

# News & Views

**First and Nativity  
Lutheran Churches  
September, 2019**



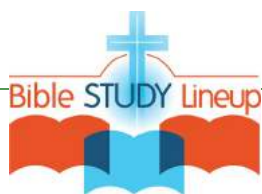
## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



**Sunday School will start on  
September 8th!**

"Be joyful, always pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances" Thessalonians 5: 16-18. Our Sunday School lesson for Rally Sunday is "Teach Me to Pray". The children will practice the "Lord's Prayer" and learn the "Lord's Prayer Action Song". A review of the lessons we did from last year will be done through Bible Trivia and other exciting games.

Our Fall/Spring theme this year is "Builders in the Bible". Each week we include a lesson about special events and people in the Bible. Along with a weekly lesson there will be crafts, science, games and music. Join us!



## TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

All are welcome to these studies, whether you can come each week, or just occasionally. On Sept. 10th we'll be starting a new book, "Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter" and we'd love to have new members. We meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fire-side Room.

## *Don't Lose Touch!*

*It's an exciting time as we look to the future! We need to continue to show our neighboring communities that we are here to serve the spiritual needs of all who enter.*

*During this period when the churches don't have a permanent pastor is when they need you the most. Continue supporting the church with your presence, your time and your contributions.*

*Keep our churches in prayer as we see what will come next.*



# Christian Life

## ASSISTING MINISTER REPORT:

Note the new old name for the 3 of us (but hopefully others will join us in this service to our Church and our Lord). According to the ELCA definition, Deacon's are specific congregational members who are identified, formed, trained, called and consecrated or ordained for ministries of the Word and Service. Neither Carla, Jesse nor myself fall within these contexts. (WOW, maybe others knew this and that explains why some of you haven't joined us).

Changes will soon begin with a new pastor, as anticipated, so let's start here. The title of Assisting Minister is far more accurate when defining our duties. We assist with reading scripture lessons, intercessions or assisting the pastor at or around the table in some way. (e.g. assisting with communion, services and other tasks as requested by the pastor).

With this being said, the decision has been made going forward that we will be called Assisting Ministers---which aligns with what we really do. So now that we're all clear, maybe others would like to assist.

See you in church, and as my Dad always said, "God deserves at least one (1) hour of our time each week for all the blessings He has given us". And all God's children say, Amen!!!!

Heidi Leiser-O'Neil



People of God,

Thank you for the wonderful food and gifts you shared with my family during our final weekend with you. Your generosity, well-wishes, and love were greatly appreciated. God's peace and blessings be with you all as together we lean into the Holy Spirit and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to the world!

Peace,

Bryant, Katie, and Hazel Bakkum



As a community we pray for those with immediate needs of healing and strength:

*Joe D'Amico, Jackie Bayer, Don Brauch, Shannon Irvine, James Larson, Teri Miller, Edward Nolinski, James Ribnek III, Steve Thather and Susan Winter*

Please remember in your prayers the families of Marie Casto, Robert Long Sr. and Bernice Lewandowski who have recently passed away.



## PARTNERS WITH EL SALVADOR

The Sewing Workshop which is supported by both the First and Nativity quilters, and First Lutheran's benevolence, is officially named: Heroes in the Faith Lutheran Church Women Entrepreneurs of Tonacatepeque. That is a mouthful! It's usually just call it "El Taller" which means "The Workshop." There are currently 7 women working, with each workday providing each woman \$5 per day. The quilters are a key piece of this overall team because their gifts of money, (and fabric and thread too!) are combined with other donations to subsidize kit production. Also, the fancy notions and fabrics that they donate are put into little bundles tied with ribbon to make fun gifts for the sewing ladies at the workshop and also for the women at the Los Heroes church -- to give them fun things to work with to make themselves something nice or to make something to sell.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

# Happenings at Nativity Lutheran

## NATIVITY ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC SAVE THE DATE!



Plan to enjoy Nativity's annual church picnic beginning at noon, Sunday, September 8th.

This year, we have invited the Redemption Church folks as well – so come and mingle!

Remember to please bring a dish to pass – the menu is still in discussion, but Nativity will supply the main course and beverages as always! So if you have that particular comfy chair, or want to BYOB, or have a game you enjoy, please bring that as well.

Come one, come all!

## 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 7, 2019 at 10 AM. If the weather doesn't cooperate, 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!

