

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 7

*Friends Bringing Friends to Christ*

# Friends in Christ News

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



## In This Issue

Pastor's Article	1-2, 4
Birthdays/Anniversaries	2
L.W.M.L.	2
Senior Service	3
Friendly Seniors	3
Rally Day	5
Youth Night	5
Financial report	5
Prayer Calendar	6
Church Calendar	7



## **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

## **Why is Sunday School Important?**

**("Remember the Sabbath Day, to Keep it Holy")**

### **A Different Day:**

In Genesis we read that God "rested on the seventh day, . . . So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, . . ." (Gen. 2:2-3) The definition of "holy" has two parts: (1) Holy means without sin; and (2) Holy means separated or set apart for God's use. That second part of the meaning comes out in a surprising number of verses. One of them is the third commandment.

Not every day was to be the same. There was a pattern that God set into the created world. Six days were for work; but that one day was for rest, for paying attention to your relationship with God, and for appreciating God's good work.

Now here is the key question: How were Adam and Eve to rest and *(Continued on p.2)*

## **Save the Date!**

SEPT 2:	LWML	7:00 p.m.
SEPT 3:	Sunday School Begins	9:30 a.m.
SEPT 10:	Congregational Meeting	9:30 a.m.
SEPT 11:	Senior Service	1:00 p.m.
SEPT 12:	Euchre Club <i>(Special date)</i>	1:00 p.m.
	Friendly Seniors	5:30 p.m.
SEPT 17:	Youth Day	(TBA)



**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Back-to-School Bowling Night ...p. 5**

*Office Hours*  
**10:00 a.m. –  
1:00 p.m.**

*Contact us:*  
[office@ficlc.org](mailto:office@ficlc.org)  
**815/941-1255**

**Why is Sunday School Important?** *(Continued from p. 1)*

appreciate God's good work? Right at the center of everything was God's Word! It was the same for them as it is for us. Adam and Eve were to hear God's word; to talk with God; to worship God; and to enjoy His good creation. Without hearing God's word they could not enjoy His good creation the way it should be enjoyed. But there is more . . .

**The Sabbath and More!**

It is not only the Sabbath Day that was set apart as special. Adam and Eve were set apart also! They were not the same as the rest of God's creation. Not like the animals, they were to live in God's presence and share in the things He was doing; and that was supposed to be forever. Not like the animals, they were given language so they could understand God's word and communicate with Him. Not like the animals, they were given rational minds so they could know what is good and turn away from what is evil. They were created in the image of God; to have fellowship with Him. The Bible tells us several reasons for setting aside a Sabbath, a day for worship. None of those reasons is any more profound than simply

*(Continued on p. 4)*

**September Birthdays**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Paige Thorson
2 <sup>nd</sup>	David Smolich
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Doris Peterson
4 <sup>th</sup>	Arik Applebee Phyllis Lund
7 <sup>th</sup>	Doris Stangland
8 <sup>th</sup>	Sarah Riordan
11 <sup>th</sup>	David Halkyard
12 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Olson
17 <sup>th</sup>	Norma Carlson Gary Schultz
27 <sup>th</sup>	Amber Brown
28 <sup>th</sup>	Mark Willig

**September Anniversaries**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Greg & Deidre Carlson	26 years
6 <sup>th</sup>	Art & Willene Turner	65 years
17 <sup>th</sup>	Doug & Jeannine Halkyard	40 years

**Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 P.M.**



1947



1991



To the next 75 years of mission

Please make note that our meeting will be held *in the evening* this month. We will have a devotion using Chocolate and a project. Plan on attending!

## Senior Service

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT 1:00 p.m.**

Join us for worship and a fellowship luncheon immediately following. All are welcome.

## Friendly Seniors

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 AT 5:30 p.m.**

**AL's STEAKHOUSE**

*(1990 W. Jefferson St., Joliet, IL)*



## There's an app for that!

Forget to pack your Portals of Prayer devotional booklet?

