

#### **Welcome Interim Pastor Rick Nelson**

Pastor Rick has over thirty years of experience as a parish pastor and has, over the past ten years, served as a consultant of churches/non-profits. He has served congregations in Oregon, California, Montana, Arizona, Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin. Pastor Rick's doctorate is in organizational leadership, and his research and dissertation was in happiness studies, entitled: "The Flourishing Life: Habits and Attitudes of Happy Pastors." He is a trained and certified Intentional Interim pastor, accompanying congregations in times of transition as their pastor and consultant while they process and prepare for their next chapter of ministry, and in welcoming their next settled pastor.

He and his wife, Kristen—also a pastor—reside in the Twin Cities area of MN, along with their youngest daughter, Lucy, and their two dogs, Joe and Fiona. Together, they have six children and 7 grandchildren scattered about the country—most of their vacation time is spent visiting them. Pastor Rick loves to golf, read, play guitar, most sports and together, he and Kristen enjoy great food, live entertainment, golfing, movies, and most anything on or near water!



I am so glad to be serving here alongside of you and look forward to working towards the marvelous future that God has in store for First, and to discover—with the Spirit as guide and inspiration—who your next settled Pastor will be. In the rather short time we will be together, I look forward to living with you into your wonderful vision: Praising God, and Loving God's People!

Pastor Rick

# Rally Sunday!



September 12th

Volume 120— Issue 9 September 2021

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Volume 120, No. 9 1 September 2021

#### A Message from your Council President

#### President's Letter to the Congregation. Salt and Light, Let's Get to Work!

Matthew 5:13-16: <sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that <sup>19</sup> they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

#### What are the properties of Salt and Light when taking God's Word to the World?

Salt (halite) is a mineral compound naturally found in earth and interstitially in rock. Volcanic gasses contain the highest concentrations of salt, combining with water in the atmosphere and ultimately concentrating in the oceans by rain. As carbon dioxide in the air also dissolves into rainwater, the rain becomes acidic, weathering and eroding salt from rock. The fresh water takes up the salt and flows to lakes and oceans where it concentrates. As sea basins have evaporated, beds of salt are left in the rock and earth where they are mined or when exposed again journey to the seas and oceans.

In Biblical times salt is used metaphorically to signify properties of permanence, loyalty, durability, fidelity, usefulness, purification and healing. Salt had intrinsic value, was used as currency and to pay wages. The effectiveness of a Christian relative to salt is based on these properties: As you read these, think of the metaphor in your Christian life.

- Salt is a Biblical symbol of permanence and endurance.
  - ♦ Salt is viewed as never changing. You can dissolve it in water, but when you remove the water, it is back to salt.
  - ♦ Salt was used as a covenant in the Bible, referring to the preservative nature of a friendship or obligation.
- Salt is used to flavor and to heal.
  - Salt is found in concentrated form, but does no valuable work until a small part of it is used.
  - ♦ For salt to flavor food, it has to be in physical contact with the food. Too much salt and you spit it out.
  - For salt to preserve food, it has to be in physical contact with the food. Salt preserves food by drawing the water out of bacteria cells in the food, desiccating and killing it. Metaphorically killing sin.
  - Salt helps make fermented foods like sauerkraut. Salt draws out the water from the cabbage, killing harmful bacteria and allowing beneficial bacteria (Lactobacilli) to grow. (I happen to like homemade sauerkraut.)
  - A salt water solution is used for cleaning wounds. Concentrated salt in the wound hurts.
- Salt can be corrupted.
  - ♦ Salt is contained in a "cellar", a 15th century word for a container to keep it pure and dry, separated. The church is like a cellar, where God protects and adds to your salt. You are sent into the world a shake at a time.
  - ♦ Salt can be contaminated with other minerals, making it taste bland or unpleasant. In Biblical times, contaminated salt that no longer tasted good was used to spread on the roads to kill vegetation. If ALL your salt is in the world, separated from God, you become like the world, contaminated, bland and unpleasant.
  - ♦ Salt is a mineral compound of sodium and chlorine that when separated under stress (electrolysis) becomes highly reactive and poisonous. Good people can become like salt separated into its unpleasant components.
  - When salt is diluted too much, it loses its effectiveness as a preservative, and for flavor.
  - When salt is separated from water or food, it no longer has an influence.

