



Embracing Love's Adventure Together

PROGRESS

AUGUST 2022: VOL. 29, NO. 8

THIS ISSUE:

FIRST FEST COMING THIS FALL

Mark Your Calendars for Sept 11

DAY CAMPS

Celebrating God's Greatness Aug 8-11 from 9am-2:30pm

FLCW CIRCLES

Collecting Items for Lutheran World Relief Kits

AUGUST CALENDAR

What's Happening In August

MEMORIALS

June 2022

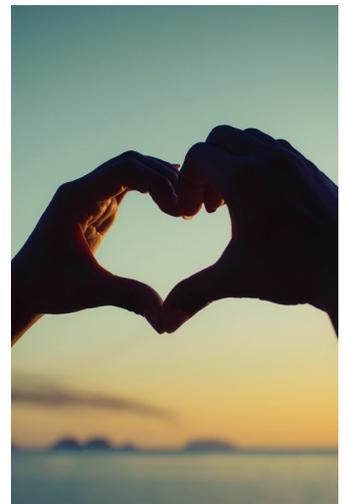


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE POWER OF LOVE IN ACTION

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

Matthew 10:5-8 NIV



"Freely you have received; freely give."

This morning I took part in Monday morning devotions at the GIFTS Men's Shelter. Dave Romstad of First Lutheran has been leading these each Monday during the summer. Congregation leaders from other churches in Janesville take turns with the morning devotions on the other days of the week.

Today there were ten of us, mostly guests living at the shelter but also a regular volunteer, in addition to Dave and me. As I listened to the reading for the day, the phrase that stood out to me was "freely you have received; freely give." That phrase is part of Jesus' instruction to the twelve apostles in Matthew's Gospel, when he sends them out to share the good news that the Reign of

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Pastor Michael

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God has come near. Luke tells a similar story, which we heard recently as our Sunday Gospel on July 3. In Luke's version, Jesus sends out 70 disciples ahead of him, in pairs, to the towns that he intends to visit.

One of the participants in this morning's study noted that Jesus gives power to the disciples. She wondered how she hadn't noticed this before. The disciples go out empowered, not only to speak words of good news but to show that good news in action. Jesus gives them authority to heal sickness and to drive out harmful spirits. Others in our group this morning wondered about this further. Why don't we hear more about



What opportunities might God be giving you right now to share the love you have received?

this? Why aren't there stories about what the disciples did? I pointed to the Acts of the Apostles, a whole book of the New Testament that describes the things that the apostles did after Jesus was raised and the power of the Spirit had come upon them -- how they healed people, proclaimed the good news boldly, cast out evil spirits, even raised some from the dead.

All of that may seem totally beyond us. Jesus, sure – he has the power. But us? That sounds unlikely. Yet in both Matthew and Luke, Jesus clearly does not hold the power to himself. He shares it out, freely. Now I'm sending you, he says. "Freely you have received; freely give!"

This is all wrapped into the mission we have named at First Lutheran Church: to reach, nourish, and empower people with the good news of Jesus Christ. Our mission is a continuation of Jesus' own mission, and we too have been given power and authority to empower others.

The mercy, love, and forgiveness of God is the heart of the good news that Jesus proclaimed when he announced the Reign of God come near. The freedom we have as people of the Spirit, who are sent by Jesus (just like the 12 and the 70), is to freely give what we have freely received. We are sent to put the mercy, love, and forgiveness of God into action.

- *How does it feel to hear that **you are given power** to show the good news in action?*
- *How has the experience of God's mercy changed you?*
- *What opportunities might God be giving you right now to share the love you have received?*

Prayer: Give us courage to trust that your love will work through us too as we take risks to share it.

Caught up in the adventure with all of you,

Pr. Michael ☺



FIRST FEST COMING THIS FALL

Mark Your Calendars for Sept 11

This year First Fest will happen on Sept 11. The day will be filled with worship followed by a meal provided by First Lutheran, activities, and games for all ages!

The meal will include pork chops, salads, beans, cookies, pies, coffee and water.

The games will consist of bingo, Green Machine races, water balloon toss, corn hole and lots more.



