First Lutheran Church

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October 1, 2019

First News

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Dates to remember:

- Youth Hangout Wednesdays @ 6:30
- LWML Oct 10th 7PM
- Parents Night Out Oct 11th 6-9 PM
- Senior Breakfast Oct 14th, at 8:00 AM
- Braille Oct 17th at 8:30 AM
- Christmas Choir Practice Tuesdays 6PM
- Bell Choir Practice Thursdays 6PM
- Trunk Or Treat Oct 26th 11am to 1 pm
- Chili Cook Of Oct 27th following service

Living Stones

By Pastor Mark Croucher

"As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

1 Peter 2:4-5

Over the last two years our journey to expand our generosity has led First Lutheran to rejoice in an abundance of God's provision and grace! Even now, as we continue to seek His will and exercise generosity as we implement our ministry goals for 2019, we celebrate and thank God for the men, women, and families who have previously and generously served their Lord at First Lutheran Church throughout our 98-year history!

As our Foundations initiative has found itself coming to completion we celebrate how it has accomplished its purpose — as a short-term vision establishing a foundation from which we, as God's people, might *"declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light." 1 Peter 2:9b*

When we began our Foundations journey we took simple stones and prepared them with our commitments, plans, hopes, dreams, fears, and joys. These stones bore our willingness to sacrifice for the Lord and others. They were tangible images reminding us of our openness to hear Jesus' call to love and serve our neighbor. These stones marked our commitments, willingness, and openness laid before the Lord in humility, sacrifice, and hope.

Now, two years later, they still remain — gathered together in the shape of a cross; a lasting display of both Christ's death which brings us salvation and His promise to build us into a spiritual house in Him.

Foundations has been a greater success than we imagined or hoped for, yet, God isn't done! Our Lord is now calling us to continue in our commitment as "living stones" placed upon this foundation He has laid within First Lutheran. While our building may receive a makeover and our fi-

(Continued on page 2)

Stewardship News

Stewardship has hosted two classes this year with huge success. Our last class for 2019 will be "Talents, Time and Treasures".

Watch next month's newsletter for more details.

Living Stones (continued)

nancial house has been put in order these blessings have always been only a metaphor, an outward picture, of the true house He has been building — us!

As Peter — the "rock," himself — said we, *"like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."* A foundation established by Jesus Christ rests beneath our feet and we have been chosen to "*declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light"* as we witness to and live out the presence of Christ in our homes, community, and world.

Our Foundations initiative may be concluding but now its time for the building.

I want to strongly encourage you to prayerfully consider your continued commitment as we collectively celebrate Foundations completion by making a renewed financial and relational commitment to see First Lutheran reach outside of ourselves into its 100th year.

still on the journey…

pmc

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH Missouri Synod

Circuit Conference Pastor Winkling

November 19th @ Trinity in in Mission

December 10th @ Beautiful Savior in Olathe

January 21st @ Bethany in Overland Park

February 18th @ Christ in Overland Park

March 147th @ Christ Our Savior in Louisburg

April 21st @ First Lutheran in Paola

Pray @ 3:02 PM

By Pastor Mark Croucher

First Lutheran is not my church. It's not your church. It's our Lord's church.

On March 2, 1921, our congregation was founded on Jesus Christ. Over the last month we have paused each day to stand on that heritage. At 3:02 PM the invitation still stands for you to join us as we pause for prayer and seek the Lord's Will for our congregation.

Remember: we are builders (1 Peter 2:4-12), we are warriors (Ephesians 6:10-18), we are *Living Stones*!

Lutheran Women's Missionary league

By Lindsay Sinclair

Our first meeting of the year was held on Thursday, September 12th, at 7:00PM in the church basement. The meeting began with prayer and devotion, followed by a video of the mission projects we will work towards through the year. The Mission Project for the evening was School Supplies Kits to be sent with our delivery in October for Lutheran World Relief. Additionally, there is a collection of soap (bar only requested,) in the narthex, to be sent with the School Kits. Members also voted and approved adopting last year's missions to this year, without change. A special mites offering was given in Judy Carlson's name in honor of her grandson, Lucas Peterson.

Our league is looking forward to another successful year in spreading God's love for others in our community, and around the world. We hope you'll join us along the way!

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, October 10th at 7:00PM: October meeting in the basement

Saturday, October 12th at 8:00AM: Fall Crossroads Event at Hope Lutheran Church in Shawnee

Sunday, October 13th: LWML Sunday – wear your Purple!

