



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 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* † June 2023

**COMMUNITY RUMMAGE SALE**

**FRENCH RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH PARKING LOT**

**JUNE 10, 2023**

**SATURDAY 08:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

It's time to purge! And/or shop for new treasures!  
Vendor spots are available for \$10.

Email: [Frlc5310@gmail.com](mailto:Frlc5310@gmail.com) to reserve your spot!

Inside this edition of The Parables:

- Upcoming Youth Events
- Grandma's Marathon Lock-In
- Neighborhood Meeting for Grandma's Marathon
- Property Committee Projects
- Women of French River Summer Picnic
- Other Upcoming Events

FRLC Sunday service starts at 9:00 AM for the Summer!





June 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Remember to <b>take a turn and sign up to care for our grounds</b> at the <b>Welcome Center</b> in the narthex. Thank you!		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. 😊		1	2	3
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sun. after Pentecost</b> 4 9a Worship in-person & online <b>-Graduate Sunday!</b> 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	5 6p Adult Bible Study	<b>6</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> 5-6p Riversong Rising <b>5:45p Exec. Council</b> <b>6:30p Stewardship</b> 7p AA	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:30a W&M 1p WELCA  <b>6p Grandma's Marathon Community Meeting</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>8a – Noon: FRLC Rummage Sale</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. after Pentecost</b> 11 9a Worship in-person & online 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	<b>12</b> <b>9a-Noon: VBS</b> <b>6p Finance</b> 6p Adult Bible Study	<b>13</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> <b>9a-Noon: VBS</b>  <b>7p Council</b> 7p AA	<b>14</b> <b>9a-Noon: VBS</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>7:30p F.R. Readers @ Carolyn Marino's</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Grandma's Marathon Lock-In</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Grandma's Marathon</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. after Pentecost</b> 18 9a Worship in-person & online - <b>VBS Led Worship</b> 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	<b>19</b> 6p Adult Bible Study	<b>20</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> 7p AA	<b>21</b> <b>7a D/NSSD</b> <u>9a Parables Deadline</u>	<b>22</b> <b>11a Hospitality</b>	<b>23</b> <b>8a Rhubarb Crisp Baking</b>	<b>24</b> <b>9a-3p: Rhubarb Fest @ Holy Rosary</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost</b> 25 9a Worship in-person & online 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	<b>26</b> 6p Adult Bible Study	<b>27</b> <u>9a Bulletin Deadline</u> 7p AA	<b>28</b> <b>9a Parables Assembly</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

Date	Ushers	Lector	Communion Assistant* / Counter	Coffee Fellowship
7	Jim & Sandy Dahlberg	Elda Hein	ArMand Nelson* & Loren Slette	Ann & Chris Rankila
14	Doug & Lynne Compton	Ann Rankila	Sheila Leppala* & Dave Edblom	Judee Sundstrom & Darcie Rolfe
21	Kevin Stroom & Jacquie Eubanks	Jacquie Eubanks	Loren Slette* & Sue Baker	Denise Endicott & Joan Kuettel
28	Sue & Steve Baker	Joanne Kronstedt	Ken Peterson* & Haeli Pettis	Barb Jackson
Prayer Chain: Babs Strom 218-525-6200    Altar Guild: Kathy Pierson    Coffee Fellowship: Emmaus, Joan Kuettel 218-391-7680				



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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



Lately we have had the blessed gift of having the Northern Lights be visible to many in our nighttime skies. This prompted me to think about whether or not this phenomenon was ever mentioned in our Scriptures or seen by those magi, aka astrological scholars, who were looking to the night skies often, to see what the heavens were doing or predicting. In my mind, when I have had the gift of seeing the Northern Lights, the way the light moves across the sky, sometimes in a stepping or chopping motion, looks like people walking upward. Other times, it looks like a sweeping path moving back and forth guiding our eyes and hearts to follow back and forth.