In summary, salt in the cellar sitting on the table (or on a church pew) does no work. It just looks pretty. Salt has to get out of the cellar and into the world, a <u>little at a time</u>. When your salt flavors and preserves the world, life tastes better and the sin of the world is taken away. As salt, we are to be like the light on the hill, influencing the world around us. The mission of FELC is Praising our God, Loving His People. We worship and then we get to work.

#### End of Summer schedule:

- End up the summer. Fellowship before and after church. I encourage the Council, Committee and Team chairs to mingle and talk. Get to know the people you represent.
- September 12: Rally day. Commissioning and kick off of fall schedule, ministries, teams, etc. After church is a Town Hall format discussion on the Sr. Pastor Call Committee.
- September 19: Fall classes: K-6 in the education wing, 7-12 and adults in the Fellowship Hall with Divine Drama.

Your Council President, Harlan F. Lerum II

#### Youth



Hi everyone! My name is Morgan Pralle and I am the Youth Director here at FELC.

Here is a little information about me... in 2016, I went to college at Concordia University, Nebraska (in Seward) and technically graduated in 2020 and 2021! I majored in Christian Educational Leadership (w/DCE Certification) and Behavioral Science. In 2020, I married my high school sweetheart, Jacob, who is currently serving at St. John Lutheran Church in town for his DCE internship. I am originally from Rochester, MN so I have not always been around the area. However, I am really enjoying the mountainous view and beautiful weather. God sure knows how to decorate!

This position gives me the opportunity of serving God by serving the congregation and youth at FELC. Yay! Some of my duties include working with the youth group (6th-12th), communication, and coordinating events. Youth are so important and critical to growing God's kingdom and I am so glad that I can show them just that by doing what I do. I am so excited to develop new relationships here within your congregation!

Contact me anytime: morganpralle@firstlc.com or 507.358.2733

# Confirmation

#### **Confirmation Orientation**

with Pastor Rick for all incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and those continuing on—or joining in—who are in 8<sup>th</sup> grade...

Wednesday September 15, 7pm in the confirmation room (#2). Come and find out what the program will be, when we'll be meeting for learning and discussion, and also meet out new Youth Director, Morgan.

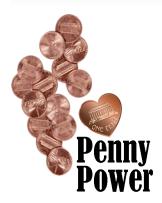
#### Important Confirmation Meeting with Pastor Rick, Wednesday, September 1st, 7pm

for kids/parents who are

CONTACT MORGAN PRAILE (YOUTH COORDINATOR) FOR QUESTIONS: MORGAN PRAILE (YOUTH COORDINATOR) FOR QUESTIONS: MORGAN PRAILE @FERSTLC.COM

completing confirmation or who are in 9<sup>th</sup> grade or older and want to be confirmed. We will discuss finishing steps, ways to complete and prepare for Confirmation Day, which will be at worship on Reformation Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, at our 10:15am worship. You can also meet our new Youth Director, Morgan, that evening and learn about youth group programming for the upcoming year!

#### **Missions**

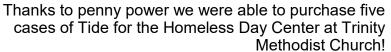


From our Mission funds and **July**Penny Power contributions we will
purchase a needed generator for
Habitat for Humanity. Thank you
kids for helping us accomplish this.

**August** Penny Power funds will be used to buy school supplies to fill the backpacks of kids going back to school who need a little help.

Senior Citizen Meals on Wheels is

the focus for **September** Penny Power. Providing no cost meals to home bound seniors is something you kids can be proud of. Thank you.





The Village, a foster care closet in Blackfoot, requested help in sorting the many bags of donated clothing. Fern Jones, Bobbi Finlayson and Carole Mason volunteered to help with this project. The Village covers 16 counties, over 330 foster children from north of Rexburg to as far south as the state line. We were glad to be a part of this wonderful service.