We will also need your help to make this event a huge success! Volunteer opportunities include

setting up and taking down tables & chairs, serving and bring out food, cleaning up the kitchen, cleaning up outside, and garbage clean up. We also need an MC to announce activities and cookies

to be made for dessert. If you would like to help with any of these activities please contact the church at 608.752.7434. 📞

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Through Sept 4

8am: Drive-In

9:30am: Sanctuary

9:15am: Sunday school

Communion is served at both services.

All are welcome.



Enjoy the 9:30am service from home on Facebook & YouTube. 📺

NEW LOGO T-SHIRT SALE!

Pre-Order Your
Shirt Today!



First Lutheran is doing a t-shirt fundraiser. Pre-order your new logo short- and long-sleeve t-shirt(s) now! There are two logo placements available. The first is across the chest of the t-shirt (pictured above) and the second is in the upper left corner of the t-shirt. The color choices are black, purple and teal and sizes are Youth Small - 3XL.

The costs are \$15 for a short-sleeve and long-sleeve is TBD. Cash or check (memo line: t-shirt) can be dropped off at the church office.

Pre-order sales are due by Aug 21. To pre-order your shirt(s) go to this link: <https://bit.ly/3ckegCt>

If you have questions, please contact Renee at 608.359.9685 or rengen@flcj.org

COUNCIL MINUTES

June Minutes

Financial Report (Mary Wileman, Arwen Twitchett)

- Balance Sheet
 - Cash balance as of 5/31/22 was \$125,479 comparable to last year's balance of \$126,197. Memorial and Gifts balance as of 5/31/22 was \$197,698, which is more than last year's balance of \$172,597.
 - Liabilities: Total current liabilities are \$3,353 compared to \$95,057 last year. Last year included \$92,970 for the PPP Loan/Grant.
- Profit and Loss
 - Total YTD income is \$320,015, which is \$24,902 over budget, and \$33,518 more than last year. Contributions are over budget by \$24,014. We are under budget about \$1,400 on loose offerings. Thrivent Choice funds are up by \$2,218 from budget. Excluding the \$16,000 in gifts received early, income is up 6%.
 - The 2022 annual budget includes income \$715,250, expenses \$783,817, for a net loss of \$68,567. To realize a balanced budget for the year, there would need to be a 9.6% increase in contributions or reduction in expenses.
 - Total expenses are \$314,391, which is \$8,129 under budget, and 8.5% more than last year's total of \$289,709.
 - Rostered Leaders are under budget. We only had 3 members attend the synod assembly and benefits/reimbursements are below budget.

-Administration: under budget due to communications position being open. Office equipment contracts and accounting fee costs are over budget.

-Buildings & Grounds: over budget on gas expenses due to the rate increase this year. Overall, we are below budget for B&G mainly due to snow removal being about \$3,500 lower than budget and timing of repair costs.

-Worship: below budget due to fewer paid musicians playing at services this year. We also haven't ordered as many communion supplies or tuned the organ yet.

-Youth and Family: under budget. Wages are under, Events are over, and Camps and Supplies are under, for a net budget savings.

- Net income through May 2022 is \$5,625 compared to a budgeted net loss of \$27,408. The \$33,032 difference is mainly due to a \$24,900 increase in giving, and reduction in noted expenses of \$8,100.

Ministry Report - Pr. Michael

- Youth trip to Kansas City from July 23-27
- Renee's mom's funeral on 6/23, visitation on 6/22
- Synod Assembly—feedback from members on how life can get in the way of church life; diversity
- Identified “spokes” of the wheel—various aspects of diversity that we seek to engage and include in our life together (i.e. People with cognitive disabilities,

Intergenerational, Racial/Ethnic, Sexuality/Gender, etc.). Discussed ways to prioritize and create action plans to address these issues.

Unfinished Business

- Nominating Committee—finalizing Board member terms
- HR Consultant—to table discussion on hiring Elevated Talent Consulting until contract can be reviewed and modified. Parts 6 & 13 need to be clarified, and express understanding of time expected from our staff.
- First Fest Review—Life Together Board recommended re-focusing First Fest on our own congregation this year rather than marketing to the community
 1. Life Together looking for a member of each board to assist with preparations
 2. Possibly have Communications Director tackle the marketing of event
 3. Life Together to be in charge of event rather than staff (?)

