to remember the things that they learn during VBS.

These last several years we have hosted VBS for several of our area churches, and this year we will have even more. Four of our local churches (First, Augustana, Barronett Lutheran and St. Anthony's Catholic) are going to gather this year, so there should be quite a group of kids here. I invite you to come by one of the nights (July 27-31<sup>st</sup>) and to see all that is going on. We meet every night from 5:30 – 8:00. We begin each night with an opening in the sanctuary and we close each night all together as well. Then on Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, the last night of VBS we will have the kids come into the Sanctuary and sing during our 6:30pm worship service.

We have a great group of volunteers that really makes the program go. Thank you in advance to all of them. It is exciting to be getting ready for so many kids. And as this year's theme is one of farming and harvest, you may even see a few animals and other fun things around church that week. See you at VBS!

Pastor Tim

### First Lutheran Church Annual Congregational Meeting January 20th, 2008 at 9:15am

Call to order by President Mark Gargulak

Devotions lead by Pastor Tim.

Building Improvements discussion: the Church Home Management Ministry Team lead by Gene Bussewitz has been investigating building needs. After presenting information, the full council approved bringing the proposal to the congregation. This proposal is not an expansion, rather a maintenance effort. A powerpoint presentation illustrated the needs: Roofing, Insulation over the sanctuary. Garage roof: do now to match the steel., Flat roof over Friendship, Room changed to a pitched roof, Landscaping (bid from Odden's), Kitchen: much will be done through sweat equity.

Discussion:

Construction loan from Cumberland Federal.

Overbuilding the roof (front peak) to allow for possible, future, insulation on the outside of the stone wall. Current bids were between 25,000 and 40,000, which would take a long time to recoup based on an estimate that only 5% of our heat loss is from that wall. This idea was removed from the proposal prior to presentation to the congregation.

Will the bid for landscaping be enough to control the amount of watershed from the new roof? Comparing to steel roofs in other parts of the country and to local areas.

Dishwasher should be considered for replacement (it is a 23 year old refurbished machine).

Motion by Jennifer Turcott, second by Jerry Severson, to amend the proposal "not to exceed \$155,000", to allow for extension of the roof over the stone wall and other discussion items, as well as unforeseen needs. Vote by show of hands, motion carries.

Motion by David Olson, second by Lee Jacobson, to accept the amended proposal. Vote by show of hands, motion carries.

Fundraising discussion was led by Pastor Tim. A goal of raising \$50,000 was set by the end of 2008. 5% of funds raised will be given to our partner parish in Malawi for the construction of church buildings.

Thank you to Gene Bussewitz and the Ministry Team for Church Home Management for all their work.

Adjourn: motion by Lee Jacobson, second by Roger Hilde, motion carried



**Email Database:** Many of us use email to communicate regularly with family and friends. Pastor Tim would occasionally like to send out email messages about things going on at church. All we need is to have everyone's email address. Please give your email address to Dawn in the church office, or send her an email at: [flchurch@centurytel.net](mailto:flchurch@centurytel.net). She will work on putting the database together

**All FLCW Members:** We are hosting Augustana on July 16 for a salad luncheon and program. Please bring a salad and each circle should bring two desserts. Thank you.

### Ecosilk Bags are here!!

These are silk bags designed for carrying groceries or other purchased items. They are available in a wide array of colors. Save the environment with durable, reuseable non-plastic bags. The profits will go to our sister congregation in Malawi.



**Visit our Church Library** - We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate the library program. Please contact the office or the pastor if you would like to contribute your talents.

**That's My Pan!** This fundraiser for the Youth to New Orleans is your chance to purchase as a gift or treat for yourself, a personalized item for the kitchen. Some of the items for sale are on the table in the Fellowship Hall. There are also catalogs available. You can order your items from anyone in the New Orleans Youth Group or from the office. If you have any questions please call Jonelle Gideo 822-5445. The ordered items will be placed on the bench near the coat racks. This project will be ongoing for one year.

