

THE GROVE



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2021

Confirmation services were held at FLC the weekend of May 15-16. This year 63 confirmands affirmed their baptism.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CALL PROCESS • P. 2

SYNOD ASSEMBLY • P. 3

CONFIRMATION • P. 8

MASKS UPDATE • P. 9

CALL PROCESS UPDATE

ASSOCIATE PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE

Whitney Quast
Chris Lynch
Ajay Cook
Sarah Kruse
Kay Halstrom
Vern Schoolmeester

The Associate Pastor Call Committee met for the first time on Tuesday, May 18th for an orientation with Rev. Justin Grimm, Assistant to the Bishop of the St. Paul Area synod. The team is hosting a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, June 6 after second service (about 11:00am) and invites you to be a part of the

conversation! You can join in person in the sanctuary or the livestream online.

If you have an ELCA pastor that you would like to nominate, you can do so by following this link here, or visiting our website.

Nominations need to be submitted by June 6.

If you have questions, or would like more information on the process, please feel free to email our office any time.



CALL PROCESS TOWN HALL

Sunday, June 6

after second service

*Meet in the sanctuary or
join the livestream*



Saint Paul Area Synod Assembly
Online May 14-15, 2021

On May 14 and 15, FLC took part in the Saint Paul Area Synod Assembly. Thank you to those who took time to participate in this year's gathering.

Pastor Kevin Woestehoff
Intern Pastor Sara Jensen
Mark Pearson
Janice Rollag
Bob Brownawell
Marlene Elliott
Blanche Reichert

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEETING INCLUDE:

- Representatives were elected to churchwide and synodical positions
- Synod officers and committee chairs provided written and oral reports
- Mikka McCracken from the ELCA and the Rev. Dr. Joy Moore from Luther Seminary provided inspiring presentations around the assembly theme of "Waiting in Hope"
- The 2022 budget was approved
- The synod's Planting Hope campaign was officially launched
- One resolution was approved: Resolution 2021-1: A Resolution Recommending Adoption of a Welcome Statement

St. Paul Area Synod Welcome Statement

Centered in Christ Jesus, we welcome you to the Saint Paul Area Synod (ELCA), a network of congregations and other ministries. We are committed to the community around us and around the world. We support, empower and advocate for all, believing God's love embraces all persons equally, no matter their age, ethnicity, race, abilities, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, citizen status, political leanings, religious expression, or any other boundaries the world uses to decide who is worthy and who is not. We are striving to be open and inclusive. We commit to loving YOU and caring for YOU by showing YOU the love of Jesus that we have been taught through the Great Commandment to love God wholeheartedly and to love one's neighbor as oneself.

WILL YOU COMMIT TO THE ROAD TOWARD RACIAL JUSTICE?

ST. PAUL AREA SYNOD INITIATIVE

Acknowledging the importance of addressing racism as a person of faith in Jesus Christ and trusting in the power of the Risen Christ to transform my life and the structures of church life, I commit myself to the following four practices during 2021.

- **Pray** daily for God to continue to open my mind and heart for transformation, which shows respect to persons in all their diversity.
- **Engage** in regular and honest conversation with another person, who can help me see bias in my speech, attitudes, or actions that I may not recognize on my own.
- **Participate** in a study or exploration group, designed to widen my understanding of the lives and stories of persons of color.
- **Embrace** opportunities to be in conversation with someone from a race other than my own and to listen to their experiences with racism.

[Make Your Commitment](#)



CAMP EMMAUS

Our theme for camp was God Strong. We had fun around the campfire eating s'mores and worshipping together. We played games to learn the bible verse from Joshua 1:9. "...I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

**DONATIONS
NEEDED FOR
VBS AND KIC
ROCKS!
WATCH YOUR
EMAILS A
FOR SIGN UP!**



KIDS AND WORSHIP

Fishbowls, instruments and children's worship bags are back!!! We love that you worship together as a family, and we think having a kids be a part of worship is a wonderful thing!

Before you enter the sanctuary, be sure to grab a children's worship bag from the rack. These bags are filled with books and coloring pages for kids of all ages. When you're done, you can return it to the basket.

Children of all ages (0-99!) are encouraged to come up to the altar during the children's sermon. And during offering, we have fishbowls on the altar for children to place their offering in- because getting kids up and moving is always a good thing! Don't miss out on playing instruments at the end of worship during the sending song! Instruments can be found in the wood baskets near the fishbowls.

Our family room located near the back of the sanctuary. It's filled with toys and has speakers, so you can still hear everything and the kids can play!



FLY

Farmington Lutheran Youth

K O I N



Senior High & College aged youth are invited for some outdoor fun.

Wednesdays all summer long from 7–8:15 pm

Outdoor Games, Bonfire and Faith Talk

In the event of bad weather we will move inside.