New Business

- Stewardship report—board asking for Board Liaisons to ask Board members to help with making phone calls to all congregation members in a “Phone-a-thon”
- Stewardship Board working on a script for callers to use (can Comm. Director assist?)

Action Items

- Kurt to review HR contract and clarify points/determine time commitment from FLC staff
- Board liaisons to ask board members to help with calling every FLC member using pre-written scripts
- Randy to find members to fill openings on Nominating Committee
- Liaisons to ask Boards for ideas to enhance First Fest and coordinate with Barb Evert
- Boards to start work on Budgets for August
- Council to review Synod Assembly proposal for discussion at July meeting

Pastor Michael/First Fest items

- Get bullet list for First Fest
- Consult with staff
- Meet with Life Together to organize the day
- Reach out to leaders/boards for added impact
- Contact Luke’s Shaved Ice for use of trailer

For the Good of the Church

- Pay extra attention to staff and volunteers to watch for overwork/mental health
- Lift up Arwen for clearing up payroll service issues

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Dorscheid, Secretary ☺



PAGE TURNERS

Upcoming Books

The Page Turners meet the first Tuesday of the month at 6pm in the Gathering Space. Come every month or just the months you want. All are welcome.

Aug 2:

“The Rose Code”
by Kate Quinn

Sept 6:

“Where the Lost Wander”
by Amy Harmon

Oct 4:

Frankenstein
by Mary Shelly

Nov 1:

When the Apricots Bloom
by Gina Wilkinson

Dec 6:

Matrix
by Lauren Goth

Contact Sally Schuenke
608.754.0407 with
questions. ☺

FLCW CIRCLES

Collecting Items For Lutheran World Relief Kits

The members of FLCW's Circle groups collect items for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) kits year round and assemble and box the kits by the September deadline when they are taken to the Madison Railyard to be loaded on box cars and then delivered to LWR. This year the kits will be loaded on Sept 17, 7-11am.

The following items are being collected in the Gathering Space. All donations are appreciated!

All Items Should be New, Except for Baby Clothes

No items with religious symbols, messages, the U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage

Baby Care Kits

Gently used, clean clothing and blankets (no tears) may be substituted for new ones (sizes between 6-24 months).

- Lightweight Cotton T-shirts or Onesies



- Long- or Short-sleeved Gowns/Sleepers (footed OK)
- Receiving Blankets - Medium-weight Cot-ton or Flannel, or Crocheted/Knitted with Light weight Yarn, 36" to 52" square
- Cloth Diapers, Flat Fold Preferred
- Jackets, Sweaters, Sweatshirts
- (with hoods OK)
- Baby Caps Socks
- Hand Towels, Dark Color Recommended
- Bath-size Bars of Gentle Soap, in Original Wrapper
- Diaper Pins or Large Safety Pins

School Kits

- 70 sheet notebooks, wide- or college-ruled (8" x 10.5") NO loose leaf paper
- Blunt Safety Scissors (with embedded steel blades)
- 30cm metric ruler (English/metric rulers are OK)
- Hand-held Pencil Sharpeners
- New, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Ballpoint Pens, blue or black (no gel ink)



Photo by:
Brenda Kimaro for Lutheran World Relief





- 2½" Erasers
- Boxes of 16 or 24 crayons
- Sturdy, Backpack-style Cloth Bag with a drawstring top & shoulder straps, approximately 14"x17". (cannot have a logo or promotional-type printing)

Personal Care Kits

- Light- or Medium-weight Bath-size Towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), Dark Color Preferred (lighter type is easier for hand-washing & drying)
 - Bath-size Bars of Soap in Original Wrapping
 - Adult-size Toothbrushes in its Original Packaging
 - Sturdy Combs
 - Metal Nail Clippers (attached file optional)
- Currently there is an urgent need for Personal Care Kits to replenish LWR's supplies.



