

FIRST FOCUS

May 23—June 5, 2010



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NEW SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Summer worship attendance figures for the past three years indicate that we can expect a decrease in church attendance over the summer months. This year, in order to utilize volunteer and staff resources effectively during peak vacation time, and to promote the best worship experience for everyone, we are planning two services on Sunday mornings. **For the ten Sundays from June 13 through August 15, our worship schedule will be 9:00 am Contemporary service and 10:30 am Traditional.** Shout! will continue on Sunday evenings. Questions? Concerns? Contact Karen Brown, Maryellen Paton or Pat Bergen.

GET READY TO...
MAKE A SPLASH THIS SUMMER AT...



MONDAY, JULY 26—FRIDAY JULY 30
9:00AM—NOON
AGES 4 TO RISING 5TH GRADERS

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION
for both Participants & Volunteers
is available online at www.firstlutheran.com.

ALL HANDS on DECK!

VBS is not just for kids ~ it's for everyone!

There is a way for YOU to get involved & help out in some way!
Nursery available for children of volunteers.

Watch for our ship to sail into the Narthex soon for supply donations!

Contact Susan Brodeur
sbrodeur@triad.rr.com or 856-1089
for more information!

*First Lutheran is a partner in the NC Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

God's work. Our hands.



Worship at First Lutheran

(see front cover for information about Summer Worship times)

8:45 am Traditional Worship

9 am Contemporary Worship

11:15 am Traditional Worship

6:30 pm Shout! Casual Contemporary Worship

Communion at all morning services: 1st and 3rd Sundays
Communion every Sunday at Shout!

Youth Ministry

All Parents & Youth

Sunday, May 23 is the last day of classes for this school year. Please find a special way to express your appreciation to our incredible volunteer mentors. We suggest cards, flowers, or a simple gift to say thank-you!

We are grateful for the following faith mentors who have volunteered time this year to share their love of God with our youth...

5-6 grade morning leaders - Russ Bergen, Sherrie Harmon, Nicole Apple, Deborah & Joe Duszka with special guest mentors - Kay Zimmerman, Rob Harmon, Sharon & Bill Ricketts, Dean Orfanedes, Matt Sivret and Suzanne Woodard.

7-8 grade morning leaders - Deb Shealy, Kathy Johnson, Todd Miller, and Bill Ricketts, plus special coordinators Jennifer Young, Heidi Baer, and Debbie Sivret.

High School & Confirmation Leaders - Sean Bohl, Bill & Charlene Fields, Mary Aufdemburg, Mary Cranford and our special guest mentors - Brian Russell, Jason Aufdemburg, Dave & Laura Limburg and Laura Roseman.

And thanks to the 30 Faith Friend adults who walked with our Confirmation Youth!

**You are all truly "AAA Road Servants" -
Affirming, Authentic & Available!**

7th & 8th Grade Youth & Family Celebration!

Sunday, May 23 starting around 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM
At Kathy, Billy & Amber Johnson's Home

Let's get together and 'celebrate' the end of the school year AND the beginning of our Confirmation Journey together!

The Johnson's have graciously opened their home, yard & grill! Burgers, Hot Dogs, Buns and paper goods will be provided. **Please bring chairs & a favorite drink plus either a side dish or a dessert to share!** Fun and games will be available for the whole family! You can even go fishing - if you bring a pole! This event is for the whole family - **Please RSVP by Thursday, May 20 to Carol.** We need to get an estimate on burgers & hot dogs - thanks! (directions are posted on the board)

YOUTH IN MISSION THIS SUMMER!!!

High School Trip to Copper Hill TN

Our Final Payment is due Sunday, May 23. We are including the 2 extra- dinners at the site - so the total payment for this trip is \$363 (see your TEAMEffort Copperhill Information E-mail sent 4-30-10 for more information and all attached forms). If you need printed forms or more details - please see Carol - thanks!

Middle School TEAMEffort Trip

If you are signed up - then by now you should have received an important e-mail with information about your trip. This includes a form that must be notarized, a payment schedule and information about the trip. If you need a printed copy, please see Carol ASAP!

