



## PASTOR'S CORNER

**B**lessed Summer Greetings,  
I pray that you are finding ways to enjoy the wonderful creation of our Creator this summer. It has been so nice to see the sun, hear the birds, smell the fresh cut grass and rain. I love being outside in summer. I am always amazed at the splendor of creation and it reminds of the majesty and wonder of our God.

As I have been spending time in prayer and wonder of what God is stirring us to in the coming days and year, I think back to the wonderful faith statements that our five young people shared with us in June, when they confirmed their faith and took on the responsibility for their faith and continued growth. Many people commented on how their words inspired them and how it would be good for us all to take the time to think on our own faith statements.

One of the things that I stressed with our young people was that this is not the end of their faith journey, and this is not the final faith statement, but the first one. One of the guiding scripture verses that continues to inform me as I think on faith formation is Deuteronomy 11:18-21. It is a reminder for us that God's word is the foundation for our lives, and centering ourselves on God's word is what keeps us centered in the faith God has given us.

"18 You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem[a] on your forehead. 19 Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. 20 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, 21 so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your ancestors

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# PARISH LEADERS

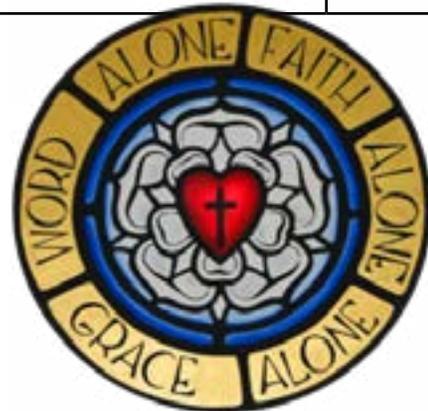
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## FIRST LUTHERAN COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Jan Johnson - VP	715.483.3971
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Marge Lauring	715.648.6041
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Deb Swanson	715.648.5656
Claudia Balcom	715.648.5628
Don Swanson - Pres	715.648.5465



# FAITH AND CARE GROUP

July			
Ashley Burger-Jensen	Corey Chappellear	Shirley Chappellear	Stephen & Stacy Cox
<b>Lee &amp; Sharon Doolittle</b>	Lisa Doolittle	Marion Fox	Agnes Harder
<b>Mike &amp; Sandy Jensen</b>	Roger & Connie Johnson	Emery & Doris Jones	Bill & Barb Kurtz
Jerry & Tracy Larsen	Betty Lehman	Kevin & Jennifer Lehman	Debby Thompson

to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth."

When asking the students to write their faith statement, I invited them to find a verse or story from the Bible that spoke to them in their lives right now, and to tell how that has helped them in the development of the faith and their relationship with God. Again, knowing that this story, or verse is not the only verse that will be important in their faith journey, but it is the one that is important right now. And then I invited them to think about all the ways that verse has informed their faith. I also invited them to think about the people who have helped them on their faith journey to this point. And then to think on the ways that God may be calling them to live their faith in the next year or two.

So what is your verse? What is your story? The one that God is speaking through to you today? Who are the people who have helped you on your faith journey? Who are the people God has placed in your life? How has God surprised you? How has God disappointed you?

Our faith is a journey, and God's word is our guide. I was just talking with someone about how we do not take time to sit and ponder. I remember, as a child, I could get lost in my day dreams. As adults we don't take the time, or we may think it is a waste of time. But it is in those times where we stop and just be, that the spirit breathes new life into us. My prayer for us all this summer, is that we would take the time to stop, find an inspirational spot, read the verse or story that God is speaking to you and let the spirit breathe life into you and into the faith God has given you. May God bless you and the Spirit inspire you!

Peace and Joy in Christ, Pastor Marilyn

**CUSHING COMMUNITY  
CALENDAR  
FIRST LUTHERAN  
CHURCH 150 YEARS**

We are putting together a calendar for the year 2020. We are asking the congregation to submit photos showing First Lutheran Church or Cushing events for the past 150 years.

Looking for 150 year old photos, newer photos, any photos in between.

Sunday School, Cushing School, Cushing Fun Days, Bazaars, Christmas programs, Baseball Teams, Soap Box Derby, 4-H, etc.

We will need to know names of who the people are in the photo, date? We will copy the photo and then get it back to you. Please put them in the Secretary's Office, Liz's tray, on the table by the copier.

*July Scripture*

Jul 7	Matthew 17:24-27	Emily Crossfield	Don Swanson
Jul 14	John 2:1-11	Jacob McKinven	Emily Crossfield
Jul 21	Hebrews 1:1-14 (John 1:1-15)	Justin Swanson	Karen Johnson
Jul 28	Hebrews 2:10-18 (Matthew 12:46-50)	Mike Jensen	Claudia Balcom

Deuteronomy 11:18-21 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

18 You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your forehead. 19 Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. 20 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, 21 so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your ancestors to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

# First Lutheran's 150th Anniversary

**In preparation for the 150th Anniversary in 2020 the Committee is requesting the following.**

Anniversary theme ideas • Money donations for Anniversary activities • Updated names and addresses for celebration invitations • Pictures of the past from both the Church and Community.



August 4th - 8th  
5:00pm to 7:30pm  
North Valley Lutheran Church  
1988 220th Ave Centuria

**SENT REGISTRATION  
TO MARLEY HOEFS BY JULY 28TH**  
marleykhanson@gmail.com

**Living our Faith**  
Our Vision is that; "All people are Fed, Clothed, and Cared for in Christ's Love."

First Lutheran 150th Anniversary

SAVE THE DATE postcards will be sent this year to former members. We need their names and addresses.

Please do some research to find people who have had a connection to the Cushing community and the congregation.