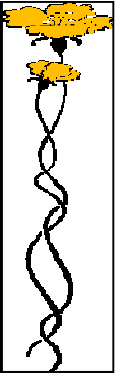
### Mark your Calendars! Old Fashioned Church Picnic.

On Sunday, **August 3<sup>rd</sup>** we are going to host an old fashioned church picnic here at First Lutheran. Join us for a cookout and pot-luck that evening at 5 o'clock. There will be games and fun for all ages. We will end that night around the campfire with smores to enjoy.

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

### CIRCLE SCHEDULE:

Rebekah	July 7	-	1:30 PM
Naomi	July 8	-	1:30 PM
Esther	July 9	-	9:00 AM
Hannah	July 10	-	2:00 PM



**FLCW is collecting** bar soap for Lutheran World Relief. Please bring in bars of soap and place them in the marked box in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

**Luther Park 18th Annual Benefit Auction** is coming on Sunday, August 10. They are looking for donations and people to attend this fundraiser. There is a brochure in the church office listing the items they can use for the auction and the schedule for the day. The money raised supports the Bible Camp Ministry. If you have items to donate and need someone to pick them up please call 715-858-2215.

### Council Meeting this Month

Jerry and Glenda Severson will be hosting our church council meeting this month for a good time of food and fellowship at the lake. Spouses and families of council members are invited to join us as well on Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30pm. Please bring a dish along to share.

**Threads of Friendship** Heart of the North Women's Retreat. Luther Park Bible Camp, August 11-12, 2008, Chetek, Wisconsin. Give yourself 24 hours of scripture study, worship and prayer, singing, fun, good meals and beautiful surroundings. Reservations are due by August 7th. Check out the flyer on our bulletin board.

**Fellowship Hall Chairs for Sale:** You have probably noticed the nice new chairs that we have in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to our First Lutheran Church Women and other individual donors for giving those. They are comfy and warm! These new chairs also leave us with some older ones that we no longer have room to store. Therefore they are being offered to anyone from the congregation who would like to purchase them for \$5 a piece. The chairs are still solid and in good shape, although in some cases some of the paint is starting to chip. There are about 50 chairs available. Stop by the church office if you would like some.



First Lutheran Church  
January 1 - May 31, 2008

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>BLDG MORTGAGE FUND</u>	<u>MISSION FUND</u>
2008 OFFERING	\$69,156	\$4,008	\$2,587
2007 OFFERING	\$70,878	\$4,756	\$3,198
<b>DIFFERENCE:</b>	<b>(\$1,722)</b>	<b>(\$748)</b>	<b>(\$611)</b>
2008 OFFERING	\$69,156	\$4,008	\$2,587
2008 ACTUAL EXPENSES	\$74,419	\$4,600	\$2,369
<b>DIFFERENCE:</b>	<b>(\$5,263)</b>	<b>(\$592)</b>	<b>\$219</b>
2008 BUDGET AMT NEEDED	\$64,218	\$3,600	\$3,801
{IF ALL BUDGET ITEMS WERE PAID}			

Report Submitted by Lori Nyhus, Treasurer

\*\*2008 expenses were paid from balances at year end 2007, we no longer have that "cushion"\*\*\*

## Stewardship Corner

**Have you ever considered remembering First Lutheran Church in your will or estate plan? Could you benefit from an increase in your monthly income? Do you know you can increase your guaranteed income during retirement years, have much of it can be free of income tax and still benefit ministries of your choice?**

Charitable gift annuities currently offer rates of 6.0% to 11.3% for members 65 and older. Perhaps you have thought of remembering First Lutheran or a special ministry in your will or estate plan but have no idea what options are available to you.