## CALLING FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES!



This year, we REALLY need notebooks – 70-page wide-ruled paper notebooks! But as always, also on the list are blunt-tip scissors, rulers, #2 pencils, black and blue ballpoint pens, erasers and crayons. So if you are helping your family put their own school supplies together, consider adding a few of these extra items 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.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Nativity's WELCA, Women of the ELCA, will meet on Sunday, Sept. 15th, at 10:15 a.m. in the "Upper Room". All women are welcome.!



**Thank you!** to everyone for the 310 cookies that were donated to Habitat for Humanity's all-women build. They were appreciated!



## Happenings at Nativity Lutheran



You now have permission to brag!

For more information,  
talk to Susan Platt

75 scouts, including Nativity-sponsored Venture Crew 999, spent the first part of August at Camp Ammon. Camp Ammon is located at the Wisconsin State Fairgrounds during the Wisconsin State Fair. Camping here allows scouts freedom, fun and the opportunity to explore new friendships. They can enjoy activities like sand volleyball, dances, and movies while focusing on service. And They gain a unique perspective of the Wisconsin State Fair with chaperoned access to concerts, interaction with fairgoers, and the State Fair administration.



### HELPING ALL HANDS ON DECK!



After our regular Sunday service on Sept. 15, join your Nativity friends for coffee hour upstairs in the upper meeting room. All those helpful hands will make quick work of organizing and packing the individual school kits.

### FREE HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR CONCERT

OCTOBER 26TH AT 2:00 P.M.



Nativity Lutheran will be transformed into a haunted cathedral in a concert of spooky organ music and highlights from Andrew Lloyd Weber's soaring musical masterpiece, "Phantom of the Opera". The concert will feature organist Dennis Jon Wolfgang, soprano Susan Platt, tenor Rev. Gus Barnes and pianist Gary Hanson. Mr. Hanson will join Mr. Wolfgang at the organ console for Dennis Janzer's very popular four handed organ duet, "Ghouls and Gremlins".

You can (if the "spirit" moves you) pull your best ideas out of the closet and wear them to win a prize for best costume! So come and join in the fun! Reception to follow!

Special event parking will be allowed on both sides of Bluemound by the Wauwatosa Police Dept. The concert is free, but donations will be received for Nativity's Organ Fund. Nativity Church has a wheelchair ramp to the front door, and as always, Nativity is pet friendly so your service or companion pet is always welcome.

### A BIG THANK YOU!



A big thank you to Debbie Karow (a member of the Brauch family) and Attic Addict. For the past several years, Attic Addict has been donating items regularly to the Nativity rummage sales, ranging from jewelry, to furniture, to glassware and household items, to lamps and pictures. These gently used items are greatly appreciated and help to make the sale the success it is. Thank you Attic Addict!

If you are interested in more information about Attic Addict, you can visit [aaestatesales.com](http://aaestatesales.com), or Facebook @ Attic Addict, Wales

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!



Here are upcoming Nativity concert dates, so mark your calendars now to keep those dates clear!

*December 28, 2019 at 2 PM*

*A Nativity Christmas*

Still in the works, is the return of R. Stuart Mitchell!

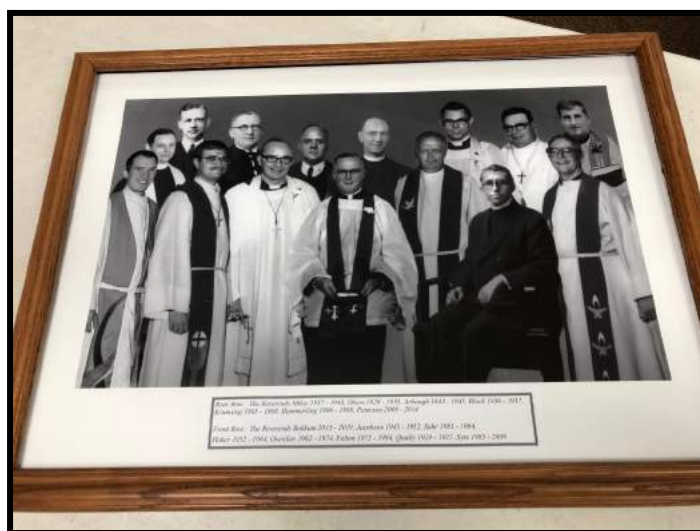
*March 14, 2020*

*Irish Benefit Concert*

Come celebrate St Patrick's Day with traditional Irish music for Voice, Organ and Bagpipes! Special post concert event follows to benefit Nativity Lutheran Church.



