

July 2023

# First Light

A NEWSLETTER OF  
FIRST LUTHERAN  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

FLCC Family,

Whenever summer rolls around my mind turns to travel. That's not to say I'm always thinking about getting away, but this is the time of year when trips become more of a possibility. The kids are out of school. There are less "special days" on the calendar. The weather is just begging for you to go out and explore.

But as I was contemplating our family's upcoming adventures, I was talking to a number of people in our congregation who can't travel as much as they once did. Whether because of finances, timing, or health they were staying closer to home this summer. It got me wondering if there was anything we as a church could do about that, if there was anything technology could do about that.

We regularly worry about the harm technology is doing. From social media concerns to who knows where AI will take us as a society, but look at what live-streaming has offered to members of our congregation that might have been labeled as shut in or homebound in the past. Now they are able to be more active members of our congregation, some even almost running little "satellite" churches of their own, bringing the light of FLCC to their neighbors in creative ways.

Which brings me to something we are starting after the 10am worship services on July 2nd. Every Sunday after worship we will be showing a short episode from the series "Drive Thru History—Acts To Revelation" that takes us through the books of the Bible by showing us the actual locations where those books happened. Each episode is under 30 minutes and will feature a brief discussion to follow. Also, once Golden Friends finishes it's current Bible study they will be taking on this same 18 week video series.

No, watching a video about a location is not the same as going to a location, but gathering together with your church community and sharing that experiencing of watching that, well that's one step closer, and then sharing those conversations of those places you have been, those places you have seen, and hearing about those places they've seen... well then you get transported.

I'd invite you to join us, either after worship this Summer starting July 2nd or at Golden Friends when we announce that Golden Friends eventual start date. But also, if you are unable to physically travel this summer, I'd invite you to get creative. Think of the different ways technology can allow you to see different parts of the world, explore different parts of the Bible, learn about different parts of your faith that you always questioned. Let this be a summer of adventure and exploration. Who knows, you might just be able to do that from the safety of your own home or church.

May you be blessed to be a blessing,

Pastor Adrian



## HELP HELPLINE SUMMER FOOD DRIVE FOR KIDS

Summer can be a really tough time for kids who face food insecurity. They don't get the same free meals from school and often times there is nothing to eat at home. Our South Kitsap Helpline is doing a supplemental food program for kids this summer and we want to help! For the month of July we will have a special drive for a needed food item each Sunday. Let's help Helpline and the kids in our community together! Thank you!

July 2nd– Peanut Butter

July 9th– Cereal

July 16th– Granola or Breakfast Bars

July 23rd– Shelf stable juices or juice drink boxes

July 30th– Healthy snack items

## Bereavement Support Group Ministry

Good day beloved flock. I want to invite you to be in conversation with me, in regards to expanding the ministry of the Bereavement Support Group. The existing group has some ideas as to a more inclusive name, and what our format moving forward might look like. Pr. Adrian and I have been in conversation about expanding our group to include all those who are suffering, no matter what the loss in their life might be. Please feel free to contact me at my email: [deaconmarjflc@gmail.com](mailto:deaconmarjflc@gmail.com) or reach out to me at Worship. You are also invited to join the existing group on the first and third Sunday of each month, from 11:30-1:00.

I look forward to seeing where our Lord leads us, as we strive to serve one another, in our seasons of brokenness.

Yours in Christ,

Deacon Marj

## Financial Highlights

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### News from Noah's Ark Preschool

The Preschool's biggest news during the month of June was the Rummage Sale fundraiser. It was open for 2 Saturdays and after church services. Thanks to the many church members and others who donated items to sell, the fundraiser made over \$3000! I am in the process of cleaning up the leftovers and selling some things online. Most of the leftover housewares, toys and holiday decor will be donated to St Vincent de Paul, the dvds and some books were donated to the Port Orchard library (thank you Marcia!) and the textiles will be bagged and saved for the Preschool's fall textile drive. Thank you to the many friends who donated, shopped, and spread the news about our fundraiser! At the end of June I resumed a pre-COVID tradition—participating in the Fathoms O' Fun parade! My staff members made a big cardboard cake to celebrate the Preschool finishing 50 years of ministry. We decorated my husband's truck with the cardboard cake, banners, and balloons. Some of our Preschoolers joined me on the truck to wave through the parade route while Tami Anchick and my daughter Alyssa handed out bubble wands and pencils with our contact information. It was a fun evening sharing Noah's Ark Preschool with the community! This month I am looking forward to teaching 2 weeks of Summer Camp; our first week will focus on Nursery Rhymes and our second week we will have fun with science. Children ages 3-6 are welcome to join either or both weeks—we still have a couple openings!