Here is the science behind how we get to see this beautiful show in our night skies: The northern lights are an interplay between the sun's energies, the earth's magnetic fields and atmosphere. The sun throws out charged particles that transports through space towards earth in a solar wind. Some of the particles draw down towards the earth's magnetosphere with a very high speed, 300-1000 km/second. The light phenomena appear when the particles collide with the atoms and molecules in our atmosphere. If the collision is powerful enough some of the particle's motive energy transforms into the light phenomena of northern lights. Northern lights, or Aurora Borealis, is a phenomenon

that can be seen dancing over the sky in the northern regions of the hemisphere. It flickers and plays over the clear sky in the nights. The northern lights are usually green but can also be red, violet, blue-white or slightly yellowish. The activity on the sun occurs with a cycle of about eleven years i.e. a peak every 11th year. In addition, there is a 27-day cycle, which also controls the auroral activity. We currently are in this 11th year, thus the reason we have seen them more frequently as of late.

As for the Scriptural or Spiritual documentation of the Aurora Borealis, I discovered quite the treasure trove. This sky phenomena has always existed in the mythology of the people since the beginning of time and in many cultures. Within the Bible, it is mentioned in the book of Ezekiel in the Old Testament. "I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north—an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light." -Ezekiel 1:4 NIV

Within Scandinavian cultures, Like Norway or Finland, some spoke of the aurora appearing when whales were playing games. The Danes believed the lights were caused by swans competing to see who could fly further north. According to legend, some of the swans became trapped in the ice and, as they tried to escape, they flapped their wings creating flurries of light in the sky. Swedish fishermen looked forward to seeing the aurora, as they thought the lights were the reflections of giant schools of herring swimming nearby. For them, an aurora sighting brought good fortune and the promise of a hefty catch.

Estonians, for example, believed that the Northern Lights were wonderful sleighs taking guests to a spectacular wedding celebration in the heavens. AND similarly, in Greco-Roman mythology, Aurora is the personification of the dawn, and the sister of the sun and the moon. The ancient Greeks and Romans believed that every day Aurora raced across the sky in her chariot, alerting her brother and sister to the breaking of the new day. Watching the Northern Lights stretch across the sky, it's easy to imagine how this story took form.

Many of the stories surrounding the Northern Lights in North American communities arose from the belief that they were the souls of departed ancestors. It was even thought that the lights might be the spirits of the animals they hunted. Native American stories depict the Northern Lights as torches held by spirits who were tasked with leading the souls of the recently deceased over the abyss to the land of brightness and plenty, and believed strongly in

### French River Lutheran Church

the *circle of life*. To communicate with people on Earth, they believed the Northern Lights made a whistling sound, which was to be answered by humans with whispers. Inuit tribes believed they could summon the Aurora to converse with their dead relatives. Cree Indians believed the lights were a way of communicating with their ancestors, and when dogs barked at the lights, it was because they recognized their lost companions.

In Canada and northern Michigan, Algonquin and Ojibwe tribes believed the creator of the Earth, Nanabozho, moved to the far north and lit a huge fire to let his people know that even though he was far away, he was still thinking of them. The aurora was a reflection of this fire. The Menominee Indians of Wisconsin believed what they saw were gentle giants fishing at night, and that the lights were created by their torches as they fished.

But the oldest images of the aurora borealis are a couple of cave paintings in Rouffinac, France. The paintings consist of lines and arcs drawn with the fingers of stone-age hunters who lived about 10,000 years ago. One can assume that the aurora had the same meaning for them as it had later on for the Sámi people, the Inuit's and the Indians all the way until the 1900s.

For many, the Northern Lights symbolize new beginnings. Seeing these colors in the sky could mean the beginning of a new chapter and the closing of an old one, with new ventures on the horizon. More broadly, the Northern Lights can also signify the unknown, and everything about the universe that is beyond human comprehension, much like we are told about our lives of faith in Christ.

We likely hold this beauty in ceaseless awe, as we try as we may to decipher how it comes and brings hope and magnetism to something beyond our understanding. It reminds us of how vast the universe is, and the beauty that it holds. Most especially, we are thankful for a beauty that comes even in the darkest of nights, from a creator that is so artistic and creative that even the skies of night are lit sometimes for our wonderment.

Blessings, 😊 Pastor Kimberly Sturtz

## Recently at FRLC

### NEMN Synod Assembly Recap

Fellow Parishioners,  
This past weekend we attended the Synod Assembly in Brainerd with Pastor Kim. Between the opening and closing services we experienced “Disciple Conversation: The Son Makes You Free to Welcome, Connect, Reform and Support,” and the business side of the North East Minnesota Synod.

