



French River Lutheran Church
5310 Ryan Road
Duluth, MN 55804

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ph:(218)525-5659 Mo,Fri 10:30am-1:30pm
(please call before coming to the office)

E-mail: FRLC5310@gmail.com

www.frenchriverlutheran.org

Pr. Kim Sturtz: 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

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

10 AM WORSHIP



THE PARABLES † *October 2023*

Trunk or Treat
at French River Lutheran Church
Wear a costume, stop by for treats and vote for your favorite carved pumpkin!

October 31, 4:30 - 6:30 pm

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE AT FRLC
OCTOBER 17, NOON - 6PM
Community members welcome! See details inside on how to register.

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

- To worship virtually, visit www.frenchriverlutheran.org or send your email address to our office, frlc5310@gmail.com, and receive a weekly email to the direct link: <https://www.youtube.com/c/FrenchRiverLutheranChurch>
- Visit www.frenchriverlutheran.org **HOME PAGE** for a link to archived services.



October 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18th Sunday Pentecost 1 9a Worship in-person & online 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	2	3 9a Bulletin Deadline 5:45p Exec. Council 7p AA	4 5:30-6:30p Fish Force 6:45-7:30p Confirmation 7p Choir	5 5p Riversong Rising	6	7
19th Sunday Pentecost 8 10a Blended Worship in-person & online 10:45a Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	9 6p Adult Bible Study 7p Finance	10 9a Bulletin Deadline 7p Council 7p AA	11 5:30-6:30p Fish Force 6:45-7:30p Confirmation 7p Choir	12 10:30a W&M 1p WELCA 5p Riversong Rising	13	14 10a (All Day) Kindred Paths Community Apple Pressing
20th Sunday Pentecost 15 10a Contemporary Worship in-person & online 10:45a Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	16 6p Adult Bible Study	17 9a Bulletin Deadline 12-6p Red Cross Blood Drive 7p AA	18 7a D/NSSD 9a Parables Deadline 9a-2p Days for Girls 7p Choir	19 9a-2p Days for Girls 7:30p F.R. Readers	20	21
21st Sunday Pentecost 22 10a Worship in-person & online 10:45a Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship	23 6p Adult Bible Study	24 9a Bulletin Deadline 7p AA	25 9a Parables Assembly 5:30-6:30p Fish Force 6:45-7:30p Confirmation 7p Choir	26 9a Outreach 11a Hospitality	27	28
22nd Sunday Pentecost 29 10a Worship in-person & online *Reformation/Confirmation 10:45a Sunday School 11:15a Coffee Fellowship Timber Frame Dedication	30 6p Adult Bible Study	31 9a Bulletin Deadline 4:30-6:30p Trunk or Treat 7p AA	NOTE: This calendar is based on typically scheduled activities. Please consult the activity coordinator for the most current meeting method, guidelines, and information		<i>Please be aware that Kindred Paths Nature School may be on the church grounds or inside the building Monday through Friday; be on the lookout for youngsters. ☺</i>	

The Called By The Spirit chart is located on page 10 of The Parables.

Please contact the office with any inquires. 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
 FRLC office: frlc5310@gmail.com 218.525.5659
 French River Lutheran Church † 5310 Ryan Road † Duluth, MN 55804



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

A Message from Pastor Kim



Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Sabbatical Re-Proposal for Pastor Kim Sturtz

Dear Council and Congregation:

As many of you know, earlier in the year I had notified you all of my application for a Sabbatical Grant from the Lilly Endowment for Clergy Renewal for up to \$60,000 to help pay for a 3 month sabbatical, which would help my travel and renewal and pulpit supply.

As of August 28, I was notified that I did not receive the grant, likely because of a high application number for only 125 grants. This is likely due to delayed sabbaticals and sabbatical applications because of the Covid-19 Pandemic. So with anything where your heart and soul were determined was going to happen, there was a bit of grief and some mourning. But then, we wait for the Spirit of God to show us a new plan and a new experience. A *Funky town* needed moment (for me) in listening to what to do next.

