

# Friends in Christ News

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

## In This Issue

PASTOR'S ARTICLE .....	1, 2
LWML .....	3
SENIOR SERVICE .....	4
FRIENDLY SENIORS .....	4
BIRTHDAYS .....	4
ANNIVERSARIES .....	4
BIBLE PRESENTATIONS ..	4
YOUTH NEWS .....	5
MUSTARD SEED DEVOTION	6
FINANCIAL REPORT .....	6
CHURCH CALENDAR .....	7



## 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.)

## Taking a Vacation From God

*(The names in this article are picked at random and have no connection with anyone in particular.)*

What would it be like? The summer months are here and it's time for school to be out for a while. Our children can sleep a little longer. We look forward to some relaxing evenings, spending time with family, going places, perhaps even a couple weeks of family vacation. But what would it be like if we were to be on vacation from God? Let's look at some snapshots of life on vacation from God.

**Joe:** *"I need someone to talk to. I'm confused and don't know how to handle the problems in my life."* Well, there is the gift of prayer, but we're on vacation from God.

**April:** *"The most wonderful thing just happened. It's a blessing."* But wait a minute! We're on vacation from God, so it can't be a blessing. It's just an accident!

**Ralph:** *"I tell my children to do the right thing. But they just look at me as if I were from another planet. I can't understand it."* Did Ralph forget? We're on vacation from God. There is no right, or any wrong. There's only what you want to do and what you can get away with.

**Louise:** *"Wow! That car just missed me. Wasn't he looking where he was going? Was I being careful? It's a good thing God was watching out and sent His angels!"* But Louise doesn't realize that we're on vacation from God. She has only herself to watch out for her. So she had better be a lot more careful! *(Continued on page 2)*



## Save the Date:

<b>JUNE 6:</b>	LWML Meeting	7:00 p.m.
<b>JUNE 11:</b>	Senior Service	1:00 p.m.
<b>JUNE 12:</b>	Friendly Seniors	11:30 a.m.
<b>JUNE 16:</b>	VBS Set Up Day	9:00 a.m.
<b>JUNE 17:</b>	Youth Night/Final VBS set up	3:00 p.m.
<b>JUNE 18-22:</b>	Vacation Bible School	9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
<b>JUNE 22:</b>	VBS Closing Service	11:30 a.m.
<b>JUNE 28:</b>	St. Vincent's Table	4:00 p.m.
	Church Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.

**Geoff:** *"This is great! Since we went on vacation from God, Mom and Dad don't make me go to Church, or say my prayers. I can use all the bad language I want, and they don't care whether I eat supper or go to bed. I stay up all night, play video games and eat candy; and then I sleep most of the afternoon."* Geoff thinks he understands and is having a great time right now. He's on vacation from God; but living without God never ends well.

What are you planning to do this summer? Whatever you do, don't go on vacation from God. Without God there is no one to hear our prayers, or blessings given to us from someone who loves us, or right and wrong. The pattern of worship is a good thing for our souls, and the pattern of discipleship is a good thing for our entire life.

Most of all, thank God! He does not go on vacation from us! He is there every moment, doing the job of being God, watching over us, being our Good Shepherd, and guiding us. There is nothing that can be a greater blessing than our relationship with Him.

### What to do this summer . . .

**Vacation Bible School** is June 18-22 (9 – 11:30 a.m.) – Preschool to just finishing 6<sup>th</sup> Grade. We can use helpers to set up on June 16 and 17 (see the calendar). And extra helpers are good to have during the week.

**Bible Study on Tuesday mornings** at 9:00 a.m. We are continuing on into the writings of the Apostle John; briefly revisiting the Gospel of John, then into the letters of John.

**Take time each day to deliberately focus on prayer.** It's better than what's on TV.

**Read through the Gospels.** There are 89 chapters. Read a chapter a day and keep a diary of what jumps out at you most vividly (or) surprises you in each chapter. (This even works as a family activity where you have to decide together what jumps out at you.)

But whatever you do, do not go on vacation from God. Everything is better with Him. The bad is less bad; the good is more good. The problems are shared with someone wiser and stronger. The blessings are multiplied.