Speakers and group activities emphasized how through Jesus Christ we are to welcome, connect, reform and support all. Display tables around the hall provided information for those organizations ready and able to provide assistance as we welcome, connect, reform and support, i.e., CHUM, LSS, Camp Onomia, Camps Hiawatha and Vermilion, WELCA, etc.

We voted on nominated candidates for the various positions (all voted in), the 2024 budget (approved), resolution to support tiny house communities (approved), resolution to declare our synod a pollinator supporter (approved), resolution to continue our commitment to the Synod EcoFaith Network (approved), etc. Discussions ensued, questions were answered for most prior to voting. The recommended amendments to the Synod Constitution were sent back to the Synod Council for further review.

Chris and I enjoyed our time at the Synod Assembly. We enjoyed the process, all of the friendly people we met and were reacquainted with, and all we learned. We highly recommend everyone experience this at least once.

Thank you for the opportunity!  
Chris and Ann Rankila

## Thank You

### FRLC Red Cross Blood Drive

THANK YOU from the Outreach Committee to all the donors and volunteers who participated in our American Red Cross Blood Drive on April 26. Donors from both our



FRLC family and our greater North Shore community helped many people who are in need by donating 26 pints of blood, and we enjoyed visiting with friends and neighbors throughout the afternoon. Our next

## French River Lutheran Church

blood drive is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2023, so please keep that date in mind. Whether you help by donating blood or volunteering at the event, we greatly appreciate your generosity!

### FRLC at Second Harvest

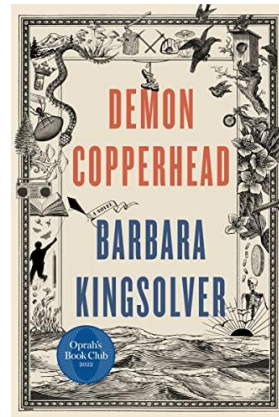
Thank you to the folks from French River who teamed up on May 17 at Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank to assemble nutrition boxes for seniors in the Northland. Your time, energy, and smiles are much appreciated!



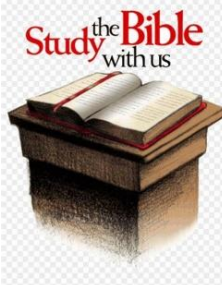
## Upcoming Events

### French River Readers

For June we have chosen to read Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver. This is a Pulitzer Prize Winner for 2023; it is not a Book in a Bag offering, and there is a waitlist at the library. The meeting will be held June 15th at 7:30 PM, at Carolyn Marino's, 6054 Bergquist Rd, in the folly. In case of inclement weather, we will move inside. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Carol Surine @ 218-525-4426 or [carolsurine@gmail.com](mailto:carolsurine@gmail.com).



### Adult Bible Study at FRLC



Adult Bible Study continues into June! Meet Monday at 6:00 PM in the Fireside Room. Come and get a preview of the lectionary – scripture for the upcoming Sunday. Our aim is to gain understanding while growing together. Weekly attendance is not required; come whenever you are able!

### Rhubarb Crisp Baking

The Rhubarb Festival is June 24 and we have been asked to make Rhubarb Crisp. We will be baking Rhubarb Crisp at 8 am –until done, Friday June 23. We need Rhubarb donations and helpers to prepare the 110 pans we will be baking.



**We are looking for donations of Rhubarb.** The crisp requires 330 cups of prepared rhubarb. It may be brought to the church with whole stalks, or you may wash and chop it into ½ inch pieces. If you know anyone that does not use their Rhubarb ask if they would donate to the cause. We need HELPERS to wash, chop and prepare the crisps, runners, and someone to deliver them.

**Please give Carolyn Marino a call if you will be there! 218-525-6431.** Always a fun, busy day!

**WOFR Summer Picnic**



**WOMEN OF FRENCH RIVER  
LUTHERAN SUMMER 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**

**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.

**Property Committee**

**ATTENTION!! From the Property Committee:**

All of our fluorescent lighting has been replaced with LED bulbs. Now we have several boxes of **T-8** bulbs and some **T-12** bulbs that need to go. These are working bulbs. **Do you have a need for some replacement bulbs? All are FREE!!**

Also have about **30** working **fluorescent ballasts. FREE for the taking!**

**Please contact:** Jim Dahlberg – 218-525-1796  
If you think you can use any of these or know someone who can use them, please take some. We will have to recycle the remainder of the bulbs at \$.60 each at WLSSD.

