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FRIENDS IN CHRIST NEWS



Friends in Christ Lutheran Church – 1338 Clay Street – Morris, IL 60450 www.ficlc.org
Office: (M-F) 10:00 am-1:00 pm (815/941-1255)

Age to Age, Generation to Generation:

To the Ends of the Earth the Kingdom of Jesus Christ

The month of May carries a theme from beginning to end. This year it comes up on May 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th, and in the milestones of life. It has to do with the spread of the Kingdom of God from place to place and through generation after generation.

St. Athanasius – May 2

The traditional date for remembering Athanasius is May 2. He was the one who stood up when it was popular to say that Jesus was not really God but just kind-of divine. From the early 300's AD, Athanasius boldly confessed and taught from the Bible that Jesus is truly God, in every sense of the word, "of one substance with the Father". He was behind the writing of the Nicene Creed at the Council of Nicea in 325. And then when it became popular to deny that Jesus is God, Athanasius spoke out and said, "NO!" He was exiled, removed by the civil authorities from his congregation, and pursued by them to arrest and imprison him for teaching that Jesus is truly God. Faithful Christians hid him, and his members would come secretly to receive Communion. This went on for decades. Meanwhile Athanasius wrote, and wrote some more, and wrote again how the Bible absolutely does say that Jesus is God. Finally, people listened and realized how completely the Bible teaches what he had been saying. Because God is and God is not silent, truth will finally prevail.



Mother's Day – May 9

The Gospel doesn't only spread by sending missionaries overseas or knocking on doors. It is amazing how much evangelism happens in ways that are simple, quiet and almost unnoticed. You do not read the headline or see a Special Report on the news: "Mother Reads Bible Story to Children Before Bedtime; then they said their prayers."

But how many believers down through the years, generation after generation, have come into the Kingdom of God through Christian mothers and grandmothers, praying for them, carrying them to their

WORSHIP TIMES:

Saturday Evenings ... 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Mornings ... 9:30 a.m.
(Sunday morning 9:30 a.m. service is live-streamed at www.facebook.com/ficlc)

Sunday Bible Study ... 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Study ... 9:00 a.m.
(Online via ZOOM)



SAVE THE DATE:

MAY 2: Voters' Assembly Meeting 10:30 a.m.
MAY 4: Elders' Meeting 7:00 p.m.
MAY 8: Stewardship Board Meeting 4:00 p.m.
MAY 9: Sunday Bible Study resumes 10 30 a.m.
MAY 27: Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
MAY 31: Memorial Day Office Closed

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baptism, bringing them to Church, and reading the Bible with them?

When mothers pray with their children, or read to them from a Bible Story book, it is evangelism.

When parents teach their children to know Jesus as their Savior and call on Him in prayer, they are leading a new generation to Jesus. This is a charge given to parents by God Himself (Deuteronomy 6:7, and Mark 10:13-16), and is part of the life breath of the Christian church. As the Gospel was brought to us through many generations, it will continue on to the end of the world.

Ascension – May 13, and Pentecost – May 23

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Trinity Sunday – May 30

We praise God the Father who created us and sent His Son; God the Son who came into this world, was born in Bethlehem, went to the cross for us, rose from the dead, and will return to judge and bring us into eternal life; and God the Holy Spirit who speaks the Word of God into our souls, creating faith and connecting us with Jesus Christ. We confess our faith before the whole world, because this is the teaching that connects us to God, and these are the truths that bring eternal life.

The Whole Month

From beginning to end May is about the message of Salvation moving through the world and through the ages. And, as all of this is happening, our young people are going through graduations, passing different milestones in life, and moving from one stage of life to the next. There are changes happening, and some of them are pretty big.

Through it all our God watches, remembers, guides and invites to walk with Him. For those who will, they find out that a walk with God is the most amazing adventure and path of life they could possibly have. Like Jesus said to Nathaniel, "... You will see greater things than these. ... you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." (John 1:50-51)

Happy Easter! Happy Mother's Day! Happy Ascension Day! Happy Pentecost! Happy Trinity Sunday! Christ is Risen!

Rev Mark Willig



LWML

We will **NOT** be meeting in May . . .

LWML CONVENTION 2021

Bonnie Nelson has been selected to as this year's delegate for NID – Zone 7 and has accepted the invitation to attend the LWML Convention this summer. Please pray for safe travels as she meets/worships/learns alongside hundreds of other LWML women from across the U.S. all while growing closer to our Lord.

Date:

June 24–27, 2021

Location:

Lexington, Kentucky

Theme:

Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus

Bonnie Nelson has been selected to be this year's delegate for the NID District

Scripture Verse:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God (*Hebrews 12:1-2*).

President:

Debbie Larson

Goal Statement:

Looking to Jesus, we run the race set before us and proclaim the joy of the Lord.

Objectives:

Convention attendees will:

- Focus on Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament.
- Joyfully celebrate our salvation with song and prayer.
- Serve our neighbors through witness and mission.