Christmas Program Choir

By Janet Bucher

There is a signup sheet for the Christmas choir on the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary. Rehearsals will be on Tuesdays, beginning October 15, at 6:00 in the balcony. We will be learning two choral pieces and a descant for Silent Night to be used at the December 15 Christmas program. My goal is at least 30 singers (!) so please make plans to join in to make this event fabulous! Questions – call or e-mail me at: jbucher@nkfirm.com or (816) 520-9073.

Christmas Children's Handchine Choir

By Janet Bucher

I'm needing about 8 to 10 children for the December 15 Christmas program to ring handchimes. There will be a Christmas reading with short bell responses rung when certain words are read. Children from age 5 and up would do just fine and it should be a fun. It really only takes the ability to keep a beat and letter recognition – there is no need to read music. We will learn a few beginning basics of the musical alphabet and note values just so the short sequences make sense. We will coordinate rehearsal times later.

Questions – call or e-mail me at: jbucher@nkfirm.com or (816) 520-9073.

LERT Training

By LCMS Kansas District LERT

October 19th, 2019
King of Kings Lutheran Church, Gardner, KS
9am to 3pm
Doors open at 8:15

Are you interested in helping out when disaster strikes? Want to respond to others with the love we have first received from Jesus? To be better prepared, please consider attending the Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) Training Session.

Training material, LCMS Disaster Response vest, lunch, and snacks will be provided
Cost: $25

Email ksddrc@gmail.com f

LWML Bake Sale Thank You

By Lindsay Sinclair

A Special THANK YOU to everyone who contributed baked goods, time, money, and hands to our Bake Sale Saturday, September 21st. The rainy day didn't detour patrons to purchase our deliciously hand crafted baked goods, at least for the early hours of the day. A rough total of $900 was raised by this event, which will help fund our mission projects throughout the year, what a blessing!

Another special THANK YOU to the handsome gentlemen, our "Honorary LWML Members" for the day that helped make our Bake Sale run smoothly. All of the women fm LWML are very apprecia-

Hillsdale Community Clean Up

By Cristy Worthington

POSTPONED DUE TO WEATHER HILLSDALE LAKE PUBLIC LANDS DAY EVENT

WHEN OCTOBER 5TH 9AM - 4PM Check-in begins at 8:30am ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, SEPT. 28TH

WHERE Hillsdale State Park 26001 255th St. Paola, KS 66071 Go to Shelter 1 by the Personal Watercraft Ramp

WHAT TO BRING Water Gloves Bug Repellent Work shoes/boots Work pants/jeans

HILLSDALE STATE PARK 913-594-3600

HILLSDALE LAKE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 913-783-4366

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

WHAT TO BRING Water Gloves Bug Repellent Work shoes/boots Work pants/jeans

Senior Speaker Series: Alzheimer's and Dementia

By Tom Perry

Saturday, October 19
10am, Mission Campus

Trinity's Senior Ministry is sponsoring a talk and discussion about Alzheimer's disease and dementia. We are extremely pleased to have Dr. Awad Ismir lead this presentation. Dr. Ismir is a Trinity member who received his B.A. degree from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota. He attended the University of North Dakota Medical and Graduate School where he obtained a Master's Degree and PhD in Clinical Psychology. He has served as Clinical Director and Director of Forensic Services at North Dakota State Hospital. Dr. Ismir wrote the North Dakota Licensing law. He has worked in private practice for several years treating primarily depression and anxiety disorders. He has served as a consultant to several agencies and nursing homes before moving to Kansas. We are excited to have Dr. Ismir with us.

Trinity is inviting area churches and the community to come participate in this important talk. Alzheimer's and dementia are something that touches every family in one way or another. It is hoped that Dr. Ismir's presentation will make us more aware of the characteristics and help in its management. There is no cost for the presentation which will be held Saturday, October 19, 10am, at Trinity's Mission campus.

If you have questions, please call the church office at 913-432-5441 or email Tom Perry at Tom@tlcms.org.

Priceless

Kansas District Youth Gathering • November 22-24, 2019

9th-12th Grade Youth join us for a fun weekend with LCMS youth from across the Kansas District as we study God's word, serve the Wichita area, and spend time in fellowship with other Kansas Youth.

We will leave after school on Friday, November 22nd and return Sunday afternoon on November 24th. We will stay at the Hyatt Regency Wichita and attend the Gathering at the convention center. It is $50 per participant to attend, registration is due November 1st. See DCE Angel Gillespie for more information.