**ATTENTION!**

**Stewardship suggestions from the Property Committee:**

This spring due to the bigger projects that the Property Committee members have on their plates, they are not planning a spring clean-up day. But!!!! There are still some small projects that a family or a couple of members might take on to assist. Below is a list that you might consider picking from:

- Fellowship hall: We will be needing some assistance with removing the old carpet in the Fellowship Hall when the new carpet tiles arrive.
- We will need assistance laying the new carpet tiles down and clean-up following the project. Dates yet to be determined. **Contact Ken Peterson or the office if you might be able to help with this.**
- Move the brown metal chair. gardens and rack to the boy scout bldg.
- Parking lot curbs and sidewalks – sweep up or blow excess sand from winter deicing.
- Clean up the Rain Garden near Ryan Rd and Parsonage and/or cleanup the Rain garden between the Parsonage and Church.
- Wash interior windows.
- Deep clean the **nursery**- includes wiping off furniture and toys (remove any broken toys), straightening books dusting vacuuming corners.
- Moving woodchips by Boy Scout bldg. to the area used by the Outdoor School to fill holes and protect tree roots. Requires a wheelbarrow and fork or shovel and rake. This is a great project for younger members.
- **Swing set and Play area equipment**- Tighten any bolts, do repairs of swings or other parts. Check walls of ball court, tighten any bolts where needed, bumper for top. Note any missing items or replacement parts needed and give the list to the office (Property Committee).
- **Gardens:** Barb Jackson has decided she cannot be responsible for the gardens at this time. She has been the main caretaker for more years than we can count. We are asking for a member or two to adopt a garden.


All materials purchased would be reimbursed by the Women of French River such as soil amendments, fertilizer, plants etc. Submit receipts to WOFR.

- 1) Upper sidewalk garden to Left of door,
- 2) garden to Right of door (with shrubs and small tree),
- 3) parking lot garden,
- 4) Lower-level Garden-Sheila Leppala has volunteered to maintain this, but might like assistance,
- 5) sign garden is being maintained by Ann Jackson; Rock mulch areas – Peggy Dahlberg.

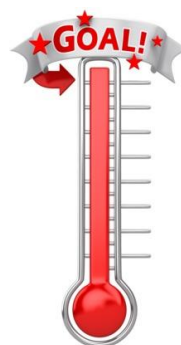
**If you are interested in any of these gardens, please contact Peggy (218-525-4469) or Barb (218-525-5992)**

- Volunteers willing to learn about the sound system and assist on Sunday mornings.
- There may be some prep and staining of wood to be done for fellowship hall base board- Wayne Dahlberg (218-525-4469)

Please consider one of these projects for your family or 2 or 3 friends and we will have a list of these in the narthex for you to consider and check off. We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you from the Property Committee and Stewardship Committee.



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.



As you can see from the pledge thermometer posted in the narthex, support is great for the Outdoor Worship & Gathering Center. If you donate to this project, please be sure to designate on your offering envelope and/or your check that your donation is for the “Outdoor Worship Space” (“OWS”) so that our Financial Secretary is sure of your intent.

## Youth

### YOUTH Events This EARLY SUMMER

**JUNE 12-14:** VBS 9-Noon @ FRLC.

Older Kids can be helpers if you wish!

**JUNE 16-17<sup>th</sup>:** LOCK IN- GRANDMA’S

MARATHON Fundraiser Weekend @ FRLC  
(For the last 40 years - FRLC Youth have hosted a parking lot/concessions fundraiser for Grandma’s Marathon. Helps with costs for camps, youth gatherings.)

We will be Prepping the church for Grandma’s Marathon Needs

- Get Signs outside, Tables and Tents set up, Run through areas to volunteer
- Run through for VBS SUNDAY SERVICE
- Bring outdoor gear in case of sun or rain or cold or hot
- Playing Games
- Watching Movies
- Bring overnight items, Sleeping bags, snacks, one parent to help set up and chaperone.
- Breakfast will be provided.

