



Issue 6

Volume 33



# First Lutheran Church, Plano, IL

## The Anchor



**Pastor's Letter** Members and friends of First Lutheran: I pray that this note finds you well in body, mind and spirit. But if it does not, may the peace of Christ be with you. We have moved as a church from the virus being something that is distant and not prevalent in our communities to a place where people personally know someone who has the virus and members of the congregation knowing personally someone who has lost their lives due to the pandemic. The church also at this time is challenged by how to respond and how best to be a community when we are separate. There is not one right answer to this question. Here is a brief list of some of my convictions that have become stronger through this to help with your reflection during these times.

### June Readings >>>

**June 6**

- Ephesians 1:1-14

**June 13**

- Ephesians 2:11-22

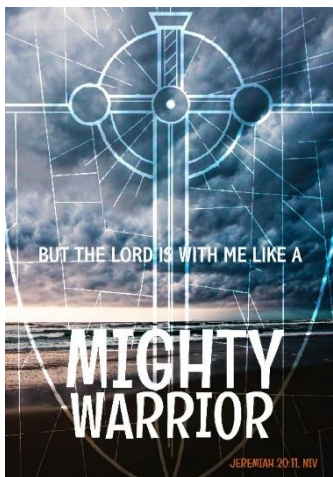
**June 20**

- Ephesians 4:1-16

**June 27**

- Ephesians 6:10-20

1. It is better to err on the side of caution. If these times were only about myself then I would decide for myself what risks I am willing to take. But any risk I take, does not affect only me. Our society has been becoming more self-focused over time and to assert the value of community is a unique opportunity. The Christian witness has always placed a high value on community.
2. That being said, I pray that more people will come to realize the value of community. Various churches are doing wonderful things with Zoom and Facebook and all sorts of other mediums. The response for many is basically this. It has been wonderful and important and provided for us for some of our needs, but, it is not a substitute for community. There is something about live music, there is something about being present together for the hearing of the word and the sharing of the sacraments that can not be replaced in any way. The value of a shared community is unique in our day and age and we pray more people will find greater value in it and more commitment to be present in the gathering.
3. The Spirit is alive and at work. Many people have offered to do something small or large. Many people want to help in some way. That people are willing to serve is for me a sign of God's spirit at work during this time.
4. And maybe this is the most important conviction of all. Light comes after darkness. Morning comes after evening. Light always outshines darkness. So, when you feel you are in the darkness, watch for the light. It will come and it will be glorious. The darkness of Good Friday led to Easter. The light of Easter did not look the same as the world before Good Friday. Nothing was the same, but the light was there, and it shined to every corner of the world.



I don't know about tomorrow  
I just live for day to day  
I don't borrow from the sunshine  
For it's skies may turn to gray

I don't worry o'er the future  
For I know what Jesus said  
And today I'll walk beside Him  
For He knows what lies ahead

Many things about tomorrow  
I don't seem to understand  
But I know who holds tomorrow  
And I know who holds my hand



**Congratulations to Jim and Kathy Porter at the birth of their granddaughter Elise Christine weighing 9lbs 9oz. Proud parents are Christine and Alex Porter**



Aden Baker - Oswego High school.



Shannon Tierney - BA Political Science and International Studies, Rhodes College



Erik Tierney- JD, University of Wisconsin Law School

### Our Grieving Hearts

**We as a Church family have experienced heavy losses since April and we offer our deepest sympathies to:**

**Dan & Lisa Mytnik in the loss of Lisa's father Edward Rollo on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Dennis & Sheila Harmon in the death of Dennis' mother Catherine Harmon of Bria of Geneva, IL on April 28<sup>th</sup>.**

**The family and First Lutheran friends of Beverly Vilmin who passed from death to eternal life on May 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**And to Valerie Lincoln and 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran friends of Marty Lincoln who rested in the arms of Jesus on May 7<sup>th</sup>.**

## JUNE Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Abigail Papaeliou
- 2 Taylor Corrado
- 4 Jane Hyte & Anne Sears
- 6 Grady Phillips, Levi Baker & Marshal Savitski
- 12 Linda Landis
- 13 Laura Smith
- 15 Elianna Black
- 17 Leon Dettman & Melissa Murre
- 18 Kathy Hamlin & Andrew DeBolt
- 19 Laura Agajanian & Paige Gillman
- 21 Melissa Corrado & Greg Johnson
- 22 Maggie Benoit & Emily Baker
- 23 William Brown
- 25 Melissa Phillips
- 30 Jim Wehrs