Who: 9th-12th Grade Youth
When: November 22-24
Where: Hyatt Regency Wichita
Cost: $50

Registration Deadline November 1st

DCE Angel Gillespie dce@firstlutheran-paola.org

Fall Bazaar

By Cindy Mead

Even thought the weather did not cooperate, the show did go on. Thanks to the crafters that came out we raised $2,431. We signed up 60 vendors and most of them donated raffle prizes to help us raise a little extra. This money will be used to purchase gifts during the Christmas season. If you know of a family, organization or individual that could use a needed Christmas gift, please let us know.

The crafters asked if we would host another show before Christmas so we have scheduled …

Christmas Holiday Fair
on Saturday, November 16th
at the Fairgrounds.
We will also be
partnering with the Paola
Optimist Club
who will be hosting a fund-
raiser breakfast
for the 4H Birds of a Feath-
er Poultry Club

Stephen Ministry

By Cindy Mead

We currently have 5 individuals in training. We still have room and it's not yet too late if you would like to join in.

Individuals get 50 hours of training before becoming a Stephen Minister so if you need a Minister they will be well trained and you can feel confident that they will be caring and trustworthy. Christian Caregiving at it's best.

Trunk-or-Treat

By Cindy Mead

Cars full of candy, petting zoo,
inflatable, face painting, tattoos,
free chili. dogs and more.
Join us for a few hours of relaxing fun.
Take your time going through
the petting zoo.
Walk with your kids
as they gather
tons of candy and other goodies
and then sit down
for a free bowl of chili.
Let the kids play and just enjoy.

Trunk-or-Treat

August Financial

Total monthly offerings for August were $22,720, roughly $12,000 behind our monthly budget. So far in 2019, we are $91,000 behind on offerings. Expenses remain in line with budget. The general fund balance is $97,606.

First Lutheran's One Service Sunday

By Julie Kamprath

Soap Donations for LWML

Donations

Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) has been collecting 4 -ounce or 5-ounce bars of individually wrapped soap for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). These donation are being packed on October 7th at eleven am. For more information contact Ethel Weave

Steff Strong 5k Race

By Cindy Mead

First Lutheran's evangelism team showed up and gave out water bottles at the Steph Strong 5K last month! The runs seemed happy to have a splash of water on this muggy day.

Overall the Steph Strong Race had a great turn out. This years race was able to raise $7,500 for SOS Serving Our Students.

It was a beautiful day and we had a great time and look forward to doing it again next year.

If you would like to help with this community event contact Cindy Mead or one of the evangelism team members today.

October 2019

Acolyte Training for those family whose confirmation students have not attended acolyte training please touch base will Pastor Mark or DCE Angel Gillespie! We will be taking a few moments after 2nd service to do acolyte training. Through the month of October

October 2019

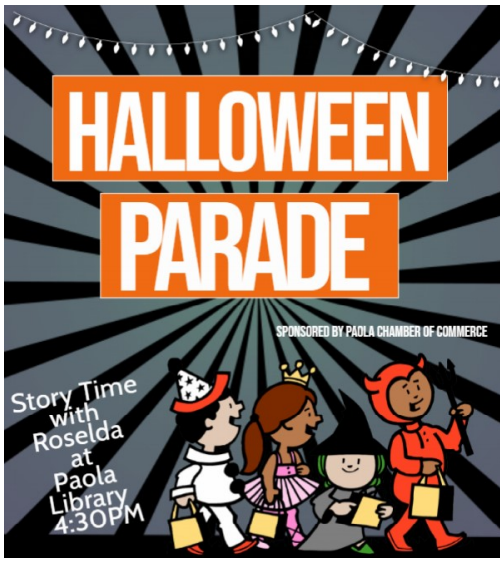
Date	Service	Senoir Worship Assistant	Service	Acolyte	Acolyte
10/6/2019	8:00	Erin Livingston	8:00	Wyatt Mock	William Mock
	10:30	Anna Kane	10:30	Ruby Kane	Zeke Croucher
10/13/2019	9:00		8:00	Brody Latto	Cale Reitinger
			10:30	Bailey Chilson	Elizabeth Schrotberger
10/20/2019	8:00	Evan Reitinger	8:00	Logan Page	Ruby Kane
	10:30	Maddie Pitzer	10:30	Amanda Pitzer	Keira McIntire
10/27/2019					
	9:00			Zeke Croucher	Braden Thoden

If you cannot acolyte on your assigned date, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF ANY CHANGES!