**JUNE 18<sup>th</sup>:**

Vacation Bible School Kid Led Worship 😊  
9 am service - Kids will teach and lead the worship letting everyone know what we learned for our days together learning in faith.

\*Campfire Nights will be scheduled and updated soon. Gather with Pastor Kim and Family around the campfire at church. Bring beverages and

treats to pass, enjoy time together getting to know each other better.



# NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING FOR GRANDMA’S MARATHON



• MEET ORGANIZERS AND SIGN UP TO POSSIBLY VOLUNTEER

• DISCUSSIONS WITH FEEDBACK WILL BE GIVEN WITH OUR NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY FOR THIS BIG WEEKEND!

• MEET NEIGHBORS AND ORGANIZERS OF DIFFERENT EVENTS HAPPENING AROUND GRANDMA’S MARATHON

• LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

## THURSDAY

## JUNE 8, 2023

### 6PM @ FRENCH RIVER

### LUTHERAN CHURCH

(FRENCH RIVER LUTHERAN IS THE EMERGENCY STORM SHELTER FOR THE MARATHON @ MILE MARKER 12.2)

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR A MEETING TO DISCUSS WHAT TO EXPECT ON RACE WEEKEND.

(\*RESPECTFUL DECORUM IS EXPECTED FOR ALL WHO ATTEND)

## Community Rummage Sale:

**Where: FRLC Parking Lot**

**When: June 10, 8am – Noon**

**Vendor Spots available for \$10**



## Outdoor Worship Space

Progress on the outdoor worship and gathering space continues with concrete poured and stamped (May 25, 2023). It certainly requires "sisu" to do this job! Timber framer Gerry David also stopped by and covered stacks of timber to protect them from the elements.



## June Celebrations

### Happy Birthday!!



- 1 Terry Olmstead
- 1 Renee Reeves
- 2 LuAnn Leppala
- 2 Kevin Stroom
- 3 Mary Evans
- 4 Lois Foltz
- 6 Connie Felde
- 6 Larry Ruberg
- 7 Steve Berntson
- 8 Jackson Baker
- 9 Gail Johnson
- 10 Elliott Gorny
- 10 Erin Mecklin
- 10 Dain Fladmark
- 10 Ann Jackson
- 10 Nicole Chatterson
- 11 Casey Fladmark
- 11 Elise Poe-Johnson
- 11 Candice Kortesmaki
- 11 Jay Wright
- 12 Renee Andrews
- 13 Rebecca Anderson
- 13 Wendy Gustofson
- 13 Melissa Williams
- 14 Brandon Hanson
- 14 Todd Sironen
- 17 Avery Makesroom
- 14 Paul Story
- 15 Don Mattson
- 16 Jim (James) Masterson
- 16 Michael Garmer
- 16 Peter Hammer
- 17 Adam Hendrickson
- 18 Lane Schraufnagel
- 18 Lucas Wilman
- 19 Steven Libby
- 19 Jon Lindquist
- 20 Leslie Holck
- 21 Fredrick Sievert
- 22 Kahl Steinmetz
- 23 Isabelle Herzog
- 23 Lisa Miltakis
- 24 Rolf Carlson
- 24 Lola Bell Russell
- 25 Meagan Bergerson
- 25 Avis Jackson
- 25 Haeli Pettis
- 25 Phil Strom
- 26 Luke Kuettel
- 27 Jennifer Schneider
- 27 Bonnie Smrstick
- 29 Kim Eckman
- 29 Peggy Smith
- 30 Sam Hendricks
- 30 Keira Kaylor

### Happy Anniversary!!

- 1 Tom & Katie Kaylor
- 1 Larry & Peggy Smith
- 4 David & Kathryn Edblom
- 7 Ryan & Carla Endicott
- 8 Michael & Chrysa Luhrsen
- 9 Wolfgang Hechtl & Larissa Wolfe-Hechtl
- 10 Richard & Beverly Berg
- 10 Joe & Alyssa Bradac
- 10 Micky & Victoria Panger
- 18 Alec & Megan Fuentes
- 22 Jon & Linda Lindquist
- 22 Paul & Darlene Peterson
- 23 Mark & Colleen Jeronimus



## Lessons This Month

### June 4 – First Sunday after Pentecost

[Genesis 1:1--2:4a](#); [Psalm 8](#); [2 Corinthians 13:11-13](#);  
[Matthew 28:16-20](#).

Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

### June 11 – Second Sunday after Pentecost

[Hosea 5:15--6:6](#); [Psalm 50:7-15](#); [Romans 4:13-25](#);  
[Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26](#).

Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord's day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth to be signs of God's mercy for the world.

### June 18 – Third Sunday after Pentecost

[Exodus 19:2-8a](#); [Psalm 100](#); [Romans 5:1-8](#);  
[Matthew 9:35—10:8 \[9-23\]](#).

Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

### June 25 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

[Jeremiah 20:7-13](#); [Psalm 69:7-10 \[11-15\] 16-18](#);  
[Romans 6:1b-11](#); [Matthew 10:24-39](#).

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each

day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

## FRLC Financial Facts

April budget \$17,408

April general offering \$22,245



## 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
Emmaus	Joan Kuettel 391-7680	Jun `23
Nazareth	Carolyn Marino 525-6431	Jul `23
Canaan	Skipper Sironen 525-2010	Aug `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!



# French River Lutheran Church

## MEETING MINUTES – May 9, 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	P
Haeli Pettis	xx			Adam Marks	P
Loren Slette	P			<b>Others:</b>	
				Pastor Kim	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**
3. **Adjustment to the agenda**—a few additions were made to new business.
4. **Devotions for council 2023**
  - A. Jun – Dave Edblom
  - B. Aug – Loren Slette
  - C. Sep – Adam Marks
  - D. Oct – Sheila Leppala
  - E. Nov – Rolf Carlson
  - F. Dec – Ken Peterson
  - G. Jan '24 – Pastor Kim
5. **Offering Counters: \*helps with communion**
  - A. May 14 – Sheila\*, Rolf
  - B. May 21 – Ken, Adam\*
  - C. May 28 - Sue, Dave
  - D. June 4 – Loren, ArMand\*
  - E. June 11 – Sheila\*, Dave
  - F. June 18 – Loren\*, Sue
  - G. June 25 – Ken\*, Haeli
6. **Financial Report:**
  - A. Caught up a bit in giving through April. April had 5 Sundays.
  - B. Approved April financials. MSC (Sheila/Ken)
7. **Secretary's Report:**
  - A. Approved April's secretary's report via email on April 16<sup>th</sup> (*majority approved plus the president*)
8. **Pastor's Report – Highlights for past month**
  - A. Holy Week – good attendance
  - B. Pastoral Visitations 16—Hospital or Home Visits: 5 in person/ 11 by phone or Zoom
  - C. Synod Assembly Planning Team x3 meetings between March and April
  - D. Synod Council meetings held via Zoom
  - E. Lay Leader Network - Pastoral Mentorship meeting
  - F. Attended Synod Assembly at Cragun's in Brainerd April 28-30
  - G. Lake Superior Conference meetings attended for March & May
  - H. Grandma's Marathon meeting with Greg Hoppla for transparent plans for FRLC and Race plans
  - I. Two Baptisms planned for this summer at the French River/Lake Superior
  - J. Pastor Kim & Eric Sturtz building a small, raised garden on back side of garage
  - K. Stewardship committee is forming and met! 😊 Next Meeting: Fireside Room, 6 PM June 6. Contact Peggy Dahlberg, Kevin Stroom, or Sue Baker for details if you wish to join.
9. **Standing Reports: \*reports submitted**
  - A. Approved standing committee reports. MSC (Sue/Ken)
  - 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 ordered and Ken will pickup on Friday and installed this weekend
  - ii. Floor tiles ordered and should arrive in 1-2 weeks
- B. Property
  - i. County may put small corner of adjacent land up for sale in October. Adam spoke with County. County to do research.
    - a. Approved spending up to \$2,000 to acquire small corner property. MSC (Ken/ArMand)
  - ii. Small spruce tree fell over Gaga pit, no damage – Jon Luikart cut up and piled last week
  - iii. For parsonage deck project, few remaining tasks need to be coordinated
  - iv. Some gutters on parsonage deck not working properly – Ken looking into this
- C. Outdoor Worship Space
  - i. Color selections for building in process
  - ii. Roof decking is all stained, transferring May 11th.
- D. Sabbatical application submission
  - i. Received confirmation that grant application was received - will hear response in August.
  - ii. The Synod approved the updated Sabbatical Guidelines and should be available soon.
- E. Photo directory update
  - i. ArMand coordinating and researched options.
  - ii. Online scheduling available. Each family will receive 8x10 and directory. Online directory will be available. 20% extra directories will be provided at no additional cost.
  - iii. Reserving September 14-16 for taking photos.
  - iv. Need to form committee for help decide on extra committee/group/event pages for online directory. There may be Hospitality members interested in helping.
- F. Website Update
  - i. Eric Sturtz building an updated church website
- G. Mutual Ministry meeting – May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 (or May 24<sup>th</sup> if the 17<sup>th</sup> doesn't work)
  - i. Pastor, President, Steve Berntson, Carol Surine, Kim Burke
- H. Visitations
  - i. Sue Oberg and Sheila Leppala will help with lists for Pastor Kim.
  - ii. Idea from United Church, mail or deliver Sunday bulletins. Perhaps discuss at future Hospitality meeting.
- I. Build use fee update – Haeli will talk to Jon Luikart and Skipper Sironen and get a copy of the revised policy and email to the Council.