And when you do go on vacation remember to worship.

Pastor Mark Willig

**Psalms 40:4** – Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!

**Isaiah 48:17** – Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go.

**Psalms 121:1-2** – I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes the LORD, who made the heaven and earth.

**Psalms 122:1** – I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"



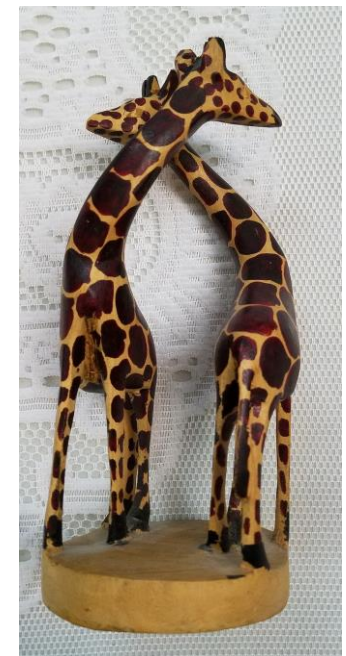


## Wednesday - June 6<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 p.m.

This month's meeting will feature a representative from New Beginnings, a women's help center and thrift store located in Morris.



Last month, Pastor Willig gave a presentation on his visits to Africa. Below are a few pictures of the beautiful carvings, artwork and tools he had brought back with him and had on display for us:



He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. - 2 Cor. 12:9



## Senior Service

**Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.**  
(Luncheon immediately following)

## Friendly Seniors

**Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 p.m.**  
Teardrop Pancake House  
(410 W. Mondamin, Minooka, IL)



## June Birthdays

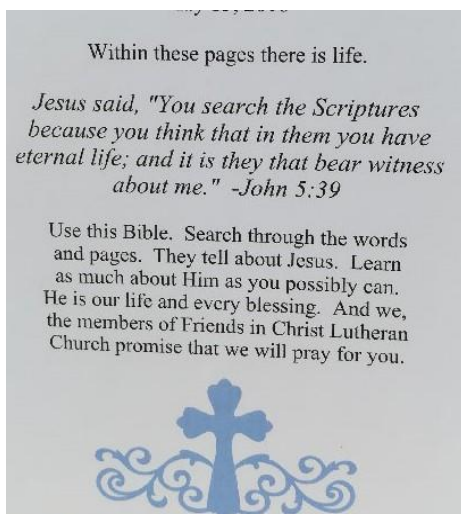
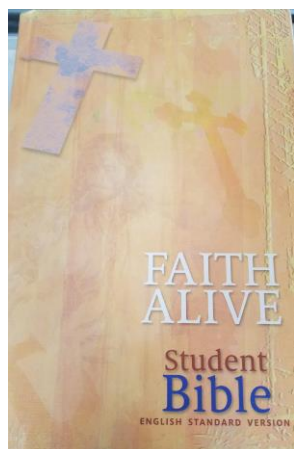
4 <sup>th</sup>	Deb Krugler
6 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Struck
7 <sup>th</sup>	Danielle Kahn Bob Lund
9 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth Deloian
10 <sup>th</sup>	Don Johnson
11 <sup>th</sup>	Linda Young
15 <sup>th</sup>	Byron Thorson
16 <sup>th</sup>	Duane Heren
18 <sup>th</sup>	Maddelyn Pool
19 <sup>th</sup>	Breenah Carlson
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Cynthia Jelm
24 <sup>th</sup>	Jennifer McComb
25 <sup>th</sup>	Shellie Halkyard
29 <sup>th</sup>	Cody Brandt
30 <sup>th</sup>	Marilee Kane

## Bible Presentations

On May 13, during the 8:15 and 10:45 worship services, Pastor presented Bibles to our youth. Some kids have never had a Bible to call their very own so this was very exciting! Pastor wrote a special letter of encouragement to the kids and had placed it in each one. Those who received Bibles were Signey Carter (12), Elicia Kirk (12), Teddy Ruedin (10), Tarahji Taylor (10), Lily Thompson (10) and Joseph Van Heiden (12).