Fabric Kits

- Pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric, cut to measure one of the following sizes. Col-ors/patterns need not match:
- 2 ¼ yards of 60" wide fabric
- 3 yards of 44" wide fabric
- 4 yards of 36" wide fabric
- Spools of neutral-colored, general purpose thread, 250-300 yards, or a color matching the fabric



SIMPLY GIVING

Sign-Up Today!



Simply Giving is an automated giving program hosted by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans designed to help you contribute your offering on a regular basis without the hassle of envelopes, checks and stamps.

Your weekly or monthly pledge is made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account directly to the church's bank account on the dates you specify. This amount can be changed at any time just by calling the church office.

For more information about the security of this contribution option, go to www.flcj.org to download a form or call Jeanie at the church office 608.752.7434 x10 and ask to have enrollment forms sent to you.



STUDENT MINISTRIES

Summer on the Road



August continues with fun-filled activities for Student Ministries. During August there are three road trips and a pool party! There is something for every one.

Aug 3:
Chicago Day Trip

Aug 8-11:
Day Camp (9am-2:30pm)

Aug 10:
Pool Party (6-7:30pm)

Aug 17:
Six Flags

Aug 31:
Devils Lake

Contact Eric with any questions, call/text 608.290.7083, or email eengen@flcj.org. Open to youth in 7-12th grades. ☎

ODAY

Celebrating God's Greatness Aug 8-11

Join us at First Lutheran for three different Day Camps for different age groups and go off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead.

Day Camp

Aug 8-11 from 9am-2:30pm
For kids entering 1st-4th grade
Cost: \$10/family
Pre-registration is appreciated
For more info call Eric at
608.290.7083