Worship Ministries

Please wear red on May 23rd, Pentecost Sunday. You can read in Wikipedia very interesting accounts of the use of red as one of the main signs of Pentecost. The color red symbolizes joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit. Many churches hang red banners - sometimes with fans blowing - to symbolize the blowing of the "mighty wind of the Spirit". Also used as a symbol of the Holy Spirit is the dove, which we will find symbolized in our worship spaces. Other churches read the lectionary passage of the day in multiple languages or float red balloons to signify that Pentecost is designated as the "birthday of the church". Come and join in the celebration!

On May 30 at 10 am we say "Thank you and Godspeed" to Susan Klaiber as we honor her 13 years of leadership in the morning contemporary worship service; Susan has been holding down both fulltime and part-time jobs for many years and has decided to retire from the contemporary coordinator position. This will also allow Susan and Hank the freedom to visit their children, grandchildren, and parents.

We welcome Luke Bump and Brian Russell as co-coordinators of the 9:00 service for this next year. They will divide the responsibilities and the salary of this position at the same amount we were paying previously. Both of these young men are very gifted and extremely passionate about contemporary worship. They bring musical and spiritual gifts as well as an 'inside knowledge' of our church family. We feel blessed to have them on board and know they will receive support both from the Living Stones and from all of you.

Children's Ministry

Greensboro Urban Ministry Serve
Thursday May 27 6-8 pm

Children in grades K-4 with their families and friends are invited to help serve dinner at the Greensboro Urban Ministry night shelter. We will need volunteers to help prepare and serve the meal, as well as families to make casseroles. Volunteers are asked to please bring a dessert of cookies or brownies. Please meet at Urban Ministry at 305 West Lee Street. If you are interested in signing-up, making a casserole or would like more information please contact Denise Riley at 292-9125 x110 or denise@firstlutheran.com.

**See the front cover for details about
this year's VBS: High Seas Adventure!**

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee would like to submit this list of congregational members for your consideration and vote at the Congregational Meeting on June 6:

Vice President: TBA
Secretary: Bill Rothermel
Stewardship: Charlie Ramsburg
Congregational Wellness & Fellowship: TBA
Worship and Music: Pat Bergen
Endowment: Dale Finn
TBA
Nominating: Alice Bittinger
Lise McBrayer
Sheri Chamberlin

Help us Nurture and Further Develop a Healthy, Thriving Spiritual Community!

Natural Church Development (NCD)



Passionate Spirituality- Our Greatest Opportunity for Growth and Health!

Passionate Spirituality is based on the Word of God, directed by the Holy Spirit through prayer, and focused outward on the world. The focus is on living out

our faith with *commitment, fire, and enthusiasm*. "Effective ministry flows out of a passionate spirituality. Spiritual intimacy leads to a strong conviction that God will act in powerful ways. A godly vision can only be accomplished through an optimistic faith that views obstacles as opportunities and turns defeats into victories."

Passionate Spirituality has four main areas or subcategories. Listed below are the areas we are working to understand and strengthen and some questions to pray about.

| <u>Subcategory</u> | <u>Survey Score</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Passion for Devotions</i> | 26 out of 70 |

(greatest opportunity area)

How do we practice personal spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, study of the Word, tithing and service?

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Spiritual Interconnectedness</i> | 43 out of 70 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|

How does the Holy Spirit move us to share God's work in our lives?

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Passion for Church</i> | 48 out of 70 |
|---------------------------|--------------|

How do we show our enthusiasm and devotion to our church and its future?

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Experiencing God</i> | 57 out of 70 |
|-------------------------|--------------|

How do we show our love for God? How is God active in our lives?

We ask that you pray for God to guide us as we work to strengthen this quality characteristic of our church.

Matthew 22:37-38 (NIV): "Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.'"