Submit your list to the church office or mail it to Vickie Johnson at 2601 240th, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024.

## WELCA News

July 10 6:30 pm Cookbook meeting

July 17 6:30 pm Hope Circle Hostess:  
Vickie Johnson

Aug 7 6:30 pm Unit meeting at Pizzeria



## *Laketown Workers*

Cleaning - Joyce Mc  
Newsletter - Karen

Happy 4th of July

### **MORE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH LIBRARY HISTORY**

In the fall of 1961 Beulah Nelson and Charlotte Nelson spent many hours accessioning each book and cataloging with call letters, organizing and stamping them in preparation for circulation. Esther Sorenson donated the book of Dewey Decimal Classification and the Lutheran Library association supplied a Handbook for Church Librarians which gave detailed instructions on organizing and processing books for the library.

In 1961 the original Library collection of 250 books was ready for circulation. The library was housed on the second floor next to the Pastor's study. Martin Hansen built the first shelves there. By 1970 our library consisted of 750 books of adults and children's books.

A summer reading program for children began in about 1972 by Charlotte and Beulah where the children gathered on Wednesday afternoons to check out books and have a book read to them. After a couple years the county Homemakers groups sponsored a summer reading at the Cushing School so our church reading program was temporarily discontinued. The program returned to Our church and for several years books were borrowed from the Luck Elementary School as well as a supply from the Polk County Library Federation, to give the children a greater abundance of books to choose from.

More History will be coming in next month's News Letter.  
Betty and Carol

### **SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was held on June 23rd at 10 am, 25 voting members were present. The purpose of the meeting was to resolve the north property line. Steve Jensen made a presentation the members present about the present problem with the property lines involving the parsonage north line and the two properties to the north. The motion was made to authorize council to enter into a real estate contract, and to pay for the property to be surveyed. The motion was made by Richard Loring; seconded by Steve Jensen. The motion was carried.

# Thanks, Praise and Prayers

*As God's beloved children, let us pray that the light of Christ shine on the nations, the church and all those in need.*

Sharon Doolittle, LaVonne Lumsden, Loren & Beulah Nelson, Karin Johnson, Curtis Johnson and others we name before God today.

**Sometimes in our busy lives we forget to stop, reflect upon our blessings, and take the time share our compassion and empathy with others. Since there has been very little room in the past few bulletins to pray for family and friends who need our immediate attention, let's do it now**

There are a number of ways to add someone to the prayer list. Call the church office and leave a message; make a note of it on Sunday morning with your name and name of person and give it to Pastor Marilyn or put it in the offering plate. We will keep the person on the prayer list for 6 weeks. If you would like the person to continue on the prayer list, just let us know and they will be added/kept on the list for another 6 weeks. There is no limit to the number of times a person can be put on the prayer list. Thank you for your help and for lifting one another up in prayer.

## Please Note!

Please remember to have family notify the church office if you are in the hospital. The privacy data laws do not allow the hospital to notify the church of your admittance.

## 180 DIAPERS WILL BE READY AND WAITING

Layettes for Lutheran World Relief will be assembled November 7, 2019. Now is the time to check out garage sales for the items needed. We will have enough diapers and socks to make 45 layettes. Please help to find the rest. Each layette includes:

- 2 t-shirts-----2 gowns or sleepers-----2 blankets
- 4 diapers-----1 jacket or sweater-----2 bath size bars of soap
- 2 diaper pins----2 pairs of socks-----1 hand towel

Working together we can make this happen and share God's love around the world.



Laketown

Lutheran

140TH ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION

August 25th

10:45am Outdoor Worship  
Lunch to follow

## A LIGHT TO MY PATH



July's theme banner "A Light to my Path" is to remind us that as we are on our Faith and Life Journey God is our light for this journey.

This month's theme comes from Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." In Exodus when God lead the Israelites out of Egypt the land of bondage "the Lord went before them by day as a pillar of a cloud, to lead the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light: to go by day and night." In John 8:12 Jesus said "I am the Light of the world". God is light and as believers in Christ and his finished work of the cross we are called to be salt and light to the world (Matthew 5:13-16)

As we continue our MISSION as a Congregation and Parish with Pastor Marilyn we each need the Light of the Lord to show us the way Stewards of what God has given us (time, talents, and/or money) in our own lives and relationships as well as the life and relationship of our Congregation and Parish. We need to ask ourselves, Am I/are we walking daily as "Children of Light" (Ephesians 5:8)? What am I being shown by God's light, the Holy Spirit to do as part of this MISSION and beyond? We are ALL to work together in MISSION telling the World about God's Love and showing his Light towards all people through his son Jesus.

The color for the season of Pentecost is green for growth. The book of Acts shows us how our MISSION started when Jesus gave us the great COMMISSION before ascending to the Father in Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'. Jesus is telling us that our MISSION/WITNESS starts at home and then grows out from there. So, we need to ask ourselves, how am I growing in MISSION during this time and am I being a good Steward of all that God has provided me? We are growing because we now have Teams/Committees that are making

use of our individual talents/gifts to do things were done for us. We all are finding out we can do these things and are growing in MISSION and Stewardship as we do them it is "God's Work, Our Hands".

Yours in Christ,  
Steve Jensen





**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

# Ministry Messenger

A Publication of First and Laketown Parish

First and Laketown Parish  
PO Box 758  
Cushing, WI 54006



### Laketown Lutheran Church

We seek to know and love God, share His love and word, strengthen our faith through the Holy Spirit, and as servants of Christ serve those in need.



### First Lutheran Church

As part of God's family we seek to grow in our faith, provide spiritual education to our congregation, and reach out to others.

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Justin Swanson-Administrative  
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Address service requested