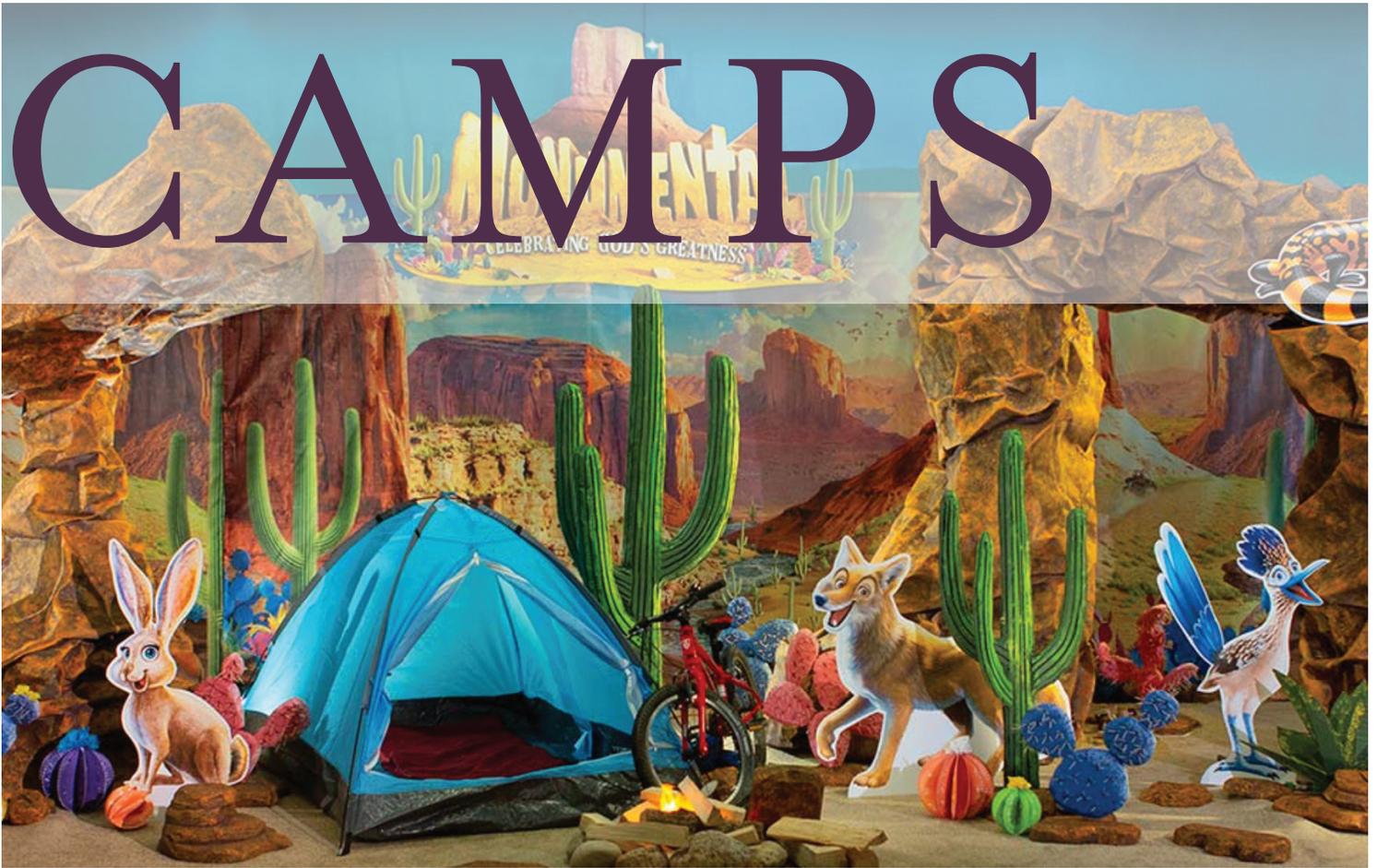


Vacation Bible School

Aug 8-11 from 9-11:30am
For preschool aged children (ages 3, 4, & 5)
Pre-registration is appreciated
For more info call Renee at
608.359.9685

Day Camp Plus

Aug 8-11 from 9am-2:30pm
For kids entering 5-6th grade
Pre-registration is appreciated
For more info call Renee at
608.359.9685 ☎



Why Should Your Child Attend VBS or Day Camps?

There are many reasons for your child to attend Vacation Bible School or Day Camps. We have four main reasons below.

1. There will be yummy snacks and enriching activities.

There won't be one dull moment and your child is sure to come home full of fun and exciting stories to tell. And don't forget the snacks! Goldfish, anyone?

2. They teach kids about Jesus.

Jesus becomes more than a character in a Bible story. Children get to see how real the Bible truly is and how God's Word applies to them. Children will grow in their faith and will know all about God's love for them.



It offers children opportunities for salvation too.

3. Attending fosters community. It is an easy way to get kids involved in church. Your kids will meet new friends who share their beliefs and will learn life lessons on how to be good friends to others.

4. Attending makes for lasting memories. Did you go as a child? What do you remember? Perhaps it was the fun recreational games or the lively music, or all the delicious snacks! Maybe it was the staff and volunteers or the Biblical foundations you gained. There are so many reasons why you

should register your child. Don't delay, register today! [👉](#)

MEMORIALS

June 2022



MEMORIALS RECEIVED

Doris Dill Memorial

General: Vera Stillmank

Marilyn Butters Memorial

Foundation: Sara Lemke

Youth & Children:

Dave & Mary Peterson, Anonymous Donor

GIFTS RECEIVED

ECHO: Vincent & Frances Kessenich, James & Karla Vriezen, Kathryn & William McCumber, Kathryn Fetherston-Fay, Magda Nelson, Gwen Sunby, Catherine Garvin, Barb & Dennis Franke, Mary Russell, David Romstad, Aaron & Kim Ehret

Safe Families for Children:

Pastors Michael Mueller and Carol Baumgartner

Ukraine Relief: Richard Ott & Jean Vining ☺



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Michael Mueller

Senior Pastor
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CHURCH COUNCIL

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Treasurer

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Council Members

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kurt@saterbak.com

Witness Board Chair

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Doris Roehl
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Worship Board Chair
Rebecca Anderson
19randerson@gmail.com

Council Member Staff Representative

Pr. Michael Mueller
MMueller@flcj.org

Youth Board Chair
Dennis Garvin
denman652001@yahoo.com

Building & Grounds Chair

Nathan Anderson
andersonnc11@gmail.com

Church Council meets every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm in Room 301. ☎

JUNE ATTENDANCE

	5	12	19	26	Total
8am	170	172	166	134	642
9:15 SS				14	14
9:30am	59	48	36	43	186
Total	229	220	202	191	842

MONTHLY READINGS

August



Take a few moments each day to spend some time with God reading the Word. You will be amazed to watch your friendship grow.

