

JULY 2018

Friends in Christ News

Friends in Christ Lutheran Church – 1338 Clay Street – Morris, IL 60450

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Come Worship with us!

Saturday Evenings	...	5:30 p.m.
Sunday Mornings	...	8:15 a.m.
	...	10:45 a.m.
Family Bible Study	...	9:30 a.m.
(Tuesday Bible Study	...	9:00 a.m.)

We had a ball at VBS! See page 4 for more pictures from our fun-filled week...



The Cost of Freedom

We are at a time in our nation's history where the liberties and freedoms of our nation are very much on our minds. We have heard songs like "God Bless America" and "America the Beautiful." In Church we have sung songs with the words, "God bless our native land" and "Oh, be our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay; Your Word our law, Your paths our chosen way."

Notice that the song chosen to be our national anthem talks about "rockets' red glare," "bombs bursting in air" and finishes the first verse with a question. There is a cost to freedom.

There are famous quotes such as, "the cost of liberty is eternal vigilance." Right now we have loved ones, family members and friends across the ocean standing on guard that our nation may not come under attack. Please do remember to pray for them regularly. Heavenly Father protect them and bring them home. Keep them strong in faith and faithful to You. Amen.

Freedom comes at a price and throughout history that price has been measured in the sacrifice of life, the shedding of blood, and the acceptance of suffering. Many of us could recite the words toward the beginning of the Declaration of Independence that talk about "all men are created equal," and about

being endowed by our Creator with the unalienable rights of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." But did you know that the Declaration of Independence ends with these words, "with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

Freedom comes (Continued on page 2)

Save the Date:

JULY 9:	Senior Service	1:00 p.m.
JULY 10:	Friendly Seniors	11:30 a.m.
JULY 11:	LWML Meeting	10:00 a.m.
JULY 15:	Youth Night	2:00 p.m.
JULY 26:	Church Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
JULY 30:	K.Y.K.S. Shoe Fitting	9:00 a.m.

(Continued from page 1)

at a price.

Part of that price is to consider freedom as something so precious that we are willing to lay down our very lives for it.

Treasuring freedom runs deeply through Christianity too: From Moses' words to Pharaoh, "Let My people go!"; to the Song of Zechariah (the father of John the Baptist at the naming of his son), "That we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies: might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him: all the days of our life." This is the freedom of the soul, and the freedom to live to God.

Freedom of the soul also comes at a price. It is purchased and won at a cost. Someone must stand on the front lines and must fight for this freedom. The price is measured out in suffering; in the shedding of blood and laying down His life. So Peter says, "It was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect." (1 Peter 1:18-19)

This is how we have been set free. When Jesus says, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free" He is talking about that specific truth of His love, His suffering, His death, and His resurrection.

When freedom is purchased, whether freedom of a nation or freedom of the soul, it is given as a gift. Most of those who enjoy it did not pay the price to earn it. It is an inheritance. As a nation we enjoy our freedoms because of those who treasured freedom more than life. So it is to be treasured in our hearts and honored in our lives. We honor those who sacrificed when we guard our freedoms and live with truth and responsibility.

Freedom of the soul is a gift from God. We are to treasure it in our hearts. We do this with our worship and in our prayers. When we gather for Church we sing from the heart. We put our emotions into our worship because of the goodness and joy of being God's people.

With our lives we honor the freedom that God has given us. When we do acts of kindness, love one another, and seek to follow the will of God – these things tell the story of how much the love of Jesus means to us. Paul said, "You have been bought with a price, therefore honor God with your body." (1 Corinthians 6:20) To do so is both our act of worship toward God, and a testimony to the world around us.

This July as you celebrate the freedom you have been given remember that it is a gift. Look for an opportunity to personally thank a veteran. And do not neglect to thank and praise God who has purchased and won your soul through Jesus.

Pastor Mark



Our next **LWML** meeting: **(Wed) July 11th - 10:00 a.m.**

We will have a guest speaker, Deaconess, Dr. Jennie Asher, who is a missionary in Germany.



