



French River Lutheran Church  
5310 Ryan Road  
Duluth, MN 55804

Non-Profit Org.  
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PAID  
Duluth, MN  
Permit No. 115

**Address Service Requested**

ph:(218)525-5659 Mo,Th 10:00am-1:00pm  
(please call before coming to the office)

E-mail: [FRLC5310@gmail.com](mailto:FRLC5310@gmail.com)

[www.frenchriverlutheran.org](http://www.frenchriverlutheran.org)

Pr. Kim Sturtz: [frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com](mailto:frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com)

ph: (218)393-7444; available Mo-Th Pr. Kim

will be in the office or parsonage,

depending on children's school schedule.

FRLC Mission Statement: "To live and love as God commands, accept His grace, and share the Good News."

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

"Like us" on Facebook Please recycle

See *The Parables* in color on-line at

[www.frenchriverlutheran.org](http://www.frenchriverlutheran.org)

Please contact the office to if you would like to be removed from our mailing list.

See *The Parables* in color online at

[www.frenchriverlutheran.org](http://www.frenchriverlutheran.org)

**9 AM WORSHIP**



*THE PARABLES + August 2023*

JOIN US!  
**FRLC  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
NIGHT OUT**  
AUGUST 1, 2023  
5:30 - 7:30 PM  
POTLUCK MEAL  
PROVIDED BY FRLC  
FEATURING AN APPEARANCE BY  
THE THUGS!  
(TWO HARBORS UKELELE GROUP)

COME, VISIT WITH YOUR  
NEIGHBORS, EAT A HOT DOG, PLAY A  
GAME, RELAX. EAT SOME MORE, PUT  
YOUR FEET UP, DRINK COFFEE OR  
LEMONADE. THERE'S A PLAYSET  
AND GAGA PIT FOR THE YOUNG AT  
HEART.

**ALL ARE  
WELCOME!**

Inside this edition of The Parables:

\*Pictures of the Outdoor Worship Space

\*Info on how to be in our new  
FRLC Directory

\*Upcoming Events

# August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please be mindful of little ones coming and going in the parking lot. There will be summer camps going on over the next few months. ☺		<b>1</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> <b>5:30 – 7:30 N.N.O.</b> <b>5:45p Exec. Council</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost 6</b> 9a Worship in-person & online 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	<b>7</b> <b>6p Finance</b>	<b>8</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> 5-6p Riversong Rising 7p AA <b>7p Council</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10:30a W&M	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sun after Pentecost 13</b> 9a Blended Worship in-person & online <b>(Deacon Susan Williams)</b> 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> 7p AA	<b>16</b> 7a D/NSSD <b>9a Parables Deadline</b>	<b>17</b> 7:30p F.R. Readers	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost 20</b> 9a Contemporary Worship in-person & online 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> 7p AA	<b>23</b> 6-7p Campfire Worship	<b>24</b> 11a Hospitality	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost 27</b> 9a Worship in-person & online 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> 7p AA	<b>30</b> <b>9a Parables Assembly</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>*Pastor Kim will be gone August 7<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>.</b>	

Date	Ushers	Lector	Communion Assistant* / Counter	Coffee Fellowship	Altar Guild
<b>6</b>	Chris & Ann Rankle	Haeli Pettis	Haeli Pettis*/Rolf Carlson	Skipper & Todd Sironen	Skipper Sironen
<b>13</b>	Rex & Elda Hein	Dave Edblom	Ken Peterson*/Sue Baker	The Pettis & Marks Families	Rhonda O'Leary
<b>20</b>	Wayne & Peggy Dahlberg	Phil Strom	TBD	Ann J./Maureen O./Peggy S.	Kathy Pierson
<b>27</b>	Jon & Beth Luikart	Jacqui Eubanks	TBD	Karl/Christine/Johan/Thomas Strom	Sue Baker

**Prayer Chain:** July 31 – August 12; Carolyn Marino 525-6431 / Aug. 13 – 31 Babs Strom 525-6200 **Coffee Fellowship:** Canaan; Skipper 525-2010

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FRENCH RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT:

“To live and love as God commands, accept His  
Grace, and share the Good News.”

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**"Virtual worship" is available by visiting  
[www.frenchriverlutheran.org](http://www.frenchriverlutheran.org)**

**A Message from Pastor Kim**



*"So we are always  
confident, even  
though we know that  
while we are at home  
in the body we are  
away from the Lord—  
for we walk by faith,  
not by sight."  
- 2 Cor. 5:6-7 NRSV*

Building a future hope in faith together -

When I first started as your pastor in January of 2021, we were deep in the throes of the Covid-19 Pandemic in the state of wearing masks, social distancing, and learning new ways of doing worship. It was a strange world, and a strange state to learn about a people that I was going to serve in the ministry when most of your faces were covered. It was a weird time and place to think about the future and think of the what and how we could and can be church.

