

# Living Connected... To GOD & EACH OTHER

August 2022  
Mini-Caller

SENIOR PASTOR'S WORD

Written by Rev. Bonnie Wilcox

## MINI CALLER ISSUE

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(All Age Worship)

YouTube & Facebook Live

Sundays: 10 AM

8:45 AM (Sept. 11)

Pastoral Staff:

Bonnie Wilcox

Senior Pastor

Jill Bergman

Associate Pastor

## *It Rained Last Night*

It's raining for the first time in weeks and weeks at my house!! I'm just standing out in the yard and letting it hit me in the face while I praise the Giver of all good gifts. Our dry and thirsty land is just soaking it in. The air smells so good. Thank you, Lord!!!! ~ Beth Moore, Christian writer

The prophet Isaiah wrote, "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater..." (Isaiah 55:10)

God bless your efforts to join with the sunshine and the rain that falls to appreciate the beauty of God's creation, or to provide food for you and/or your neighbor's table, or work to steward and improve our planet.

## MINISTRY NEWS

### YOUTH LEADERSHIP DINNER, Aug. 31

All youth in 6-12th grades and young adults who want to be leaders in youth group this year are invited to a special youth leader's dinner & training event on Wednesday, Aug. 31, 6-8 PM at FLC. We'll make plans for youth group themes, activities and roles for the year!

### FAITHFUL CONVERSATIONS "BE NOT AFRAID"

Aug. 17, 24, 31

Is your heart moved by the stream of immigrants entering our communities? Are you discerning Jesus' call for you in this context? Join Randy Bergman and First Lutheran Church for a three-part faithful conversation. This study will look for leadership from God's Word about the issue of immigration. Plan to join via Zoom on Wednesdays, Aug. 17, 24, 31 at 7 PM: Contact Randy, [randyparkplace@gmail.com](mailto:randyparkplace@gmail.com) Or use this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85794224698?pwd=XCHwbvIcaj2raJ-WiM8lnSRtYjKhhY.1>

Meeting ID: 857 9422 4698 / Passcode: 240799



### CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR OUR LITTLE FREE

LIBRARY. Our congregation's Little Free Library has been getting some good use and finds its shelves a little bare. We are looking especially for donations of faith based children's books. If you have any books you would like to donate, feel free to leave them in the Little Free Library. Thank you!



### FIRST LUTHERAN KIDS NEED YOU! Seeking Sunday School teachers for fall.

This year, you get the chance to be a superhero to kids in our church and community! Share Bible stories, prayer and lead our kids in discussions of faith as you volunteer as a Sunday School teacher. Team-teach with another adult or teen volunteer. Email Rachel, [rachelj@flech.org](mailto:rachelj@flech.org)



### JOIN OUR FIRST DAY PARTY, SEPT. 11!

Blessing of the Backpacks, First Day Lunch and Party, Bounce House & fun!

**REGISTER TODAY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION!** Sundays at 11 AM, beginning Sept. 11. Classes for kids and youth ages preschool through middle school. Register online today at [flech.org/grow-in-faith/children-youth/](http://flech.org/grow-in-faith/children-youth/) Paper forms available. Registration helps us to prepare teachers & supplies.

### FIRST DAY CONNECTIONS TABLE

Are you looking for ways to meet more people at FLC and to participate in activities beyond worship? Stop by the Board of Spiritual Growth's table on Sept. 11 to learn about the various Connections Points we offer.

**CONNECTION POINTS** are groups of people who get together to do things they enjoy. Are you interested in music? Check out Arts groups. Like to read and talk about it? Look into the discussion/study groups. Like to work with your hands? You might enjoy ministry, service or operations groups. Come and see all the ways to connect with each other. You might also find a treat if you venture to the table!



Articles continued on back pg.

# MINISTRY NEWS

**MONARCH FESTIVAL.** Wednesday, Aug. 17, 5 - 8 PM. The community is invited to celebrate the monarch butterfly. This bilingual Spanish and English celebration will include food trucks, games, traditional Mexican dance, music, an Encanto dance party, monarch costume parade, and an opportunity to learn more about how we can help monarch butterflies. If dressing up for fun events suits you, come dressed as a butterfly or pollinator! (Sullivan Park, 721 51st Ave NE, CH).

