

August 2023

1212 Minneapolis Ave.
Gladstone, MI 49837
906-428-4565

www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org
office@firstlutheran-gladstone.org
or check us out on facebook.com

Worship –8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Office Hours – Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Rev. Elisabeth Daniels, Pastor
pastor.firstgladstone@gmail.com

What's Inside ...

From the Pastor	Page 4
Upcoming Scripture Readings	Page 5
Circle & Committee News	Page 5
Christian Ed	Page 6
Summer Cantors	Page 7
Lifelong Faith Formation	Page 8
U.P State Fair	Page 9
MEF Grant Applications	Page 9
Stewardship	Page 11
Special Giving Envelope	Page 12
Kiwanis Backpack Program	Page 13
Directory Updates	Page 13
MEF Grant Thank You	Page 13
Thank You	Page 14
Memorial Gifts	Page 14
Homebound	Page 15
August Birthdays/Anniversaries	Page 16
Council Highlights	Page 17
Serving Us	Page 17
Memorial United Methodist Treasure Position	Page 17
Contact Us	Page 18

Our Mission Statement ...

First Lutheran Church is God's people inviting, involving equipping and empowering to serve, that all may know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.





**FROM OUR
PASTOR**

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

-Isaiah 43:19

FLC Family,

We are embracing a new adventure. Conversations with the Congregation Council, the Exploration Committee, and several groups of congregation members between services and during coffee hour has helped us to see that there are opportunities for us to live out our mission in new and creative ways.

First Lutheran Church is now advertising for a Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC). We have an online satellite congregation. Covid times changed many things, because of that we have discovered an opportunity. There are people worshiping with us electronically near and far and we can invite, involve, equip, and empower our e-family to serve Jesus in their context. Our CEC will help accompany them in this.

This new position will help us to better engage our volunteers in church and out in the world. First Lutheran Church is a great place. We are not broken. We are not as big as we used to be, but there are beautiful people who worship and serve our church and our world through First Lutheran Church. We want to be intentional about recruiting, retaining, reminding, and recognizing our volunteers. A CEC will facilitate this ministry.

This is not out with the old and in with the new. It means, we dig deeper. What are we longing for? What does our community long for from us? We have so much potential and possibility. This new position will help us to engage in church in ways that we have yet to discover.

Let's grow together! Please discern if this position is right for you. Is this an area you are called to serve in? Do you know someone who you could invite to apply? Sometimes we don't recognize our own gifts until we get some external support. Pray about this.

I am so thankful to serve in a congregation that is willing to talk and explore.

Thank you, Pastor Elisabeth

Upcoming Scriptures

August 6 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 55:1-5, Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21

August 13 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:9-18, Psalm 85:8-13, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-23

August 20 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15:[10-20], 21-28

August 23 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

Altar Guild

Anyone interested in helping with these worship responsibilities is welcome to join us. The membership has dropped in the last two years and we would like to get back up to at least six teams that cover two months each. If you have any questions feel free to contact Pam Durbin 428-4429 or Amber Soderman (763)213-3659.

Bible Study

Regular Wednesday morning Bible Study is taking a summer hiatus. Study of the book of Isaiah will resume the Wednesday after Labor Day, **September 6th at 9:30 am**

Book Club

Book Club will meet on Friday, August 11th at 1:00 p.m. for a discussion of, *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. This book tells the story of an extraordinary woman who is the personal librarian for J.P. Morgan. She is famous for her intellect, style and wit, and shares the lengths she must go to-for the protection of her family and her legacy-to preserve her carefully crafted white identity in the racist world in which she lives. Please join us if you are interested in a good historical fiction read. Discussion questions are available in the narthex.

Christian Education

We are looking for two teachers, 1-2 grade and 5-6 grade, for the 2023-24 school year. If you are interested, please contact Pastor or the church office.

Rally Day & Blessing of the Backpacks



September 10th
Register for Sunday School and Confirmation at 9:15am

Backpack Blessing during Worship. Come and bring your friends! Continental Breakfast served every Sunday. Volunteers are needed to help serve breakfast and Sunday School Educators are needed.

Registrations for Confirmation are being accepted now. Sign up Today!



Fortune Lake Day Camp was a huge success. We had around 35 campers per day! We sang new songs, played fun games, made arts & crafts, made and ate snacks, took trips to the park and beach and had a visit from the ice cream truck. Most important, the kids learned about The Holy Trinity and Jesus' love for them! A huge thank you to all the volunteers from First Lutheran. We had over 12 volunteers and couldn't have done it without all the help. If you helped, or prayed for our week, thank you for making this week so special and memorable for our youth.