Aug 7 (Pentecost 9):

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

Aug 14 (Pentecost 10):

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29--12:2
Luke 12:49-56

Aug 21 (Pentecost 11):

Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

Aug 28 (Pentecost 12):

Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14 ☎

AUGUST CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	1pm Daylilies (CR) 6pm Boy Scouts (FH) 8pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)	9am Knitters (GS) 1pm Staff Meeting (302) 4:30pm Witness Board (FHL) 6pm Wood Carvers (FH) 6pm Page Turners (GS) 6:15pm First Events (Discovery Rm)	Youth: Chicago Day Trip 8:30am Mission Sew (FH) 4:30pm FLCW (FHL)	6pm Smart Recovery (302)		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8am Worship (PL) 9am Coffee Hour (Portico) 9:15am Sunday School (CH) 9:30am Worship (SA)	9am Day Camp 1pm Daylilies (CR) 6pm Boy Scouts (FH) 6:30pm Heart & Hand Quilt Gp (301) 8pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)	6am Elections 9am Day Camp 9am Knitters (GS) 1pm Staff Meeting (302) 6pm Youth Bd (YR) 6:30pm Worship Bd	9am Day Camp Progress Deadline	9am Day Camp 10am Worship (Rock Haven) 11:30am Worship (Oak Park Place) 6pm Smart Recovery (302)		9am Lutherdale Fest/Quilt Auction
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8am Worship (PL) 9am Coffee Hour (Portico) 9:15am Sunday School (CH) 9:30am Worship (SA)	1pm Daylilies (CR) 6pm Boy Scouts (FH) 8pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)	9am Knitters (GS) 1pm Staff Meeting (302) 6pm Wood Carvers (FH) 6:30pm Church Council (301)	8:30am Mission Sew (FH)	3:30pm Second Harvest 6pm Smart Recovery (302)		10am Safe Families Reunion (FH/Outside)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8am Worship (PL) 9am Coffee Hour (Portico) 9:15am Sunday School (CH) 9:30am Worship (SA)	1pm Daylilies (CR) 6pm Boy Scouts (FH) 8pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)	9am Knitters (GS) 1pm Staff Meeting (302) 6pm Stewardship Bd (302)		6pm Smart Recovery (302)		
28	29	30	31	Abbreviation Key: CH = Chapel CR = Choir Room FH = Fellowship Hall FHL = Fellowship Hall Lounge FHK = Fellowship Hall Kitchen GS = Gathering Space SG = Stone Garden OF = Office PL = Parking Lot SA = Sanctuary YR = Youth Room #229 = Room 229 #301 = Room 301 #302 = Room 302		
8am Worship (PL) 9am Coffee Hour (Portico) 9:15am Sunday School (CH) 9:30am Worship (SA)	1pm Daylilies (CR) 6pm Boy Scouts (GH) 8pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)	9am Knitters (GS) 1pm Staff Meeting (302) 6:30pm Music at Marv (Court House Pk)	Youth: Devil's Lake			