Some of us were scared, keeping our distance (with good reason for health concerns), some of us were cautious about how we went about things, and some of us saw it as a moment to reevaluate our ministry and future focus. (<—the latter being me, your pastor, and a handful of brave and vulnerable people.)

The pandemic indeed was hard, but it also proved to us that we did see our way through with a faith led not by sight but by trust. Trust that we would, like those who had gone before us, that this too shall pass, and in the meantime it would be a good time to do a church self-evaluation, a self-check-up, and see what was serving us, and what could be let go of, and what soil could be turned over with new seeds planted in the hopes of new growth.

When I looked at the good foundations you all have processed through in your long-range planning, I understood and could see that you all were a good people who just needed some nurturing, love, encouragement, and energy to inspire a new and venturesome spirit.

Even in the midst of a pandemic, people came together with plans for the future, plans for areas of our church to be improved, to be welcoming, to bring in different forms of music and worship, and to physically build an outdoor structure that would not only serve our faith community but our surrounding area with a place of beauty, rest, and restoration.

Through our almost three years together, we have welcomed 29 new members, baptized 16 babies, and laid to rest in the promise of the resurrection —32 of our founding members. We've improved our narthex to include a welcoming center, to greet well known people of our congregation, as well as those seeking a new church home, and visitors who need a bit of nature and spiritual food for their travels. We've improved our ecological carbon footprint by replacing all our lighting with LED bulbs. We've installed screens in our narthex and sanctuary to better aid the inclusion of all people in our worship services. Our music has evolved to include our beloved traditional hymns, the gift our of choir, the giftedness of our bell ringers, alongside a new contemporary music team. Our youth and Sunday school is rebuilding with the help of many creative volunteers and hands ready to support and pass on the baton of faith to the next generation.

The biggest undertaking that is currently in process, is our outdoor gathering and worship space, which *I am* lovingly calling our "*Timmerkirka*" — or "*Timber church*" in Swedish. During the pandemic, with all the creative ways that we learned to be a church without being IN *THE* building made us realize that, while being anchored near the beauty of Lake Superior, it was also greatly difficult to hold or plan outdoor worship in a climate that likes to change on a dime.

The idea was proposed that we should have a covered outdoor structure that would serve a multitude of needs for people gathering. From our own outdoor worship, to weddings, to baptisms, to meetings, to picnics, to concerts, or just a quiet spot to sit and rest in the beauty of creation.



## French River Lutheran Church

We know that a timber frame isn't a cheap thing to build or create, but with your generosity it was quickly realized with money raised in full. *AND* within all of your generosity, it spoke volumes to the trust you have not only in this place, this community...but also in your faith in God and the future that God's seed of faith will continue to grow for years to come here. The welcome that this church has been to so many for the last 99 years, proves that this is a holy place believes in the future hope, a future welcome, and future benevolence in what God has given to us in generosity.

I am grateful, humbled, proud, and honored to be your pastor for the last three years and look forward to much more growth together for many years to come. So thankful for the strength of faith you have in each other and especially in Christ in your ministry today and into the future. Continue to trust in what we can do together. Be generous, kind, and loving in the work we all do with Christ at our center.

Blessings, 😊 Pastor Kimberly Sturtz



## Recently at FRLC

### Outdoor Worship Space

Our Outdoor Worship Space timber frame was built in July!





**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES & BLESSING OF QUILTS**

***Congratulations and blessings to all graduates!*** Many “thanks” to the Scrap Happy Quilters for the beautiful quilts and to WELCA for the cake reception. The following graduates provided information to share:

**Riley Panger :** 5273 Eagle Lake Rd., Duluth, MN 55804. Duluth East High School.  
Plans: To attend the College of St. Scholastica and major in Marketing with a Social Media minor. She will also play volleyball for St. Scholastica. Her parents are Jamie & Brenda Panger.

**Samuel Wayne Hendricks:** 5290 Lakewood Rd., Duluth, MN 55804. Duluth East High School.  
Plans: To attend Texas A&M, College of Engineering in College Station. His parents are Robin & Andrea Hendricks.

**Mya Poe-Johnson:** 130 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Two Harbors, MN 55616. Two Harbors High School. Plans: To attend Northwoods Technical College for Cosmetology. Her parents are Terry & Angel Johnson.