May
BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Dan Ryan
- 3rd Wade Tondini
- 4th Eileen Tondini
- 9th Simone Pearcy
- 17th Jody Cupp
- 19th Jeannine Halkyard
- 22nd De Kirchhoff
- 25th Jeremy Van Heiden
- 29th Lily Thompson
- 31st Larry Heck

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with Whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

- Ephesians 4 :30-32

May
ANNIVERSARIES

- 12th Stephen & Cynthia Jelm 37 years
- Adolf & Sharon Wendling 59 years
- 14th Byron & Lynn Thorson 44 years

Financial Report Friends in Christ Lutheran Church 2021




THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH DURING CORONAVIRUS

General Fund	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	YTD Actual	BUDGETED
Income	\$ 9,719.67	\$ 12,137.83	\$ 12,835.12			\$ 34,692.62	\$ 35,085.00
Expenses	\$ 9,409.76	\$ 9,308.01	\$ 13,064.45			\$ 31,782.22	\$ 35,073.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 309.91	\$ 2,829.82	\$ (229.33)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,910.40	

Prayer Calendar

MAY 2021



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						Please pray daily for Pastor Willig, Deb Carter, Kis Farber and their families. Pray for Missionaries, Deaf Ministry, Doctors, Nurses and anyone working in the medical field, Police, Fire and EMTs. Those working everywhere.
2 Lord you are our Good Shepherd help us as your sheep to hear and know Your voice so we can follow You. John 10:1-18	3 Thank You Lord for enabling us to trust in You and lean not on our own understanding. Proverbs 3:5	4 Lord we ask that You would bless the farmers as they plant the fields. Bless them with a good harvest this year and help them to remember others less fortunate.	5 Lord, Thank You for serving as our rock, fortress, deliverer, shield, horn of salvation, and stronghold. Psalm 18:2	6 Help us to pray for those we have a conflict with and not be so quick to judge. Matt 5:43-44	7 Thank You for giving us courage and boldness to follow Your leadership Lord.	8 Lord, forgive me for failing to show sympathy to those who are different from me. Help me to be more accepting of others. Matthew 6:14
9 We thank You for mothers. Bless them today and everyday for they do so much for us.	10 We thank You for the gift of time Lord. Please help us to prioritize the time You have given us and use it wisely for You.	11 We pray that You would shore up single parents and help them to make You Lord a priority in their families lives.	12 Lord I come to You in prayer and ask You now to let Your Peace Lord which transcends all understanding guard my heart and my mind in You O Lord. Phillipians 4:7	13 Lord, help us to put all our trust in You. Proverbs 3:5-6	14 Thank You God for loving us enough to send Your Son Jesus Christ to die and rise again so that by Your grace and our faith we can be with You forever.	15 As brothers and sisters in Christ help us to make decisions that are pleasing in God's eyes and treat others as God would. Ephesians 4:32
16 Lord guide us to sow Your word like the farmer sows the seed. Mark 4:13-20	17 God, we offer praise and thanksgiving for every good and perfect gift comes from You. James 1:17	18 Lord, please bless us with wisdom, discernment and a God-like-like heart for all our congregation.	19 Lord, help us to remember to come to You first in prayer. John 15:7	20 Lord, Thank You for giving us hope in You every day. Without You we would never make it.	21 Lord we thank You for the children in our congregation. Bless them and bring them closer to You.	22 We pray for discernment for our President and Vice President. Help them to make decisions that are pleasing to You Lord.
23 Lord, release a spirit of prayer in our families. May we rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in everything. 1 Thes. 5:16-18	24 Lord give me the strength to make difficult decisions and the wisdom to make good decisions. Psalm 32: 8-9	25 We pray for the leaders around the world. Help them to make good decisions for their countries.	26 We pray for those in our congregation who need healing.	27 Lord, calm my mind and stop my worries and help me find peace despite uncertainty. Col. 3:15	28 Lord help Missionaries, health care providers, aid organizations around the world to stay safe and healthy. Psalm 91:9-10	29 Lord, as we repent of our sins help us to follow in Your footsteps. Acts 8:22
30 As we take time for summer vacations from school help us to remember not to take a vacation from You O Lord.	31 Lord, today is Memorial Day. Help us to remember those who have served our country and those that are serving. Be with the families of those who have lost loved ones and protect those that are still serving.					

May, 2021 – Friends in Christ Lutheran Church, Morris, Illinois



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1 COMMUNION 5:30 PM – Worship
2 COMMUNION 5 th Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM – Worship & Live Streamed 10:30 AM – Voters’ Assembly	3	4 9:00 AM – Bible Study 7:00 PM – Elders	5	6	7	8 5:30 PM – Worship
9 6 th Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM – Worship & Live-Streamed 10:30 AM – Bible Study Hour	10	11 9:00 AM – Bible Study	12	13	14	15 COMMUNION 5:30 PM – Worship
16 COMMUNION 7 th Sunday of Easter 9:30 AM – Worship & Live-Streamed 10:30 AM – Bible Study Hour	17	18 9:00 AM – Bible Study	19	20	21	22 5:30 PM – Worship
23 Pentecost 9:30 AM – Worship & Live-Streamed 10:30 AM – Bible Study Hour	24	25 9:00 AM – Bible Study	26	27	28	29 5:30 PM – Worship
30 Trinity Sunday 9:30 AM – Worship & Live-Streamed 10:30 AM – Bible Study Hour	31 Memorial Day					