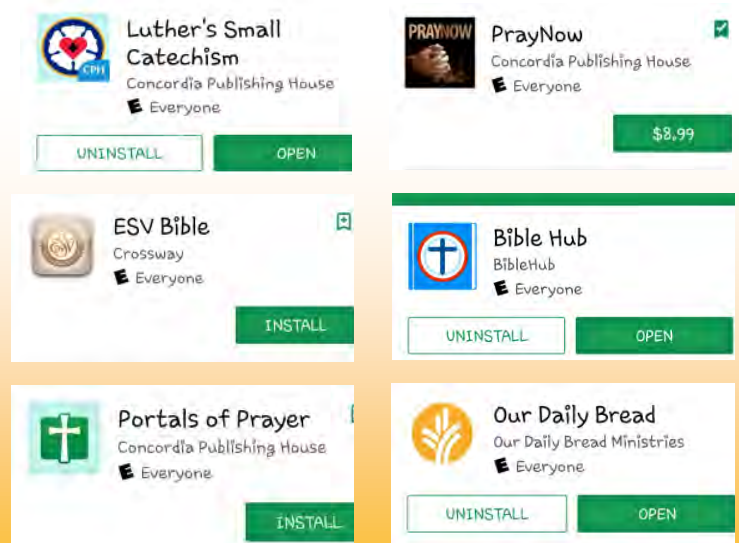
Having trouble remembering Luther's Morning Prayer?

How about spending the time in the doctor's waiting room in God's Word instead of the latest tabloid magazine?

Many of the devotionals you've come to love are available as downloadable apps for your smartphone or tablet for a minimal charge or even free!

Visit the App Store or Google Play Store\* to download titles such as Portals of Prayer, Our Daily Bread, Luther's Small Catechism, ESV Bible ... just to name a few!

*\*Images on right are only examples and are not direct links.*



**Why is Sunday School Important?** *(Continued from p. 2)*

because God rested. The pattern of their lives was to follow the pattern of God. Adam and Eve and all their children, grandchildren, and so on were live in a relationship with God.

**In Christ!**

The Apostle Paul says we are set apart in Jesus Christ, through Jesus Christ, for Jesus Christ, and with Jesus Christ forever! In fact the Greek word for Church means called out and set apart. (*Ek-klesia* is *klesia* = called; *ek* = out) so "called out." We have been called out and separated from the world to belong to God. We are to know God, to have a relationship with Him in Jesus Christ, to walk with Jesus and follow as disciples. Where is He going? Exactly what will happen? We don't know all the details, but we know it involves endless life. How Jesus called us to be His, cost Him something. It cost everything: the cross, His dying, three days in the tomb, and the unending commitment of being in the relationship with us as our Savior and friend. With all that how would I not want to come along and spend time with Him? Peter, for example, learned that following Jesus could involve some amazing adventures; like walking on water. As we walk with Jesus our destiny is eternal life and eternal light. We will see angels, and celebrate God's goodness in amazing ways.

**Who are you?**

The whole idea of being set apart tells us who we are. It is part of our confession of faith, "God has made me and all creatures . . ." Notice how it is personal. He has made "me," not just the whole world but "me personally. When we say this we are claiming a relationship with God. You, personally get to know God and share in the things of God. When we say this we claim eternity, because that kind of relationship is an eternal relationship.

(The other option is to say that we are no different from the animals, maybe a little smarter, but in the end nothing more to us and nothing left when we return to dust. Being set apart is good!)

(By the way, when you say grace and thank God for your food you are claiming something. You are saying to the world: "This is not just bread and meat and vegetables. This is bread and meat and vegetables that are given to me personally by God, prepared by His sun and rain and good earth, because He loves and cares for me and gives me food to give me life for today. Let everyone know that He is my God who has called me His friend.)

That's why we set aside a day for worship, because we are set apart to be different from the created world around us.

**Sunday School is ...; and our children are ...**

So what are our children? They are sons and daughters of God. They are set apart for God.

Sunday School is not only the lessons and the Bible Stories. It is setting aside time for a relationship given by Jesus that is forever. This is not just an ordinary hour. It is something special. It is set apart for God because we are set apart for God; and that is because God set apart His time, His grace, and His Son for you.

And it is not just for children. It is for everyone. The only exception might be for someone who has successfully learned all there is to know about God. (Only one person has ever fit that description.) But even then, especially that person will want to be involved and focus on their walk with God. (He did, morning by morning – Isaiah 50:4, Mark 1:35.)

