

# First Lutheran Church

August 2016

## Forgive the Inexcusable

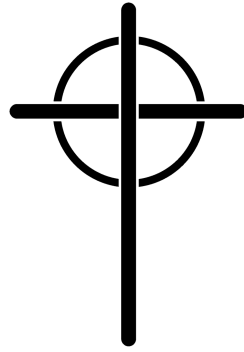
To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you. This is hard. It is perhaps not so hard to forgive a single injury. But to forgive the incessant provocations of daily life—to keep on forgiving the bossy mother-in-law, the bullying husband, the nagging wife, the selfish daughter, the deceitful son—how can we do it? Only, I think, by remembering where we stand, by meaning our words when we say in our prayers each night, “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” We are offered forgiveness on no other terms. To refuse it means to refuse God’s mercy for ourselves. There is no hint of exceptions and God means what He says.

-C.S. Lewis

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## The Greatest Example



How often we quote Leviticus 19:18: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” It’s not a bad standard to reach for; even Jesus repeated it (see Matthew 22:39 and elsewhere). But in John 13:34, as Bible scholar Dr. Harry Wendt points out, Jesus changes the wording slightly but crucially: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another” (ESV).

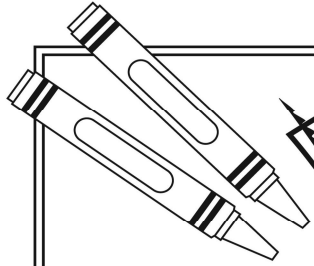
Perhaps during his time on earth, Jesus realized humans don’t actually love ourselves very much or very well. So using self-love as the bar by which to measure neighbor-love might be ineffective. Although we may act self-enamored and self-impressed, it’s often just a cover for inner feelings of self-loathing and self-doubt.

After washing his disciples’ feet and before sacrificing his very life for them (and us), Jesus changes the wording—and the example that will lead us: “Love one another not as you love you, but as I love you.” Unconditionally. Unreservedly. Wholeheartedly. Unto death. And into life everlasting.

## UPcoming EVENTS

**JULY 31-AUGUST 3—VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL from 6:00 pm—8:30 pm**  
**AUGUST 7—OUTDOOR WORSHIP at 10:30 am**  
**SEPTEMBER 5—OFFICE CLOSED**  
**SEPTEMBER 11—REGULAR SERVICE TIMES RESUME**  
**OCTOBER 30—CONFIRMATION at 10:30 am**  
**NOVEMBER 24—OFFICE CLOSED**  
**DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP at 5:00 pm and 11:00 pm**  
**DECEMBER 26—OFFICE CLOSED**

<b>Staff</b>		
Church Office		494-5461
Kerri Durant, Administrative Assistant		712/574-7946
Betty Barto, Administrative Assistant		494-3026
Chris Knudsen, Custodian		404-0626
Jennifer Durant, Nursery		404-8053
Jane Krogh, Organist		494-1630
Claire DeRoin, Keyboardist		712/389-7214
Eleanor Tasker, Director of Music		276-4072
<b>Church Council</b> (* Executive Council)		
*Scott Koeppe, President		494-3584
*John Koskovich, Vice-President		494-3421
*Rita Todd, Secretary		494-2968
*Sue Hunter, Treasurer		494-1758
Kathy Anders, Fellowship		274-4383
Judy Blessing, Social Ministry		255-7775
Josh Curry, Stewardship/Support		712/898-2921
Mike Gill, Youth		494-2332
Randy Grove, Property		712/203-1365
Denise Kleinberg, Christian Education		712/635-4006
Paul Knudsen, Evangelism		494-2770
Brandon Trautwein, Worship & Music		412-2135
<b>Church Coordinators For:</b>		
Altar Care:		
Lectors: Barb McLarty		494-3877
Ushers: Worship & Music Committee		
Women of the ELCA Chair: Rita Todd		494-2968



# PUZZLE

## NEVER FEAR!

The Psalms are full of inspiring prayers to God, who always looks after you.

*Directions: Use the clues to fill in each missing letter. Then use those letters to complete Psalm 13:5, NIV.*

What plants grow in ..... D I R   <sub>1</sub>

The opposite of play ..... W O   <sub>2</sub> K

One-of-a-kind .....   <sub>3</sub> N I Q U E

A hug and a ..... K I   <sub>4</sub> S

Sour ..... T A R   <sub>5</sub>

To speak very loudly ..... Y E   <sub>6</sub> L

Immediately ..... N   <sub>7</sub> W

Bees live in a ..... H I   <sub>8</sub> E

A dandelion is this ..... W   <sub>9</sub> E D

I   <sub>1</sub>   <sub>2</sub>   <sub>3</sub>   <sub>4</sub>   <sub>5</sub> in your unfailing   <sub>6</sub>   <sub>7</sub>   <sub>8</sub>   <sub>9</sub> ;  
my heart rejoices in your salvation. Psalm 13:5, NIV

Answers: dirt, work, unique, kiss, tart, yell, now, hive, weed,  
I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. Psalm  
13:5, NIV



## Anniversaries This Month

Robert and Jean Brodersen	August 14
Jim and Sally Hansen	August 15
Doug and Patty Heckart	August 26
John and Barb Koskovich	August 4
Brian and Molly Leiting	August 12
Don and Maxine Linafelter	August 14
Marvin and Kathy Muirhead	August 20
Nate and Miriam Phipps	August 10
Chris and Milissa Reyes	August 25
Rick and Joan Robinette	August 20
Todd and Diane Sands	August 31
Brandon and Gracie Trautwein	August 16
Brian and Melodee Van Berkum	August 14

## Siouxland Food Bank

On July 7, 149 adults and 120 children living in 75 households received 3,135 pounds of food.