Congregation Council

Three years ago the Congregation voted to change our organizational structure as a means of improving communication, ease of starting new ministries and accountability. From the beginning there were questions about the size and scope of Congregational Ministries, which included Life Long Learning, Small Groups, Care and Encouragement, and Fellowship. These constituted all the "in-house" ministries. This has proven too big a challenge for volunteers to manage. Congregational Ministries proposed to Council subdividing the division into two separate divisions: Congregational Lifelong Faith Formation and Congregational Wellness Ministries. Council adopted the proposal and now presents to the congregation the following Bylaw change (underlined):

Chapter 13 Congregational Structure

C13.02.01 - Ministry Divisions:

The mission and ministry of the Congregation shall be governed by the following Ministry Divisions:

(a) Worship Ministries

(b) Congregational Lifelong Faith Formation Ministries

The Congregational Lifelong Faith Formation Ministries Division is devoted to the spiritual education of disciples at FLC and to the development of the FLC membership as a supportive, Christ-centered spiritual family. Congregational Lifelong Faith Formation Ministries is composed of two main areas: (1) Lifelong Learning, and (2) Small Group formation.

(c) Congregational Wellness Ministries

Congregational Wellness Ministries is devoted to extending Christ's pastoral care, compassion, and healing presence to members and participants during times of concern and celebration, and to fostering Christian fellowship, fun and a sense of connection while being openly inviting and welcoming to all members and guests. Congregational Wellness Ministries is composed of two main areas: (1) Congregational care, and (2) Congregational Fellowship

(d) Community Ministries

(e) Stewardship Ministries

(f) Administration Ministries

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Congregational Meeting to:
discuss the proposed Mission and Ministry plan
(budget)
Sunday, May 23
10 and 11:15 am in the Fellowship Hall

Congregational Meeting to:

- Vote on changes to the By-Laws
- Vote on new Council members
- Approve the new Mission and Ministry plan (budget)

Sunday, June 6
9 am in the Fellowship Hall

Community Ministries

Soles4Souls

We'll collect ANY shoes through May 31 at Frank Moore's office. Please put rubber band around shoes or tie them. For many shoes, please put in boxes (20-pound limit) and write number of pairs on box. Soles4Souls distributes shoes around the world. Thanks to Susan Braun, Bob and Ginny Waldron for coordinating. Also, other faith communities will bring shoes here.

Habitat Home Dedication

The Habitat Home at 422 Bingham Street will be dedicated on June 26. Look for more information soon!

If you'd like to see pictures from the build, go to www.firstlutheran.com, click the Connections button on the left side of the home page, click on the button on the Connections page. When you are on the Connections site, click on the Photo Albums button and click on Habitat Build 2010.



Stewardship

Stretch to Serve this Summer Greensboro Urban Ministry:

- Non-perishable food (see below) Put in bins near Room 1 or in Frank Moore's office.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Pinto, white, pork and beans | Peanut butter |
| Green beans | Dry beans (bag) |
| Tomato soup | Rice |
| Chicken noodle soup | Dry milk |
| Fish, beef stew, chili, etc. | Oatmeal |
| Fruit/applesauce | Crackers |
| | Macaroni and cheese |
| | Bread |

- Peanut butter and jelly for the Thursday and Friday morning breakfasts. Want to participate in serving at these breakfasts? For the Thursday breakfast, contact Kimberly Embry, 299-5496 or Kimberly.embry@vfc.com. For the Friday breakfast, contact Todd Herman, 282-4538, todd.herman@toddherman.com
- Clothing and/or shoes distributed through GUM Clothing Bank
- Serve Night Shelter meals: FLC serves Weaver House residents between 6-8 pm on the fourth Thursday of each month. For details, call Louise Lampron-Welker if you can help in June, July, August or December, 856-1532, lblampron@earthlink.net. November is done by a FLC family, May by Children's Ministry/Denise Riley. Other months, contact Carol McPeeters.

Charlie's Garden:

See page 5 for ways you can help!

Administration Ministries

Friday Office Hours

Beginning May 28, the church office will close at 3 pm on Friday afternoons instead of the usual 5 o'clock. We have done this the past 2 years, and it has served us well. With the end of the school year and members/staff vacationing in the summer, many Friday afternoons find us with only 2 or 3 women alone in the building. The office will return to its normal operating schedule (8:30 - 5:00 Monday-Friday) after Labor Day.