**Elise Poe-Johnson:** 130 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Two Harbors, MN 55616. Lake Superior College.  
Graduating from the Physical Therapy Assistant Program. Her parents are Terry & Angel Johnson.

**Katherine Moe:** Eastview High Rosemount, MN. Plans: To attend Grand Forks, ND for Occupational Therapy. Her parents are Allen & Holly Moe and Grandma Cheryl Moe.



**Upcoming Events**

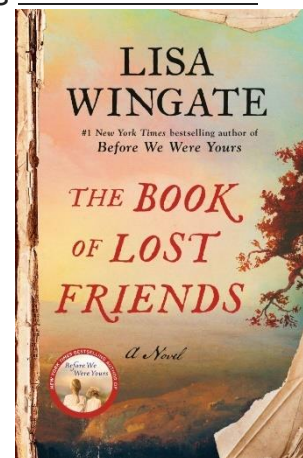
**CAMPFIRE WORSHIP NIGHT**  
**Wednesday, August 23 ~ 6-7pm**

LED BY PASTOR KIM STURTZ  
MUSIC BY GUITARIST  
JOHN KRONSTEDT

BRING A CHAIR, BUG SPRAY,  
WEATHER APPROPRIATE CLOTHING, & A FRIEND!  
WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!

**French River Readers**

For August we are reading The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate. Our next meeting will be August 17th at 7:30 PM in the Fireside Room of French River Lutheran Church. Our host will be Mary Ann Sironen. If you have any questions, please let me know, Carol Surine at 218-525-4426 or [carolsurine@gmail.com](mailto:carolsurine@gmail.com).



**Take Note**

†Prayers with the family and friends of Linda Galeski. She passed away on July 10<sup>th</sup> at Hilltop Healthcare. A celebration of life was held on July 19<sup>th</sup> at Park Hill Cemetery Chapel.



**Our last photo directory was published in 2014. It is time to create a new one.**

**Save the dates:**

We will have someone at the church on

- Thursday September 14 (2:00pm – 8:30pm)
- Friday September 15, (2:00pm – 8:30pm)
- Saturday September 16 (10:30am – 5:00pm)

to take family photos.

Each family will receive a free directory and a free 8x10 family photo. Additional photos are available for purchase.

More information including how to book a day/time appointment will come later this summer.

**Please see the form attached to the end of this edition of *The Parables*. There is a QR code that you can scan to schedule your photo appointment.**

Are you skilled in providing

**blood pressure**

**checks?** We would like to occasionally offer this service on Sundays after church. Please contact Jacquie Eubanks, Sue Baker, or the church office with your interest.



Remember to **take a turn and sign up to care for our grounds** at the **Welcome Center** in the narthex. Thank you!

See something wrong? Need a birthday or anniversary changed? Do you receive multiple mailings of *The Parables* at your address and your family only needs one? Help update our records by contacting the office with changes.

If you know of someone who needs to be added or deleted from *The Parables* mailing list, please contact us.

Switching to receive by email is also an option!

Thank you!

**Happy Birthday**

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Kelsey Endicott       | 24 Bobbi Jo Heskin |
| 3 Layke Kuettel         | 25 Courtney Aug    |
| 5 Micky Panger          | 25 Susie Lannon    |
| 6 Johann Strom          | 26 Liam JG Jackson |
| 6 Luella Masterson      | 28 Brian Adams     |
| 8 Mark Jackson          | 31 Elda Hein       |
| 8 Erin (Sorvik) Martin  | 31 Judy Johnson    |
| 9 Jonathan Braud        |                    |
| 10 Carly Jackson        |                    |
| 10 Eric Sturtz          |                    |
| 11 Jennie Emeott        |                    |
| 11 Abigail Grumdahl     |                    |
| 11 Mya Poe-Johnson      |                    |
| 12 Larissa Wolfe-Hechtl |                    |
| 14 Karmen Hendricks     |                    |
| 18 Paul Peterson        |                    |
| 21 Beth Hendrickson     |                    |
| 21 Sam Strom            |                    |
| 22 Jenny Buckwalter     |                    |
| 23 Denise Carlson       |                    |
| 23 Ryan Darsow          |                    |
| 23 Gavin Mortinson      |                    |



**Happy Anniversary**

- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 2  | Matt & Rachel Janezic         |
| 2  | Greg & Kay Libby              |
| 2  | Justin & Alaina Uhrich        |
| 5  | Earle & Carol Surine          |
| 7  | Bill & Judy Miller            |
| 8  | Rod & Sue Garver              |
| 8  | Ryan Maki & Kristen Klos-Maki |
| 8  | Phil & Nicole Chatterson      |
| 12 | Jim & Sarah Masterson         |
| 14 | Tim & Mandy Andrews           |
| 14 | Adam & Bethany Hendrickson    |
| 22 | Gary & Colette Dickmeyer      |
| 23 | Robin & Andrea Hendricks      |
| 24 | Justin & LuRae Hill           |



**Lessons This Month**

**August 6 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

[Isaiah 55:1-5](#); [Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21](#);  
[Romans 9:1-5](#); [Matthew 14:13-21](#).

