



French River Lutheran Church  
5310 Ryan Road  
Duluth, MN 55804

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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  
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**9 AM WORSHIP**



*THE PARABLES* † July 2023



**WOMEN OF  
FRENCH RIVER LUTHERAN  
SUMMER PICNIC**

**All are welcome!**

**When: July 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.**

**Where: Barb Jackson's Home**

**Bring a dish to share (drinks, paper plates and utensils are provided).**

**\*You may want to bring a chair.**



| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday             |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|----------------------|
| <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost 2</b><br>9a Worship in-person & online<br>11:15a Coffee Fellowship  | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b><br><u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u><br>5-6p Riversong Rising<br>7p AA   | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b><br>Timber Framing on Outdoor Worship Space | <b>1</b><br><b>8</b> |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost 9</b><br>9a Worship in-person & online<br>11:15a Coffee Fellowship  | <b>10</b><br>Timber Framing on Outdoor Worship Space | <b>11</b><br><u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u><br>7p AA   | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b><br>10:30a W&M<br>11:30a WOFR Picnic<br>6:30p Outdoor Worship Space Mtg.                                     | <b>14</b>   | <b>15</b>            |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost 16</b><br>9a Worship in-person & online<br>11:15a Coffee Fellowship | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b><br><u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u><br>7p AA   | <b>19</b><br>7a D/NSSD<br><u>9a Parables Deadline</u>      | <b>20</b><br>7:30p F.R. Readers   | <b>21</b>   | <b>22</b>            |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost 23</b><br>9a Worship in-person & online<br>11:15a Coffee Fellowship | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b><br><u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u><br>7p AA   | <b>26</b><br>9a Parables Assembly<br>6-7p Campfire Worship | <b>27</b><br>9a Outreach<br>11a Hospitality   | <b>28</b>   | <b>29</b>            |
| <b>9<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost 30</b><br>9a Worship in-person & online<br>11:15a Coffee Fellowship | <b>31</b>  | 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>Prayer Chain: Babs Strom 218-525-6200</b><br><b>Coffee Fellowship: Nazareth;</b><br><b>Carolyn Marino 525-6431</b> |   |                      |

| Date | Ushers                         | Lector       | Communion Assistant* / Counter | Coffee Fellowship             | Altar Guild               |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2    | Dick & Marilyn Story           | Phil Strom   | Loren Slette* & Sheila Leppala | Carolyn Marino & Barb Jackson | Babs Strom & Gail Johnson |
| 9    | Jim & Sandy Dahlberg           | Beth Luikart | Rolf Carlson* & ArMand Nelson  | Brette Garnetz                | Babs Strom & Gail Johnson |
| 16   | Doug & Lynne Compton           | Steve Baker  | Adam Marks* & Sue Baker        | Angie Braud & Jenny Emmeott   | Babs Strom & Gail Johnson |
| 23   | Kevin Stroom & Jacquie Eubanks | Sue Baker    | Haeli Pettis* & Sue Baker      | Jean Winter                   | Babs Strom & Gail Johnson |
| 30   | Steve & Sue Baker              | Elda Hein    | Dave Edblom* & Sheila Leppala  | Carolyn Marino & Barb Jackson | Babs Strom & Gail Johnson |

not easily broken. You also get increased capacity, even distribution, and more support the more you interweave the strands.

**FRENCH RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSION STATEMENT:**

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

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

**A Message from Pastor Kim**



*Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. - Ecclesiastes 4:12*

Being that we are in the midst of what is considered *Wedding Season*, here is a little history on the term **Tying the Knot**. The science behind rope strength and relational strength is brought together with God at the center.

A cord of three strands speaks to the interweaving of three cords into one and is often used in some marriage ceremonies during the symbolism of unity. One strand represents one person and their family, one represents the other person and their family, and the final strand represents God. These three strands are then intertwined into a braid that is not easily unraveled and showing the entwined lives of each family and our Creator. The braided cord is much stronger and harder to break than the three individual cords separately.