### FIRST FRIDAY READERS

The First Friday Readers will meet on July 7 at 11 am at the church. The book selection for July is "The Seedkeeper" by Diane Wilson. It is a novel spanning several generations and follows a Dakota family's struggle to preserve their way of life. There will not be a book group meeting in August. The next meeting is scheduled for September 1. New readers always welcome! For more information, please contact Linda Helmer at 253-432-3937 or Kris Courteau at 360-876-5287.







FIRST LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH  
PRESENTS.....

# STELLAR

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 31st-August 4th  
9am-12pm

SNACKS

GAMES

CRAFTS

MUSIC



ITS GOING TO BE SO FUN!!  
DON'T MISS IT!

REGISTER NOW AT [FIRSTLUTHERANPO.COM](http://FIRSTLUTHERANPO.COM) AND CLICK ON FORMS,  
THEN STELLAR VBS 2023. FOR MORE INFO CALL THE OFFICE AT  
360-876-3901 OR EMAIL [KELLYFLC@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:kellyflc@hotmail.com)



0601	Melvin Baird, Jean Hall	06/18	Jan Fairweather, Jerry Preuss
06/02	Joni Atkinson	06/20	Lola Pagel
06/04	David DeBoer	06/21	Don Hatlestad, Tom Kettwig
06/05	Sharon Jones, Tom Herstad	06/25	Alyssa Spellman
06/06	Polly Langworthy, Arlene Olson, Church Radar	06/26	Penny Anthony
06/08	Dixie Douthit, Paul Gaudette	06/28	Emily Frankel, Jim Hassebrock
06/09	Troy Cook, Vio Eid, Dave Lester	06/29	Andrew Wilmarth, Jennifer Nation
06/13	Calum Collie	06/30	Shannon Hassebrock
6/14	Donna Wood, Barbara Hammerberg, Cindy Robinson		

## **CARE MINISTRIES-** Reaching out in God's Love to Our Church Family and Community

### **CASSEROLE CONNECTION: MEALS THAT HEAL**

Meals are offered on a short term basis for those who may be experiencing post hospitalization, illness, trauma, or families with a newborn. Please contact the church office at 360-876-3901 if you are in need of this service

### **FIRST DRIVERS**

Volunteer drivers can provide transportation during the day for those who need assistance to keep medical, dental, or therapy appointments. You must be able to get in and out of a car with minimal assistance. You can call Suzanne Harvey at 360-443-6350 or the church office at 876-3901.

### **PRAYER CHAIN**

Request and offer prayers for those in need of healing and comfort via e mail Michelle Sharp at 801-0229 (frankmichellesharp\_8@msn.com), or the church office 876-3901.

### **PRAYER TEAM**

Join with others in a confidential prayer group to pray for our church, it's members, families and friends and anyone in need of prayers. The prayer team meets at 11:00am every Wednesday in the church. For more information, call the church office at 360-876-3901

### **VISITATION**

Visits, support, prayers and Holy Communion for those who are home-bound, hospitalized, in a nursing care facility, group home, or going through a difficult life situation or season in their life. Contact Deacon Marj Olason through the church office at 360- 876-3901 or by email at [deaconmarjflc@gmail.com](mailto:deaconmarjflc@gmail.com).

**CARD MINISTRY-** If you know of anyone who would appreciate a card from our church family, please contact Bev Mandeville at 360-876-8660.

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 Sunday School Director– Karen Spellman [flccfirstkids@gmail.com](mailto:flccfirstkids@gmail.com)  
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 Noah's Ark Daycare Director- Amanda McKenney 360-895-4195  
 Council president– Jeff Robinson [jdrobbie22@gmail.com](mailto:jdrobbie22@gmail.com)  
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