Sewing Circle

"Back to School" is in the news and over 200 backpacks for world relief are ready for supplies. You can help: we need **rulers, unsharpened #2 pencils, pencil sharpeners, blunt small scissors, non-gel pens (black/blue), box of crayons (16 or 24 ct.), lined note books, monetary donations** and we will pick up the supplies. A school supply tote is in the narthex. Thank you for all donations.



*A blessing to share: Someone donated 5 large bags of quilting material. We think we will be able to make over 100 quilt tops – God's is good!

Love Circle

Meets on the Third Thursday of the month at 9:30 am.

Men's Group

Meets on the Third Thursday of the month at 9:00 am

Music Musings

Summer Cantors

- August 6 - Kris McDonald
- August 13 – Gretchen Strom
- August 20 – Maggie Miller
- August 27 – Patti Schmitendorf



Property Committee

The property committee has formally requested, from the Memorial Committee, the transfer of monies donated by the Ira Goetsch family, be transferred to the Capital Improvement Edward Jones Money Market Account. They are also looking into replacing the breaker box that services the sanctuary and narthex areas. The next meeting is scheduled for August 6th at 9:00 am in the double classroom.

Tried-N-True

No regular Tired-N-True noon luncheon will take place during June, July or August. Next luncheon program is ***Friday, September, 15th, 2023***. Volunteer helpers are needed for the next season.

Policy Committee

The policy committee has been actively updating the church's policies. Current policies being discussed and updated are the building use and marriage guidelines policies.

Safety Task Force

The Safety Committee is recommending that the Policy Committee make a policy specifically addressing Sexual Harassment at Church. The committee is brainstorming about other policies that should be separated from the Employee Handbook to include all church members and visitors. The next Safety Committee Meeting will be September 12, 2023, at 1:00 pm.

Welcome & Outreach



The Welcome and Outreach committee is seeking new members. Their ministry reaches out to those who have lost loved ones, sends supportive greeting cards, help with tracking membership, and many other ministries. If you think you would like to join, call the office, or attend their next meeting on ***August 15th at noon.***

Life Long Faith Formation

Join the fellowship and fun with others in the Northern Great Lakes Synod as you explore the Bible, church traditions, and issues central to daily life. Registration opens in August on the synod website, www.nglsynod.org.





UP STATE FAIR CONFERENCE BOOTH

First Lutheran is once again participating in the Tri-County Conference booth at the U.P State Fair on **Tuesday, August 15th**. We will be selling water and baked goods.

We are also in need of twenty-four dozen brownies, bars, and/or Rice Krispy treats, sized 3 inches square, that we can sell. Label your treats so they know what they are and, due to food allergies, please label “with nuts” if containing peanuts or tree nuts (almonds, cashews, hazelnuts, etc.). Please also do not put frosting on bars as it melts in the heat. Each bar must be individually wrapped for sale. You may wrap bars at home, or you may bring them to the church to be wrapped. Bars should be brought to church on Monday, August 14th. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or contact the church office if you are able to provide a dozen or more bars and/or if you would like to volunteer to take a shift at the booth.

Mission Endowment Grant Request Forms

The Request Forms for Mission Endowment Fund distribution are now available in the church office. First Lutheran is fortunate to be able to provide gifts for ministry outreach every year because of the many individual contributions made over the years. The annual distribution of these funds is based on the guidelines of the fund bylaws approved by the congregation. These bylaws require distributions to accomplish the following purposes:

- A. Support ministries and programs relating to growth and nurture in life and faith, especially, but not exclusively, for children, such as attending a Lutheran college, university or seminary, camping and leadership conferences, other training that enables members of this congregation to grow in the Lutheran faith and service to God’s people, or funding of church youth programs which involve

community outreach, and for funding an internship site at First Lutheran Church.

- B. For families, for social service agencies and institutions, or special programs designed for those in our community who are in spiritual and/or economic need.
- C. Grants to Fortune Lake Bible Camp for general support of its ministries.
- D. Grants to our ELCA schools, colleges, universities, campus ministries, and seminaries, to Fortune Lake Bible Camp or other ELCA church-related camping ministries.
- E. Grants to the Northern Great Lakes Synod for general support of its ministries.
- F. Grants:
 - a. through the Northern Great Lakes Synod partnership ministries, seminarian support, synod endowment support, Mission Outreach Fund
 - b. through the ELCA for World Hunger, World Missions, and other partnership ministries

If you would like to submit a request on behalf of any program or organization that seeks to accomplish one of the above purposes, please stop in the office and pick up a form. Completed forms need to be returned to the office no later than **Thursday, September 28th**. Any questions may be directed to one of the Mission Endowment Fund Committee members: Dennis Landwehr (Chair), Dotti Ford, Pam Durbin, Dutch McEachern, and Chuck Thomas.