This analogy is not just true of marriages; the imagery here can really apply to any close relationship. In a scientific explanation, fiber that is twisted or braided is stronger than the same bundle of fibers that are straight because the cord has more capacity to stretch. The twist of the strands in a twisted or braided rope serves not only to keep a rope together, but enables the rope to more evenly distribute tension among the individual strands. You can see this with knitting, crocheting, rugs, and basket weaving. When you look at this, you understand one reason why a cord of three strands is

Dating back to ancient Celtic times, hand-fasting was, in the simplest of terms, the official wedding of the ancient Celts. Dating back far beyond 7000 B.C. in ancient Ireland, two people who chose to be married were brought together, often on a feast day such as *Beltane*, and faced each other. With arms extended, they clasped hands and a braided cord or ribbon was wrapped and tied around their hands, the Druid priest proclaiming the two persons are now engaged. This period of engagement would typically run the length of a full year, during which the couple were encouraged to cohabitate together. It was a public declaration of intent to marry, signaling to potential suitors that the woman was intended to her betrothed and not to be harassed. After the period of a year was over, the engaged couple would return to the priest and declare their intent to be married, which would follow soon after. If they decided they were not a good match, the couple were allowed to dissolve their hand-fast and be free to choose another suitor and bride.

As Celtic culture spread from Ireland and Scotland through Britain and into western Europe, so did the customs of marriage. Hand-fasting became a staple of culture where all Celtic people resided, up through the introduction of Christianity. As Christian marriage rituals began to take over, traditions carried over including hand-fasting in sacred marriages and remained as such for many years. To be considered valid, **the couple simply needed to declare their consent to be hand-fasted to each other in the presence of a witness, who would tie the knot for them.** To this day hand-fasting is legally recognized in some Irish and Scottish villages as a legal and binding marriage!

Be it a traditional Catholic marriage ceremony or one centered on Celtic spirituality or a simple blessing ceremony, a couple can incorporate virtually any element important to them and use handfasting in their own wedding as either an element woven in a traditional Christian wedding or blessing or as the main event itself. Couples love the visual representation that hand-fasting provides; *it is literally "tying the knot"* right in front of your friends and family.

Pretty interesting to learn the history of our relational and spiritual connections in joining our lives to another of God's beloved with Christ at the center!

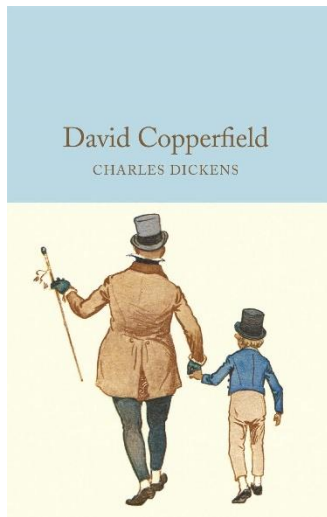
Blessings, 😊 Pastor Kimberly Sturtz

## Upcoming Events

### French River Readers

"Last month we read Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver, a book which was based on David Copperfield by Charles Dickens.

Of course, we discussed what we could remember of that book - most of us having read it in high school - and our memories had quite a few gaps! So we decided to read David Copperfield for our July offering. As a classic, it should be available everywhere. The next meeting will be held **Thursday, July 20th at 7:30 PM in the Fireside Room** in the lower level of French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Rd. Our host will be Kay Libby. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Carol Surine at 218-525-4426 or [carolsurine@gmail.com](mailto:carolsurine@gmail.com)."



### WOFR Summer Picnic



## Picnic

You are invited to our potluck summer picnic on

**July 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am** at Barb Jacksons home.

All are welcome to join us for a nice summer get-together.

We provide drinks, paper plates and utensils.

You bring a dish to share.

You might want to bring a chair.

### Take Note

†Prayers with the family and friends of John Sorenson. He passed away on June 11<sup>th</sup>. A funeral was held at FRLC on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

### Post-Secondary Scholarship News

French River Lutheran Church offers a scholarship to graduating senior high students. For the graduating class of 2024, the scholarship amount is \$1,000 for French River Lutheran Church students who meet the criteria.

The scholarship program was started in 2010. Since that time \$35,500 has been available to our seniors.

Criteria for the scholarship is available on the FRLC website and in the church office. Letters were recently mailed to those FRLC students in the Class of 2024 which included the criteria. If your student did not receive a letter or if you have any questions, please contact the church office.

A new scholarship was created in 2023 for FRLC members entering an accredited seminary to secure a theology degree. The scholarship will be a matching program for donations made by individual members of the congregation for a seminary student, up to the amount of \$2,000. The match does not include funds budgeted as part of the annual budget. The scholarship is paid to the student upon the successful completion of the school year. The student is eligible for up to four annual scholarships. The student must consult with the Scholarship Committee once committed to attend a seminary in order to discuss plans and receive approval.