## 12. New Business

- A. Cleanup day – Property committee will meet tomorrow night (5/10) at 6:00 and decide on a date.
- B. Worship summer schedule changes on May 28<sup>th</sup> to start at 9:00 AM.

- C. Covid policy – reduce the verbiage for the bulletin.
- D. Request for Yoga instructor holding a weekly class at our church. Pastor Kim working with Tiffany about a day that works and other details. Background check required.

**13. Upcoming:**

- A. Council Meeting minutes email approval deadline Sunday, May 14th
- B. Parables Deadline — Wednesday, May 17, 9:00 A.M.
- C. Executive: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 5:45 P.M.
- D. Finance: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:00 P.M.
- E. Council: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

**14. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M. MSC (Pastor Kim/Dave)**

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

*-Submitted by Sheila Leppala, Secretary*

## Pentecost Word Search

I G I B E L I E V E R R F T K  
 X K O J E R U S A L E M F K D  
 L A N G U A G E C B U N B N B  
 W M H Z P D Y M Q U A C D S U  
 C R O P A Y F A H E A V E N T  
 B Z L V Y V F Y H S K W F Z O  
 X I Y A L L E L U I A I I P N  
 A F S P I U Z P X B R N R H G  
 P E P N A V Q G N T X D E E U  
 O S I A S C E N S I O N K I E  
 S T R O D O V E Z K Z E R T S  
 T I I Z Y T L S G O S P E L R  
 L V T U Z A C K H Z Q J K U E  
 E A M Q E C Q P K N U D H U D  
 L L S A C D I U M M J K Q S F

- |             |           |           |      |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|------|
| HOLY SPIRIT | ASCENSION | JERUSALEM | FIRE |
| BELIEVER    | ALLELUIA  | LANGUAGE  | RED  |
| APOSTLE     | GOSPEL    | DOVE      |      |
| HEAVEN      | TONGUES   | FESTIVAL  |      |
| WIND        |           |           |      |

As we begin the season of Pentecost, here is a prayer to ignite gratitude and generosity:

**A Steward’s Prayer**

O Lord, we pray that as we be,  
People of God chosen by thee,

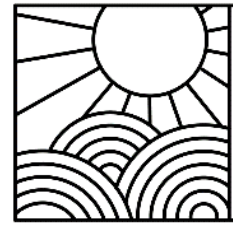
That you give us strength and guidance every day,  
For our role as stewards to portray.

That our voice and works may proclaim,  
The ministry of Christ is our aim.

That our actions will speak louder than what we say,  
Where the security in our life is God’s way.

That we generously respond to what you first gave,  
Your Son, a Savior, our lives to save.

And when we have decisions to make,  
To thee, O Lord, our prayers we take.



A  
FUTURE  
WITH  
HOPE

Keith A. Mundy, 1998

**REDISCOVER MACEDONIA**

A spirit of gratitude and  
generosity



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God’s work. Our hands.

Want to learn more  
about Stewardship?

**June 6, 6:30 PM**  
**Fireside Room**

**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.**

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

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