You are invited to join in the discussion of these topics and others on Sunday, July 20th. Regional Gift Planner of our synod and the ELCA Foundation, Roger Knuth, will share some basics about charitable gifting and estate planning and answer questions you may have. Roger is employed by the church to assist congregations in the management of gifts and members in making their charitable interests become a reality. The hour will be informal and there are no fees or products associated with the services provided by our gift planner. **Please join us on July 20th** at 9:30 AM to learn more about becoming better stewards of God's gifts.

### New Member Sunday

Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> will be new member Sunday. Plan on being with us that day as we welcome newcomers into the life and ministry of our congregation. Then stay after for coffee and treats that day to welcome them into our midst.

### Memorials & Gifts

†Memorial for Ray Endlich from Milt & Jean Odden.



# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## July

1 Adam Delfosse  
 2 Brandon Whitman  
 4 Kerri Holmes  
 5 Donald Peterson  
 Frank Cifaldi  
 Kevin Thompson  
 Jeanne Brekhus  
 6 Dave Olson  
 David Clay  
 Dawn Scheff  
 Christopher Olson  
 7 Dave Grove  
 8 David Frye  
 9 Richard Nyhus  
 Ryan Johnson  
 Sarah Wohlk  
 Jennah Johnson  
 Jazmine Johnson  
 11 Kari Samlaska  
 12 Jolene Thompson  
 14 Teri Massie  
 Bryce Hopkins  
 15 Andrea Herzan  
 Travis Odden  
 16 Ruth Pederson  
 17 Delores Dickman  
 Tim Schmidt  
 Erick Hassel  
 19 Cheryl Lehmann  
 Clancy Broker  
 Molly Corwin  
 20 Ann Sorensen  
 Chris Flottum

22 Laurel Lawrence  
 Kailee Sommerfeld  
 23 Jean Odden  
 24 Nancy Newhouse  
 26 Roger Hilde  
 Norm Torkelson  
 Kevin Elmberg  
 27 Bill Carsley  
 29 Brian Knutson  
 Callie Benson  
 30 James Iverson



## July

07 Paul & Mary Flottum  
 09 Dan & Lori Hopkins  
 11 Wayne & Heidi Mathison  
 Lawrence & Charlene Samlaska  
 14 Bob & Becky Cifaldi  
 19 Ron & Flo Sandve  
 20 Michael & Lori Nyhus  
 Andy & Cassandra Flottum  
 22 Terry & Bobbi Momchilovich  
 24 Dale & Ardis Amundson  
 Ryan & Stacey Whitman  
 29 George & Ruth Pederson  
 Alden & Patti Nelson

If we have your birthday/anniversary  
 wrong, or, if we don't have it,  
 please call the church office  
 and let us know!

# FC Youth News!



Official Cabin Inspectors,  
Luther Park 2008



**Help Support Our Youth** with just the click of your mouse! Goodsearch.com allows you to donate to charity every time you do an internet search. It uses the money from advertisers to give to your designated charity. Now, the amount is only 1 penny per search, but over time and with a lot of people, it could add up.

Here is what you do: Go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). Under "Who do you search for?" Type "First Lutheran Church." Then scroll down the list until you get to "First Lutheran Church - Cumberland (Cumberland, WI)." Then click on that, and you are ready to go. You can even check to see how much money has been raised so far.

The searches are powered by Yahoo and so they are pretty good searches. You can also shop through this portal at many different online retailers and they will make a larger donation to our church. Just click on "Good Shop".

Thank you for doing goodsearch - and spread the word to all of your family and friends! Remember - it takes a lot of searches at 1 penny a piece, but think of how much all of us use the computer.

**Serving in the Cities.** Eight of our young people and two chaperones, Pastor Tim and Frank Cifaldi, will be in the Twin Cities, June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup> to do some service projects. They will be volunteering at the Child and Family Services Center in Maplewood as well as the House of Charity in Minneapolis. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they Journey together, do Bible Study and live out their faith in service to others.



**Vacation Bible School**  
Join us for a fun time  
pre-K through 6th grade.  
July 27-31, 2008

**Son Harvest County Fair**

Registration sheets are available in the Fellowship Hall. Students who pre-register get a CD. of the music.