# First Lutheran Happenings



## FAREWELL TO PASTOR BAKKUM

On Sunday, Aug. 18th, First Lutheran said goodbye to Pastor Bryant Bakkum. We presented him with gifts from the church and the Assisting Ministers. Some of our younger members were able to join us in the reception downstairs following the service. Our picture of all of First Lutheran's pastors has been updated to include Pastor Bryant.



## First Lutheran Happenings

### CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT:

Your Church Council remains committed to the acquisition of an AED w/training for CPR and the AED. If you are interested in participating in this life-saving project please let us know. We want to set up a training class in mid September. We will need trained volunteers for church services and food pantry. Thank you to the Endowment Fund Committee for your partnership ---- greatly appreciated.

We are working with the Synod with beginning a search for our next Pastor. We want to secure a new Pastor as quickly as possible. What are your thoughts? What qualifications would you like to see in a new Pastor? The Council wants to hear from you so please talk to us and give us your thoughts.

The Farewell Service for Pastor was Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> with special music, presentations on behalf of the First Lutheran Congregation and Worship Assistants. I know that Pastor was very appreciative as "WE" wish him God's speed in this new endeavor. The Holy Spirit is with him and his family and also with each of us during this time of transition, change and seeking a new Pastor. Thank you Barb for all your efforts in securing substitute Pastor's---this is not an easy task. We all need to remain in prayer with diligence and patience----If we all stick together, we will meet the challenges ahead.

So looking ahead the Pet Blessing is coming up soon---watch for more details from the Evangelism Committee. Sunday school will be resuming---Thank again to the Sunday School Staff for their commitment to Christian education for our wonderful kids.

I think that's a wrap at this time. Let's keep communication lines open and Christian love and our hearts and minds open to the Holy Spirit---I know we'll get the answers needed.

See you in Church,  
Heidi Leiser- O'Neil  
Sister-in-Christ, Council President

### Patt and Mike Temke

Patt was born and raised in West Allis, and has been a member of First Lutheran her entire life. She married Clarence on March 31, 1951, and had 3 children, Mike, Patti and Diane. Patt and Clarence, along with their children, served as church custodians at First for many years. They continued to serve as custodians even after the children grew up and married. While raising a family Patt worked at the family business, CA Temke and Son until Clarence closed the store and went to work for WAWM School District. Patt and Clarence were married for 45 years before Clarence went home to be with our Lord.

Patt has always loved doing for others. She was always helping senior neighbors and friends. She volunteered in many areas at First through the years, teaching Sunday School, helping with VBS, serving on altar guild, ushering, quilting and working at the food pantry on Fridays. She and Mike picked up food every Monday from GFS grocery store to bring to the church for the pantry. She loves, gardening and has always loved camping and the outdoors. She has 6 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and one on the way! She enjoys getting together with her family. She loves going places and doing things with her friend, Don.

Mike was born and raised in West Allis & has also been a member of First Lutheran Church his entire life. Mike was a great athlete in high school playing volleyball, basketball and baseball. He went on to play college basketball and baseball at Milton College in Milton, WI. Helping with the church custodian job allowed him to make some money, learn job responsibilities and still play his sports. Mike worked his entire career at the VA hospital where he was a rec therapist. He loved his job and loved the people he served there. He feels strong for his country after working with so many who served our country so bravely. He has been involved in several service organizations over the years. He has been a part of the Oldtimers Baseball Association and the West Allis Monogram Club. Mike has worked many years picking up food at the GFS Marketplace and unpacking it at the church for the food pantry. He did this every Monday with Patt and then they would go enjoy breakfast together at Johnny V's. Mike has 2 sons, and 4 grandchildren. He enjoys all sports and most recently participated in trap shooting competitions.



# Food Pantry and Social Ministry News



## Community Partners

We welcome Aggies Bakery and Cake Shop on 73<sup>rd</sup> and Greenfield as a new community partner. We appreciate their sharing their “overload” bakery items with our food pantry visitors. We also thank Parthenon Foods on 84<sup>th</sup> and Greenfield for their weekly donations of bread, Village at Manor Park for their many volunteers, Panera Bread’s New Berlin and Brookfield store donations and GFS Marketplace for sharing their bakery abundance grocery items with us. We are so blessed.

