

News & Views

*First and Nativity
Lutheran Churches
September, 2018*



We've Come This Far By Faith!

Plan to enjoy Nativity's 85th anniversary celebration on Sunday, September 9, 2018, beginning with an 11 a.m. "Throw Back" worship service using the Red 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, and praising God with hymns written before 1933. This will be followed by Nativity's annual church picnic and corn roast beginning at noon. Please bring a dish to pass – Nativity will supply the main course and beverages and of course the corn! But if you have that particular comfy chair, or want to BYOB, please bring that as well. There will also be games and some history and a little bocce ball on the lawn.

COME ONE, COME ALL!



Fall Kick-Off 'Back to Church' Sept. 9th

Sunday School kicks off this year's study of "Superheroes of the Bible" on Sept. 9th with music and games. Each week there will be a lesson about a well-known Bible hero and their story. Along with the weekly lesson there will be crafts, science, games and music.

After church and Sunday School on Rally Sunday, you're Invited to an Ice Cream Social downstairs in Hammerling Hall. We'll be inviting our church neighbors, so bring your family and friends as we greet one another and get back 'in the swing of things'!

HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!

Dear people of God,

As cooler weather begins to blanket the earth, as leaves begin to change colors, as the days continue to grow shorter we are reminded that the God we serve is constantly at work, constantly changing, and always surprising us.

As you look out your window or when you step out your door take a moment to let God's presence wash over you. Take this moment – wherever you might be – to breath in God's presence.

For you are never alone in this life. The God of all creation – the God who sent his only Son to dwell with you – is always with you, present in ways both large and small. Jesus Christ is present in the people around you, the communities that surround you, the plants and animals with you, the sounds of creation that whirl around you, the food that nourishes you, the water that quenches your thirst. In everything, God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit are present because everything is from God.

So, whether you're just starting your day or whether evening is setting in, take a moment to hear, to see, to feel, to taste the very presence of God that surrounds you this day. A presence that is woven into the very fabric of the universe. A presence that dwells with you always.

A presence, in Jesus Christ, that provides you with an abundance of new life and love.

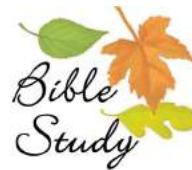


We will be having Services of Healing at all three services on Sept. 29-30. The service is an opportunity for all who seek God's healing in any aspect of their life to join in prayer for others and themselves. Any person may come forward to receive a word of blessing, prayer and anointing with oil, signs given to all of us in our Baptism.



As a community we pray for those with immediate needs of healing and strength: *Elsie Boese, Cheryl Brunner and Houston Hurst*

Please keep in your prayers the family of Wally Buske, who died on August 19th. May the hope of the resurrection give them peace.



**TUESDAY MORNING
BIBLE CLASS
AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

During the month of September we will begin our study of the book of ACTS. On Sept. 4th there will be no class due to Labor Day. We will introduce the book on the 11th. On the Sept. 18th Pastor Paul Bulgerin will present pictures and information on his recent trip to Turkey, Greece and Italy, following in the footsteps of the apostle Paul. On the 25th we will continue with ACTS. All are welcome to join us in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran from 10:00-11:00 a.m. John Bennethum is our Teacher. Come and join us.

Greater Milwaukee Synod



**Greater Milwaukee
Synodical Women's Organization
31st Annual Convention
"WOMEN CREATE CHANGE"**



Saturday, October 13, 2018

Registration begins at 7:30 AM · Opening Worship begins at 8:30 AM

St. John's Lutheran Church · 20275 Davidson Road · Brookfield, WI 53045

Registration fee \$60.00

Special offer to first time attendees: REGISTRATION FEE IS \$35.00!

Registration deadline is Sept. 24th

Registration forms available in the church office or from Cheryl Isotalo at Nativity

What are "In-Kind-Gifts" that we bring to convention? They are material types of gifts that we bring for a specific cause or charity. The In-Kind-Gifts this year will benefit Hephatha Lutheran Church's Strong Baby Sanctuary which serves the community through monthly Women/Mom gatherings. Women attending receive diapers and wipes. They have an Infant Pantry which provides emergency infant supplies to families in need. They also provide Strong Baby Boxes which are filled with infant supplies and reference manuals to each expectant/new mom who completes Milwaukee educational syllabus through Baby Box University Cheryl Isotalo will take items that are collected to the convention. If you would like to donate to this worthwhile organization, you can leave your donations in the box in the narthex at Nativity marked "In Kind Gifts", or to the church office at First. Items needed are:

Diapers (sizes: newborn, 1,2,3,4,5,6)

Onesies (sizes: newborn through 12 months)

Digital thermometers with covers

Baby head-to-toe wash

Baby hooded bath towels

Baby wash cloths

Baby blankets

Baby snugglers



LUTHER MANOR
A Life Plan Community

**SEPT. 8, 9AM - 3PM
13TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW**

Featuring dozens of cars, food, beverages and a bake sale, as well as a 50/50 raffle and an auction.