Part One Sabbatical Re-Proposal:

On August 30, I received a call from our Bishop Amy Odgren, in the Northeastern Minnesota Synod, in connection with our NEMN Synod Companion Synod Coordinators, Pr. Mark and Brenda Wagner, inviting me to join them on a THREE WEEK trip to one of our Companion Synods in South Andhra, India, in **January of 2024 (January 14- Feb 3)**. This has been a delayed visit due to the Pandemic, as well and is 4 years overdue. They are inviting me in a small

group of our bishop and clergy to visit and represent our Synod and Clergy leadership in Northern Minnesota as well as the larger ELCA. There will be visits to the various churches and seminarians with whom our mission supports and accompanies.

The cost of the trip - **\$4300**, would be covered with **\$1800** from Synod Companion Journey Scholarship, **\$2000 from my continuing education** as part of my call, **and \$500 to pay on my own to journey**. (*Checked in with our Financial Treasurer to make sure the continuing ed money is still available - yes*) This visit would include visiting historical and spiritual places such as the Taj Mahal, Mother Theresa's Home for children and burial grounds, The Lutheran Seminary of Southern India, The Basilica of the Apostle of St. Thomas, Henry Martin Institute of Education and Christian Formation. Cities Visited would be New Delhi, Hyderabad, Tirupati, Chennai, India.

In discussion with our executive council, larger council, and financial treasurer, this opportunity would present many positive avenues for ministry, sabbatical needs, and continuing education. Sabbatical rest and renewal-wise, this trip would provide insight for myself into a new form of spiritual journey and pilgrimage. While it is not my original plan to visit the homeland of my ancestors, it will create and understanding of what it was like to leave on a big journey, to a new place, with new ways of life, and see what the Global church is doing within my ministry as well as our congregation in accompaniment the larger church of God in Christ Jesus. I would consider this journey 1 month of my 3 month sabbatical requirement. I would return the first Sunday in February to leadership in our church through Lent, Easter, to Pentecost Sunday.

Part Two Sabbatical Re-Proposal:

As of **June 9- July 31, 2024**— I will begin the second part of sabbatical. This will be a journey around to visit family in the USA that I haven't seen for years and reconnect, take a few retreats in, also take a few folk art classes that connect back to my heritage. **I would return as of the first Sunday in August 2024** to help with the final plans for the 100th Anniversary of French River Lutheran Church.

***Needed for this New Sabbatical Plan/Proposal:**

Pastoral Sabbatical Pay: salary during this 3 month break with Benefits.

Pastoral Coverage:

I. Sunday Worship: Pulpit Supply, either One Clergy for all of it, or select dates for multiple ministers.

French River Lutheran Church

II. Weekly Pastoral Care: The need of home visits, hospital visits, or other acts of sacramental needs (examples: Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings)

III. Contact with Synod Office about coverage, and lining up retired clergy, deacons, or Synodically Authorized Ministers to help cover the Sabbatical. (Please see the NEMN SABBATICAL Guideline Doc of 2023 for more information and for any questions-attached below)

With what I learn and experience in both Spiritual connections in India, and Spiritual Reconnection with family and self-care, will be a form of sabbatical and renewal, and a way of still honoring the fulfillment of our congregation’s plan to have my sabbatical in the year of 2024. Also this is helpful in the fact that I will be back at an early date in Summer, to be able to aid in the celebration of 100 years of French River Lutheran.

I hope this new proposal will be well received and approved by all. I am excited for the new opportunity that the Spirit is presenting to us in the way of creating new partnerships in our accompaniment in Christ. This is a reminder also that it's not always the plan that we make in learning more about ourselves or our faith, that might open new ways of experiencing Spiritual pilgrimages we should take at some point in our lives, whether abroad or here at home. But here is a great example of God’s guidance and encouragement in ways we never expected.

Sincerely, Pastor Kim Sturtz
Pastor of French River Lutheran Church - August 31, 2023/ Approved by FRLC Council on Sept 12

Upcoming Events

LEARN THE LIFESAVING SKILL OF HANDS ONLY CPR!

- **October 22 --come to the Sunday School room (next to the Fellowship Hall) after worship**
- **This does NOT qualify for recertification (there is no test)**
- **Refresh your skills or learn a new one**
- **Video and hands on Instruction**
- **Contact Jacquie Eubanks or Sue Baker with interest or questions**



Sign Up to Help Others by Donating Blood at Our October American Red Cross Blood Drive!

