



May 2022
#731

The Chimes

First Evangelical
Lutheran Church
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From Pastor Bill

We have just finished proclaiming “Christ is risen; he is risen indeed.” It’s the fundamental message of the Christian life. Life, not death, reigns.

Trusting that in the midst of an evil war brought on by an evil man, in the midst of a pandemic that just won’t let go, in the midst of yet more gun violence, is hard work. Sometimes it seems that death is the primary data on the ground.

Truthfully, death is very real. It is not something we can dismiss with some nice cliches or with positive thinking. Honestly, it takes a toll on us. I know it has taken a toll on me.

But still, we Christians are convinced, hidden in the data of death is life—life waiting to burst forth and life bursting forth on so many occasions.

To trust the resurrection is frankly to live differently. A picture in my office proclaims a “confidence to sing that death has lost its venomous sting.” Trusting life in the midst of death means living in a way that does not give the final power to death.

For me, that looks like

- nurturing relationships and building community
- resisting the temptation to stay away from being with people
- visiting the sick and holding the hands of the dying
- working to reduce our carbon footprint (look for news in the future about a solar project for our church building)
- cleaning up the beach, recycling
- feeding the hungry, housing the poor
- helping to settle refugees
- making music and listening to it
- getting up off the couch and moving
- struggling with our tendency to be defensive and move toward anxiety and fear
- crossing boundaries and meeting new people and cultures and eating unfamiliar food

To live trusting life means opening ourselves up to what life can bring us and to what the world has to offer us. To trust death is to close ourselves off and down.

But “Christ is risen; he is risen, indeed.” Why would we want to live as if he is not?



From Pastoral Assistant Paula

Everyone Gets to Play. This is a chapter heading from the book, *OUT OF SORTS*, by author Sarah Bessey. The author is referencing a statement made by John Wimber, founder of the Vineyard movement of churches. While I do not subscribe to the mission of this movement, I do however, think Wimber makes a relevant point when it comes to the role of the church. He states, "When it comes to the kingdom of God, everyone gets to play." I believe this statement rings true now, more than ever before, as the church emerges from the pandemic. I feel as if we are waking from a comatose state and have the opportunity to envision something new in the body of the church.

While we gathered on Easter this year, I looked out over the vast - now a relative term for me considering worship with empty pews was a norm for a bit - array of faces and saw a new, blended family emerging. I realize that some of the assembly were out-of-town visitors but nonetheless, there was a common purpose among the new faces: we are all sorting out life. Perhaps seeking a deeper understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. Perhaps picking up the pieces of a life that has gone awry. Perhaps wondering if our limited understanding of God may be accompanied by more questions than answers.

Bessey states that sorting out the pieces of our lives and wondering what to throw out, what to keep and what to repurpose can be a daunting task. In fact, if we are honest, shifting and sorting and seeking through our faith can be terrifying. We might lose something valuable to us: our certainty, our comfort, our view of ourself. But we live out our life in a constant flow of change. We live out of our imperfect answers. We want to do things right as we move forward in the church, in our lives and into the bigger story of Jesus. We want all our ducks in a row, our answers indexed in three-ring binders. But instead, this is faith at its core (Bessey p.54).

We're not always ready for change either. At least I'm not. In fact, I often balk at it; however, the pandemic has provided space for us, both individually and as the body of Christ, to sort "stuff" out and do something new. We don't always have the answers to our questions and sometimes the process takes a few steps forward and then a few back. But the good news, the good news is that everyone gets to play. Resurrection you see, shows up in odd places and grace waits for us in the in-between spaces accompanied by change. So come, question with me and be open to something new!

Shalom,
Paula



Music Notes From Shar Music Director

From My Perspective (From the Music Room aka Creativity Cavity)

As many of you are aware, I am a staunch advocate of the metaphor "put your money where your mouth is." Don't preach it unless you believe it. When it comes to one of my first loves, music, when I say, "all are welcome," I am speaking to all of you!

The upcoming season of Summer provides us with a perfect opportunity to share your musical talents and dreams. The "established" ensembles take some well-deserved time off in June, July and August. This can provide you with the perfect opportunity to share your music with us. Please consider signing up to be a "special music" person this Summer. Contact Shar Bourdon at shar@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

Meals and Miracles

We love
you,



On May 8th, our young folk will be celebrating three of our favorite things – Meals, Miracles, and Moms! Using songs selected to highlight some of their favorite New Testament stories from Holy Moly, children age six through twelve will present these timeless tales in their own unique way. Please join us at the 10:30 service!