Donations or memorials to the Post-Secondary Scholarship Fund are welcome at any time. These will help keep the fund growing so we can continue to support our FRLC students as they pursue further education.

### New Church Photo Directory

**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.

**Outdoor Worship & Gathering Space  
Project Update**

The project is moving along very well. The stamped concrete pad is complete. The timber staining team used a two-step process to create a weathered look which will keep the timbers with a uniform color as they are exposed to the outdoors. The first application was a black tea mix to raise the grain of the wood. The second coat used vinegar and steel wool to create the "weathered" look. The added benefit is a maintenance free structure. **The timber frame will be installed on July 7 and July 10.** The timbers are tied together with wood pegs. The crane will be here on July 10 and a good time to watch the framers do their thing. Bring lawn chairs and sit back and watch.

We will have an **organizational meeting July 13 at 6:30 p.m.** to discuss the roofing plan and scheduling options. The roofing phase includes adding the tongue and groove boards then the metal roof. We need volunteers to work on the roof and to stage materials. This is a large volunteer effort so we need as many people as possible to help on each work day...especially the younger people.

We have been blessed with the sharing of time, talent and treasures in making the Outdoor Worship and Gathering Center come together so smoothly. A great example of Christian stewardship. Thank you.



We're moving into canning season, and again I'm looking for jars. I'm mostly short of half-pint jars this year. We're talking Scandinavian Sale again, so it's time to fill up the shelves!!



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.

**June Celebration**

**Happy Birthday**

- |                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Rozalyn Mortinson            |                    |
| 1 Heather Poe                  |                    |
| 2 Leslie Leraan                |                    |
| 2 Daryl Olsen                  |                    |
| 3 Angela Braud                 |                    |
| 3 Karter Kinn                  |                    |
| 4 Sandra Dahlberg              |                    |
| 6 Brette Anderson              |                    |
| 6 Rhonda O'Leary               |                    |
| 7 Reese Anderson               |                    |
| 7 Linda Hesch                  |                    |
| 8 Lillian Chatterson           |                    |
| 8 Alexandra Meierhoff-Anderson |                    |
| 9 Alaina Gardner               |                    |
| 9 Trish Northey                | 21 Denise Endicott |
| 10 Bill Lannon                 | 22 Judee Sundstrom |
| 11 Alexandria Farley           | 22 Sara Windchief  |
| 11 Calli Wright                | 23 Beverly Berg    |
| 12 Barb Jackson                | 23 Kate Chura      |
| 12 David Ludtke                | 23 Mitch Wright    |
| 13 Matthew Edblom              | 24 Nora Wilman     |
| 13 Jeff Foster                 | 25 Bob Miller      |
| 16 Mark Johnson                | 26 Diane Carlson   |
| 16 Leah Bang                   | 28 Miah Hiciano    |
| 17 Saphire Johnson             | 28 Lois Kuettel    |
| 17 Alek Peters                 | 29 Makayla Jackson |
| 19 Pr. Gregory Garmer          | 29 Michelle Martin |
| 19 Addison Hastings            | 29 Emily Story     |
| 19 Pat Kruger                  | 30 Robin Hendricks |
| 19 Mason Schraufnagel          | 30 Darcie Rolfe    |
| 21 Mette Anderson              | 30 Brennan Ruberg  |



**Happy Anniversary**

- |                             |
|-----------------------------|
| 5 Brian & Kim Adams         |
| 7 Phil & Diane Carlson      |
| 8 Matthew & Darcie Rolfe    |
| 8 Terry & Linda Hesch       |
| 9 Stephen & Sirina Berntson |
| 12 Matt & Bobbi Peterson    |
| 14 Ken & Samantha Peterson  |
| 16 Adam & Alyssa Hastings   |
| 17 Jay & Karen Wright       |
| 20 Clark & Les Peterson     |
| 22 Kurt & Devon Ruberg      |
| 23 Andrew & Brita Aug       |
| 29 Dick & Marilyn Story     |
| 30 Jacob & Kylie Slette     |



**Lessons This Month**

**July 2 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

[Jeremiah 28:5-9](#); [Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18](#);  
[Romans 6:12-23](#); [Matthew 10:40-42](#).

The welcome of baptism is for all God’s children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today’s gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God’s merciful welcome.

**July 9 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

[Zachariah 9:9-12](#); [Psalms 145:8-14](#);  
[Romans 7:15-25a](#); [Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30](#).

