



First English Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



The Parish News

**Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl,
Jr. Pastor**

**Bonnie Kabrick
Director of
Christian Education**

**Kristin Kaldahl
Organist**

**Karen Hargens
Kristin Kaldahl
Keyboard Players**

**Julie Moran
Office Manager**

**Tammi Dickman
Preschool Director**

**Ruth Obermeier
Preschool Secretary**

**Don Conlon &
Cindy Kunzmann
Custodians**

Daily Prescription for Spiritual Death

Dear friends and family of FELC, some folks do not always follow the doctor's advice. When they get a prescription for medication, they use the medicine for a while, but then, when they begin to feel better, forget to take the rest of the medication. Still others, who are on medication, will not follow the prescription on the bottle and will decide to take two pills instead of one. Of course, they know better! Their doctor knows best, but their stubborn nature dictates a behavior that is unhealthy, as they determine to self-medicate.

Well, some people foolishly do the same thing with God's grace. Grace, according to the biblical definition, is the only solution (prescription) for the problem of sin. Grace is the antidote and cure for our terminal disease that causes spiritual death. The familiar acronym for GRACE is God's Riches At Christ's Expense. God's grace is the undeserved love that He freely gives to sinners, and His love is the only thing that can cure us from our spiritual disease.

You see, we need grace because, we, by our sinful nature, have been born separated from God and are by nature sinful and unclean — unholy in every way. We were born with a deadly spiritual disease that causes eternal death. That is why we need a cure. Indeed, as sinners, we are in the most desperate need for a healing prescription that will give us spiritual health. We need a prescription that will enable us to live!

In addition, at the center of this grace — of this spiritual cure — is Jesus! Jesus is God's incredibly powerful response to our sin problem. This rescue work of Jesus is the one cure for whatever sin ails you, for "the blood of Jesus ... purifies us from every sin" (1 John 1). This grace of God is a gift — freely given!

Following the prescription that we have received from The Great Physician of our Souls — our Spiritual Doctor — is so easy. Simply trust His prescription as directed. Turn from your sinful ways and trust Christ. He is the cure. See what God's love is determined to do for you!

It was nothing short of the agony of the cross, yet in love, He "bore our sins in his body on the tree" that we might have eternal life. Think of it. We deserve the blame, but Jesus bears the shame and comes to make us His children — heirs of eternal life. That's grace!

In His Word and Lord's Supper God dispenses His powerful grace — for it is, indeed, our soul-saving prescription. He wants us to use it as directed — not according to our own inclinations or whims. Follow St. Paul's direction, "As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain" (2 Cor. 6:1).

How does one receive God's marvelous grace in vain? How does one abuse the grace prescription that God has given us to save our souls? Well, we might know that Jesus has forgiven us all our sins; however, we let the memory of our shameful sins rob our consciences of peace. Alternatively, we may hear Christ's command to live a God-honoring life — and yet run with the idea that, since He is so gracious, we can sin all we want. Or perhaps, we might even throw the prescription bottle of His grace away because we "believe" that we are spiritually healthy enough to get ourselves to heaven on our own.

However, all these answers fall short! All these responses "receive God's grace in vain." To neglect God's grace in Word and sacrament is a deadly approach, as if I can live without grace. If this is our approach, we are in spiritual trouble.

The cure? Simple. Take the spiritual medication God offers in Christ. Read, mark, learn and inwardly digest His Holy Scriptures. They are spirit and life. A generous dose will do wonders for your life, soul and attitude, and to that end, I, as your spiritual leader, encourage you to sign up for a fall Bible Study. I also encourage you to attend worship regularly for, "As God's fellow worker [I] urge you not to receive God's grace in vain."

**Sunday
Worship Services
8:00 & 10:45 A.M.
Fellowship
9:00 A.M.
Nursery 9:15-Noon
Sunday School &
Bible Classes
9:30-10:30 A.M.**

**1311 E. 18th Street
Spencer, IA 51301
712-262-5598 Phone
712-262-8396 Fax
Website —
www.spencer-
church.com**

**E-Mail —
felcoffice@smunet.net**

**Preschool
712-262-3699**

**IGLLS
712-262-8237**

September, 2017

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Topic—Tuesday, Sept. 5th “Be Still & Know That I Am God!” pg. 20 Summer Quarterly

Guild Meetings—Thursday, Sept. 7th

Esther Guild— 9:30 a.m. at FELC

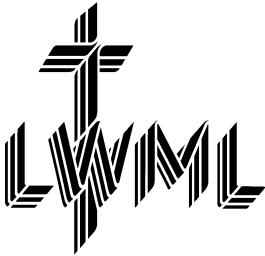
Hostess—Bev Skinner Topic—Shari Crew
Roll Call — Memorable Faire Project or Exhibit

Naomi Guild—1:30 p.m. at FELC

Hostesses— Ranate Evans and Anne Schomburg
Topic—Rosamary Meyer
Roll Call — Favorite Teacher

Sarah Guild—7:00 p.m. at Kae Roti's Home

Hostess — Kae Roti Topic — Ranae Kehoe



Thanks for everyone's continued pledge commitments and contributions for our debt reduction/ Immeasurably More campaign. We are making great headway with our three year commitments. Below is a snapshot of our current dollars in our campaign:

- ✦ Total Funds Received Through 7/31/2017 \$871,598.74
- ✦ Unpledged Funds Received \$648,314.74
- ✦ Pledged Funds Received \$223,284.00
- ✦ Pledged Balance Outstanding \$245,600.00

Discipleship

Week	Attendance			Communion			Offering	Sunday School	
	Early	Late	Total	Early	Late	Total		Kids/Adults	Offering
Aug. 6	150	116	256	136	81	217	\$ 11,454.00	10 /	\$ 41.00
Aug. 13	147	94	241		—		\$ 7,486.00	11 /	\$ 0.00
Aug. 20	115	106	221	105	95	200	\$ 10,942.00	3 /	\$ 0.00

	February, '17	March, '17	April, '17	May, '17	June, '17	July '17	2017 Year-to-Date
Income	31,422.54	36,896.78	44,846.94	38,815.20	30,568.00	38,485.84	\$258,758.74
Expenses	50,524.78	38,896.35	37,948.28	44,889.32	35,356.35	34,672.53	\$250,991.74
Gain			6,898.66			\$ 3,813.31	
(Loss)	(19,102.24)	(1,999.57)		(6,014.12)	(4,788.35)		(\$ 31,097.59)

September, 2017

Youth and Family Life

Dear FELC Family,

The Youth Ministry Team is excited to begin a new Pen Paul ministry here at First English. For this ministry, this team of board members will offer support to our Confirmation students throughout the year and in various ways.

As we all know, the apostle Paul sent many written correspondences to the newly formed churches offering encouragement, direction, and much prayer for their members and leadership. Following Paul's example, we hope to offer the same for our young students going through our rigorous two years of Confirmation classes.

As such, we plan to provide letters, greeting cards, and notes of encouragement to each of these youth to encourage them in their studies and in growing their faith during this process. We also plan to offer occasional treats as most tweens thrive on food for their bodies as well as food for their souls.

We want to remember them on their birthdays and then also remind and celebrate with them on the anniversary of their baptisms when they became members of God's family, received the forgiveness of sins, and had the Holy Spirit enter their hearts to grow their faith.

We also plan to offer additional opportunities for fellowship among their FELC friends through monthly events with other FELC youth. Creating that Christian culture where other youth in church join their friendship circles can make a big difference in the longevity of participation in church. We live in a very relationship-driven culture so creating networks of support should be beneficial.

We also want to join our Junior Youth and Senior Youth together more often hopefully creating casual mentoring relationships and a larger circle of influence for our middle school youth. Plus it adds support for our high school students as well.

On Wednesday, September 13, at 6:30 pm we will be offering a "Pizza and Pen Paul" event for our Confirmation students. For this event, we will offer one of their favorite meals – pizza – along with introducing the new Pen Paul ministry. This before-Confirmation get together will welcome them into the year with fellowship, food and support.

We certainly ask for prayers for all of our youth! In these days of so much busyness, church and church youth activities many times doesn't make it on the list of "to dos" in the lives of our young people. As we all know, faith must be fed or it withers and dies so please pray earnestly for our children, youth and families as Satan continually strives to steal them away from the church. Let's do all that we can to encourage them and keep them in a life of faith.



We really appreciate all of the people and ministries here at First English that support our youth in many ways. Our new Pen Paul ministry is just one more way to do that. As we support our youth, we support the future of God's church on earth. But more importantly, we support the souls of these young people both now and in eternity. May we richly support their faith in Jesus!

In His Service,

Bonnie Kabrick, DCE

*St. Luke
Auxiliary
In-Gathering*

From September 1 to 24 will be the Ingathering for St. Luke Auxiliary. Every year money is collected by the churches supporting St. Luke's. With 91 residents to care for there are always needs that arise. In August the director of Health Services, Nancy Mills, told how they were using "Music in Memory" rather than medication with the residents and they were having good results and the Auxiliary was able to donate \$1,250 to this program. Please consider donating to the Auxiliary. Make your donations payable to the **St. Luke Auxiliary**.

September, 2017

17th Annual IGLLS Fall Benefit Auction

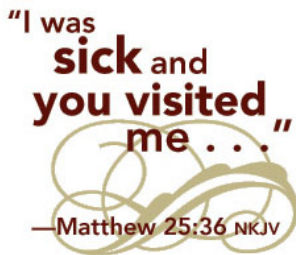
Saturday, November 11, 2011

New Location—Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran
School Gym

Doors Open at 4:00 p.m., Student Choir at 5:00 p.m. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Live Auction at 6:30 p.m.

Live & Silent Auction Items Now being Accepted!

Any Questions? Call Steve Hallgren—260-0913, Justin Spieker—298-1586, IGLLS Office—262-8237



It's Official – If you want a visit from Pastor while you are in the hospital you will need to inform Pastor Kaldahl. After reviewing the policy, the hospital will no longer make census reports available to the Clergy coming in to visit their members. Please contact Pastor at 363-3204 or the church office, 262-5598. Please provide your contact/room information. Patients who request clergy outreach will need to be sure to mark the correct box on admission paper work. Patients will also have the opportunity to be visited by another authorized clergy member.

1531 Edgewood Drive
Milford, IA 51351
E-Mail : info@campokoboji.org
Phone: (712)337-3325



and programs.

YOUR Participation & Support Needed!
We ask our Camp Friends for the following:

1. **Pray** for the success of Camp Okoboji.
2. **Attend** Camp programs and events.
3. **Support** Camp verbally and financially.
4. **Share** Camp with others and invite them.

Calendar of Events

- Sept. 3: Worship & Omelet Brunch**
- Sept. 9: Lutheran Early Response Team**
Chainsaw Training Workshop- 9am sharp
- Sept. 20-22: Lutheran Schools Outdoor Ed.**
Educational, Relational & Spiritual all rolled up in one.
- Sept. 28-30: Volunteer Clean-up Weekend**
Help prepare Camp for winter and enjoy fellowship and fun at the same time.
- Sept. 30: Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**
Our chance to thank all those who help.
- Sept. 30: U of O Oktoberfest Bike Ride**
Contact Paul at Camp for more info.
- Oct. 1: Worship and Omelet Brunch**

**Fall Offers Many Retreat Opportunities!
Info & Register Online! campokoboji.org**

Take time to enjoy the fall atmosphere at Camp Okoboji! Fall programs, retreats, and special events offer many opportunities to experience. . . "Jesus at the Lake."

Call for more info on Camp availability



Camp Okoboji

Has Amazing Meeting Spaces!

Most guests focus on the variety of housing options at Camp. Lost in all those beds are the amazing meeting spaces that are also available for groups to use. They include quality audio and video systems, A/C, and flexibility to handle nearly any group size. Need room for a reception, meeting, performance? Consider Camp Okoboji.

LERT Chainsaw Certification - YOU are invited!—
Spread the word! Saturday, September 9, 2017 from 9 AM to 4 PM. Registration begins at 8:30 AM
Training starting promptly at 9 AM and will be held until Noon at the new Discover Center at Camp Okoboji, 1531 Edgewood Drive, Milford IA. Lunch will be served at noon. We will then cut down some trees. This is the "practical application" of the training course which will be from 1-4 PM. PLEASE register at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/chainsaw_certification or call Ellie Menz at 515-370-1159. Register soon as class size is limited because of the "hands on" afternoon

Those present: Pastor Kaldahl, Barb Muetzel, Kay Wilson, Priscilla Nagel, Ashley Olberding, Deb Hinkeldey, Keith McCloud, Tim Hoffman, Craig Hinkeldey, Steve Hallgren, Bonnie Kabrick.

Opening Prayer at 7:05 p.m. by Pastor Kaldahl.

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Tim Hoffman to accept July minutes. Deb Hinkeldey seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Read by Kay Wilson.

General Fund at 8/17/17

Ck. Book Balance	\$60,747.08	
Dedicated Funds	71,080.38	(\$50,000 designated for west drive & parking lot paving)
Memorial Funds	764.00	
Tax Liabilities	<u>2,253.44</u>	
Available Funds	(\$ 13,350.74)	

Preschool Fund at 8/17/17

Ck. Book Balance	\$ 44,798.60
Dedicated Funds	<u>9,504.73</u>
Available Funds	\$35,293.87

IGLLS Building Fund at 8/17/17

Ck. Book Balance	\$ 62,514.56
LCEF Loan Balance	\$1,296,210.73

Motion was made by Priscilla Nagel and seconded by Tim Hoffman to approve treasurer's report. All in favor, motion carried.

Bills – Nothing new requiring approval.

IGLLS Board Report: Leonard Langner

- Dewey Torkelson has agreed to come back as interim principal for 2 days a week. We are still looking for someone to serve as a PE teacher and someone to serve as an acting principal 2-3 days per week.
- Logan Egland and Judy Rausch will be teacher's assistants in the 3-4th grade class, which has 28 students. Logan will work in the afternoons as soon as morning sessions at preschool conclude.
- Rubber mats have been purchased and are being installed under the swings on the playground. This will protect the weed barrier that was being torn up from use of the swings.
- IGLLS is on the list of schools with a provisional NLSA designation. We officially become accredited in January 2018.
- Back-to-school open house and chapel time will be held August 23 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. School begins August 24th, with school hours from 8:15-3:30 each day. Children will not be allowed to enter the building before 7:45.
- 89 students are enrolled for the 2017-2018 school year.
- PIE group is planning the annual auction for November 11, to be held in the gym.

Board of Elders: Tim Hoffman

- Elders will be meeting with confirmation students and parents on August 27 and September 3
- Acolyte training will be taking place
- Unity Sunday/Rally Sunday scheduled for August 27th; potluck with Elders providing dessert and refreshments
- Kristin Kaldahl has accepted the Church Organist position
- Looking to recruit a keyboardist

Board of Trustees: Craig Hinkeldey

- During the recent power outage, it was noted some of the emergency lights were not working –this is being addressed
- Bill has been paid for the Fire Alarm update in the amount of \$7,165.00
- Mike Weber has painted the preschool rooms
- Gym roof manufacturer has been on site – instructed installer to make repairs and any future issues are to be directed to the manufacturer

Board of Education: Ashley Olberding

- We currently have 33 four year olds registered for next year and 28 three year olds.
- We have hired Logan Eglund for a 4 yr. old teacher and Valerie Tulip as a 3 yr old aide. Rachel Gonzales has resigned as a teacher. Tammi Dickman will also be a 4 yr old teacher and director. We are currently interviewing for a 3 yr. old teacher. (Note: After monthly meeting, we have hired Laurie Phillips as our 3 yr. old preschool teacher, so all positions are filled)
- We are continuing to look for help with the Sunday School.
- We continue to look for a Sunday School Superintendent, music director, and a couple teachers. We are also looking to find some co-teachers to help with the time commitment of teaching or as director.
- Starting to work on Rally Day materials and looking for ideas on ways to possibly change Sunday School to get more involvement from kids and volunteers.

Board of Youth: Bonnie Kabrick

- Activities were changed due to weather
- August 20th – will be heading to Camp Okoboji for canoeing/grilling
- September – Thunder Road
- Parent meeting will be September 20th

Board of Finance: Priscilla Nagel

- Continue to count each week

Board of Christian Outreach: Keith McCloud

- Looking at Advent Meal for “Food For the Poor”

Board of Christian Life: Barb Muetzel

- Did not meet this month – No report

Board of Assimilation: Deb Hinkeldey

- Continue to receive thank you notes from confirmands and graduates. The Board appreciates their thoughtfulness in taking the time to thank the Board.
- Purchased new baptism gifts – “Baby’s First Bible” for infants and “You are a child of God” crosses for older children
- Craig Hinkeldey built a new display stand for the new member picture board
- Three baptisms this month:
 - July 23 – Noah Westphal, son of Briana Westphal
 - August 6 – Dawson and Gabrielle Sierck, children of David & Meghan Sierck

Pastoral Items:

- Adult instruction class will begin on September 10th
- Will be making house calls
- Confirmation will be starting
- Making many visits
- Working out chapel schedules

Director of Christian Education Items: Bonnie Kabrick

- Krista Deiterman back from Hong Kong – trip was very successful
- Rally Day postcards have been sent out
- Coordinating with teachers for installation on Rally Day

Old Business:

- 125th Anniversary - Celebration of 125th Anniversary and Reformation to be planned
- Board Appointments – no new appointments to report

New Business:

- Boards will need to prepare budgets for October voter’s meeting
- Discussed possible Congregational Clean Up Day