Pastor Mark Willig  
1 Corinthians 2:2



## RALLY DAY ... with Martin Luther!

This year's Bible Study/Sunday School year got off to a great start as we celebrated the 500<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Reformation by learning more about Martin Luther. We reconnected with Charlie the puppet, played games mimicking Luther's actions, (like nailing his 95 theses on the Wittenberg door,) and crafted a replica of Luther's Seal. We pretended to smuggle Bibles across enemy lines just like Luther did in order to bring the Good News of Jesus' saving work on the Cross to those who needed to hear it most.

(Best of all, we sampled "Diet of Worm" cake – DELICIOUS!)



**"Nail the Theses to the Wittenberg Door" Game**  
(L to R) Laura Ruedin, Tisha Barnes, Teddy Ruedin, Signey Carter, Mary Ruedin, Tarahji Taylor, Jamie Ruedin and Sabina Woods (Not Pictured, Lily Thompson)



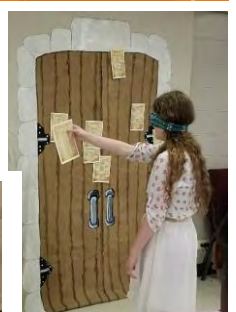
### "Smuggling God's Word" Game

After out-running guards that tried to capture them as they brought Bibles across enemy lines to the rendezvous point, Paula shared with the kids the many obstacles Luther had to endure as he brought God's Word to others in real life.



### "Charlie and his 95 Pieces" ...

Charlie the puppet just couldn't grasp the difference between "pieces" and "theses". (Watch the entire puppet show online at our website, [www.ficlc.org](http://www.ficlc.org))



Artist's rendition of Martin Luther nailing his 95 Theses to the Wittenberg door...



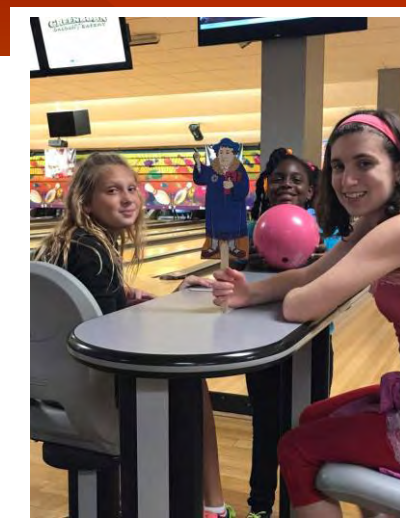
(L) Teddy tries throwing his indulgence into the Tetzel box. It's a good thing there is no such thing as purgatory or of all our relatives would still be there! (R) The kids craft Luther's Seal.





## YOUTH NIGHT

(Our Next Youth Night will be Sunday, September 17)



### Back-to-School Bowling

Nothing takes the edge off going back to school quite like an afternoon of bowling (and laughter) and hanging out with friends – including a new one:

#### Meet **FLAT MARTY!**

This year, in celebration of 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, we took FLAT MARTY bowling with us! We invite YOU to take FLAT MARTY along with YOU on your next adventure. Take pictures! When you get back, we'll print your story and pictures in our newsletter! Whether it's somewhere exotic or a trip to the hardware store, there's no telling of all the exciting people and places FLAT MARTY will see! Look for him soon between worship services or call the church office to find out how you can pick up your very own FLAT MARTY.

Let the excursions BEGIN!



## Financial Report

Friends in Church Lutheran Church 2017

General Fund	1ST QTR	2ND QTR	JULY	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$ 30,188.51	\$ 37,705.61	\$ 10,954.04	\$ 78,848.16	\$ 82,705.00
Expenses	\$ 37,874.52	\$ 37,148.99	\$ 14,789.94	\$ 89,813.45	\$ 92,845.67
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (7,686.01)	\$ 556.62	\$ (3,835.90)	\$ (10,965.29)	\$ (10,140.67)