**Mid-Year
Giving Statements are
available for pick up in the
Narthex.**

Stewardship

WE ARE FAMILY

If you are reading this you are probably part of our church family. Like many families, loved ones are scattered to faraway places and are not able to be together, physically, very often.

The First Lutheran Church family is no different. We have many members and friends who aren't with us for worship or active, in person, in any of our various ministries. Why? Well, the reasons vary. Perhaps some have gotten used to watching online during the pandemic, many are homebound or in nursing or assisted living facilities or.....

The reasons are not important. Fact is, we miss these family members and we need to find ways to reach out and enhance the quality of our family ties. First of all, we need to constantly remind ourselves who these members are and where they are. Next, we need to individualize each member's outreach and inclusion plan. Finally, we need to pray for them.

Our family (just the two of us, now) prays regularly for our church family and we thank God for having the members as part of our lives. We ask God to make us better stewards of the many blessings God has entrusted to us and to be more generous givers to our church family.

We need to keep reminding ourselves that the First Lutheran Church family is larger than the number of people sitting in the pews every Sunday. It's too easy to forget those who are not in worship.

The glue that holds families together is love. God loves us and we can return that love by loving ALL of our church family members and friends, wherever they are. Since love requires action, we need to use our time, energy, abilities and money to help us wrap our collective arms around our ENTIRE church family.

In Christ, Dirk Manson, Stewardship Chair

Special Giving Envelope



August Special Giving will go towards

Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief is an international non-governmental organization that focuses on sustainable development projects and disaster relief and recovery. The organization was founded in 1945 to collect and send aid to people living in post-World War II Europe.

June/July Special Giving, you raised \$175.00 for Mission of Hope as of July 23rd.

- Occasionally fill-in as our **Sound System Tech**
- Men and women to serve as **Ushers**
- Readers & Communion Assistants

If you would like to help in any of these areas, please call 428-4565!



Adopt a Planter



If you adopted a planter, please remember to tend to them. Some of them are full of weeds and could use some cleaning up of spent blossoms. Thank you to all who adopted one or more of our planters. This project helps us create a space of welcome and beauty!

Kiwanis Backpack Program

Dear Valued Sponsor,

The Backpack program serving Gladstone and Rapid River Schools had a successful 2022-2023 school year...While the numbers fluctuated during the year, we are happy to say that we served approximately 60 Gladstone students and 40 Rapid River students throughout the year. For this program we are able to purchase most of our food through Feeding America at a much cheaper cost than regular prices. This allows us to use the funds you have donated in a much more efficient way. We deeply appreciate the support that you have given to this program.

We anticipate starting the program up again in the fall once school begins and will run the program throughout the school year...We would certainly appreciate any continued support...

Sincerely, Alan Stoz, Club President

Directory Update

If you have had a change of address, phone number or email address in the past year, please contact the office with your updated information. We have noticed many people have invalid information in our system. Updates are important so we can keep in touch with you and keep you updated on events and activities at First Lutheran. Update your file today!

MEF Grant Thank You

Dear First Lutheran Church's MEF Committee,

Thank you so very much for the very generous donation! On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff and employees, we would like to thank you for supporting us with your generous \$750 donation! Your contribution will help Lakestate Industries continue its dedication in helping people recognize and maximize their abilities, overcome barriers, and support them in reaching their highest level of employment and community inclusion.

As a donor, we want you to know that your assistance is very valuable to us. Your generosity allows individuals with disabilities the ability to become fully engaged and integrated into their community....thank you for your donation and for touching the lives of others with your kindness and compassion!

Sincerely, Cheryl Ohman, Executive Director



Thank you to Avis Fairchild, Judy Hammond, Gloria Kanerva, and Paul LaCrosse who helped assemble the June/July newsletter.

Thank you for the blanket. – John Roman

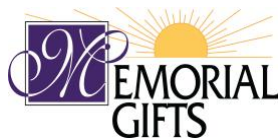
Dear First Lutheran,

Thank you for the quilt, I can't wait to use it. Also thanks for the special coffee hour.

Austin Brown

Nora and I would like to thank all members of Serving Group I for their help in serving Danny Stochams funeral. Especially we want to thank Alex Williams who did all the dishes for us. It was a great help.