## 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.

## SERVICE TO OTHERS... WWJD??



Thank you to our many food pantry workers who volunteer their time e-v-e-r-y week to serve a 100 or so visitors in need. Each Friday I hear “Thank you for what you do” from some of the men and women who visit. They are grateful for a delicious a hot meal, a bag of food, bread, fresh fruits and vegetables and a respectful, kind and welcoming atmosphere. (The extra cream puffs from the State Fair were fun, too!).....Joy



## FREE FLU SHOTS “Shoo the Flu”

- What:** Free flu shot clinic sponsored by Aurora Healthcare  
**Where:** First Lutheran, during food pantry. Upstairs in the Narthex.  
**When:** Friday, Nov 1, 2019, 10am - noon. No appointments required.  
**Who:** Everyone is welcome. No income requirements, no insurance info required.

*Let us pray:*

*“Lord Jesus, you are servant of all. Give me the courage and strength to serve others as you did: Selflessly and with reckless abandon. Remind me every day to put others above myself. Amen”*

*Rev Bryant Bakkum, The Way, 2019*

## THANKS.....

“Thank you for your very generous donation. Street Angels is honored to be the recipient of your monthly charitable contribution.... Together, the supporters and volunteers of Street Angels are changing lives, one pair of socks at a time. Thank you for being an integral part of this mission. It truly takes a village and you are proof our village cares!”

Eva Welch & Shelly Sarasin  
Co-Founders Street Angels Inc.

Street Angels is a recipient of First Lutheran’s benevolent giving.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS STOCKING



Save your quart jars as we will be using them next year (2020) as part of a Christmas gift to our food pantry visitors. For this year, we can still use Christmas coffee mugs and are still collecting the following items: For men and women, we need gloves, socks and deodorant. For the children we are focusing on coloring books/activity books, bubbles, play dough and match box cars. Bring donations to the church office.



## First Lutheran Happenings



Vacation Bible School was a lot of fun. Linda Grulke (above), Greta Plicka and Lori Marquez led stories, games and crafts, while Pastor Bakkum led the music. Thanks to Deb and Kevin Kubek for handling mealtime.



Justin and Katie Kocan, and their children Nora and Tybeigh (left), Gary Hanson and Susan winters (above) were recognized as new members of First Lutheran on Sun., Aug. 11th.



## First Lutheran Happenings

### PET BLESSING



#### Blessing of Pets

First Lutheran's "Blessing of the Pets" celebration will be on Sat., Sept. 7 at 10:00 a.m. Each pet attending will receive an individual blessing and each owner will receive a prayer card for their pet. The service takes about 20 minutes.

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 receive a blessing for your pet.

If it rains we will be inside. Refreshments provided for pet parents, and treats for fur babies thanks to Eden Garden's and Pets, 1439 S. 70<sup>th</sup> Street, in West Allis.

*Pets remind us that we have an obligation and responsibility to preserve and nurture and care for all life.....James Cromwell*

### GODS WORK, OUR HANDS...

The Evangelism committee is delivering doorhangers to lots of our neighbors, announcing the "Back to Church" Sunday on Sept. 8th, inviting children to attend Sunday school, inviting families for the Pet Blessing and announcing our upcoming Holiday Fair. We need lots of help to deliver them. If you can help with any amount, contact Joy or Barb. This is a great family activity and fun way to get the kids involved and off of their phones.



### "REStored By Grace"

by Pastor Meg Sander

*Come and take a rest with me,  
Lift up your head and you will see,  
My signature across the sky  
Billowy clouds that float right by.*

*Breathe in my breath and out your stress  
And feel the tensions less and less  
Let the cares of each day go,  
And my uplifting Spirit know.*

*You've shared yourself and done your best,  
Now give yourself some time to rest.  
Drink in the wonder of each day,  
Take time to listen and to pray.*

*Be REStored, refresh your soul  
O, let me take and make you whole,  
Know that I am by your side,  
To give you strength and be your guide.*



*Blessings to Juan and Maria Sanchez who were married on Friday, August 9th. Maria is the granddaughter of Mary McNeal.*

# This and that around here.....

## TOSA FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays, 8AM - 12PM  
7720 Harwood Avenue  
Milwaukee (parking lot across  
from the Little Red Store)



## WEST ALLIS FARMERS MARKET

6501 W. National Ave.  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12-6p.m.  
Saturdays, 1-6p.m.

## CLEMENT MANOR

Center for Enrichment  
9405 W. Howard Ave., Greenfield

Keynote Speaker

**“COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS”**

**Presented by Meg Jones**

**Sept. 19, 1:30-3:00 p.m.**

Combat correspondents provide a unique perspective on what it's like inside a battle. It's also the most dangerous form of journalism. Meg Jones will talk about 3 correspondents who had front row seats to WWII and compare war reporters in WWII to those in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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