The mystery of God’s ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God’s mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ’s invitation: “Come to me, all you that are weary.” Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

**July 16 – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

[Isaiah 55:10-13](#); [Psalms 65:\[1-8\] 9-13](#);  
[Romans 8:1-11](#); [Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23](#).

God’s word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord’s table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

**July 23 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

[Isaiah 44:6-8](#); [Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19](#) (alternate); [Psalms 86:11-17](#); [Romans 8:12-25](#);  
[Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43](#).

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord’s table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

**July 30 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

[1 Kings 3:5-12](#); [Psalms 119:129-136](#);  
[Romans 8:26-39](#); [Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52](#).

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today’s gospel

Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God’s reign, the great surprise is that God’s grace finds us first!

**FRLC Financial Facts**

May budget \$11,744

May general offering \$18,951



As a precautionary measure because of recent shortfall to budget, the Council has decided to cut out the \$200 monthly payment to the Capital Improvement Fund. Less than halfway through 2023, we are more than \$17,000 below budget.

**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    |
|----------|--------------------------|----------|
| Nazareth | Carolyn Marino 525-6431  | Jul `23  |
| Canaan   | Skipper Sironen 525-2010 | Aug `23  |
| Samaria  | Elda Hein 525-9560       | Sept `23 |

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

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!



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



# Grandma's Marathon Youth Fundraiser - June 17, 2023 -



Collected  
& Raised  
for Youth —  
**\$1825 !!**

**Thank you adult helpers and youth! Busy day!**



The WELCA Summer Gathering was held June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at Zion Lutheran Church, in Grand Rapids, MN, and Mary Ann Sironen and Carol Surine attended for both days. This is the one time during the year that women from all five conferences in the NE MN Synod get together, and it is very much like a family reunion! Of course there are women from the Lake Superior Conference – from some of the 29 churches in our Conference – but also the women from out of state that we only see once a year. It’s nice to catch up, but it’s also good to do the business we came for.

Like most organizations we have officers to elect and a budget to approve, and we did this in short order. We also approved a resolution supporting the EcoFaith initiative, which will be sent to the Triennial Convention in Phoenix in September. There were workshops to attend as well, and this photo is from a Wellness Workshop; Mary Ann Sironen (red arrow!) was able to attend. Both Carol and Mary Ann heard a rousing workshop about the street ministry in Sioux Falls, SD, given by Pastor Rebel Herd, and yes, that’s her real name.



Every year quilts are collected for Lutheran World Relief, and this year the women collected hygiene kits as well. French River Lutheran Church’s WELCA group sent 26 kits, and we were told the number of quilts and hygiene kits surpassed what was collected last year!



Our Lake Superior Conference also met to plan the Fall Gathering. This will be held on October 21, 2023, at Elim Lutheran Church in West Duluth. All women are invited! Watch this space for more info!

**Campfire Worship Nights! @ FRLC**  
**Wednesdays: June 28, July 26, Aug23**  
**Time: 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 Lutheran Church

## MEETING MINUTES – June 13, 2023

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

| 2021-2024      |   | 2022-2025    |   | 2023-2026         |    |
|----------------|---|--------------|---|-------------------|----|
| Sheila Leppala | P | Sue Baker    | P | ArMand Nelson     | P  |
| Ken Peterson   | P | Rolf Carlson | P | Dave Edblom       | XX |
| Haeli Pettis   | P |              |   | Adam Marks        | P  |
| Loren Slette   | P |              |   | <b>Others:</b>    |    |
|                |   |              |   | Pastor Kim Strutz | P  |
|                |   |              |   | Barb Jackson      | P  |

*P-Present      XX-Excused      MSC-motion made, seconded, carried      ➔-Action Item*