Our next FRLC Blood Drive is now ready for scheduling!



Date: Tuesday, October 17, 2023
Time: Noon - 6 p.m.
Place: FRLC Fellowship Hall

You can schedule your appointment by:

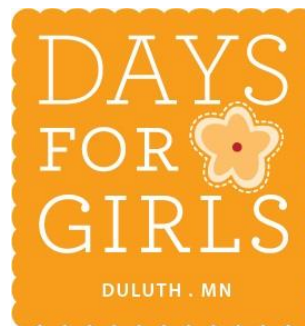
1. Going to RedCrossBlood.org and searching in our zip code for the French River Lutheran Church blood drive. You will need to create a profile with a username and password to schedule your time (if you don't already have one from donating previously).
2. Downloading the Blood Donor App by searching "Red Cross Blood" on the App StoreSM or Google PlayTM store.
3. Contacting Beth Luikart (218-525-1596, or e-mail her at bluikart@outlook.com).

This blood drive is for FRLC members AND members of our North Shore community, so if you know of anyone who would like to donate, please invite them to join us on October 17 to help ensure that blood is available for patients in need.

Interested in volunteering for a two-hour shift at the blood drive?

Contact Beth Luikart (218-525-1596; e-mail: bluikart@outlook.com). The Outreach Committee needs several people each shift to help with registration and working in the canteen area.

We appreciate your help!



There will be a Days for Girls Event on **October 18th and 19th from 9 AM – 2 PM** both days. We will be working on processing flannel and there will be sewing and non-sewing tasks to be done. There are no unimportant tasks!

Please let me know which days you'll be coming so I can make sure there is enough food. I hope to see you there. Carolurine@gmail.com or 218-525-4426.

French River Readers

The next book club meeting will be at 7:30 PM October 19th in the Fireside Room of French River Lutheran Church.

(Note: beginning in November, our meetings will be moved to 1 PM on the Third Thursday of the month.) The book we have chosen is the first book in an old cozy mystery series called The Cat Who Could Read Backwards by Lilian Jackson Braun. Be sure to join us on the 21st. Our host is Carol Surine. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 218-525-4426 or carolsurine@gmail.com. All are welcome.



FRLC Photo Directory Update

You still have a chance to get your photo in the directory!

Submit a photo

1. Drop a photo and \$15.00 at the church by Monday October 9, 2023. Put in the slot near the side door of the Entrance Driveway.
2. Email an electronic photo to armand.nelson@comcast.net and drop off \$15.00 to the church, both by October 9, 2023.
3. Put in the slot near the side door of the Entrance Driveway. (Please note what the money is for)

Photo at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

NOTE: St. Michael Catholic Church in Duluth has canceled their directory.

Trunk or Treat

Kids, dress up for Halloween, stop by for treats, and vote for your favorite carved pumpkin!

The narthex will be open for refreshments and to cast contest votes.



All are welcome to pass out treats to costumed children and be sure to join the fun by dressing up your trunk and yourself! If you cannot be here to pass out treats but would like someone else to do that for you, please have your treats at the church by 4:00 PM and carved pumpkins for the contest by 4:30 PM on the 31st. Thank you!

1. The only local option is St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church at 2316 E 4th St, Superior WI on November 14-18.
2. Log in to <https://www.ucdir.com/>
3. Click on the Photo Appointment

Photography Appointment Scheduling Login "Scheduling Login" Box.

4. Enter the church code: **wi286** and the password: **"photos"** for the online registration.
5. On the online registration form, you need to add in parentheses
6. **"(walk-in mn375)"** either before or after your FIRST NAME **and** before or after your LAST NAME in the online form (two separate boxes on the form).
7. When you get your pictures taken, you need to inform the photographer that you are a "walk-in for mn375" so that the photographer sends it to our church.

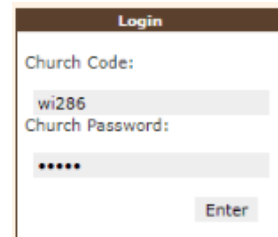


Photo at another church in another City

NOTE: St. Michael Catholic Church in Duluth has canceled their directory.

Call the company Customer Service Department at 419-522-5011 and have them look other at other places outside of Duluth where you might be and see if there is a church near where you might be to have your photos taken.