#### Missions Continued

#### Are you ready for some football!?

Our church is so excited to kick off the upcoming football season, and we are so proud of our two members who are also high school football coaches, Scott Berger at Skyline High School, and Armando Gonzalez at Rigby High School. These two teams will play against one another on September 10th, and we would love to show our support with a "Football Fellowship" happening on September 5th. Wear your school colors (blue for Skyline or maroon for Rigby), show some team pride, and join us after church for football-themed treats!



Thanks to everyone who donated food to the Community Food Basket! Donations are always down during summer months so we were glad we could help out at the Food Basket!



## Are you looking for an activity that gives back to the community?

We are looking for volunteers to help with the weekend food backpack program!
We are specifically looking for volunteers to help deliver food backpacks

throughout the school year. The backpacks are picked up on Wednesday morning and delivered to four elementary schools in District 93. It is roughly a two-hour time commitment per week. We are aiming for four teams (two people per team), and you would only have to deliver backpacks once per month. You can either bring a friend with whom you would like to spend two hours in a car, or you can load some podcasts and spend some time alone in the car as you help us to provide this important service to elementary school students! We hope you consider contributing your time to this important cause.

If you would like more information on this program, please contact me at bate.kare@gmail.com

#### **Humanitarian Center NEEDS!**

The Humanitarian Center has asked for our help! They are requesting donations of clean used or new makeup bags and feminine hygiene products. These will be used to make emergency feminine hygiene kits for the middle schools and junior high and high school counselor offices. Please drop off donations at the church office.

#### Worship Assistant Schedule

DATE	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS & LITURGISTS	GREETERS	USHERS & COORDINATORS # = Coordinator	COUNTERS	ALTAR GUILD
Sep 5	Judy Sahr, Kim Bermensolo	Elaine Harris,	Jim Sahr#	Lisa Swenson	Debra Holst
10:15 am		Kathy Reisenburg	Lisa Swenson, Scott Berger	Alicia Coburn	Cathi Bean
Sep 12	Debra Hogg, DiAnn Brown	Jan Galbraith,	Gary Holst#	Phil & Tessa	Debra Holst
10:15 am	Steve Galbraith (liturgist)	Mary Pilkington	Phil Forbord, Paul Worth	Forbord	Cathi Bean
Sep 19	Shawn Cleverly, Bev Thomas	Anne Mitchell,	Greg Dornfeld#	Paul Bayless	Debra Holst
10:15 am		Bev Novak	Ryan Dixon, Greg Stultz	Andy Wentzel	Cathi Bean
Sep 26	Linda Lerum, Carole Mason	Diane Sheldon,	Dave Sheldon#	Greg & Kathy	Debra Holst
10:15 am		Sheryl Schaffer	Herm Hackman	Katainen	Cathi Bean

#### **Announcements**



**Friend In Stitches** invites you to come sew with them, every Friday from 1:00 pm -4:00 pm. Work on your own projects. We are there to help each other. Let's share in fellowship. Friends and Stitchers.

# DAVID vs GOLIATH JESUS vs SATAN YOU vs ??? THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S!

COMING THIS FALL... for women beginning Wednesday September 15th 2:00-3:00 pm. No previous study required; no homework; no tests. A different story each week. Plan to attend.



#### A message from our Librarian

Please come and visit your Church Library located in the Lounge. Each month a book will be reviewed from the many new books that have been added to the library from a Grant received from the Church Endowment Fund. The White Binder by the Book Return Basket lists all the available books by category, author and title. If you need help please ask Patti McDonald (208) 709-9275. When you take a book please use the sign-out sheet located in the book return basket.

#### A BOOK REVIEW FROM YOUR CHURCH LIBRARY MOUSE

"Courageous" by Dr. Robert Jeffress. "Courageous" explains ten Biblical strategies for surviving and thriving in a world that is hostile to our faith. If you felt your faith is under attack, if you're struggling with the temptation to follow the crowd despite Biblical teaching to the contrary, or if you're just feeling weary, the ten strategies in "Courageous" will provide fresh fire and hope. It's one thing to say we have faith and another thing entirely to know how to live out that faith! Dr. Jeffress helps us understand how to put our faith into real action in our lives.