## June Anniversaries

5 <sup>th</sup>	Mark & Cathy Thompson	14 years
16 <sup>th</sup>	Curtis & Jana Johnson	61 years
24 <sup>th</sup>	Jerald & Connie Van Heiden	42 years
26 <sup>th</sup>	Bob & Phyllis Lund	70 years



10:45 Service recipients: Lily Thompson and Signey Carter

## YOUTH NEWS!

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



*Splash...* **JUNE 18 - 22 4:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.**  
into VBS this year as we ride the rapids and dive into God's Word,  
learning about what the Bible says about water and our salvation!

## REGISTER NOW!

Register online at [www.ficlc.org](http://www.ficlc.org) or call the church office today at 815/941-1255!

**We still need volunteers!** (Trust us - we have as much fun as the kids do!) If you'd like to help out, call the church office or simply register as a volunteer on our website.

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**YOUTH NIGHT:** Sunday, JUNE 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 until ??? We will be helping to set up any last-minute preparations for VBS. (Yes. We will feed you, too!)

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sundays at 9:30 a.m. (Yeah. You read that right.)

Ok, you guys. So 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! (Read Pastor's article on page one if you haven't already!) 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! And, hey! --- if you feel the urge to bring donuts, too, to "wash the coffee down", I'm sure no one will complain! See you next Sunday!



Mustard Seed

## Daily Devotions

Lutheran Women in Mission

## Wrong Conclusions: Who entered his own look-alike contest...and lost?

### In the Word

*"The LORD does not look at the things man looks at.*

*Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."*

1 Samuel 16:7b

### Of the Word

Who entered his own look-alike contest and lost?

Charlie Chaplin!

Charlie Chaplin once entered a Charlie Chaplin look-alike contest and lost! He was not even a finalist. The judges' standards made them reach the wrong conclusion.

Have you ever been misjudged? Has someone taken a look at you and drawn a wrong or hurtful conclusion? That has probably happened to all of us. Chances are we have probably misjudged others, too.

God judges fairly every time. People look at actions and appearances to draw conclusions. But God, in total love, looks at the heart. *"The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart"* (1 Samuel 16:7b).

By God's grace, our hearts are changed and He sees the faith that the Holy Spirit has given us.

### Walking with My Lord

*O Lord, thank You for looking deep into my heart and still loving me. Forgive me for the times I have judged others by their outward appearances. Through Your Holy Spirit help me look at others with loving eyes. In Your forgiving name I pray. Amen.*



## 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		\$ 51,348.38	\$ 54,620.00
Expenses	\$ 38,698.77	\$ 13,043.80		\$ 51,742.57	\$ 54,620.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (4,689.01)	\$ 4,294.82	\$ -	\$ (394.19)	\$ -

## June 2018 – Friends in Christ Lutheran Church, Morris, Illinois

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2 <b>COMMUNION</b> 5:30 PM – Worship
3 <b>COMMUNION</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship 3:00 PM – Installation of Rev. Allan Buss as NID President @ Concordia, River Forest	4	5 9:00 AM – Bible Study 1:00 PM – Euchre Club 7:00 PM – Elders	6 7:00 PM – Lutheran Women's Missionary League	7	8	9 5:30 PM – Worship
10 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship	11 1:00 PM – Senior Service	12 9:00 AM – Bible Study 11:30 AM – Friendly Seniors @ Tear Drop Pancake House, 410 W. Mondamin, Minooka	13	14	15	16 <b>COMMUNION</b> 9:00 AM – Vacation Bible School Set Up 5:30 PM – Worship
17 <b>COMMUNION</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship 3:00 PM – Youth Night & VBS Final Set Up	V A C A T I O N   B I B L E   S C H O O L 9:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. M O N D A Y – F R I D A Y      Friday – 11:30 AM VBS Closing Service 1:00 PM – Park Pointe Assisted Living 2:00 PM – Park Pointe 3:00 PM – Regency Care					23 5:30 PM – Worship
24 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (Nativity of St. John the Baptist) 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM -- Worship	25	26 9:00 AM – Bible Study	27	28 4:00 PM – St. Vincent's Table @ First Presbyterian 7:00 PM – Church Council	29	30 <b>COMMUNION</b> 5:30 PM – Worship