**SEPT. 11, 6:30 P.M.
SENIOR SAFETY &
SCAM PREVENTION**

The Wauwatosa Police Dept. will discuss things seniors and their families need to watch out for, how to spot senior scams, and ways seniors can protect themselves should danger arise.

**SEPT. 18, 1:30-3:30 P.M.
OPEN HOUSE**

Check out newly renovated common areas and dining updates. Hear about life at Luther Manor from actual residents! This event is free and space is limited so please RSVP 414-4643880

Happenings at Nativity Lutheran

Join the Celebration! Sunday, September 9, 2018

We've Come This Far By Faith!

**Outdoor Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Church Picnic & Corn Roast
12:00 p.m.**

Come celebrate Nativity's 85th anniversary celebration leading off with worship at 11:00 a.m., followed by the church picnic and corn roast, and other activities.

Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

Nativity's WELCA will meet on Sunday, Sept. 23, at 10:00 a.m. All women in the church are welcome!



**IT'S COOKIE
TIME AGAIN!**

Habitat for Humanity has again asked us to donate cookies which are used for meals for volunteers. Our goal this year is 500 cookies! Bring your cookies (baked or store-bought) to the church by Sept. 8th. You can leave them in the kitchen, but be sure to clearly mark them for Habitat as we don't want to get them mixed up with treats for fellowship or the church picnic. Thank you!

Call for Altar Flowers!

Looking for an opportunity? Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or talk to Jean Leppien if you would like to brighten the altar (and your church) with flowers.

NATIVITY 85 YEARS AGO – FURTHER REFLECTION



Nativity is 85 this year. Here are some of the events, 85 years ago, in September of 1933, that were occurring the year that like-minded people established our church:

- In September, the Fascist government of Italy, and the Communist-governed Soviet Union, signed a treaty of "friendship, neutrality and non-aggression"
- the first regularly published list of the most popular songs of the week was started in the entertainment newspaper Variety
- to deal with the continuing Cuban uprising, the United States dispatched 16 additional destroyers to the island nation (bringing to 30 the number of U.S. Navy ships prepared to bring an invading force)
- St. Zita (1212–1272) was designated by the Roman Catholic Church as the patron saint of maids and domestic servants
- the groundbreaking for Germany's Auto-bahn system of superhighways took place at Frankfurt, where Chancellor Adolf Hitler turned the first shovelful of earth.

VENTURE CREW 999 WINS AWARD!

Congratulations to Venture Crew 999 for winning 2nd Place Best in Show at “Scouting the Zoo” on Saturday, June 2, 2018. Seven crew members promoted the Crew and Camp Ammon BSA while entertaining Zoo visitors and Cub/Boy Scouts with the Giant Jenga and Giant Connect Four games. Crew members included: Maria Ticali, Lauren Barthel, Molly Berweiler, Michelle Berweiler, Dee James Perkins, Julia Rehm and Matthew Garrett along with Mike Leffel, Beth Hermes and Gina Perkins.



GOOD SAMARITAN OUTREACH CENTER

Please continue to bring donations of food for Good Samaritan Outreach Center. They are also requesting donations of Bibles. There is a box in the narthex at Nativity for your donations.



IT'S COMING! TIME FOR THE ANNUAL NATIVITY NOVEMBER RUMMAGE SALE!

Calling everyone with too much “stuff” – it is time for the annual Nativity November rummage sale! Let Nativity help to lighten your load by bringing that “stuff” to Nativity. Volunteers for setup, and the sale, and breakdown are always welcome. And don't forget that Nativity can use your tasty treats for the bake sale! Thank you, and mark your calendars for the sale now.



BRIGGS & STRATTON VOLUNTEERS!