God's Word - a book for all ages



#### FELC will be having a yard sale again!

It is scheduled for the first Saturday of May, which is historically the day we have it. The week prior we will take clean, sale-able items and would also love help during the whole week and the sale. This is a heads up since we haven't had it for 2 years, but for now it is on the back burner, look for more details in March.

#### Announcements Continued

# CONGREGATIONAL TOWN HALL With New Call Committee September 12th at 11:30



Men's Ministry
Mark Your Calendar
Friday - Sunday
October 8th - 10th

Men's Retreat at Old Faithful Christian Ranch

#### **TOWN HALL MEETING**

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this special Town Hall meeting: Rally Day, Sunday, September 12, we'll begin about 11:30am - 12:30 am (1 hr. duration) in the Fellowship Hall. This will include an update from the Call Committee and feature some time for discussion led by Pastor Rick: reflection and input on the history, current needs, and future hopes/vision of FELC. Come and participate in the call process! Lunch is provided and there will be activities for kids during the meeting.





Friday September 24th
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
First Lutheran Church
Snacks and drinks provided
Hope you can join the fun!

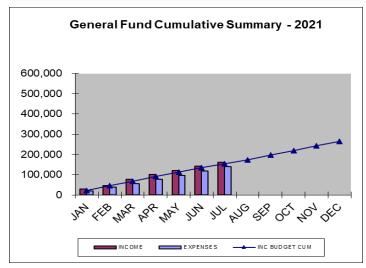
Call Patti Chapin 208-351-7537 or Anne Mitchell 208-221-8000

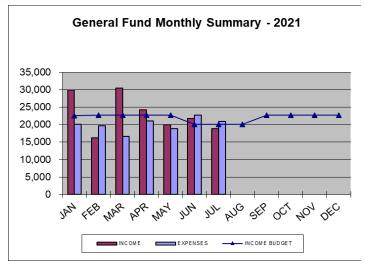
### Divine Drama part 2

Beginning on Rally Day, September 12th, at the 9am Christian Ed hour the adults (including Confirmation and High School age students) will gather in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Rick as leader. Utilizing the second section of *The Divine Drama*, titled *Our Narrative*, together we will take a look at the key themes and teachings of the Christian faith such as Baptism, the Trinity, Sin and Grace, Worship, Prayer, and much more. No Bible Study experience needed—just an open heart and mind. Please join us every and any week you can! Books are available in the church office. Cost is \$25.00. Extra workbooks are \$5.00 each.

Pastoral Acts officiated by Pastor Fred Grundmann New Members welcomed into membership 8-1-2021 Evelyn Mac Pherson and Margaret Contor

#### **Finance**





<b>Current Month:</b>	July	
Current Month II	18,806.02	
<b>Current Month E</b>	20,969.32	
Differe	nce	(2,163.30)

Budget Comparison 2021		
Year to Date Income		161,274.05
Year to Date Budget		153,521.00
Difference		7,753.05

Year to Date Income	161,274.05
Year to Date Expenses	139,840.21
Difference	21,433.84

#### Worship and Music

#### **Calling All Singers and Ringers!**



Greetings to all! Rehearsals for the **Grace Note** (mixed adult) and **King's Men** (men) choirs will begin on Sunday, September 12th. If you are planning on singing, or just want to try it to see how it goes, either contact Michelle Hanson (208-542-6256) or surprise her by being at rehearsal.

The **For His Glory Ringers** handbell choir will begin rehearsing on Tuesday, September 14th. Newcomers are always welcome, even if you have never played bells before. If you are interested, either contact Paul Bayless (208-569-8877) or surprise him by coming to rehearsal.



#### Worship Assistants Are Needed!!!

Our supply of worship assistants (liturgists, communion assistants, ushers, greeters, altar guild) is getting low; I don't know about you, but I'm getting tired of seeing the same people all the time. Retirements and people leaving the church have particularly impacted the liturgist corps. Currently, on a Sunday morning we need two greeters, three ushers, one liturgist, one communion assistant, and two altar guild members; when we get back to communion at the railing, one more communion assistant and one more altar guild member will be needed. (There are also one or two people doing the live-streaming.) More information and training on any of the positions is available. If you can help, please contact either the church office (208-522-9301) or Paul Bayless (208-569-8877).