Jennie organizes the children's ministry and assists with ministry to the women in the congregation at Kaiserslautern Evangelical Lutheran Church (KELC). In addition, she works with the LCMS partner church in Germany, Selbständige Evangelisch—Lutherische Kirche (SELK), to coordinate GEO (globally engaged in outreach) missionaries from the United States who come to Germany to assist in reaching out to refugees. Jennie also serves the LCMS as the interim director of Communications for the Eurasia region and as a facilitator for online missiological studies offered to other LCMS missionaries. Her husband, Rev. Joe Asher, is the pastor of the Kaiserslautern congregation.

YOUTH NEWS!

YOUTH NIGHT: Sunday, July 15th from 2:30 It's time for a swim party!

Everyone will meet at the church at 2:00 for a devotion to start our fun off right. Then we will drive to the pool, swim from 2:30 until 5:00 and follow up with a cookout across the way at the park - because by that time we will be FAMISHED! Bring a friend! Bring a towel! ...and get ready to have some FUN!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays at 9:30 a.m. YES! This is for kids **AND** adults. Come join us! Ok, kids: we may be taking a break from our regular classes for the summer but that DOESN'T mean we should take a break from studying God's Word together! In June we watched an incredible video series. We have a GREAT Pastor who knows how to break stuff down and make it understandable; the hour goes by surprisingly FAST! So come on and bring your mom and dad! See you next Sunday!

VBS: We had *quite* the WILD adventure this week!

Just look at all we learned:

(Monday) God is always with us – like how He was with baby Moses in the Jordan river.

God said, "But I will be with you." Exodus 3:12

(Tuesday) God Gives us life – like how He brought the Israelites through the Jordan river into a new life in the promised land!

And this is the promise that He made to us—eternal life. 1 John 2:25

(Wednesday) God is faithful – like how He faithfully healed Naaman of his leprosy in the muddy Jordan river.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope . . . for He who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23



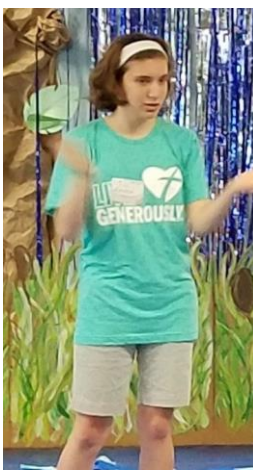
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VBS: *(Continued from page 3...)*

(Thursday) God gives us hope – like when He saved Paul and 275 others from a sinking boat in a storm. God promises: “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.” Isaiah 43:2

(Friday) Jesus is our Savior – We saw how Jesus was baptized to take on our sins - so that He could bring them to the cross in our place! He paid the price for us so that now we can live eternally with Him. What an awesome God we serve!

For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him. 2 Corinthians 1:20



Senior Service

Monday, July 9th at 1:00 p.m.
(Luncheon immediately following)

Friendly Seniors

Tuesday, July 10th at 11:30 p.m.
Dock Rotz Restaurant & Tavern
(859 S. Ridge Road, Minooka, IL)

If you would like to join us, please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin table in the sanctuary or call the church office.



July 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
	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

July Anniversaries

1 st	Mike & Brenda Collins	34 years
3 rd	Ken & Dolores Wiegand	56 years
22 nd	James & Deb Krugler	40 years
30 th	Michael & Vicki Kahn	36 years



Financial Report

Friends in Church Lutheran Church 2018

General Fund	1st QUARTER	APRIL	MAY	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$ 34,009.76	\$ 17,338.62	\$ 11,628.27	\$ 62,976.65	\$ 68,275.00
Expenses	\$ 38,698.77	\$ 13,043.80	\$ 12,049.77	\$ 63,792.34	\$ 68,275.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (4,689.01)	\$ 4,294.82	\$ (421.50)	\$ (815.69)	\$ -