Alongside Rodney Smith Jr., and his “50 States, 50 Lawns Tour”, Briggs & Stratton has volunteered to cut 110 lawns in the Milwaukee area in 2018. And in May, courtesy of Briggs & Stratton volunteers, the Nativity lawn got to be one of those 110, with a mow, blow and trim. Rodney Smith Jr. is an Alabama college student, who is the founder of Raising Men Lawn Care, a nonprofit that encourages young people to volunteer in their own communities.

More Nativity News.....

CALLING FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES!

This year, when we were in the process of packaging all your donations into school kits, Nativity finds that we are short rulers and scissors. So if you are helping your family put their own school supplies together, consider adding a few extra items like rulers and scissors for Nativity.

One unfortunate note – the Playskool brand of crayons found at the Dollar Tree have been found to contain asbestos. Just a heads up so you can avoid those for your family and for Nativity.



IT'S TIME FOR THE BLESSING OF THE PETS!

Weather permitting, please bring your pets and come join us outside for a special blessing at Nativity Lutheran's Annual Blessing of the Pets, to be held Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 10 AM. If the weather doesn't co-operate, you can find us in the church. Please bring a photo if your pet cannot attend. And for everyone's comfort, please leash your pet, or use a carrier.

And a big Thank You! in advance to anyone and everyone who could bring some bakery like cookies and bars for this event as well.

See you soon!

Sunday School At First Lutheran

Our Fall 2018/Spring 2019 Sunday School theme this year is "SUPERHEROES of the Bible".

Check the Sunday Bulletins for updates on our "God's Global Barnyard" project. There are Barn and Piggy banks to take home to put your spare change in. When they are full return them and the children will use the money to purchase animals for Lutheran World Relief.

You can also put your spare change in the barn in the narthex that Marie LaPage made for us. As of August 1, 2018 our Global Barnyard account is \$25.96.

Come join us!

If anyone is interested in teaching Sunday School please contact the church office.

Sunday School Staff: Lori Marquez, Linda Grulke and Greta Plicka



First Lutheran News



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, September 22nd, is the Sew and Sew Quilters annual Quilting Bee. We have 20 already-sewn quilts destined for Lutheran World Relief distribution, needing to be tied.

If you can thread a needle and tie a knot, won't you bring your scissors and join us in Hammerling Hall beginning at 10:00 a.m.?

Come when you can, leave when you must. Lunch will be provided.



"Sundaes on Sunday" Ice Cream Social Sept 9th at 10:00 a.m.

Summer is winding to a close and the cool days of autumn will soon be upon us. Join us on Sunday, Sept 9th, following the 9am service, to celebrate the beginning of a new Sunday school year and fall worship schedule. Enjoy a "build your own" sundae bar, delicious baked treats, juice and hot coffee.

If you can help out by donating ice cream, cookies, bakery, bowls, napkins or spoons, it would be much appreciated! See the sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Barb in the office.

"Sundays, like sundaes, are sweet because we get to be around others and learn about Jesus."

OPERATION CHRISTMAS STOCKING



Operation Christmas Stocking will be collecting items for our December Christmas stocking distribution again this year. We are asking for items that we can give to the men, women and children that come to the food pantry. This year we are looking for the following items: socks and deodorant for the adults; and crayons, washable magic markers, coloring & activity books for children. Items can be dropped off in the narthex Operation Christmas Stocking barrel. We always welcome all travel-sized toiletries.

We'd like to thank Half Price Books in Brookfield for their generous donation of children's books to be handed out during our December distribution.

Summer is just flying by! Below, Pastor Bryant is working with our Vacation Bible School youth on art projects. We had two new neighborhood families this year.





GARDEN OVERLOAD?

Our food pantry visitors love fresh vegetables! If you have been blessed with an abundant garden, consider sharing your extras with the food pantry. Contact the office to arrange a drop-off time.



FOOD FOR BODY AND SOUL

Thank you to our awesome volunteers for faithfully working in the kitchen, food pantry, shopping, and dining area throughout the summer heat! The 100+ visitors we have each Friday are grateful for the food and fellowship. Thank you for supporting this caring ministry.

If you are thinking of “giving back” this fall, we could use more help at the check-in desk signing people in, cooking, dishwashing, serving food and cleaning up.

EXTRA TOOLS?

Habitat for Humanity has contacted us about having a tool donation event. The donated tools, both hand and electric, will be sold at one of Habitats “Restore” stores, which sell used household items to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity. If you have tools you’d like to donate or know someone who does, let us know. If there is enough interest we will organize a neighborhood donation event. They will provide a shipping palette and will pick up the tools. Talk to Barb in the office.