July 21, 87 households received 3,518 pounds of food. 181 adults and 164 children live in these households.

The youth and young at heart are greatly appreciated for their help in unloading the food and helping people with their carts of food. The youth will be missed when school starts. This is a wonderful mission of the church; recipients are so grateful and say "thanks" to the volunteers as they hand out the food items.

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## Happy Birthday

Mike Adam—August 5  
Ken Conley—August 2  
Ann Davis—August 13  
Jeana Davis—August 9  
Linda Fischer—August 27  
Fred Glover—August 24  
Amy Grace—August 18  
Harriet Hansen—August 12  
Shelly Hinds—August 29  
Diane Hirschbach—August 14  
Pam Knudsen—August 28  
Haley Koeppe—August 31  
Helen Koskovich—August 21  
Carol Krieger—August 11  
Ronda Litras—August 24

Ed Matz—August 3  
Pat Matz—August 28  
Roger Monk—August 6  
Susan Monk—August 9  
Kelli Perez—August 8  
Joan Robinette—August 12  
Lance Swanson—August 21  
Rick Thramer—August 19  
Brandon Trautwein—August 17  
Shelby Walsh—August 14



## Youth Birthdays

Aidan Arneson—August 22  
James Diew—August 1  
Kendall Gill—August 28  
Daxton Grace—August 10  
Raegan Jensen—August 9  
Liam Johnson—August 27

Rylie Johnson—August 17  
Teagan Kinnaman—August 19  
Ella Meyers—August 29  
Jace Noteboom—August 3  
Colin Oliva—August 9  
Madilyn Schutt—August 17

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## Worship at First Lutheran

### August 7, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Genesis 15:1-6 Second Lesson: Heb. 11:1-3, 8-16  
Psalm: 33:12-22 Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

### August 14, Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Jer. 23:23-29 Second Lesson: Heb. 11:29-12:2  
Psalm: 82 Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

### August 21, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 58:9b-14 Second Lesson: Hebrews 12:18-29  
Psalm: 103:1-8 Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

### August 28, Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Proverbs 25:6-7 Second Lesson: Heb. 13:1-8, 15-16  
Psalm: 112 Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

## August Flower Chart

**August 7 (Altar)** Given by George, Ruth and William Weiland in memory of Beverly Weiland, who passed away 4 years ago on August 2, 2012.

**August 14 (Altar)** Given in memory of Edwin and Florence Morgan, Larry and Prentiss Morgan and Judy Morgan.

Given by Jim and Sally Hansen in honor of the baptism of their great-grandson, Ryker James Stolze.

**August 21 (Altar)** Given by Dob and Carol Zastrow in honor of Molly Zastrow and Brett Benson, who will be married on August 27, 2016.

**August 28 (Altar)** Given by Marv and Kathy Muirhead in memory of Darlene Clausen.

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## Dishes

There are many dishes left in the kitchen from recent activities here at First Lutheran. Please take a moment to check and see if any are yours.