Prayer Calendar

JULY 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>Please pray daily for Pastor Willig, Deb Carter, Kris Farber and their families. Missionaries everywhere, Iglesia San Pablo Church, Deaf Ministry, People of the Book Outreach, Salam Christian Fellowship and Christians being persecuted.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Help us Lord to remember You in our daily lives this summer. Deut. 10:12</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Help us not to judge others but accept each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. 1 Sam 16:7</p>	<p>4</p> <p>God Bless America!</p> <p>Lord we thank You for letting us live in a country where we can worship You openly.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Lord be with our troops as they continue to serve our country here and overseas. Bless them and bring them closer to You.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>To help God's word to take root in our lives we must read and study His Word and listen to Him. Lord help us to go to Your word daily. James 1:22-24</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Lord, take away my worries and let me turn them over to You. Matt 10:31</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Thank You for giving us a clean slate each day so we can start fresh in You O Lord.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>God, I pray that everyone I meet will experience Your peaceful presence in my words and actions. Isaiah 64:8</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Lord help us to remember that prayer is our vital connection to You. John 15:4-7</p>	<p>11</p> <p>We pray that unity across our entire ministry will abound. Ecc. 4:9-10</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Lord, help us to seek opportunities to witness to others and help us to recognize the opportunities that You give us and help us to act on them.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>God, fill me with Your peace so that I can share it with my family, friends, and neighbors. Eph. 2:14</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Pray that we will put on the full armor of God and be alert to Satan's strategies.</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Lord, please call us out of sin and give us the opportunity to become acquainted with You. Prov. 2:6</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Lord, bless the youth in our church help them to hear You this summer and to keep You in their everyday lives.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Lord, help us to worship You with all our hearts, souls and minds.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Please help us to realize that weekly worship is a priority for all in the body of Christ.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>God, create in us a pure heart and renew a steadfast spirit within us. Psalm 51:10</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Help us to spend time in Your Word Lord. Psalm 1:2-3</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Pray that God would comfort those among us that are ill or are going through difficult times.</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Lord, put on our hearts to be active in some way in our church.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Lord, help us to love You above everything else and then to pass that love along to others.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Lord, help us to want You in our lives and to know that the Spirit of the Lord will never stay where He is not wanted. Heb. 6:7-8</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Lord, help us to put our trust in You. Prov. 3:5-6</p>	<p>26</p> <p>God, help me to always have a spirit of appreciation and thanksgiving. Psalm 16:11</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Lord, Your Word is like something precious buried in a field. Help us to dig into Your Word deeper and wait patiently to get Your full revelation for our lives. Matt 7:7-8</p>	<p>28</p> <p>God, whenever possible us me to rebuild what is broken. Titus 3:14</p>
<p>29</p> <p>God, work within me to accomplish abundantly what You want me to do for more that I could imagine. Eph. 3:20</p>	<p>30</p> <p>God, show us the path to reconciliation wherever it is needed. Psalm 34:14</p>	<p>31</p> <p>We Thank You for our blessings Lord. Matt 5:3-11</p>				

July 2018 – Friends in Christ Lutheran Church, Morris, Illinois

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 COMMUNION 6th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship	2	3 9:00 AM – Bible Study 1:00 PM – Euchre Club 7:00 PM – Elders	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY	5	6	7 5:30 PM – Worship
8 7th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM -- Worship	9 1:00 PM – Senior Service	10 9:00 AM – Bible Study 11:30 AM – Friendly Seniors @ Dock Rotz 859 S. Ridge Rd., Minooka	11 10:00 AM – Lutheran Women's Missionary League	12	13	14 COMMUNION 5:30 PM -- Worship
15 COMMUNION 8th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship 5:00 PM – Youth Night	16 10:00 AM – Park Pointe	17 9:00 AM – Bible Study	18	19	20	21 5:30 PM -- Worship
22 9th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship	23	24	25	26 7:00 PM – Church Council	27	28 5:30 PM – Worship
29 10th Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 AM – Worship' 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship	30 KYKS Shoe Fitting 8:30 AM - Noon	31 9:00 AM – Bible Study				