The food pantry could use gallon and quart sized ziplock style bags to “downsize” big bags of vegetables into smaller bags, so we can help more people. Drop them off in the office.

FREE FLU SHOTS

The West Allis Health Dept, in conjunction with Aurora, will be having free flu shot clinics at First Lutheran during our food pantry (10am – noon) on Friday, Sept 21 and Friday, Oct 19. This is the regular strength shot. There are no income requirements to receive a shot. If you are 65 and older and would like the high-dose shot, bring your medicare insurance information with you.



JUST A “CLICK” AWAY

If travels, illness or schedule conflicts have kept you away, Pastor Bryant’s weekly sermons are available on our webpage. You can either listen to an audio recording or read them online. If you are receiving this newsletter online, use this link to access the sermons at <https://bryantbakkum.wordpress.com/> . Read them online by selecting the MEDIA tab on our web page at firstlutheranelca.org or at firstlutheranelca.com.

PET BLESSING

First Lutheran’s “Blessing of the Animals” celebration , will be held on Sat., Sept. 8 at 11:00 a.m.



Celebrating God’s love, care and concern for creation; recognizing our mutual interdependence with God’s creatures.

Pets must be leashed or in a carrier. Depending on the number attending, we will try to provide an individual blessing for each pet.

Some animals may be difficult to transport so if you are not able to bring your pet, bring a photograph or fill out the Pet Blessing form available in the narthex or the church office. Return the form to church and a blessing will be said for your pet.

The Lord is good to all, compassionate to every creature.

WANT TO TAKE A WALK ?

The Evangelism committee is delivering door hangers to lots of our neighbors, announcing the “Back to Church” Sunday on Sept. 9th, inviting children to attend Sunday school, inviting families for the Ice Cream Social and Pet Blessing and announcing our upcoming Holiday Craft Fair. We need lots of help to deliver the hangers. If you can help with any amount, contact Joy or Barb. This is a great family activity and way to get kids involved in service to God.

Meet our Members...

Jamie Schoberg grew up in west Allis and lives with her husband, Dennis, and children Gloria & Mason in her childhood home. She and Dennis bought it from her parents when they moved up north. Jamie came to First Lutheran after meeting Pastor Peterson who was walking around the neighborhood telling families about Vacation Bible School. Her children attended VBS that year, and they became members after that – also introducing her parents, Cindy & Garrett Labadie to our church as well. Jamie has been active with Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, and has served with the quilters and tellers. She was a Cub Scout leader for 4 years with Mason's troop. Jamie enjoys camping, fishing, sports and spending time with her family.



Pastor and Lois Peterson recently visited the Tuesday morning Bible Study to share pictures and stories with us about their mission work in India. They are hoping to continue their missionary work in Hong Kong.

Through our tithing from the profits from the Endowment Fund investments, we have been able to support their mission again this year, giving them \$5,000.00. This support, as well as the support to other ministries, was made possible by the generosity of the late Jackie Judkins, who left us this generous endowment, and then by the generosity of the First Lutheran congregation that is willing to pass some of it on.

Because of the State Fair, as well as road construction on National Ave., we eliminated the Saturday night services in August. We'll be back to our regular schedule in Sept.

We are making plans for another ice cream social to celebrate and advertise our 'back to Sunday School' and church year on Sept. 9th.

The church council has elected Lori Marquez as vice president to succeed Natalie Jaeger, who moved away. Thanks, Lori! In July we hired an outside cleaning service (Charis Facility Advantage) to do our janitorial duties. That was also to replace Natalie Jaeger who had been our custodian.

Let's all work together with Pastor Bryant to make this coming church year inspiring, successful and exciting.

Werner Bayer, President.

ENDOWMENT FUND REQUESTS FOR FUNDING

The First Lutheran Church Endowment Committee recommended that the following requests for funds be granted, and the Church Council approved:

- World Mission Prayer League (Pastor Richard and Lois Peterson missionary work)
- Good Samaritan Outreach Center
- West Central Interfaith
- Just One More Ministry
- El Salvador Sewing Project
- Greater Milwaukee Free Clinic
- Permanent organist until the end of 2018
- Evangelism Committee

The FLC Property Committee requested funds for electrical and plumbing repairs/upgrades to the Church. This request was tabled for future consideration.