1. **Call to order at 7:00 PM by Rolf Carlson**
2. **Devotion:** *Pastor Kim Strutz*
3. **Adjustment to the agenda**—a few additions were made to new business.
4. **Devotions for council 2023**
  - A. Aug – Loren Slette
  - B. Sep – Adam Marks
  - C. Oct – Sheila Leppala
  - D. Nov – Rolf Carlson
  - E. Dec – Ken Peterson
  - F. Jan '24 – Pastor Kim
5. **Offering Counters:** \*helps with communion
  - A. June 11 – Sheila\*, Dave
  - B. June 18 – Loren\*, Haeli
  - C. June 25 – Ken\*, Sue
  - D. July 2 – Sheila, Loren\*
  - E. July 9 – ArMand, Rolf\*
  - F. July 16 – Adam\*, Sue
  - G. July 23 - Haeli\*, Sue
  - H. July 30 – Sheila, Dave\* (Ken out of town)
  - I. August 6 – Haeli\*, Rolf (Ken out of town)
  - J. August 13 – Ken\*, Sue (Pastor Kim out of town)
6. **Financial Report - Loren**
  - A. Revenue was better in April and lower again in May, still falling behind in income, \$17K behind.
  - B. Expenses are on track with budget. Looking at expenses to cut back on. Bank balance good.
  - C. Approved pause the \$200 transfer from General Fund to Capital Improvement Fund. MSC (Adam/ArMand)
  - D. Continuing to investigate valuation of FRLC buildings, possibly \$3M-\$4M for the church structure alone.
  - E. Approved May 2023 financials. MSC (Sheila/Ken)
7. **Secretary’s Report:**
  - A. Approved May’s secretary’s report via email on May 14<sup>th</sup>. *(majority approved plus the president)*
8. **Pastor’s Report – Highlights for past month**
  - ✓ Timber Frame project coming along
  - ✓ Lay Leader Network - Pastoral Mentorship Meeting - Planning for future events
  - ✓ Vacation Bible School Going Great!
  - ✓ Lake Superior Conference Meeting up in Lutsen, MN
  - ✓ Grandma’s Marathon Meeting with Greg Hoppla for transparent plans for FRLC and Race plans.

- ✓ Grandma’s Marathon Lock-in with youth and Parents June 16-17 for Grandma’s Marathon Youth Fundraiser
- ✓ Two Baptisms Planned for this Summer at the French River/Lake Superior
- ✓ Pastoral Visitations 13—Hospital or Home Visits: 7 in person/ 6 by phone or Zoom

### 9. Standing Reports: *\*reports submitted*

- A. Approved standing committee reports. MSC (Loren/ArMand)
- B. Christian Life (*liaison: ArMand Nelson, Adam Marks, Haeli Pettis*)
  - i. Faith Formation (Youth/Sunday School, Confirmation, Adult Education/Bible Study)
  - ii. Hospitality (Compassion/Care\*: Prayer Shawls, Wellness/BP Screening, Sunshine Ministry, Scrap Happy Quilters)
  - iii. Long Range Planning
  - iv. Memorial
  - v. Worship/Music\* (Altar Guild)
- C. Mission Life Committees (*liaison: Sue Baker*)
  - i. Outreach\* (Seafarers; Scholarship; Compassion/Care: CHUM, MN Foodshare, Days for Girls)
  - ii. Stewardship (Eco Faith)
- D. Operations (*liaisons: Dave Edblom, Loren Slette*)
  - i. Audit (*Carol Surine, Carolyn Marino, Kim Marks*)
  - ii. Finance\*
  - iii. Property
- E. Women of French River (WOFR\* / WELCA) Auxiliary
- F. Executive Committee (Pastor, President, VP, Secretary)
  - i. Mutual Ministry (Pastor, President, Steve Berntson, Carol Surine, Kim Burke)
  - ii. Staff Relations

### 10. Correspondence – none

### 11. Old Business

- A. Fellowship Hall floor
  - i. Ceiling tiles are installed
  - ii. Floor tiles arrived and ready to install. Date TBD.
- B. Property - Adam
  - i. In May approved spending up to \$2,000 to acquire small corner property. Due to U.S. Supreme Court case, there’s a moratorium on purchasing tax forfeited land. Our land may have been gifted.
  - ii. Parsonage deck project: working on plan to purchase additional pavers to complete project. Might pause for a while.
  - iii. Gutters project: Downspouts purchased and ready to install.
- C. Outdoor Worship Space
  - i. First iron wash on some timbers, on schedule with additional workdays set.
  - ii. Concrete poured and sealing completed.
  - iii. Discussed ideas for naming the structure.
- D. Photo directory update - ArMand
  - i. Dates set for September 14-16 for taking photos.
  - ii. Meet July 11<sup>th</sup> with the company, working to finalize plan.
- E. Website Update
  - i. Eric Sturtz building an updated church website. Working with Rich Hoeg to transition.
- F. Mutual Ministry meeting (*Pastor, President, Steve Berntson, Carol Surine, Kim Burke, Ken Peterson*)
  - i. Ken briefly met with Pastor Kim May 17th
- G. Visitations
  - i. Sue Oberg and Sheila Leppala will help with lists for Pastor Kim.
- H. Building use fee update – Haeli presented a revised policy from a task force that reviewed the draft policy and provided this revised policy.