### Lifelong Learning Book Club - 1st Tue. at 12 p.m.

Sept. 10 - The Light We Lost by Jill Santopolo

Oct. 1 - Half Broke Horses by Jeanette Walls

Call 546-7302 to register for above programs



**HUNGER TASK FORCE  
STOCK BOX DELIVERY**  
WEST ALLIS SENIOR CENTER  
7001 W. NATIONAL AVE.

The next distributions at the Senior Center will be on Sept. 10th. For recertification, you must appear in person with identification. No proxy allowed in Sept.

## “CHOOSE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE”



The Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women's Organization invites all church women to their 32nd annual convention.

Saturday, October 12  
Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.  
Opening Worship begins at 8:30 a.m.  
at  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
W156N8131 Pilgrim Rd.  
Menomonee Falls

Registration cost \$60.00  
Special offer for first time attendees: \$35  
Registration deadline is Wed., Sept. 18th

Registration forms available from  
Cheryl Isotalo or in the church office.



## ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH BOIL

North Cape Lutheran, Hwy. 45, just south of 5 Mile Rd., invites you to their Fish Boil on Sat., Sept. 28, from 3:30 - 8:00 p.m. Enjoy boneless, skinless ocean cod in melted butter with new potatoes, boiled carrots and onion, coleslaw, dessert and beverage.

Tickets at the door are \$15/adults, \$6/children 6-11, and free for children under 5. Advance tickets are discounted. Call 262-835-2206.

**September Birthdays  
First Lutheran**

- 9/3 Jeanette Zeinert
- 9/11 Lily Rees
- 9/12 Jesse Rofritz
- 9/13 Nadia Bivens
- 9/18 Sharan Kruschka
- 9/22 Mary McNeal
- 9/24 Jessica Bayer
- 9/27 Dale Phillippo
- 9/30 Werner Bayer
- 9/30 Sharon Phillippo



**September Anniversaries**

- 9/3 Dale & Cheryl Isotalo (N) 36 yrs.
- 9/22 Colleen & Spencer Siarnicki (F) 18 yrs.

**September Birthdays  
Nativity Lutheran**

- 9/5 James Ribnek III
- 9/7 James Larson
- 9/8 Breven DeBack
- 9/14 Darren Swanson
- 9/15 Cheryl Isotalo
- 9/30 Marvelyn Cockroft

Henri Nouwen wrote,

*"It is more important to celebrate a birthday than a successful exam, a promotion or a victory. Because to celebrate a birthday means to say to someone, 'Thank you for being you.' ... On a birthday we do not say, 'Thanks for what you did, or said, or accomplished.' No, we say, 'Thank you for being born and being among us.'"*



What number fits in all the blanks to reveal God's instructions to Joshua about the city of Jericho?

Israelite warriors, led by \_\_\_ priests blowing \_\_\_ ram's-horn trumpets for \_\_\_ days, would march around the city once a day, except for the last day, when they would march around it \_\_\_ times; then the walls of Jericho would fall.

- A. one
- B. three
- C. five
- D. seven



Answer: See Joshua 6:1-5



**Broadway in Slinger, WI!**

Kristin Bayer, daughter of Werner and Jackie Bayer, has written a musical comedy, "Girard's Nude", based on the novel by Nancy Sweetland. Music was written by Kristin's friend, Deanna Gibeau. No nudity involved! The show will be presented each Thur.-Sun., Sept. 6-22, at the Kettle Moraine Playhouse in Slinger. For tickets call 262-223-6061, Ext. 1. Grab a friend and go support Kristin in this new adventure!



*Friendly Reminders*

**Don't Forget** to notify the church office of any address, phone or email changes!

**Need pastoral care?**

Please remember to notify the 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.) contact Barb at (262)939-2728.



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 8-28-19

Electronic Service Requested

Dated Material  
Please deliver by 8-31-19



## 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](http://www.firstlutheranelca.org)  
E-mail: [firstlutheranelca@att.net](mailto:firstlutheranelca@att.net)  
Phone: 414-476-4664

### **NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

6905 W. Bluemound Rd.  
Wauwatosa, WI  
[www.nativitylutheran.us](http://www.nativitylutheran.us)  
Nativity Phone: 414-476-1853