Building Upkeep and Events

As announced on May 9 and in the last newsletter, the final workday for our building caretaker, Al Landsperger, was Friday, May 14. Al is retiring to enjoy traveling and taking it easy with his wife Phyllis.

While we are looking for a replacement, an after-hours cleaning crew will be filling in. Because of this, please keep the following in mind when planning an event here at the church.

- Be sure your event is on the building calendar and any special setup instructions have been communicated to Lisa in the church office.
- There will be no one onsite to move heavy items into, around or out of the building, so please be prepared to bring your own muscle!

SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

Slip some green to our Landscape Fund!

By now many of you have seen the landscape design done for the courtyard entrance to our church. The amount of money needed to complete this project is \$6,000. Some of you have sent in a contribution to this fund, and it is greatly appreciated. Each \$2,000 will allow us to complete another phase. At the same time, we are planting flowers and clearing debris from the edges of our property. We hope to have this job completed in 2010. A "little green" sent in by you will really help. Thanks to our members who have offered to plant flowers or care for areas, like Sylvia and Ken Shue and Betty and George Burfeind.

Handicapped Parking



Since we can no longer use our back entrances because of the construction, this sometimes means a longer walk into the building from the parking lot. Please leave parking spaces marked "Handicapped" for those that truly need them. Most of us are hearing from our doctors that we need more exercise. Here's one way to get it!

ATTENTION CHANCEL CHOIR!! NO PRACTICE AFTER WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

The calendar page of this newsletter was run before the practices were removed from 5/26 and 6/2.

Our Church Family

NEEDED: **Homemade Chicken Tetrazzini** is a big hit down at Greensboro Urban Ministry on FLC's regular 4th Thursday night meal. We need your help to make sure that there is enough food for everyone. If you would like to help support our efforts, we are asking for pre-made casseroles in a disposable 9X13 tin dish. **This month Children's Ministry will be going to GUM on Thursday, May 27.** Sign up on the sheet on the Youth Board or contact Denise Riley, denise@firstlutheran.com to volunteer and get the recipe. Recipes are also available online at www.firstlutheran.com (click on the mission button) Please place in the Church refrigerator by 5 pm on May 26.



The Power of Prayer can be incredible!

Please remember to share with us names of those in your hearts who need extra prayers said for them. Look for the Power of Prayer boxes in the Cafe & in the Narthex.

FACEOUT in the Summer

The last FACEOUT before the summer schedule will be on Tuesday, May 25. Our guest will be Cameron Kent of WXII. The summer meeting dates are: June 8, July 13 and August 10

Godspeed...

...to Carol, Caroline and Catherine Ballard, who have transferred their membership to Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Greensboro.

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Jeff Cornelison, Forsythe Technical Community College, associate degree in Applied Science in Accounting
Chris Wrenn, Lenoir-Rhyne University with a BS in Finance
Mark Aderholdt, Virginia Tech, BS in Business Administration

Women of the ELCA—Circles

Mary Martha Circle

Wednesday, June 2, 11 am

Hostess: Phyllis Hoch
1007 Westridge Rd.

Program: Covered dish luncheon

Meet at the church at 10:45 to carpool.

Powlas Deal Circle

Wednesday, June 2, 7 pm

Hostess: Leslie Pipan
904 Courtland St.

Program: Donna Walli

Sullivan Huddle Circle

Monday, June 7, 7:30 pm, Church Parlor

Program: Ruth Zeemer
Hostesses: Kathy Schabinger & Susan Schwarz

From the Green Team

Although the celebration of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day has passed, our challenge to be good stewards of the world in which we live is ongoing. It is only a small step from practicing good stewardship to fostering sustainability. Let us celebrate and continue the efforts FLC is making to be good "Green Christian" stewards of our world.