In today’s first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

**August 13 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

[1 Kings 19:9-18](#); [Psalm 85:8-13](#); [Romans 10:5-15](#);  
[Matthew 14:22-33](#).

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God’s presence to others.

**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](#).

In Isaiah we hear that God’s house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today’s gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

**August 27 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

[Isaiah 51:1-6](#); [Psalm 138](#); [Romans 12:1-8](#);  
[Matthew 16:13-20](#).

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter’s bold confession of faith. God’s word of reconciliation and God’s mercy are keys to the church’s mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

**FRLC Financial Facts**

No financials to report this month as FRLC council did not meet in July to approve.



**Service Teams**

Everyone at FRLC is encouraged to participate on a Service Team. If you are not sure which team you are on, please contact the office. Teams serve a different month each year. The schedule for the next three months is:

Team	Captain	Month
Canaan	Skipper Sironen 525-2010	Aug `23
Samaria	Elda Hein 525-9560	Sept `23
Damascus	Carol Surine 525-4426	Oct `23

A 2023 calendar is available for coffee fellowship sign-up. Look for it on the Welcome Center in the narthex.



**Mark Your Calendars**  
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

 **July 26 & August 23** — Campfire Worship - 6 PM

**September 10** - God’s Work/Our Hands 10 AM - wear coveralls and bring work gloves!

 **September 17** - Rally Sunday - 10 AM - Blessing of the Backpacks! Sunday School begins! Start the school year off right!

**October 17** – American Red Cross Blood Drive - 1-7 PM  
Donate blood and save lives!

 **October 31** - Trunk or Treat — 4:30-6:30 PM  
Halloween goodies in the parking lot!

**November 12** - Turkey Bingo 5:30-7:30 PM  
You all know what great fun this is! Prizes! Food!

 **November 21**—Thanksgiving Service followed by pie and coffee in the Fellowship Hall.

**December 9** - Scandinavian Christmas on the Shore  
Cardamom bread, Swedish rye bread, fancy baked goods, candy, vendors, light refreshments, and much more. You won’t want to miss it!








**2024—Celebrate 100 years of French River Lutheran Church**

For more information about these and other events, visit [www.frenchriverlutheran.org](http://www.frenchriverlutheran.org) or like us on Facebook, or call 218-525-5659.





### **Ways to Worship**

**FRLC offers in-person worship, as well as the option to continue to worship virtually.**

- Worship **VIRTUALLY** with us! Visit [www.frenchriverlutheran.org](http://www.frenchriverlutheran.org) or send your email address to our office, [frlc5310@gmail.com](mailto:frlc5310@gmail.com), and receive a weekly email to the direct link:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FrenchRiverLutheranChurch>

- Visit [www.frenchriverlutheran.org](http://www.frenchriverlutheran.org)

**HOME PAGE** for a link to archived services.

**Please contact the office with any inquiries.**

**If you call and reach voicemail and need quicker assistance, please email the FRLC office.**

**In case of an emergency please contact Pr. Kim Sturtz at 218.393.7444 or**

**[frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com](mailto:frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com)**

**FRLC office: [frlc5310@gmail.com](mailto:frlc5310@gmail.com) 218.525.5659**

**French River Lutheran Church † 5310 Ryan Road † Duluth, MN 55804**



# Dear Church family, It's time for a New Directory!



*Celebrating faith.  
Connecting families.  
Sharing hope.*

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families, and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

*Directory Committee*

## Connections Event

*Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.*

- Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!
- Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!

*Gathering families,  
Connecting generations.*



### Schedule Your Photo Appointment Online! Photo Dates Thursday - Saturday, September 14 - 16

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply scan the QR code to the right. Or go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com) & click the "Photography Appointment Scheduling Login" button. Enter **mn375** in the "Church Code" field and enter **photos** in the "Church Password" field. **Note:** The Church Code & Password are case sensitive. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 5 or more in your family, please use 2 time slots. The online scheduling option may not be available Saturday or Sunday because we will be doing paper sign-ups at church on selected weekends. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**