The Lake Superior Conference of WELCA Welcomes you to the Fall Gathering!

Saturday, October 21, 2023
9 AM – 2 PM

At Elim Lutheran Church 6101 Cody St.

See the FRLC boards for more

bulletin info!

Recently at FRLC

OUTDOOR WORSHIP PROJECT
THANK YOU CELEBRATION



Rally Sunday
2023



Blessing of the Backpacks



Take Note

Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank

Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank offers a variety of volunteer opportunities to get involved in their hunger-relief work. Friends and members of FRLC are invited to participate in a **food-packaging event on Wednesday, November 15th from 5:30-7:30 p.m.**



Adults and youth (minimum age 8; parent/guardian required on-site) must be able to stand, lift, bend and follow food and personal safety procedures. Closed-toe shoes are required, as well as shirts that cover shoulder and armpit areas. Clothing and jewelry should not have loose, dangling beads. See www.northernlakesfoodbank.org for volunteer information or FAQ's as well as a youth application for those under age 18.

Would you like to join us? Contact Sue Baker, 218.341.4181 or drjockmock@msn.com, with questions or to sign up. A commitment is needed no later than November 1st.

Adult Bible Study



It's not too late to check out the **Monday evening Adult Bible Study** featuring season two of “The Chosen.” The “homework” is to try and watch an episode before we talk about it, but if you cannot, no worries – come and discuss/learn anyway! Familiar bible stories come to life in this series. Meetings are in the **Fireside Room at 6:00 p.m.**

Riversong Rising



To become familiar with the songs by Riversong Rising, try searching them on YouTube before coming to church, and then you will be prepared to sing along!

FRLC Choir

FRLC Choir rehearsals are underway! We are rehearsing on **Wednesdays at 7 P.M.** Practice is usually no more than one hour.

We need and welcome new singers! No need to know how to read music, but it doesn't hurt!



Mark Your Calendars!

October 17 – American Red Cross
Blood drive Noon – 6 PM



October 31 – Trunk or Treat
4:30 – 6:30 PM



November 12 – Turkey Bingo
5:30 – 7:30 PM



You all know what great fun this is!
Prizes! Food!

November 18 – Thanksgiving Service
Followed by pie & 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!



For more information about these and other events, visit www.frenchriverlutheran.org or like us on Facebook, or call 218-525-5659.

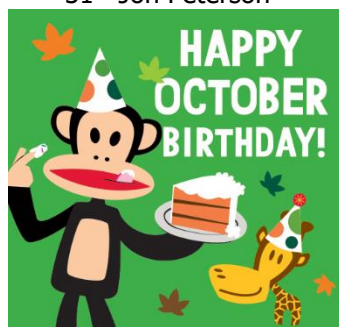
FRLC Financial Facts

August offering \$16,606
August budget \$13,744



Happy Birthday

1 Sage McCabe	23 Daniel Gustofson
1 Jason Weidemann	23 Lee Myrdal
3 Noah Korpi	23 Lacey Myrdal
3 Keith Olsen	23 Cole Myrdal
3 Ayla Wilman	23 Bradley Myrdal
4 Sheila Laiti	23 Kelsey Steinmetz
5 Harrison Haffield	24 Brita Aug
6 Steinar Anderson	24 Marlow Bakken
7 Janice Smith	24 Cassie Chura
9 Payton Anderson	25 Sirina Berntson
9 Cameron Poe-Johnson	25 Alex Ruberg
12 Theodore Braud	26 Mason Eckman
12 Karl Strom	26 Madison Eckman
13 Maureen Olson	26 Brighton Kaylor
15 Jane Aho	26 Thomas Lukkonen
17 Calvin Luhrsen	27 Juniper Hansen
17 Brian Miltakis	27 Helen Hendrickson
18 Ingrid Hanson	28 Katie Lannon
18 Calista Bergerson	29 Carly Dornfeld
19 Jason Berg	31 Jon Peterson
20 Cheryl Anderson	
20 Tracey Anderson	
20 Kristen Klos-Maki	
22 Christopher Rankila	



Happy Anniversary

1 Dave & Debbi Ruberg
3 Jonathan & Angela Braud
4 Adam & Kim Marks
7 Jeff & Carolyn Marino
7 Jeff & Toni Fladmark - Foster
7 Charles Huffman & Coral Rippberger
8 Daniel & Gerri Fuentes
8 Jacquie & Timothy Eubanks
15 Bill & Bonnie Tasky
20 Jason & Debby Tuttle



See something wrong? 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!