JULY EXPENSES LESS KYKS - \$14,789.94 - \$2,766.35 = \$12,023.59

YTD EXPENSES LESS KYKS - \$89,813.45 - \$2,766.35 = \$87,047.10

# Prayer Calendar

# SEPTEMBER 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Please pray daily for Pastor Willig, Deb Carter and their families. Missionaries everywhere, Deaf ministry, Iglesia San Pablo Church, People of the Book Outreach, Salam Christian Fellowship, Missionaries in North Korea and Christians being persecuted.	Lord, bless this congregation. KYKS went so well this year because of our wonderful congregation. Thank you Lord for each and everyone who took time to help, donate, and pray for the families who get the shoes.
Lord, as our children come to Sunday School open their hearts and ears to hear Your word. Help them to put into practice what they learn. Bless the children and their teachers.	Lord, Be with all those who are in the path of hurricane Harvey. We ask that you keep them safe from harm and danger. Help them in their time of need.	Lord, be with all those who serve in the military. Help them to be safe and to come to know you and share Your message with others.	Lord, help me to always have a spirit of appreciation and thanksgiving for all that You have entrusted to me. Psalm 16:11	Lord, give each of us a hunger to be active in things at church and to step out of our comfort zone to see what You can do with us.	Thank You Lord for always loving and forgiving us!	Help us to meditate on Your Word Lord. Psalm 1:2-3
God, enable us to use the gifts we have received to serve others, faithfully administering Your grace. 1 Peter 32:8	God, strengthen my weaknesses and guide me to fulfill Your calling in my life. Rom. 8:26	I pray that everyone I meet will experience Your peaceful presence in my words and actions. Isaiah 64:8	Lord, be present in the lives and work of military chaplains. We ask for Your blessing on their ministry. Bless those they minister to. Rom 8:38-39	Lord, let prayer time be a wonderful time for us to talk to You like we would a friend. Thank You for listening to us.	Lord, so many times I don't know what to pray. Help the Holy Spirit to intercede for me when that happens. Rom. 8:26	Lord, help us to remember that prayer is a vital connection to You. John 15:4-7
Lord, help us to realize that weekly worship is a priority for all in the body of Christ.	Lord, bless those who receive shoes from us. Help to open their hearts and minds in some way to realize these are a gift from You. Bring them to know You and help them to believe in You and be saved.	Lord, thank You for the times You turn our mourning into dancing. Psalm 30:11	Lord, help us to worship with our eyes open to the needs and circumstances around our church. Deut 15:11	God, please guide our trustees to make decisions according to Your will.	Lord, help us to put You first in all we do.	May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in You. Psalm 33:22
Lord, create in us a pure heart and renew a steadfast spirit within us. Psalm 51:10	Lord, bless all who attend Iglesia San Pablo Church. Help them to be a light in Aurora to bring others to faith in You.	Lord, give single parents strength and wisdom to help them turn over their stressed and busy lives to You. Exodus 15:2	Help us not to judge others but accept each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. 1 Sam. 16:7 John 5:22	Thank You Lord for the living hope of eternal life made possible through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 1:3-5	Lord, grant safe travel to missionaries, aid organizations, and health care providers around the world. Psalm 91:9-10	Lord, remove my anxiety and fear so that I can be at peace with myself. Luke 12:32

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Sun Sch Rally Day 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 9:30am - Sun. Sch. 10:45am - Worship	28	29 9am - Bible Study	30	31	1	2 Communion 5:30pm - Worship
3 Communion 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 9:30am - Sun. Sch. 10:45am - Worship	4 Labor Day	5 9am - Bible Study 4pm - Elders Meeting	6 7pm - LWML	7	8	9 5:30pm - Worship
10 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Congregation 9:30am - Meeting 9:30am - Sun. Sch. 10:45am - Worship	11 1pm - Senior Service	12 9am - Bible Study 1pm - Euchre Club 5:30pm - Friendly Srs.	13	14	15	16 Communion 5:30pm - Worship
17 Communion 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 9:30am - Sun. Sch. 10:45am - Worship 5pm - Youth Night	18	19 9am - Bible Study 10am - Mission	20	21 7pm - Trustees Meeting	22 Nursing Homes 1pm - Assisted Living 2pm - Park Pointe 3pm - Regency Care	23 5:30pm - Worship
24 8:15am - Worship 9:30am - Bible Study 9:30am - Sun. Sch. 10:45am - Worship	25	26 Pastors' Conference 9am - Bible Study	27	28	29	30 Communion 5:30pm - Worship