## HOW CAN FLC ASSIST REFUGEES?

Is your heart moved by the plight of refugees, especially those moving to Minnesota? Would you like to do more? The Spiritual Growth Board would like to help our congregation discern what role we are being called to play in welcoming outsiders to our communities. Join us Sunday, Sept. 18 at 11:15 in the Chapel. We will hear from Blaine Barnhart on the situation with Ukraine. Future sessions will be determined by those who attend this first meeting and will be held with guidance from Lutheran Social Services.



**FALL GRIEF GROUP.** Are you grieving? Whether it is the loss of a loved one, a job, or a dream, grief is a process we all go through. If you would like an understanding group with whom to share your grief, consider joining our new group. It will meet at 9 AM on the second Tuesday of each month beginning Oct. 11. Stop by the Connection Points table on First Day (Sept. 11) or contact Char Zarich or Pastor Jill for details.



**SINGLES, AGE 55+** gather to socialize on Fridays at 5 PM. They will often meet at a local park or restaurant. Emails are sent out weekly to invite interested Singles and advise you of any meeting changes. Contact Faith with questions or to be included in the emails. 612-799-4245, [whitefa@comcast.net](mailto:whitefa@comcast.net)

**MISSION JAMAICA 2023!** We are excited about the opportunity to serve in Jamaica for the winter 2023 season. Travel dates are Feb. 4 thru 11, with the possibility of a second week, Jan. 29 thru Feb. 4. Reservations will fill quickly. Contact Larry, [lbugbee@msn.com](mailto:lbugbee@msn.com), 612-812-1633.

**ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS!** Do you know First Lutheran has scholarship money available? During 2022-2023 school year three FLC students will be receiving financial assistance. If you are registering at any Christian college this Fall, assistance is available. Begin by submitting an application to the Board of Finance. Upon receipt of your first quarter/semester grade transcript a check will be mailed to you. The exact amount is determined by the number of applicants. This is an annual renewable scholarship. Questions: contact either of the pastors or members of the Board of Finance.

**WORSHIP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES.** Are you looking for a way to expand your service or connections at FLC this fall? We are in need of a few more Ushers & Greeters. It is an easy task and only requires a once a month or fewer commitment. We also are looking to expand our number of Baptismal Greeters. There is a simple training & only requires a friendly person with a smile. *To get connected:* Ushers & Baptismal Greeters call Jan Meyen, 763-571-8738 or text 612-743-2183. Sunday morning Greeters call Chris Dansby, 612-806-1199.

**PHOTO DIRECTORY 2022.** Thank you to all who have participated in updating our photo directory, and to our onsite photographer, Larry Bugbee! Please continue submitting your favorite individual, couple or fun family photo to [joycew@flch.org](mailto:joycew@flch.org) throughout the summer (remember to include the full names of those in the photo in your email).

**HOMEBOUND OR ASSISTED LIVING PARISHIONERS.** Those with difficulty getting to church can schedule a time to have Jane Bugbee come to your home and take your directory picture! Please contact Jane directly at 651-210-2977.

**FALL GATHERINGS & BUSINESS.** Looking for a place to reserve a meeting, host an event, recruit or connect with a ministry... or, maybe to take care of some unfinished business? Contact the church office for scheduling, ministry communications or arrange a time to have documents notarized. Contact Joyce, [joycew@flch.org](mailto:joycew@flch.org), 763-788-9653.



**MISSION WORSHIP** has a variety of sewing processes and projects that new members might be interested in trying! Some can even be done at home and brought back to church at your convenience. For more info & the meeting schedule, contact Lisa Tenhoff, 763-789-4101 and leave a call-back message.

**FLC BOOK CLUB** will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 17 at 1 PM for refreshments and a book discussion. Contact Char Zarich for details and the book of the month. [charzarich@gmail.com](mailto:charzarich@gmail.com)

## GIVING

First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights is financed by the generous, direct monetary gifts of its members and friends. There are several ways you can bless this mission of Jesus with your gifts:

- Drop off your **Check or Cash** during Sunday Worship or send a check thru the mail. Please use an offering envelope so we can give you credit for your gift.
  - **Stock Transfers to FLC**
  - **Electronic Funds Transfer** See our website, [flch.org](http://flch.org) (upper right hand corner) to set your donation frequency.
  - **Bill Pay.** Follow the directions of your bank or credit union to create First Lutheran as a Payee
- For more info, contact the church office, 763-788-9653, [info@flch.org](mailto:info@flch.org)