Lessons This Month

October 1 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

[Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32](#); [Psalm 25:1-9](#);
[Philippians 2:1-13](#); [Matthew 21:23-32](#).

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

October 8 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

[Isaiah 5:1-7](#); [Psalm 80:7-15](#); [Philippians 3:4b-14](#);
[Matthew 21:33-46](#).

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

October 15 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

[Isaiah 25:1-9](#); [Psalm 23](#); [Philippians 4:1-9](#);
[Matthew 22:1-14](#).

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungry and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

October 22 – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

[Isaiah 45:1-7](#); [Psalm 96:1-9 \[10-13\]](#);
[1 Thessalonians 1:1-10](#); [Matthew 22:15-22](#).

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

October 29 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1;

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46.

Jesus’ summary of the law in today’s gospel echoes our first reading from Leviticus. We are called not only to love God with heart, soul, and mind, but also to love our neighbor as ourselves. It is out of such deep care that Paul shares the gospel with the Thessalonian community. In the confession of sins, we acknowledge that we have not loved God, neighbor, and self; yet we gather to hear the word of forgiveness and to be strengthened by word and meal to be signs of God’s love and mercy in the world.

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
Damascus	Carol Surine 525-4426	Oct `23
Jericho	Sue Baker 218-341-4181	Nov `23
Galilee	Cheryl Moe 525-5011 Bonnie Smrstick 730-7443	Dec `23

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



French River French River Lutheran Church

MEETING MINUTES – September 12, 2023

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

2021-2024		2022-2025		2023-2026	
Sheila Laiti	P	Sue Baker	P	ArMand Nelson	P
Ken Peterson	P	Rolf Carlson	P	Dave Edblom	P
Haeli Pettis	X X			Adam Marks	P
Loren Slette	P			Others	
				Pastor Kim Sturtz Barb Jackson Lane & Zach	P P P P

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

1. **Call to order @ 7:00 PM by Rolf Carlson**
2. **Devotion:** Adam Marks
3. **Adjustment to the agenda**—a few additions were made to new business.
4. **Kindred Paths Nature School** – quarterly meeting w/ Zach and Lane
 - A. Eventually would like to update with a new and safe play structure, did apply for a grant
 - B. Apple Cider Press will be Saturday, October 14th all day, starting at 10:00 AM – open to everyone to participate, community welcome to join
 - C. Pine beetles killing some fir trees, 2 trees removed. Additional list of physical concerns given to Property Committee for advice/action.
 - D. Everyone appreciates Lane and Zach for what they do for our community with Kindred Path
5. **Devotions for council 2023**
 - A. Oct – Sheila Leppala
 - B. Nov – Rolf Carlson
 - C. Dec – Ken Peterson
 - D. Jan ‘24 – Pastor Kim
6. **Offering Counters:** *helps with communion
 - A. September 17 – Sheila* / ArMand
 - B. September 24 – Ken* / Sue
 - C. October 1 – Loren* / Dave

D. October 8 – Adam / Sheila*

E. October 15 – Haeli / Rolf*

7. Financial Report – Loren

- A. Giving above average, including a sizeable donation from a non-member.
- B. Lutheran Social Services: We have a \$250 donation that will be budgeted, it will go to their general donation fund.
- C. Approved donating \$1,030 to the Miller Hill Subaru charity fund to help families at Christmas
- D. Phil Strom asked to be replaced as the name on the E-Trade account.
 - i. Motion made by Loren Slette and seconded by Adam Marks that we make Rochelle Peterson and Jon Luikart to be the fund manager/trustee for our E-Trade Account and this will supersede all other prior fund manager/trustee assignments. Motion carried.
- E. Health insurance for Pastor Kim through MNsure insurance is not covering costs compared to Portico plan and more difficult to manage. Comparing pros and cons of plans. Deadline for renewal is mid-October.
- F. Committees need to put together 2024 budget requests by mid-October.
- G. Approved August 2023 financial reports. MSC (Sheila/Pastor Kim)
- H. Approved using the \$1,500 donated by the second Bloomquist family contribution for purchasing chairs for the fellowship hall. (ArMand/Dave)