Paola Halloween Parade

By PCC



October 31, 2019
Paola Community
Halloween Parade

Join the community for the annual Halloween parade. Children in costume will line up on Pearl Street between Agate and Pearl at 5:30 PM. Our wonderful parade will begin at 6:00 PM

Children will parade around the Square and receive candy from participating businesses. A special treat will be handed out by the Lions Club at the end of the parade.

Don't miss out on Story Time with Roselda at the Paola Library at 4:30 PM

A special thank you to all the supporting business and community.

This event is made possible by the Paola Chamber of Commerce. For more information contact

PACA

By Gail Floyd

PACA is in need of donations for the following items:

Tuna
Pork -n- Beans
Instant Potatoes
Can Fruit
Large cans of Soup.

Annual Chili Cookoff @ FLC

By Mary Kettler

Sunday, October 27
Following Service

Welcome Fall and cooler temps! Chili weather. That means it's time for FLC's 2nd annual Chili Cook-off!
The date is set for October 27th. This will be a one service Sunday so we can also celebrate Reformation Sunday as a whole congregation family. We'll have 2 chili winners, People's Choice and Judge's Choice. Winners will receive a custom apron and $25 gift cert.

We are looking for at least 10 entries. Must be a full crock pot of your best chili recipe. We'll have a sign up sheet in the Narthex. We are also looking for judges so let me or anyone on Family Ministry know if you are interested. Right after service we'll hold the LIVE Dessert Auction as a fund raiser for the youth. Matt Brandt will be our Auctioneer. All desserts are welcome! There will also be pumpkins to decorate during the meal. We are looking forward to some fun and fellowship together! A Thrivent card is being donated by Virgil & Patricia Lyons for this event and we thank them!

Blocktoberfest September 21

By Trinity Lutheran Church, Paola

Ach du lieber! You are invited to enjoy the seventh annual "Blocktoberfest" at Trinity, Paola, so named because the church is located in the former rural community of "Block." Each year over 1,000 people gather for this festival on our beautiful 42-acre campus, 30 minutes south of Overland Park. This FREE event will be held on Saturday, September 21, from noon to 6pm. The event features fun activities for the whole family, including lots of children's games and rides, and a festival tent with a professional polka band. Available for purchase is a German dinner with homemade bierocks, and a selection of beverages in our beer garden, with proceeds helping our youth attend the National Youth Gathering. For directions see trinity-lcms.org/directions and for photos of the fun from previous years see trinity-lcms.org/photos. Take a

trip to the country for a "wunderbar" time celebrating our German heritage—and having fun!

LLL Zone 3 Fall Rally

By Fred Gruhn

September 29

King of Kings Lutheran Church
306 East Madison
Gardner, KS

King of Kings Lutheran Church will serve as the host for the Lutheran Laymen's League Zone 3 Fall Rally the afternoon of Sunday, September 29. Registration begins at 12:30pm with the meal and festivities beginning at 1pm. Our featured speaker will be Sheri Jones, who will be presenting a talk about the Kansas District's Comfort Dog ministry. A free-will offering will be accepted and proceeds will go to support the Kansas LLL District Project, which provides scholarships for future church workers. Please contact Fred Gruhn (913) 209-2785 or fredgruhn@gmail.com to RSVP by September 25. We hope to see you there!

First Lutheran Youth Fundraising

By Mary Kettler

Blocktoberfest

The Youth drink stand at Blocktoberfest was a success in spite of the rainy day. We had enough water left to donate back to Trinity for their lunch the following day as well as several cases for church use. Leftover pop will be available for sale during the Chili-cookoff! We thank Jonathan & Julie Kamprath for donating a Thrivent Card to purchase the pop, water, tea, lemons and sugar. Our ice was donated by Steve Windler and also Dennis & Ella Hinman.

.

Therefore encourage one another...

