

J U L Y 2 0 1 7

Friends bringing friends to Christ

Friends in Christ News

Friends in Christ Lutheran Church – 1338 Clay Street – Morris Illinois 60450



Serving at Friends In Christ:

PASTOR

Mark Willig

CARD MINISTRY

Lois Sampson

CHAIR

Bonnie Nelson

VICE CHAIR

Cathy Thompson

ELDERS

Dick Enervold

HOSPITALITY

Earlene Enervold

MISSIONS

Vicki Kahn

MUSIC

Bonnie Nelson

ORGANIST

Kris Farber

PRAYER SHAWLS

Tina Nighsonger

SECRETARY

Deb Carter

TREASURER

Georgette Walker

ASSIST.

TREASURER

Carol Hansen

YOUTH

Cathy Thompson

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Dirty Harry & the Judges

"A Man's Got to Know His Limitations" – Dirty Harry

"In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes."
– Judges 21:25

It has to do with the balance between authority and ability. Who is to call the shots? Who is to decide? Who is to determine the course of our lives?

I was watching (on TV) as a young lady was telling about her escape from North Korea. Long after she had made her way to freedom it finally struck home some of the things freedom means. She was disoriented because there was nobody to tell her which clothes to wear, what to think, whether it was acceptable to watch a movie about North Korea. Up to that time she believed that if she thought the wrong thing about the ruler of North Korea; he would know and she

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SAVE THE DATE!

JULY 4:	Independence Day	(NO Bible Study, Elders' Meeting or Euchre Club)
JULY 5:	LWML ...	10:00 a.m.
JULY 6:	St. Vincent's Table	5:00 p.m. (4:30 p.m.- set-up)
JULY 9:	Youth Day	12:30 p.m.
JULY 10:	Senior Service	1:00 p.m.
JULY 11:	Euchre Club	1:00 p.m.
	Friendly Seniors	5:30 p.m.

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or her family would be in trouble. (*"A man's got to know his limitations."* – Dirty Harry.

That is an extreme example of not recognizing human limitations. But the pattern plays out all over the world, all through history, and in our daily lives. (There are lessons for parents in the limits of how much we are able to guide our children. And there are lessons for children in how far they should go off on their own without listening to "those old people in their house." We do tend to not recognize our limits.)

In the history of nations there are very few exceptions. One of them is our nation with our history of carefully limiting government. Another is the history of Israel in the days of the Judges.

"In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes." I have said for many years that there are two parts to the saying. We usually focus on one part and think it's about people running ahead and doing wrong. But there is another part – that there was no king to order people around. If you wanted to raise a certain crop, or become a potter or blacksmith there was no king to tell you that you couldn't. They had freedom.

When the people wanted a king Samuel reminded them of two things: (1) they already had a king and he was God; (2) a normal earthly king would overstep. He would take their crops, draft their sons, spend huge amounts of money, and, in more ways than they could imagine, he would think he knew better than they did what was right for them. (*"A man's got to know his limitations."* – Dirty Harry) They insisted and, just like God warned, the kings one after another did not know their limitations. The kings did what was right in their own eyes and compelled everyone else to go along.

Now, here's the other side. The fact is, we do not know what is best for ourselves. The same as any king, earthly authority, or anyone else, we are human / fallible / wander into foolishness / fall prey to countless temptations / and really do not and cannot know tomorrow. (*"A man's got to know his limitations."* – Dirty Harry)

But there is one who does know; who sees every possibility; who knows our hidden talents that we would have never found; and who is able to put it all together in life so that we become the creation that He alone sees. He is Jesus, able to look inside the heart, to guide our souls, and open the future for us. He is the only one fit to be king.

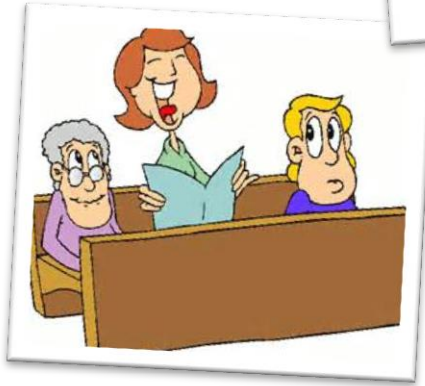
Here is one of the surprises. When I want to be free of anybody telling me what to do, even God – I end up limiting, binding and tying myself up through my own mistakes and stubbornness and missing what is possible. It's part of the results of sin. I muddle through with some amount of confusion, chasing after the wrong things and missing what is right in front of me. When Christ steps in He carries away the sin; and then He begins to sort out the confusion in the soul. I find that He does my life better than I do.

What does this mean?

1. We're a mess. Put us all together and the whole world is as the song says "a ball of confusion."
2. Jesus is still the King (in fact "King of kings"). He is quietly building His kingdom, gathering souls, believers in Him, to live forever transformed and blessed.
3. The nation that honors God by knowing its limitations is a good place to be.
4. True freedom comes only in relationship with Jesus ("If the Son sets you free you will be free indeed" – Jesus)
5. Celebrate freedom. Celebrate the little freedoms – the amazing variety of things you are able to do. If you tried to count them even for one day you could not. Celebrate the freedoms you have in this land; and as you do remember to count them as gifts from God.