## Volunteer T-Shirts

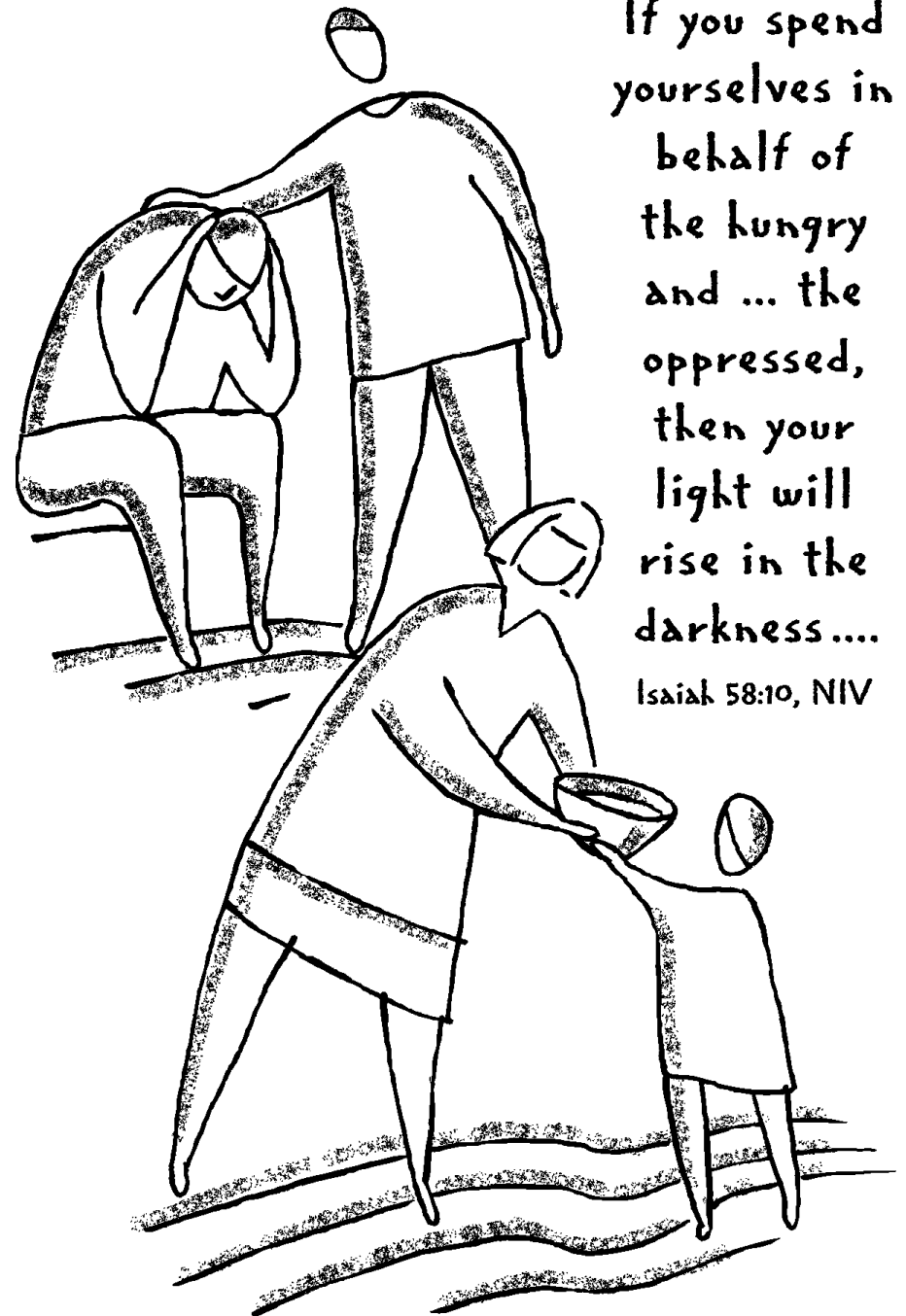
If you have taken a yellow volunteer shirt home and no longer need it, please return it the church office.

## Flea Market/Rummage Sale

**August 12-14, 2016**

This fundraising event is fast approaching! Not only do we need **volunteers** and donations of any of your **unwanted/unneeded treasures**, but also water and pop. If you have a wheeled cooler that we can borrow, please let us know that as well. Contact Rita Todd 494-2968 to make arrangements for the pick-up of your items.

The proceeds of this event are deposited into our General Fund and makes a big impact on our bottom line. This is an "all church" event, and all are welcome and encouraged to participate in the fun, work, and rewards.



If you spend  
yourselves in  
behalf of  
the hungry  
and ... the  
oppressed,  
then your  
light will  
rise in the  
darkness....

Isaiah 58:10, NIV

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## **With Deepest Sympathy**

*We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the following families.  
Please keep them in your prayers.*

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The family of Marge Teager, who passed away Tuesday, June 28. Services were held Friday, July 1 here at First Lutheran.

## **Electronic Giving**

Electronic giving is now available. If you are interested in giving electronically or would like more information, please contact the church office.

## **Women of the ELCA General Meeting**

Join us for our Women's general meeting on Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00. The program is "Hats, History and the Music" presented by Teresa Kay Orr. Please come and wear a hat if you'd like!

## **Outdoor Worship Service**

There will be an outdoor parking lot worship service on August 7 at 10:30 am. Volunteers will direct all participant cars to park in rows facing the west. The service will be broadcast by a PA system and a radio signal so that each car can simply tune in the parking lot service on their radio. This service will be a half hour and will include music, the gospel and sermon, and offering with prayers.

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## **Thank You**

**First Lutheran Church Food Pantry**-Thanks to Salem Lutheran Church for their donation of food. Fifty-five boxes were distributed in June.

**Doris Georg**-Thanks to Linda Johansen and Paul Verzani for bringing me communion.

## **Pictorial Directories**

The pictorial directories have arrived! You may pick up your copy from the church office.

## **Fellowship Event**

The Fellowship committee will be hosting a Dutch treat meal on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. This month's meal will be August 17 at 5:45 pm at the Eagles Club. Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

## **Social Ministry**

The Social Ministry committee collects "Pantry" items each month to donate to the needs of our community. The Pantry items collected this month will be elementary school emergency supplies (underwear, socks, sweatpants, and Kleenex) and back to school food snacks for the Siouxland Family Center, Haven House, and CSADV. Also being collected are nonperishable food items for families in need. Please leave your donations in the cart in the entryway.