- 1 Virgil & Jane Hyte
- 2 Todd & Lydia Boring, Mark & Doris Fowler & Jeff & Ruth Ann Hoehn
- 6 Erik & Becky Englehart
- 17 Rex & Katelyn Vahl
- 19 Dave & Cindy Maaske
- 22 Dennis & Sheila Harmon
- 26 Floyd & Sherry Anderson
- 30 Laura & Conrad Smith

### Please Pray For:

Paul & Cindy Alsup, Sherry Anderson, Lori Black, Alice Crawford, Sue Hyte, Sherry Ill, Linda Landis, Karla Reinbolt and Wilma Simms

## STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

Shortly after the “Shelter in Place” went into effect and we were asked to begin wearing masks we had some amazing women step up and begin making masks. The project started with Lena Triantafillou, daughter of our member Joan. She started making masks for her co-workers at the animal hospital, where she worked. This blossomed into her Mom, Joan and her aunts (also members here), Tammy Dettman and Brenda Albright helping as well. The women paid for all of their supplies and refused to take anything for their work, only asking people to “pay it forward”.

Once they had the masks made for Lena’s work, they decided to keep making them and among others they make masks for one of the Plano schools, Hesed House and for members of our Church. They even delivered them.

At the time of my interview with Joan, the women had made upwards of 525 masks, including 40 for children.

“Well done thy good & faithful servants”

## OFFERING REPORT

### Year to Date Offerings as of 5/17/20

General Fund Income received: 66,206.34

Budget Amount Needed: 76,737.80

Short: (10,531.46)

### Checking Account

Year to Date Income: 83,356.72 (11,000 from savings)

Year to Date Expenses: \$72,224.65

Balance as of 5/17/20: 11,543.35

## Council Minutes April 26, 2020



Church  
Council

Discussion coming off Shelter

Required: Wearing masks.

No passing of offering plate, no Sharing the Peace, every other pew roped off. Communion would be individual cups, but we don’t know how to hand- out the wafers. Should Congregation members choose which service they want to attend? There will be no Sunday School right away. What about an outdoor service? Take a survey of who would attend services. Do one now and another in three weeks.

Cleaning of the Church: We need a new custodian. Prefer to hire from within. Ten hours/week at \$11.00/hour. Pews wiped down after each service. Ryan would like to set up a committee to help with the health guidelines. He would like members who are in or have been in the medical field. Ryan will reach out.

Discretionary Budget: If someone in the Congregation needs help there is Limited funds available and would be given with a gift card.

Property Committee: Virgil has spoken with Tri County. The parsonage has been shown and we may have a renter.

The lawn service has started. Motioned and passed to reinstate operation of Council by using Zoom meetings.



PSALM 119:114, ESV

WALKING TOGETHER...

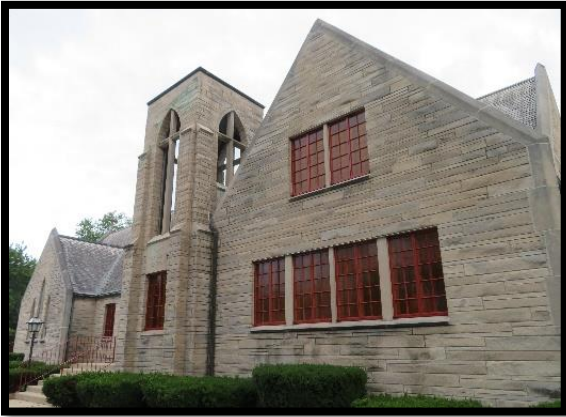
LOVING CHRIST

LOVING ALL FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD



Northern Illinois Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

Return Service Requested



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**Pastor**

Reverend Jonathan Black  
firstplanopastor@gmail.com

**Church Office**

Jerri Lynn Baker  
[Firstoffice200@gmail.com](mailto:Firstoffice200@gmail.com)  
Mon-Thur. 7AM-1PM –  
Not Currently in office due  
to Pandemic, working from  
home.

**Financial Secretary**

Ruth Ann Hoehn  
[Secretaryflc02@gmail.com](mailto:Secretaryflc02@gmail.com)

**Accountant**

Nan Grommes  
nangrommes@gmail.com

**Currently NO In Building  
Worship during Covid-19  
Pandemic**

**Radio Ministries**

Every Sunday at 10:00AM – a  
partial broadcast of the weekend  
Worship service airs on WSPY  
107.1 FM

Recorded weekly services can also  
currently be found on our website.  
[www.firstlutheranchurchplano.com](http://www.firstlutheranchurchplano.com)