It would also be helpful to have a few more people to help with streaming our Sunday morning worship service. There are things that can be done during the week, in addition to running the system during worship. If you are interested, again please contact either the church office or Paul Bayless.

#### Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
For the most up-t please refer to ou www.firstl	Prayer/Lounge 7:00 PM Confirmation Meeting	2 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Team Meeting	3 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Friends in Stitches/ Fellowship Hall	4		
5 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM FOOTBALL Fellowship Hour/ Fellowship Hall	6 Labor Day Office Closed	7 9:00 AM Happy Stitchers	Prayer/Lounge	9 Preschool Orientation/ Fellowship Hall 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group 6:30 PM Finance Meeting/Lounge	10 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Friends in Stitches/ Fellowship Hall	11
9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Choir Practice 9:00 AM Youth Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM Town Hall Meeting with New Call Committee/Fellowship Hall Lunch Provided 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Youth Group/ Youth Room	13 9:30 AM Staff Meeting/ Lounge 6:30 PM Property Team Meeting 7:00 PM Council Meeting/ Fellowship	14 9:00 AM Happy Stitchers 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Care & Concern Meeting 1:00 PM Preschool 6:00 PM Bell Practice	1:00 PM Preschool 1:00 PM Women in Prayer/Lounge 2:00 PM Women's Bible Storying/ Lounge 7:00 PM	16 9:00 AM Preschool 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 1:00 PM Preschool 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Team Meeting	17 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Friends in Stitches/ Fellowship Hall	18 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Tops Fall Rally/ Fellowship Hall
Team Chair Annual Reports due to Office 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Choir Practice 9:00 AM Youth Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour/Fellowship Hall 11:30 AM King's Men 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Youth Group/Youth Room	9:30 AM Staff Meeting/ Lounge	21 9:00 AM Happy Stitchers 9:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Happy Stitchers' Bible Study 1:00 PM Preschool 6:00 PM Bell Practice	1:00 PM Preschool 1:00 PM Women in Prayer/Lounge 2:00 PM Women's	23 9:00 AM Preschool 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 1:00 PM Preschool 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group	24 NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE (12 Noon) 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Friends in Stitches 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Game Night/ Fellowship Hall	25 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM Champs Heart Fund- raising/ Fellowship Hall and Green space, 4:00-8:00
9:00 AM Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Choir Practice 9:00 AM Youth Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 AM Fellowship Hour/Fellowship Hall 11:30 AM King's Men 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Youth Group/Youth Room	27 9:30 AM Staff Meeting/ Lounge	28 9:00 AM Happy Stitchers 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Preschool 6:00 PM Bell Practice	1:00 PM Preschool 1:00 PM Women in Prayer/Lounge	30 9:00 AM Preschool 10:00 AM Kaffeeklatsch 1:00 PM Preschool 3:45 PM TOPS - Weight Loss Group	For the mup-to-date explease referwebpage	events to our e @



#### Thanks & Prayers

Dear Friend of Champ's Heart - You bring joy!

For the past three years now, on almost every Thursday and Saturday, more than 70 children with special needs, and their families, join us for a full day of horse rides. These rides



are amazing. The interaction between a child with special needs and a horse is magical. And something very special happens.

For some kids, it's the first time they have smiled all week. For others, like Kaiden, a 6-year-old boy with autism and ADHD, it is the only time in the week where his mind is at ease. When Kaiden is riding, his anxiety calms down and he is able to get his stress under control.

Believe me, that's joy for him, his parents, and his siblings. His mom writes...

"With Champs Heart, we don't have to worry about Kaiden having another stressful day, because his routine is set and secure. He gets to be with the people he loves, doing what he loves."

Yes! That's what your gift does - it gives children who desperately need it, the healing touch of a horse and a smile to their face. And because of your support, families can actually afford to have their kids in our program. All of their rides are free!