CHURCH FINANCIALS

Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January through May 2022

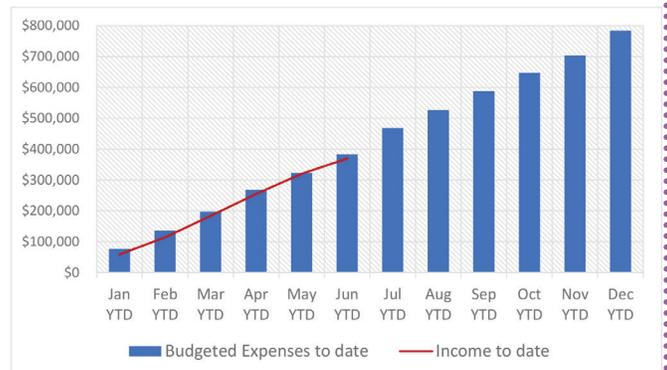
	Jan - May 22	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4000 · Income				
4002 · CONTRIBUTIONS	300,887.35	277,675.00	23,212.35	108.4%
4020 · Rentals	11,592.50	11,987.50	-395.00	96.7%
4030 · Weddings/Funerals	375.00	750.00	-375.00	50.0%
4040 · OTHER RECEIPTS	6,920.22	4,700.00	2,220.22	147.2%
4050 · 4-H Fair	240.00	0.00	240.00	100.0%
Total 4000 · Income	320,015.07	295,112.50	24,902.57	108.4%
Total Income	320,015.07	295,112.50	24,902.57	108.4%
Gross Profit	320,015.07	295,112.50	24,902.57	108.4%
Expense				
700000 · GENERAL FUND-FIRST				
711000 · BENEVOLENCE	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	100.0%
712000 · ROSTERED LEADERS	56,938.67	57,808.23	-869.56	98.5%
713000 · ADMINISTRATION	59,522.39	61,005.27	-1,482.88	97.6%
714000 · BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	97,057.55	97,621.52	-563.97	99.4%
715000 · STEWARDSHIP	1,025.04	1,050.00	-24.96	97.6%
716000 · WITNESS	73.80	350.00	-276.20	21.1%
717000 · WORSHIP	53,777.96	57,208.37	-3,430.41	94.0%
718000 · YOUTH & FAMILY	43,495.14	44,876.59	-1,381.45	96.9%
718600 · Life Together	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Total 700000 · GENERAL FUND-FIRST	314,390.55	322,519.98	-8,129.43	97.5%
Total Expense	314,390.55	322,519.98	-8,129.43	97.5%
Net Ordinary Income	5,624.52	-27,407.48	33,032.00	-20.5%
Net Income	5,624.52	-27,407.48	33,032.00	-20.5%

June 30, 2022

Weekly need \$15,073.00
 Weekly average YTD \$14,211.88

		Received to date	Difference	% Difference
YTD income needed	\$391,898	\$369,508.82	(\$22,389.18)	94%
Annual income needed	\$783,817	\$369,508.82	(\$414,308.18)	47%

YTD income and expenses



Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2022

	May 31, 22
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1100 · General Fund	125,479.11
1110101 · Thrivent Annuity	77,514.83
1200 · Memorials and Gifts	120,183.65
Total Checking/Savings	323,177.59
Total Current Assets	323,177.59
Fixed Assets	
1130000 · Land, Building and Equipment	7,003,964.07
Total Fixed Assets	7,003,964.07
TOTAL ASSETS	7,327,141.66
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	3,000.00
Credit Cards	1,120.08
Other Current Liabilities	
2100000 · Payroll Liabilities	-766.95
Total Other Current Liabilities	-766.95
Total Current Liabilities	3,353.13
Total Liabilities	3,353.13
Equity	
310000 · Church Fund Balance	7,125,077.64
3200000 · Memorial & Gifts Fund	193,128.54
Net Income	5,582.35
Total Equity	7,323,788.53
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	7,327,141.66

Profit & Loss

January through May 2022

	Jan - May 22
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4000 · Income	
4002 · CONTRIBUTIONS	9,294.85
400110 · Contributions-Next Year	9,294.85
Total 4002 · CONTRIBUTIONS	9,294.85
Total 4000 · Income	9,294.85
410000 · Memorial and Gifts	13,934.66
Total Income	23,229.51
Gross Profit	23,229.51
Expense	
700000 · GENERAL FUND-FIRST	225.00
712000 · ROSTERED LEADERS	
713000 · ADMINISTRATION	1,484.09
714000 · BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	1,029.46
716000 · WITNESS	3,374.47
717000 · WORSHIP	6,434.47
718000 · YOUTH & FAMILY	9,709.75
Total 700000 · GENERAL FUND-FIRST	22,257.24
719000 · Memorial Misc	1,014.44
Total Expense	23,271.68
Net Ordinary Income	-42.17
Net Income	-42.17


NAZARETH
 — HEALTH AND REHAB —
 608.873.6448
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