Here are some of those practices in which our church family has been involved over the past 3 years or will institute in the coming months:

1. Replacing styrofoam coffee cups with ceramic mugs.
2. Collecting used household batteries for recycling.
3. Participating in community programs such as the "Great America Clean Up" and "Big Sweep".
4. Using low flow toilets in the bathrooms.
5. Distributing rain barrels.
6. Planting and maintaining "Charlie's Garden." (see below)
7. Collecting used glasses for redistribution.
8. Providing used coffee grounds for agricultural purposes.
9. Collecting used hearing aids for redistribution.
10. Planning landscaping with low water usage to beautify our new building.
11. Collecting used holiday and greeting cards for reuse.
12. Supporting sustainability through contributions to "Chicks for Change".
13. Collecting used cell phone for redistribution.
14. Encouraging members to forego paper copies of the newsletter in favor of electronic.
15. Collecting and recycling discarded CDs, DVDs, and cases.
16. Emphasizing "green construction technologies" in our new construction.
17. Installing low wattage lighting.
18. Collecting and donating used shoes through "Soles4Souls".
19. Conducting various environmental education programs as part of Faith Formation.
20. Recycling Sunday bulletins.
21. Emphasizing environmental issues at church camps.
22. Providing "fair trade" coffee for sale.
23. Collecting and donating used clothes through GUM.
24. Harvesting wood from the memorial oak trees to build church furniture for the new building.
25. Transplanting the magnolia tree from the construction site to the Memorial Garden.

Charlie's Garden is Growing!

The garden was planted the weekend of April 17. Volunteers built 2 additional beds and doubled the watering capacity with 2 new rain barrels. Growing in the garden are: tomatoes, beans, peppers, eggplant, cucumbers, zucchini, squash and potatoes. Special thanks to the First Grade Sunday School Class for having part of their lesson in the garden and planting the bed of yellow squash. There are many ways to be involved with Charlie's Garden which produces fresh vegetables to feed the hungry. If your family would like to adopt the garden for a week, it would involve approximately 2 trips to the church to water and feed. Each visit would take about 30 minutes. For more information or to get involved, please contact Marian King at marianking@aol.com.



First Lutheran Church
 3600 W. Friendly Avenue
 Greensboro, NC 27410
 Phone: 336.292.9125; Fax 336.294.5369
 Email: info@firstlutheran.com
 Website: www.firstlutheran.com

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Deadline for next newsletter: Wednesday, May 26

May 9 - May 22 at First Lutheran

Sunday, May 23

- 8:45 am Traditional Worship
- 9:00 am Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 am Faith Formation
- 10:00 am Congregational Budget Discussions
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship
- 11:15 am Congregational Budget Discussions
- 6:30 pm SHOUT! Service
- 7:30 pm Luther Brass

Monday, May 24

- 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study
- 5:00 pm Grace Reigns Down

Tuesday, May 25

- 10:00 am Chair Yoga
- 11:00 am FACEOUT
- 1:00 pm Spirituality Group
- 7:00 pm Living Stones

Wednesday, May 26

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 6:15 pm Handbells
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 27

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Handbell Quartet

Sunday, May 30

- 8:45 am Traditional Worship
- 9:00 am Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 am Faith Formation
- 10:00 am Reception for Susan Klaiber
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship
- 4:00 pm Congregational Retreat Mtg.
- 6:30 pm SHOUT! Service
- 7:30 pm Luther Brass

Monday, May 31

- OFFICE CLOSED - MEMORIAL DAY**
- 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study
 - 5:00 pm Grace Reigns Down

Tuesday, June 1

- 9:30 am Knitting Ministry
- 10:00 am Chair Yoga
- 1:00 pm Spirituality Group
- 7:00 pm Living Stones

Wednesday, June 2

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 5:30 pm Website Review Committee
- 6:15 pm Handbells
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, June 3

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 10:00 am Quilters

MEMORIAL DAY



| Worship Attendance | | | |
|--------------------|------------|-------------|-----|
| | <u>5/9</u> | <u>5/16</u> | |
| 8:45 | 84 | 8:45 | 75 |
| 9:00 | 222 | 9:00 | 223 |
| 11:15 | 118 | 11:15 | 126 |
| 6:30 | 37 | 6:30 | 54 |