Weekly Offerings

Week ending 03/06/2022

General Fund: \$8,437.08

Mortgage Fund: \$1,025.00

Dollar-A-Day (for mortgage reduction): \$365.18

Week ending 03/13/2022

General Fund: \$10,030.22

Mortgage Fund (for mortgage reduction): : \$1,684.02

Abiding memorial: \$150.00

Noisy Offering (Lutheran World Relief for Ukraine):
\$368.70

Week ending 03/20/2022

General Fund: \$8,426.21

Mortgage Fund: \$555.00

Noisy Offering (Lutheran World Relief for Ukraine):
\$219.00

Dollar-A-Day (for mortgage reduction): 118.00

Week ending 03/27/2022

General Fund: \$4,917.99

Mortgage Fund: \$310.00

Noisy Offering (Lutheran World Relief for Ukraine):
\$464.05





It's a wrap! Tafi, Dohleen and our Holy Moly team have done an amazing job bringing the Bible stories to life! A special thanks goes out to Rhonda, Mike and Piper Sweet, Susan Besteman and our "extras" that taped new stories each week.

All the Holy Moly videos can be found on YouTube under First Lutheran Muskegon. Got a rainy day? Check out the story of Noah. Chillin' out? Check out the story of Joseph and his brothers. Traveling? Bring Jesus along on the road trip as he sails on the sea of Galilee or takes a long walk through Jerusalem!

***If you would like to learn more about what goes on behind the scenes...contact Rhonda Sweet at 767-5985 or stop by Paula's office at church. A few extra set of hands are always welcome!!

Confirmation

Welcome new Confirmands! Congratulations to Matthew Badley, Colden Jones and Addison Schmitz as they begin a new chapter in their faith journey! Each one of these students has brought so much to the confirmation program in these past several years. It wasn't easy to "do" confirmation in the midst of a pandemic, but they let their light shine in so many ways during that time!

***Please write them a note of encouragement if you have the time. Staying connected after confirmation is crucial for all of us for continued growth.

Confirmation mentors play a critical role in a student's faith formation. The mentors were flexible, shared their faith stories and were/are amazing role models. Listed below are the adults who gave of their time and their trust:

Matthew Badley and Bob Keim
Coldren Jones and Joel Dulyea
Addison Schmitz and Kathleen Cobler

Thank you, mentors!

***If you are interested in mentoring a young person next year, please contact Paula Dusseljee at: 744-1522



Save the dates!!!

ReNew VBS will be held on June 20, 21, 22, 23 from 5:30 - 8:00pm. Registration will open June 1. Watch for more info in the June Chimes!

Sunday	Weekly Scripture Readings
05/01	Acts 9:1-6 [7-20], Ps 30 Rev 5:11-14, John 21:1-19
05/08	Acts 9:36-43, Ps 23 Rev 7:9-17, John 10:22-30
05/15	Acts 11:1-18, Ps 148 Rev 21:1-6, John 13:31-35
5/22	Acts 16:9-15, Ps 67 Rev 21:10,22-22:5, John 5:1-9
5/29	Acts 16:16-34, Ps 97 Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26

**American
Red Cross**

Red Cross Blood Drive First Lutheran Church Monday, May 9th

“The American Red Cross has a constant and on-going need for blood and platelet donations. As hospitals resume surgical procedures and patient treatments that were temporarily paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic, [donors are urged to give now to ensure blood products are readily available for patients.](#)”

One can donate blood if they have had Covid and have fully recovered AND if they have had an approved Covid vaccination. When donating, they must know which vaccination they received, i.e. Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson, etc.

Sign up to donate by scheduling an appointment at the Red Cross website at redcrossblood.org or **Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)**. Walk-ins are not accepted at this time. If you have further questions, please contact Judi Dix at 231-463-7886.



Flowers for Mom

On May 1st the Pre-K through 5th grade will be planting flowers for a Mother's day gift right after church. Amber Thomas is looking for teens who would like to help.

There will be lunch before we do the planting.



Grand Mentors to “Speed-Date”

On May 15th the Grand Mentors will be meeting with kids in the gym after church for lunch and then Speed-Dating.....grand mentor style. Grand Mentors will rotate to each child to ask questions and get to know the kids better. This is perfect for each Mentor to get to know every child in the congregation.



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

May Birthdays!

- 1 Christine Livingston
Scott Gearhart
- 2 Brock Freeman
- 3 Dee Schmitt
- 4 Charles Dawson
Ann Marie Holmes
Mary Lou Bowen
- 5 Josee Cooke
Jon Cregg
Carol Parker
- 6 Emma Johnston
- 7 Suzanne Johnson
- 8 Barbara Nelson
- 9 Bill Naymick
Bob Gundy
- 10 Charles Jamerson
Sheree Decker
- 11 Ted Tallefson
Sofia Besteman
- 12 Connie Mead
Warren Kent
- 13 Rosemary Loch

- 14 Paulette Archer
- 15 Sarah Daniell
- 16 Kent Johnson
Shar Bourdon
- 17 Todd Lowry
Susan Rop
Rich Pennak
Ann Dean
Pauline Cregg
- 19 Greyson Jones
Atheny Wei
Kaylie Moore
- 20 Peggy Jobe
Nancy Pennak
Diana Duell
- 21 Robert Schalow
- 22 James Boyle
- 23 Shelby Anderson
- 24 Natalee Lindell
- 25 Eric Rop
Emma Veihl

- 26 Amber Nienhouse
Joe Bachelder
Xavier Golden
- 27 Karen Norman
Robbin Dibble
Lisa Daggett
- 28 Suzanne Fiebelkorn
Sharon Ingram
Jay Freeland
Edward Wosinski
Penny Cooper
- 30 Teri Gust
Robin Cox
Pete Ostrom
Walt Love
- 31 Eric Baker





Summer Worship Schedule Starts May 29!