Thank you so much for your generous and heartfelt gift of \$500! You are bringing joy to so many lives through your thoughtfulness. Thank you!

Larry Cudmore,

Founder of Champs Heart

#### Dear Folks.

I hope all of you are doing well during these trying times.

Thank you for your donation toward Michael's work with Lutheran Bible Translators. After working so long in

Africa, it has really hit home how important it is to get the bible translated into the local languages, so that the people can truly understand it.

Blessing,

Jolina Megahan

#### Dear First Lutheran.

Thank you for helping us serve our community with your donation of \$1200.00.

You are appreciated,

Senior Citizens Community Center Inc.

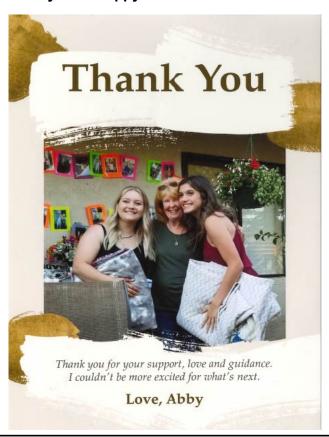
#### REACHING OUT WITH OUR PRAYERS AND CONCERN FOR...

#### Those who are ill:

- Brent Thyssen (Ellie Lerum's Dad)
- Greg Davis (Jim Sahr's nephew)
- Dorothy Sowa (Bev Novak's mom)
- Steve (Julie Sundberg's brother)
- Debbie Brown (DiAnn Brown's sister-in-law)
- Bobby Jo Stiener (Elaine Harris's cousin)
- Tracy Jensen (Sheryl & Jim Schaffer's sister-in-law)
- Laura Hundley, (Dave and Diane Sheldon's daughter)
- Amber Kelsey Polk, (Cal Miller's granddaughter)
- David Douglas, (Bev Novak's brother)
- Mickey Kunnary, (Elaine Harris's niece)
- Luann & Dan Lance, (Cal Miller's sister & brother-in-law)
- Amy Schmutz, (Carole Mason's friend)
- Kaye Peoples
- Dieter Tretzen
- Tina Townsend
- Priscilla Rainey
- Jean Lysfjord
- Kay Sawyers
- Mark Reisenburg
- Jo Glissendorf
- Barb Hayes
- Debbie Holden

Friends and family serving in the military: Andrew Mitchell, Marc Schoonmaker, Tyler Donnelly, Adam Craig, Keith Evans, Mike Stultz, Skylar Hudman, TJ Litteer, Garrett Marchington, Kyle Skeen, Thomas Butler, Jorden Butler, Alton Helm, Eric Gratzke, Mike Monroe, Jody Townsend, Breanna Townsend Craig Bukowski, Michael Smith, Jack Hogan.

#### Thank you to Happy Stitchers for Senior Quilt



Crosswalk is a publication of First Evangelical Lutheran Church 455 West Sunnyside Road

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Website: www.firstlc.com







Sunday Worship Schedule
9:00 am Adult Bible Study
10:15 am In-Church Worship & Church Live @firstlc.com



#### **Office Hours**

#### Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Friday Closed

Interim Pastor
Church Administrator
Youth Director
Bookkeeper
Financial Secretary
Director of Christian Preschool
Rick Nelson
Heide Larsen
Morgan Pralle
Greg Stultz
Martha Wentzel
Barbara Carlson

Put news items for the *Crosswalk* in the "Newsletter" box at the church office OR e-mail items to: office@firstlc.com

		First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel	Festival
SUNDAY	Sep 5	Isaiah 35:4-7a	Psalm 146	James 2:1-17	Mark 7:24-37	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
SCRIPTURE LESSONS	Sep 12	Proverbs 1:20-33	Psalm 19	James 3:1-12	Mark 8:27-38	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
	Sep 19	Proverbs 31:10-31	Psalm 1	James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	Mark 9:30-37	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
	Sep 26	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29	Psalm 19:7-14	James 5:13-20	Mark 9:38-50	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost