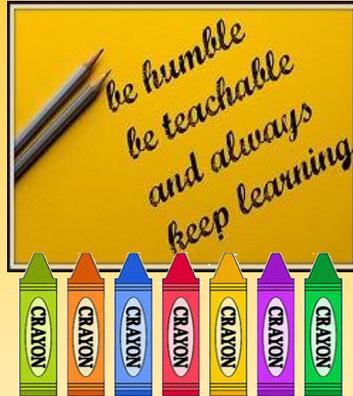


Friends in Christ News

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.)



Things Temporal & Things Eternal Things that Change and Things that Endure

This is a time of changes:

School is about to start up again with children in new classes. There are different teachers. There will be new students and some new friendships.

Time passes and our young people grow up, head off to college, get jobs, fall in love, get married, and turn us into grandparents. People move in and out of our town, seasons change and we grow older. There is an election coming, and the one thing we know about the future is that there will be surprises. There is a prayer in our hymnals that reads in part: "O God, the protector of all who trust in You . . . increase and multiply Your mercy on us that with You as our Ruler and Guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; . . ."

Pass through things temporal? Lose not the things eternal?

The things eternal are the things of the soul. These are matters of faith, prayer, and your relationship with God. They have to do with the "you deep inside." Deep down who you are and what you are. And it has been said in so many ways, "It is not what you have that matters but who you are." "It is what you do when no one else is looking that defines you." "Deep in the quiet of the soul, finally there is only you and God." These are the things eternal. While everything else is swirling about and things that happen in life may challenge us; while questions come and go still God is there calling us to know Him. Treasure the things eternal. But be on your guard. It is not only the problems in life. It just might be the joys, blessings, and riches in life that can distract and pull our eyes away from God. Both joys and trials can interfere with the eternal. Jesus said, "what good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?"

What Stays the Same

What is at the center?

What is the one still spot in a changing world?

(Continued on page 2)

Save the Date:

AUG 1:	LWML	7:00 p.m.
AUG 2:	Church Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
AUG 12:	Voter's Meeting	9:00 a.m.
AUG 13:	Senior Service	1:00 p.m.
AUG 14:	Friendly Seniors	11:30 a.m.
AUG 19:	Youth Night	TBA
AUG 30:	St. Vincent's Table	4:00 p.m.

(Continued from page 1)

"The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it; He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit. And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife. Though these all be gone, Our vict'ry has been won; The Kingdom ours remaineth." (A Mighty Fortress, v. 4)

It is the Word!

How do we keep the things eternal? Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away." ((Psalm 103:15-17 "As for man, his days are like grass; But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, ..."

Isaiah 40:8 "The grass withers, the flower fades, But the Word of our God stands forever."))

At the Center

Right at the center of everything – is God's word. It is the Word that made the heavens and the earth. It is God's word that sustains and keeps us in every trouble and sorrow. It is God's word that speaks to us and reminds us where we have the joys and blessings that last.

And so my favorite description of Worship is simply, "We repeat back to God what He has first said to us." It is nothing more complicated We take the things eternal and we speak them to each other. (A pastor friend of mine likes to say, "our worship service is 85 % or more simply repeating words of Scripture back and forth.") We speak God's Word to each other and as we do we are building each other up in faith. That's how God's word works: Read it; hear it; speak it; and speak it to each other. Tell each other the promises of God and the love of God that is in Jesus.

Read this out loud: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." (Didn't that feel good hearing the promise of God?)

How does that work?

The Word of God is "Means of Grace." It is what God uses to create faith within our souls, and then to renew and strengthen that faith. From the moment when God said, "Let there be light" the Word of God is what has carried and brought the power of God into our world, our lives, and our souls.

The Bible is "Means of Grace" because it is all about Jesus, from beginning to end. Jesus said, "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about Me." That is why the old saying is so often true, and a good one to ponder: "A Bible that is falling apart probably belongs to someone whose life is not."

If you want to get an idea of just how big this is I encourage you to visit one of our Hispanic congregations in our Northern Illinois District, or even Salaam Christian Fellowship and see how the Word of God is calling people from every nation and language.

What will it be like at the end of the world when God gathers us all to sing the praises of Jesus and live forever. I don't think it will be English only; and I don't think there will be only one style of music and singing. But this is the Church. It is the multitude that Jesus is gathering from every tribe and language to be His brothers and sisters and live forever. It is amazing beyond any measure of amazing we can imagine.

What happens now?

As we gather around God's Word, His Word does what it is sent to do -- gives faith and gathers souls. (Read Isaiah 55:10-11)

But the word about Jesus Christ is not supposed to stay only in church. Wherever God's Word is it does its work. So be bold in speaking about Jesus Christ wherever you are.

Pastor Mark

1 Corinthians 2:2



Wednesday - August 1st - 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. Originally scheduled to speak at our June meeting, unforeseen events caused a rescheduling for August.



K.Y.K.S. SHOE MINISTRY



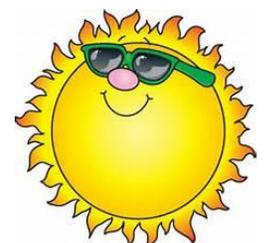
Our K.Y.K.S. Distribution /Fitting Day on July 30 was a success! We have given out 168 pairs of shoes so far. Thank you to everyone for their help on that day and the days leading up to it! We thank God for you!



YOUTH NIGHT:

Don't miss our next Youth night: **Sunday, August 19th**

July's swim party was so much FUN! We had a short, 10-minute devotional at the church then drove over to the Morris pool and swam from 3:00 until 5:00. Afterwards, we drove back to the church for dinner. Cathy Thompson & Terry Carter had dinner all ready for us – complete with grilled hot dogs, hamburgers and corn on the cob!



Senior Service

Monday, August 13th at 1:00 p.m.
(Luncheon immediately following)

Friendly Seniors

Tuesday, August 14th at 11:30 a.m.
Honest Abe's Grill & Tap
(3585 N. State Route 47, Morris, 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.



The Lord your God is in your midst, a Mighty One who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love...

--Zephaniah 3:17a

August Birthdays

- 2nd John Nelson
- 4th Shirley Seidler
- 10th JoAnne Heck
- 11th Curtis Johnson
- 12th Kris Houchin
- 18th Linda Hanson
- 19th Doug Halkyard
- 22nd Patty Houchin
- 25th Jaime Ruedin
- 28th James Krugler
Art Turner
- 30th Nicole Horrigan
Pastor Gruenbaum
- 31st Marcia Gjerde

August Anniversaries

- 11th Ray & Donna Carlson 60 years



Financial Report

Friends in Church Lutheran Church 2018

General Fund	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$ 17,338.62	\$ 11,628.27	\$ 16,211.19	\$ 79,187.84	\$ 81,930.00
Expenses	\$ 13,043.80	\$ 12,049.77	\$ 13,059.89	\$ 76,852.23	\$ 81,930.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 4,294.82	\$ (421.50)	\$ 3,151.30	\$ 2,335.61	\$ -

Prayer Calendar

AUGUST 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>5</p> <p>Lord, we thank You for the simple things in life. 1 John 4:9-10</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Lord help us to put all our trust in You. Prov. 3:5-6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Thank you Lord for giving us the Holy Spirit to discern right from wrong. John 16:13</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Please pray daily for Pastor Willing, Deb Carter, Kris Farber and their families, Missionaries everywhere, Iglesia San Pablo Church, Dear Ministries, People of the Book Outreach, Salam Christian Fellowship and Christians being persecuted.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Lord help us to love You above everything else and to pass that love along to others.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Help us to remember that some of the best gifts we can give are gifts of time.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Pray that unity across our entire ministry will abound.</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Lord, make us sensitive and responsive to the needs of my family, friends and church members. Psalm 34:14</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Lord, I come to You in prayer and I ask You now to let Your peace which transcends all understanding guard my heart and my mind in Jesus Christ. Phil. 4:7</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Lord please show my church creative ways to reach our community. Luke 24:35</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Lord, be a source of stability to those in transition in their career. Isaiah 43:1-2, 4</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Pray that the Lord will watch over our coming and going both now and forevermore. Psalm 121:8</p>	<p>10</p> <p>We pray that the Lord would bless our friends and loved ones in the military and keep them out of harms way.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Thank You for being a refuge and strength for we can't do it alone. Psalm 46:1</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Lord show us ways to nurture youth who are trying to follow You in a world full of so many other options. 2 Corin. 5:17</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Bless all the students as they begin their school year. May they be filled with the spirit of wonder and learning as the school year begins.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Show us the needs and open our hearts to move us to give of our time and money to help with Your mission in this world Lord.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Help us not to judge others but accept each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. 1 Sam 16:7 John 5:22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>We pray for everyone who serves You Lord by working for justice. Psalm 63:4</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Lord, help us to remember that prayer is a vital connection to You. John 15:4-7</p>	<p>25</p> <p>God, thank You for giving us Your word and thank You for speaking through the scriptures today. 2 Tim 3:16</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Thank You Lord for the opportunity to worship You together. Psalm 25:6-7</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Lord, take away my worries and let me turn my problems over to You. Matt. 10:31</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Lord, as I lift up my eyes to the hills where does my help come from? Thank You for always being there for us. Psalm 121:1</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Lord, heal and comfort those among us that are ill or going through difficult times.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Lord be with our Sunday School teachers. Fill their hearts with love and their minds with creative ways to reach our children.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Bless those who prepare for Sunday School. Give our children a hunger to hear Your Word.</p>	

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

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
In September: 9/9 Sunday School Rally Day 9/16 Sunday School Classes Start In October: 10/2 LWML Sunday						
5 COMMUNION <i>11th Sunday After Pentecost</i> 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 <i>12th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:15 AM – Worship 9:00 AM – Voters' Assembly 10:45 AM – Worship	13 1:00 PM – Senior Service	14 9:00 AM – Bible Study 11:30 AM – Friendly Seniors @ Honest Abe's Tap & Grill 7:00 PM – Elders	15	16	17	18 COMMUNION 5:30 PM – Worship
19 COMMUNION <i>13th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship Youth Night – Time To Be Determined	20	21 9:00 AM – Bible Study	22	23	24	25 5:30 PM – Worship
26 <i>14th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study Hour 10:45 AM – Worship	27 10:00 AM – Park Pointe	28 9:00 AM – Bible Study	29	30 4:00 PM – St. Vincent's Table @ First Presbyterian	31	