Out and About in Our Community



Tosa Farmers Market

Saturdays,
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
7720 Harwood Avenue,
Wauwatosa

West Allis Farmers Market

Tues. & Thurs., 12:00-6:00 p.m.
Saturdays 1:00-6:00 p.m.
6501 W. National Ave.



HUNGER TASK FORCE STOCK BOX DELIVERY

WEST ALLIS SENIOR CENTER
7001 W. NATIONAL AVE.

The next West Allis distribution at the Senior Center will be on Sept. 11th between 1-2 p.m. This is re-certification day. Recipients must come in person with an ID. No proxies are allowed.



2ND ANNUAL WOOD & WINGS

September 8, 2018
1:00-5:00 p.m.

This event brings local artists and restaurants together to raise money for beautification efforts in West Allis Downtown and the planting of trees throughout the city of West Allis. Artists will embellish a piece of furniture made from ash trees cut down in West Allis, and will be available for silent auction. West Allis restaurants battle it out to see who has the best wings in the city! Spend the afternoon in downtown West Allis and enjoy the fun!

CLEMENT MANOR

Center for Enrichment
9405 W. Howard Ave., Greenfield

"WORLD WAR II MILWAUKEE"

Presented by Meg Jones
Sept. 20, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

A Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reporter, Meg Jones uses her military and veteran reporting experience to tell Milwaukee's role in WWII, the front lines and how the city retooled to become a major cog in the Arsenal of Democracy on the home front.

\$3 for members, \$5 for non-members.

AARP Smart Driver Course

Oct. 23, 12:15-4:30 p.m.
Class size limited to 18 participants



Call 546-7302 to register for either program.



Pastor Peterson and Lois talk with the Bible Study group and guests about their time in India.

September Birthdays...

First Lutheran

9/3 Jeanette Zeinert
9/6 Pamela Jacobson
9/6 John Vella
9/7 Joyce Staub
9/11 Lily Rees
9/12 Jesse Rofritz
9/13 Nadia Bivens
9/18 Sharan Kruschka
9/20 Angelina Calderon
9/22 Mary McNeal
9/24 Jessica Bayer
9/27 Dale Phillippo
9/30 Werner Bayer



September Birthdays...

Nativity Lutheran

9/5 James Ribnek III
9/7 James Larson
9/8 Breven DeBack
9/15 Cheryl Isotalo
9/30 Marvelyn Cockroft

September Anniversaries

9/3 Dale & Cheryl Isotalo 35 yrs.
9/7 Bryant & Katie Bakkum 5 yrs.
9/22 Colleen & Spencer Siarnicki 17 yrs.



God's Blessings to Gus!

Our favorite seminarian, Gus Barnes, has been called to serve as pastor at Luther Memorial Church in Delevan, WI. He will be ordained on September 15th Bayshore Lutheran Church, 1200 E Hampton Rd. in Whitefish Bay at 2:00 p.m. The church is handicap accessible, and has plenty of parking.

Everyone from First and Nativity are invited to attend. Ordinations are a very moving worship service, and you'll be glad you were able to be a part of this special day.

Friendly Reminders



Remember to notify the church office of any address, phone or email changes!

What's the Church Council doing?

First Lutheran's church council minutes and reports are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office as soon as they are available.

Need pastoral care?

Please remember to notify the pastor or church office if you are ill or hospitalized so that we can offer prayer and support directly to you. If you have a pastoral emergency (death in the family, hospitalization, etc.,) you can reach Pastor Bryant by calling him at (414)768-3670.

"If you want your children to turn out well, spend twice as much time with them, and half as much money."
— Abigail Van Buren

Be Transformed

First Lutheran Church
7400 W. Lapham St.
West Allis, WI 53214

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Permit No. 3633

Mailed on 8-22-18

Electronic Service Requested

Dated Material
Please deliver by 8-25-28



First and Nativity Lutheran Churches (ELCA)

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am to 12pm

Office located at 7400 W. Lapham, West Allis

(414)476-4664

Worship With Us:

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. First Lutheran

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. at First Lutheran

Sundays at 11:00 a.m. at Nativity Lutheran

*Sunday School is at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays
at First Lutheran*

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

7400 W. Lapham St.

West Allis, WI

www.firstlutheranelca.org

E-mail: firstlutheranelca@att.net

Phone: 414-476-4664

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 W. Bluemound Rd.

Wauwatosa, WI

www.nativitylutheran.us

Nativity Phone: 414-476-1853



If you no longer wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please contact the church office.