In Christ, Mary Tuskan



In memory of *Ira Goetsch*

For Captital Improvement

From his family

For Mission Endowment Fund

From his family

In Memory of *Danny Stockham*

For Undesignated Memorials

From Jo Skogman
Dirk & Sue Manson
Gary & Mary Bjorkquist
Howard & Judy Haulotte
The Stockham Family

In Memory of Sally Hillman

For the Kitchen Fund
From the Hillman Family



Lakeview

Carole Wedell
Everett Robinson

Bishop Noa

Betty Erickson

Murray's Country View

Pat Shampo

at Home

Arla Pearson
Gen Morley

D.J Jacobetti Veteran's Home

Robert Hasselbom

**Friendly
Reminders**

First Lutheran has a large container in the Narthex to collect non perishable food and household items for the Salvation Army and Rock Food Pantry's. Pick up some extra items the next time you do your grocery shopping.

We have worship tablets for members who prefer to watch services from home, but do not have access to the internet. Please contact the office to sign one out.



August Birthdays

Week 1:

Chuck Thomas	Wes Daniels
Jo Skogman	Trevor Thorbahn

Week 2:

Stacy Smith	Amy Dyer	Michelle Larson
Carolyn Nelson	Lori Seawright	Kathy Gobert
Kelly Shea	Samuel Olsick	

Week 3:

Steve Bolek	Dennis Filizetti	Sam "Vova" Hill
Gary Bjorkquist	Mercedes Koski	Trudy Brandt
Marge Movalson	Allie Roman	Julie Landwehr
Gordon Zuehlke		

Week 4:

Harvey Setter	Kailee Shea	Chelsea McDonough
Carter Roman	Carol Ebbesen	Renny Munroe

Week 5:

Cheryl Dykes	Andy Nelson
--------------	-------------

August Anniversaries

Joe and Erica Skellenger	12 years
Matthew and Katie Smith	17 years
Jim and Tiffany Olsick	21 years
Gary and Julie Olson	35 years
Bruce and Marge Movalson	36 years
Tom and Kathy Gobert	37 years
John and Lisa Thomas	38 years
Ed and Jennifer Walker	42 years
Rob and Chris Smauley	45 years
Chuck and Lynn Thomas	46 years
John and Wanda Kloet	47 years
Pat and Myra Skorupski	47 years
Peter and Bonnie DeMay	50 years
John and Ruthann Skellenger	52 years
Al and Dolly Salmi	57 years



Council Highlights

The Congregational Council did not meet during June and July. The next meeting is August 16th at 7:00pm in person.



Serving Us in August

Readers	8:00 am	10:30 am
August 6	Dale Schlemmer	Al Salmi
August 13	Chris Mineau	Connie Salmi
August 20	Nora Smith	Dolly Salmi
August 27	Ellen Swenson	Lynn Thomas

Communion Assistance

August 6	Dale Schlemmer	Jany Coyne-Smith
August 13	Nora Smith	Kathy Gudwer
August 20	Dotti Ford	Carol Kocsis
August 27	Judy Hammond	Jane Coyne-Smith

Thank you for volunteering to serve. If you are unable to serve, please contact the office at 428-4565.

Altar Guild: Marty Nelson and Amy Miron

Job Opening: Memorial U.M. Church in Gladstone is looking for a qualified person to fill the position of Treasurer (6-8 hrs./wk.). A job description is on their webpage www.gladstonechurch.org, or you could pick up a hard copy at their church 1920 Lake Shore Dr., Gladstone.

Contact Us:

First Lutheran Church

1212 Minneapolis Ave.

Gladstone, MI 49837

906-428-4565

www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org or find us on facebook.com

Rev. Elisabeth Daniels, Pastor

pastor.firstgladstone@gmail.com

Office: 906-428-4565 Home: 773-419-2892

Office Administrator: Rhonda Husbye

office@firstlutheran-gladstone.org

Director of Music: Stacie Carter

Musicians: Paul Rajala

Christian Ed Coordinator: Pam Brown & Suzanne Dahlke

Custodian: Hope Thompson

Congregation Council:

Cindy Sjoquist, President

Lynn Thomas, Vice President

Chris Mineau, Secretary

Bill Ehrhardt, Treasurer

Ruth Botbyl

Ann Christiansen

Rachel Coyne

Kathy Gobert

Dirk Manson

Ray Miller

Kynn Thomas

Reyna Rose

A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



First Lutheran Church
1212 Minneapolis Avenue
Gladstone, Michigan 49837

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Gladstone, MI 49837
Permit No. 6