Join us **July 27-31** for a county fair themed Vacation Bible School Experience called Son Harvest. We will gather with friends from our church and many others in town to learn about Jesus, make crafts, sing songs, and just plain have a good time. We will meet each night from 5:30 until 8pm. Registration forms are in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up today if you haven't already.

**VBS Helpers Needed!!!**

Come and volunteer for this year's VBS July 27-31. Registration forms for volunteers are in the Fellowship Hall. We are looking for "center" leaders, "class" leaders and lots of helpers. If you wish to volunteer but cannot attend part or all of the nights we still want you - we have lots of things that can be done before VBS or on a nightly basis. If you have any questions please contact any member of Christian Education - Dawn Totzke, Mona Cifaldi, Michelle Gargulak, Shelia Whitman, Brenda Blumberg and Pastor Tim.

**Pontoon Ride**

Our annual pontoon ride for seniors over 70 will be on **Thursday July 24<sup>th</sup>**. Join us that day for a lunch on the water and a nice cruise around Beaver Dam Lake. Invitations will go out soon. Please call the church office at 822-4416 to sign

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual First Lutheran Golf Outing**

The same day as the church picnic we will get together to play a little golf. Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship out on the golf course. We will play a fun scramble type format that is perfect for all golf abilities. Even if you have hardly ever swung a club we would love to have you join us. Come make a day of it and stay then for the church picnic, **August 3**.

**Dinner For Six**

Have you ever wanted to get to know the people of our congregation a little bit better? Do you sometimes see faces in church, can't quite remember their names? Well then consider becoming part of a dinner for six group. This is an idea that has been used in many different churches to help people get better acquainted. How it works is this: you sign up to become part of the group (either as a couple or a single person) and then you will be matched with others in the congregation. You will then get together for a meal, one being the host. For each of these meals the host prepares the main course and then the others bring the rest. It is a simple way to get to know one another and increase connections in our congregation. You will be hearing more about this in worship, and there will be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall. So come on and take part, and build some more great friendships with the people of our church.

**Kinship Mentoring Program**

Have you ever wondered what being a mentor to a young person would be like? Do you have questions about how you could help youth in Cumberland? Rob Ankarlo and our own Jonelle Gideo will be speaking in church July 27<sup>th</sup> about the Kinship mentoring program. They will also lead a short time of discussion during the coffee fellowship that day to let us know about the need for mentors this Fall. Please plan to join us that day!

**The Kinship mentoring group** of Cumberland is doing a recycling fundraiser, to raise money and to help protect the environment. Many items are being collected including old cell phones, DVD players, ink jet cartridges and digital cameras. Items can be dropped off at several locations in town: Island City Food Co-op and Bakery, Centurytel, Island City Wireless, The Country Store and Cumberland Clinic. Please see the poster hanging in the entryway of the church for all the details.



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## Summer Studies



## Summer Adult Studies

It is time to begin our summer adult studies. This year we are going to take a look at a variety of interesting topics together. All are welcome to join us for some or all of these discussions. They will take place on Sunday mornings after the 8:30am service. Bring your coffee and take part in the conversation. Materials for these discussions will be available in the church library.

**July 6th** -- Our stewardship of the Earth -- How do we care for what has been given to us?

**July 13th** -- Facing Hunger, Facts Issues and People

**July 20th** -- Planned Giving with Roger Knuth, Synod Specialist

**July 27th** -- The Kinship Program -- Mentoring Opportunities

**August 3rd** -- The Final Goodbye -- How Funerals are Changing -- and what is a "green funeral?"

**August 10th** -- Connections within our ELCA -- How do we do ministry together?

**August 17th** -- Life Leaves Marks -- God in the Midst of our Pain

**August 24th** -- Rutabaga Parade

**August 31st** -- The Key to the Scriptures -- What is the Augsburg Confession and What Does it Mean Today?