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Birthdays

Kim Jackson
Jason Lake
Lester England
Jeffrey Lake
Shawn Miller
Julia O'Dell
Grant Reinking
Chris Kane
Russell Pope
Destiny Cole
Norlene Medlin
Brendan Ohlmeier
Sheryl Giebler
Lance Harra
Suzanne Karigan
Tonya Kirst
Wesley Reitinger
Anita Medlin
Adam Herron
Dominic Escobar
Trinity Gillespie
Gerald Thompson
Mike Ewing
Jonathan Kamprath
Duaine Miller
Carter Stanchfield
James Thomas
Mitchell Oberg
Samantha Oberg
Rose Simons
Ray England
Makayla Pope
Rylan Armbruster
Matthew Chilson
Zoe Fletcher
Ruth Simons
Robin Hanson
Preston McKinney
Nikki Bates
Logan Latto
Ivy Male
Judith Whitworth
Rebecca Windler
Charles Craig
Mark Croucher
Ryan Miles
Christopher Courtney
Justin Diehm
Gregg Hammon
John McCammon
Arlene Peck
Debra Anthony
Brandy Foulk
Mark Kettler
Jaden Knecht
Brooke Medlin
Mia Page
Daniel Welch
Elijah Bysfield
John Hinman
Sandra McRoy
Samantha Poetter
Chrissy Diehm
William Reekie
Richard Sinclair Theodore Hambleton
Robert White Christopher Franklin
Amy Walmann
Michael Weil
Kaiya Ory
Matthew Brandt
Gerald Prothe
Quenton Stilson
Helen Tagler
Teresa Franklin Christopher Jackson
Noah Stringham

Anniversaries

Lovekamp, Cindy & Emmons, Richard
Simpson, Justin & Jacque
Prothe, Roger & Clarene
Hinman, Dennis & Ella
Chronister, Rick & Jane
Stanchfield, Colby & Buffy
Walker, Larry & Shirley
Ory, Joab & Amanda
Ohlmeier, Corey & Michelle
Flake, Joe & Cathy
Erwin, Kevin & Donna
Thomas, James & Diane

Prayers

Our Members

Mel Brown; Alvin & Martha Brunkhardt; Kathy Courtney; Jane Chronister; Jane Drugg; LeRoy Elliott; Ottlin Hass, Irene Hodge; Matt Klawonn; Bob Medlin; Norman Minden; Ron & Brenda Prothe; Gail Sawyer; Marjorie Smith; Helen Webster; Dale Windler;

Expecting Parents

Justin and Autumn Diehm
Kelsie Bohn and Cale Karigan

Family & Friends

Ed Albin; Paul Argeropoulos; Stella Beard; Rob Beck; Diana Bhamgara; Rodney Brandt; Casey Brown; Diana Brown; Milton & Janice Capps; Heather Cardin; Donald Davis; Bill Dempsay; Grace Donham; Jim Donner; Aspen Espey and family; Patty Fouts; Jerrie Frizzel; Larry Gary; Mary Ginkel; Grant Haley; Nikki Harrison; Rob, Suzy & Slater Hedrick; Lisa Hunter; Win Jordan; Landon Kletke; Samantha Kriesel; Jacob Larsen; Richard Larson; Martin Lohaus; Keith Lovan; Robby Manthei; Jackie McGann; Peggy McVey; Damian Mekonnen: Bill and Linda Mobley; Betty Morris; Chrissy Newcom; Joe Peterson; Tony Reese; Chris Rodendauth; Heather Ryan; Dottie Salchow; Stender Family; Doris Surbaugh; Ellie Teagarden; Dan Thompson; Val Tribble; Valentena Upton; Joyce Wassmer; John Weaver; Mary Windisch; Ruth Youngblood

Missionaries

Herron family; Rev. Matthew & Kali Wood and family

Anniversaries and birthdays are listed from September 25 - October 8. If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please contact the church office.

Classes

October 6th & 13th @9:15 AM

Have you been visiting First Lutheran, and thinking about making First your church home? Come find out more about what it means to join as we Know. Grow. Show. Jesus to the community. Contact PMC:

pastormark@firstlutheran-paola.org

First Lutheran Church

Phone: 913-294-3476
PMC: Pastormark@firstlutheran-paola.org
Office: Office@firstlutheran-paola.org

Firstlutheran-paola.org

First News

Submit articles to: office@firstlutheran-paola.org First News is published on the first of each month.

The next deadline is October 15 at noon.

First Lutheran Paola KS

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913.731.0673 (call/text) pastormark@firstlutheran-paola.org

D.C.E. Angel Gillespie dce@firstlutheran-paola.org
913.594.0565 (call/text)

Kris Fuchs, SonShine Preschool, Director
913.294.5925 (preschool office) sonshinepaola@gmail.com

Jody Brown, Support Staff
913.294.3476 (church office) jbrown.tls@gmail.com

Nursery

A professionally staffed nursery for ages six months to three years is available during most worship services and Sunday School.