Thursday, 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Keepers

Alta Breunsbach

MediLodge at the Shore
900 S Beacon Blvd
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Linda Cates

1585 Wolf Lake Rd.
Muskegon, MI 49442
788-1806

Ken Kadrovich

1345 Hendrick Rd
Norton Shores, MI 49441-5737

David Kleis

5659 Rim Rock Ct.
Boulder, CO 80301-3553

Susan Lathrop

1105 Parkway St
Muskegon, MI 49442

Pat Mullinnex

Mailing Address:
2284 Riverwood Drive
Twin Lake, MI 49457
Home Address:
Sanctuary at the Park
570 Harvey St.
Muskegon, MI 49442

Warren Robinson

1845 Moulton Ave
Muskegon, MI 494445-3127

Keith Stapel

1228 Lawrence St
Muskegon, MI 49442

Wally Tallent

Hillcrest Nursing & Rehab
Community
695 Mitzi Dr.
Muskegon, MI 49445
744-1641

Dave and Pat Walborn

18552 W Spring Lake Rd
Spring Lake, MI 49456

**FRIENDS OF FIRST
WHO ARE HOMEBOUND**

Dorothy Wood

Hillcrest Nursing & Rehab
Community
695 Mitzi Dr.
Muskegon, MI 49445

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Dollar—A—Day 9:30AM-Faith Formation 10:30AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 7:00PM-AA Meeting	2 8:00AM-Morning Prayer 10:00AM-Paula's Book Group 12:00PM-Quilter's Group 6:00PM-P.E.O Group 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class	3 Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 11:00AM-MARSP Group Board Mtg 12:30PM-MARSP Group 6:00PM-Lion's Club Meeting 6:30PM-Choir 7:30PM-Band 9:00PM-Compline via Facebook	4 9:00AM-Pickleball 4:00PM-Journey thru Grief 6:00PM-Bible Study 7:00PM-Green Team Meeting	5 12:00PM-Bible Study (via Zoom) 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class	6 7:00PM-AA Meeting	7
8 Mother's Day 9:30AM-Faith Formation 10:30AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 6:00PM-Listening for the Word 7:00PM-AA Meeting	9 8:00AM-Morning Prayer 10:00AM-Paula's Book Group 12:00PM-Red Cross Blood Drive 3:00PM-Sons of Norway Board Meeting 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class	10 Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 9:30AM-1st on 2nd Quilt Bee 11:00AM-Adult Education (via Zoom) 6:30PM-Choir 9:00PM-Compline via Facebook	11 9:00AM-Pickleball 4:00PM-Journey thru Grief 6:00PM-Bible Study	12 9:00AM-Lion's Club Board Meeting 12:00PM-Bible Study (via Zoom) 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class	13 5:00PM-Sons of Norway 5:30PM-Bunco 7:00PM-AA Meeting	14 8:00AM-Men's Breakfast Group 8:30AM-Women's Breakfast Discussion
15 Chimes Deadline 9:30AM-Faith Formation 10:30AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 6:00PM-New Member's Class 7:00PM-AA Meeting	16 8:00AM-Morning Prayer 10:00AM-Paula's Book Group 12:00PM-Quilter's Group 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class	17 Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 11:00AM-Adult Education (via Zoom) 11:30AM-Muskegon County Garden Club 6:00PM-Lions Club 6:30PM-Choir 7:30PM-Band 9:00PM-Compline via Facebook	18 9:00AM-Pickleball 4:00PM-Journey thru Grief 6:00PM-Bible Study	19 12:00PM-Bible Study (via Zoom) 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class	20 6:00PM—Crafty Group 7:00PM-AA Meeting	21
22 9:30AM-Faith Formation 10:30AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 6:00PM-Listening for the Word 6:00PM-New Member's Class 7:00PM-AA Meeting	23 8:00AM-Morning Prayer 10:00AM-Paula's Book Group 12:00PM-Quilter's Group 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class	24 Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 11:00AM-Adult Education (via Zoom) 6:30PM-Choir 9:00PM-Compline via Facebook	25 9:00AM-Pickleball 4:00PM-Journey thru Grief 6:00PM-Bible Study	26 12:00PM-Bible Study (via Zoom) 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class 7:15PM-Church Council Meeting	27 6:7:00PM-AA Meeting	28
29 10:00AM-In-Person Worship 10:30AM-Online Worship 7:00PM-AA Meeting	30 * Office Closed* 8:00AM-Morning Prayer 12:00PM-Quilter's Group 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming Class	31 Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 11:00AM-Adult Education (via Zoom) 6:30PM-Choir 7:30PM-Band 9:00PM-Compline via Facebook				30