8. Secretary's Report:

- A. Approved August's secretary's report via email on August 11th. (*majority approved plus the president*)

9. Pastor's Report – Highlights for past month

- ✓ Timber Frame PHASE 1 Done
- ✓ Fall Education to kick off Sept 17, 2023
- ✓ No Lilly Sabbatical Grant
- ✓ Baptism for Henning Schraufnagel Mouth of the French River -
- ✓ August 26th 11 am - Parents Karlie and Mason Schraufnagel
- ✓ Wedding to officiate for non-members Amy Jensen & Andrew Heifer at Pier B Oct 21, 2023 ✓ ✓
- Pastoral Visitations 10—Hospital or Home Visits: 2 in person/ 8 by phone or zoom

10. Standing Reports: **reports submitted*

- A. Discussion from committees:
 - i. Outreach committee wants to know if outdoor space has same building use policy.
 - a. Adam Marks, Pastor Kim, Sheila Leppala will review current building use policy and create a first draft for an outdoor space policy. (Look at Knife River's community center policy too.) – Either October 5th or October 12th at 6:00 P.M.
 - ii. Outreach committee hearing feedback about the change in worship time. 5 years ago, 50-50 between 9:00 and 10:00. 10:00 gives time for musicians setting up for church, giving families time to organize to church. May need to discuss and/or vote at the annual meeting.
- B. Approved standing committee reports. MSC (Sheila/Adam)
- C. 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)
- D. Mission Life Committees (*liaison: Sue Baker*)
 - i. Outreach* (Seafarers; Scholarship; Compassion/Care: CHUM, MN Foodshare, Days for Girls)
 - ii. Stewardship (Eco Faith)
- E. Operations (*liaisons: Dave Edblom, Loren Slette*)
 - i. Audit (*Carol Surine, Carolyn Marino, Kim Marks*)
 - ii. Finance*
 - iii. Property
- F. Women of French River (WOFR / WELCA) Auxiliary

G. Executive Committee (Pastor, President, VP, Secretary)

- i. Mutual Ministry (Pastor, President, Steve Berntson, Carol Surine, Kim Burke, Ken Peterson)
- ii. Staff Relations

11. Correspondence

12. Old Business

A. Sabbatical Application - original Sabbatical proposal declined

i. Part One Sabbatical Re-Proposal for 1 of the 3 months sabbatical:

- a. On August 30, Pastor Kim received a call from our Bishop Amy Odgren, in the Northeastern Minnesota Synod, in connection with our NEMN Synod Companion Synod Coordinators, Pr. Mark and Brenda Wagner, inviting me to join them on a THREE-WEEK trip to one of our Companion Synods in South Andhra, India, in January 2024.
- b. The cost of the trip - \$4,300, would be covered with \$1,800 from Synod Companion Journey Scholarship, \$2,000 from my continuing education as part of my call, and \$500 to pay on my own to journey.

ii. Part Two Sabbatical Re-Proposal:

- a. As of June 9- July 31, 2024 — Begin the second part of sabbatical. This will be a journey around to visit family in the USA that I haven't seen for years and reconnect, take a few retreats in, also take a few folk-art classes that connect back to my heritage. Would return as of the first Sunday in August 2024 to help with the final plans for the 100th Anniversary of French River Lutheran Church.

iii. Pastor has connections with pastoral friends that are willing to donate their time and mileage and rotate to cover for Weekly Pastoral Care during this time, including the need of home visits, hospital visits, or other acts of sacramental needs (examples: Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings)

iv. Pastor Kim working on plan for securing pulpit supply.

v. Approved 3-month plan for Pastor Kim's sabbatical re-proposal. MSC (Ken/Armand)

- a. Copy of full plan available upon request from the church office. Pastor Kim will be writing an article about this as well.

B. Fellowship Hall floor - Floor tiles may be installed in November.

C. Photo directory update - ArMand

- i. September 14-16 photo shoot. 72 people registers, 6 will submit photos, 8 members will get photos taken at another church.
- ii. ArMand provided many updates for the 360 database after an intensive calling campaign.