### 12. New Business

- A. Proposal – Phil Strom
  - i. Suggested we consider personalizing the Prayers for the Day so they are more meaningful and personalized to the congregation. Pastor agreed to weeding out over-polarizing, politicized jargon from prayers.
- B. Member definitions – Ken will email the related Constitution and By-Laws language around this for discussion on revising – committed to doing this at Jan 2023 Congregational.
- C. Requests/transfers of memorial funds to Fellowship Hall & OWS – Ken will complete written request for funds to be transferred. Barb will provide figures.
- D. Yoga program did not start.
- E. Monthly Council meeting will not be held in July.

**13. Upcoming:**

- A. Council Meeting minutes email approval deadline Sunday, June 18th
- B. Parables Deadline — Wednesday, June 19, 9:00 A.M.
- C. Executive: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 during Neighborhood Nights Out. (Sheila will meet with Haeli prior to start the agenda template)
- D. Finance: Monday, August 7, 2023 6:00 P.M.
- E. Council: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. (Pastor Kim will be gone)

**14. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M. MSC (Pastor Kim/Ken)**

**15. Closing with The Lord’s Prayer**

*Submitted by Sheila Leppala, Secretary*



**Vacation Bible School 2023**

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV): *Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.*



Spiritual Gifts

Each of us has been given spiritual gifts by the Holy Spirit. These gifts are unique to each person—like fingerprints, no two sets are exactly alike. When we collectively live out the specific gifts, we function together as the Body of Christ in God’s kingdom. Using our individual gifts with others not only unifies Christians in their faith, but it also produces growth within the church, both in numbers and spiritually.

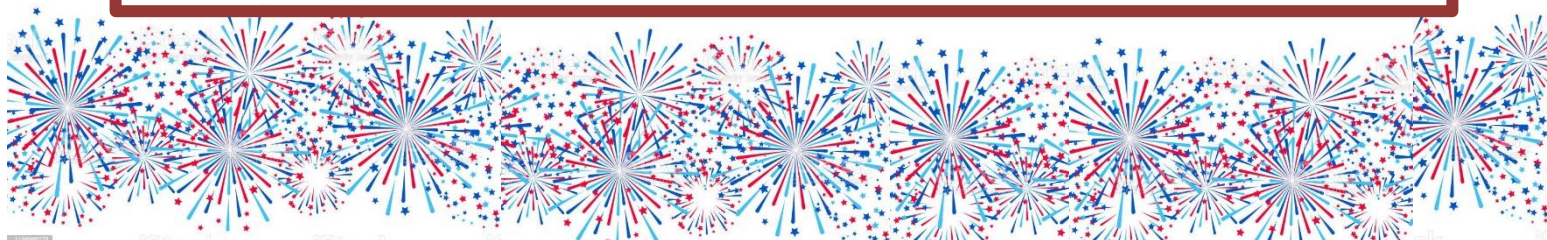
But before we work together to glorify God, it is important to unveil, or perhaps rediscover, what spiritual gifts we possess. “Gifts for You – Opening your spiritual gifts” is a resource from the Women of the ELCA designed to help discern who we are and what are the spiritual gifts within us. The Spiritual Gifts Assessment is a series of 60 questions designed to expose our gifts and reveal which ones we have been given in the greatest measure or “core gifts.”

The self-assessment tool is found at <file:///E:/FRLC%202023/2023%20Committees/Stewardship%202023/SpiritualGifts.pdf> and printed copies are also available from the standing shepherd in the narthex. Find out how the Holy Spirit is working in you in the following categories: Administration, Artistry, Discernment, Evangelism, Exhortation, Faith, Giving, Hospitality, Intercession, Knowledge, Leadership, Mercy, Music (Vocal), Music (Instrumental), Pastoring, Service, Teaching, Wisdom, and Writing.

Want to learn more about Stewardship?  
**August 8, 6:00 PM**  
**Fireside Room**

More people are needed on this committee to effectively work in community!

Once completed, you will have a better understanding of how to carry out, with others, *The Great Commission*, Matthew 28: 19-20 (NIV): Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”



**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 inquires.

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