Celebrate the one true freedom, what you have in Jesus. That is the freedom that will stay even if every other freedom is lost, and will last after everything else is gone.

Pastor Mark



*please
join us*



SENIOR SERVICE

Come worship with us!

MONDAY
JULY 10TH
1:00 pm

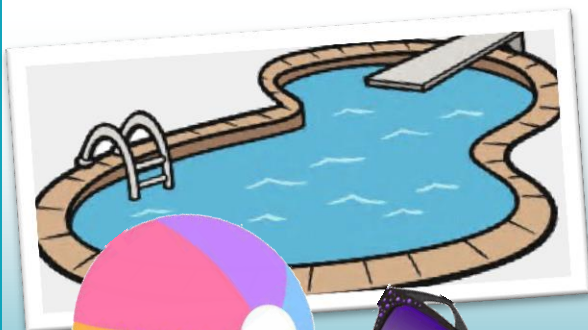
Luncheon immediately following

FRIENDLY SENIORS

Come have lunch with us!

TUESDAY
JULY 11TH
5:30 pm

La Mex Restaurant
(115 E. Jackson St., Morris)



YOUTH DAY

We are going to the pool on
Sunday, July 9th.

Meet at church at 12:30 for lunch
and Bible Study. Then we will go as
a group to the pool.



LWML Convention

LWML Meeting, July 5



Lutheran Women in Mission

We will meet on July 5th at 10 am. Paula Willig will have the program, talking about the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society and Deaf Missions in the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

LWML Convention

Here are a few pictures from the LWML Convention in Albuquerque, NM. Stay tuned for a full report from Bonnie and Sue coming soon. (L to R: Bonnie & Sue with Luther, LWML Convention Theme, Group picture of the Northern Illinois District members, Sue in the "Convention Hall atrium.")

BIRTHDAYS

6 th	Kurt Johnson
9 th	Alexis Carter
	Lisa Heren
10 th	Bob Hunt
14 th	Jerald Van Heiden
	Diana Wills
16 th	Diana Ruedin
17 th	Ashley Kane
18 th	Ruth Ann Brandt
19 th	Jan Eckert
	Connie Van Heiden
24 th	Ann Oslakovich
	Emma Oslakovich
26 th	Laina Johnson
27 th	Irene Gamauf
28 th	Janet Matteson
29 th	Alice Hunt
30 th	Todd Schultz



ANNIVERSARIES

1 st	Mike & Brenda Collins	33 years
3 rd	Ken & Dolores Wiegand	55 years
22 nd	James & Deb Krugler	39 years
30 th	Michael & Vicki Kahn	35 years

FICLC Food Cabinet

If you would like to donate to help keep our own Food Cabinet stocked, please feel free to donate any of the following:

Canned meats
Beans
Canned soups
Canned stews or chili
Canned vegetables
Canned fruits
Jarred pasta sauce

It is important that the items purchased be in either cans or jars for maximum shelf life.

K.Y.K.S. SHOE MINISTRY

K.Y.K.S. is gearing up for our back-to-school shoe giveaway in the fall!
 Please watch for announcements regarding how you can soon get involved in the KYKS ministry.



Financial Report

Friends in Church Lutheran Church 2017

General Fund	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$ 10,621.57	\$ 13,177.42	\$ 12,854.18	\$ 56,216.13	\$ 59,075.00
Expenses	\$ 12,958.17	\$ 11,176.37	\$ 12,989.15	\$ 62,040.04	\$ 66,318.84
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (2,336.60)	\$ 2,001.05	\$ (134.97)	\$ (5,684.96)	\$ (7,243.84)

Building Maintenance Fund	YTD ACTUAL
Grundy County Bank	\$ 46,236.38
LCEF	\$ 5,942.53
Total	\$ 52,178.91

VBS
2017



A Mighty Fortress



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 10:45am - Worship	26	27 9am - Bible Study	28	29	30	1 Communion 5:30pm - Worship
2 Communion 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 10:45am - Worship	3	4 Independence Day	5 10am - LWML	6 4pm - St Vincnts Table	7	8 5:30pm - Worship
9 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 10:45am - Worship 12:30pm - Youth	10 1pm - Senior Service	11 9am - Bible Study 1pm - Euchre Club 4pm - Elders Meeting 5:30pm - Friendly Srs.	12	13	14	15 Communion 5:30pm - Worship
16 Ephphatha Conference - Indianapolis Communion 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 10:45am - Worship	17	18 9am - Bible Study 10am - Mission	19	20	21	22 5:30pm - Worship
23 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 10:45am - Worship	24	25 Higher Things Conference - Valparaiso, Indiana	26	27	28	29 5:30pm - Worship
30 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 10:45am - Worship	31	1 KYKS Fittings 1pm - Euchre Club	2 10am - LWML	3	4	5 Communion 5:30pm - Worship