D. Outdoor Worship and Gathering Space

- i. Jon Luikart - will report on project during October meeting
- ii. Next steps include gratings and electrical.
- iii. To clarify from August minutes, the \$4,650 payment came from memorials (Millie Oberg, Arlene Fladmark, Dick & Betty Lundquist, Jeanette Jackson) designated for the OWGS.

13. New Business

A. Date for Outdoor Worship Space dedication: October 29, Reformation Sunday, after church.

14. Upcoming:

A. Council Meeting minutes email approval by Sunday, August 17th

B. Parables Deadline — revised to Friday, September 22nd

C. Executive: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 – 5:45 P.M.

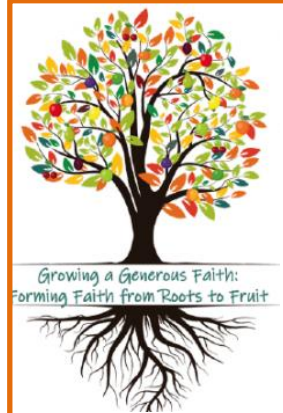
D. Finance: Monday, October 9, 2023 7:00 P.M.

E. Council: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

15. Meeting adjourned at 9/12/2023 at 8:59 P.M. MSC (Pastor Kim/ArMand)

16. Closing with The Lord's Prayer

~ Submitted by Sheila Leppala, Secretary



**FRENCH RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION**

***"Deeply rooted and built up in Christ and established in the faith, just as you are taught, to be graceful and abounding in thanksgiving."
Colossians 2:7 NRSV***

Dear Members in Christ,

2024 is the 100th anniversary of French River Lutheran, and the Stewardship Committee would like to acknowledge this milestone in our congregation's life. There is a saying that describes the life of any family joined by their faith in Christ that really feels appropriate for us this year: **"FAMILY -- like branches on a tree, we all grow in different directions, but our roots remain as one."** Our faith in Christ guides us as we grow and share what God has given to each of us.

Each year we choose Fall as the time to focus on the giving of our time, talent, and financial support to forward the work of our church at home and beyond. *The Parables* contains a Time & Talent form and an Estimate of Giving form. We ask that you consider how important the work of this congregation is to you and your family and complete both forms.

The Estimate of Giving form is crucial in creating a budget for the coming year. Our budget reflects a variety of "values" such as our pastor, office support, custodial staff, our organist, choir and bells directors, Sunday School and confirmation materials for our children and grandchildren, bible study materials, the monthly printed version of *The Parables*, support for the committees that bring activities and opportunities for us to grow our faith and strengthen our church family, and maintaining our beautiful church and grounds.

The Stewardship Committee asks you and your family to prayerfully consider what you can do to support the mission of French River Lutheran Church. We, as individuals, can do more together to fulfill God's work in our community and beyond. Please share the blessings God has given you.

Mail the Time & Talent and Estimate of Giving forms to: Financial Secretary, French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Road, Duluth MN 55804, or put them into the drop box to the right of the lower-level doors. Estimate of Giving information is kept confidential by the financial secretary; Time & Talent responses will be reviewed and sent to the proper committees. We will bless Time & Talent and Estimate of Giving forms during the 10:00 a.m. worship service October 29, 2023.

Thank you and may the blessings of God touch each and everyone.
The Stewardship Committee of FRLC

Mission of French River Lutheran Church:
To live and love as God commands, accept His grace, and share the Good News.

Date	Ushers	Lector	Communion Assistant* / Counter	Coffee Fellowship
1	Dick & Marilyn Story	Ann Rankila	Loren Slette*/Dave Edblom	Surines'
8	Jim & Sandy Dahlberg	Elda Hein	Sheila Laiti*/Adam Marks	McDonalds'
15	Doug & Lynne Compton	Joanne Kronstedt	Rolf Carlson*/Haeli Pettis	Garvers'
22	Kevin Stroom & Jacquie Eubanks	Beth Luikart	TBD	Peterson Boys
29	Sue & Steve Baker	Kay Libby	TBD	Storys'

Prayer Chain: Babs Strom 525-6200 **Coffee Fellowship:** Damascus; Carol Surine 218-525-4426 **Altar Guild:** Brita/Lynne