GRAD RECOGNITION SUNDAY

JUNE 6, 10:00 AM

We would like to invite you to be a part of Grad Recognition Sunday at FLC on Sunday, June 6. High School graduates are asked to arrive by 9:40 am in their caps and gowns. We will meet in the Sunshine Room to go over details for the service. There will be a time during the service for parents to come forward for a blessing of their child/ren. If you have any questions please contact Kristine.



2021
Class of **21**

The service will be held indoors at Farmington Lutheran Church. Masks will be required. Please submit Graduation Recognition form to church office or to Kristine@farmingtonlutheran.com by May 30. If you are unable to attend the service please submit your graduation recognition form anyways so that we can still honor you.

JUST LOVE

PSALM 33:5

Camp Wapo | On Lake | Wilderness Canoe Base



Lake Wapogasset
LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP, INC.

June 27 – July 2, 2021

Please pray for our 4 – 8 grade campers who will be spending the week at Camp Wapo this June.

Isaac A.

Ellie D.

Mckenna K.

Madison L.

Michael R.

Keiley S.

Cora S.

Riley W.

Brynn A.

Addyson D.

Addison K.

Miranda L.

Joey R.

Carson S.

Camden S.

Kendra W.

Emily A.

Hannah F.

Brianna K.

Hattie M.

Bella R.

Chloe S.

Nick T.

Lindsey W.

Gus B. Elsa B.

Collin H.

Colin L.

Katelyn M.

Tommy S.

Korrine S.

Ryan T.

Luke W.

Callista C.

Connor H.

Jakob

Isaac P.

Cora S.

Abigail S.

Jon VH.

Leah D.

Luna J.

Axel L.

Hayden P.

Grace S.

Ari S.

Shelby VH

SENIOR HIGH ADVENTURE TRIP TO COLORADO

July 31–August 7, 2021

Sign-up deadline June 15, 2021

Spend the week in the beautiful mountains of Colorado. Throughout the week our group will participate in high and low ropes courses, trail hiking, tent camping, and end with whitewater rafting.

We'll enjoy evening campfires, exploring, growing closer to God and so much more. Fundraisers, payment plans and scholarships are available. Just talk to Kristine.

Visit
farmingtonlutheran.com/youthsummer2021 for all info and to register!



MALE CHAPERONE NEEDED

The Colorado High Adventure trip is in need of a male chaperone for this summers trip to Colorado, July 31 – August 7. Please contact Kristine Clemens at 952-913-8709 or kristine@farmingtonlutheran.com if you are interested and she will give you all the details. Chaperones need to be a minimum of 25 years old, have a valid driver license and pass a background check.

Confirmation

MAY 15 & 16, 2021

Congratulations to Confirmation Class of 2021. What a wonderful weekend celebrating with these amazing young people as they said "yes" to their baptism and to continuing on in their faith lives. Thank you to all of their families, friends and all who helped them get to this day. Please continue to pray for them in their faith journeys.





UPDATE: MASKS AND WORSHIP

The Reopening Strategy Committee (RSC) met recently to discuss recent protocol updates and prepare the next steps of FLC's reopening process. The committee continues to watch local trends and follow the guidance of public health officials.

At this time, public health officials believe community settings that serve people not eligible for vaccines (children under 12 and immunocompromised) or those at high risk of severe disease if infected should strongly consider continuing to mask. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic FLC advocated looking out for our neighbors, and we will continue to do that. **FLC will continue to wear masks at indoor events through July** with the hope that the RSC will be able to reassess protocols sooner when Minnesota reaches a 70% vaccination rate.

You will notice that several worship additions have made their way back to the sanctuary including hymnals, storybook bibles, children's offering fishbowls, bushel baskets of instruments, as well as the opening of the family room.

Here is more information on new guidelines related to worship:

- Masks will be required at indoor worship
- Pastors, lay readers, and other speakers can choose to remove their masks if they are comfortable when speaking from the pulpit and altar area
- Outdoor worship does not require masks, but we do encourage social distancing
- We will continue to support those who wish to wear a mask indoors or outdoors, for as long as they would like to do so.
- No personal contact at this time- passing the peace will be with a wave, peace sign, etc.
- No food or luncheons indoors currently
- Offering baskets will continue to be made available outside the sanctuary

As we have learned throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, this is a continually changing situation and the Reopening Strategy Committee appreciates your patience and understanding.



Tithe.ly

LAST CHANCE TO CHANGE YOUR ONLINE GIVING!

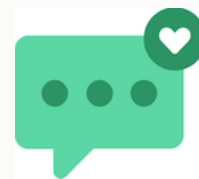
Thank you so much to everyone who has helped make the transition to Tithe.ly giving go so smoothly! We are in the homestretch and only have a few households left to make the change over the Tithe.ly platform.

There are a few things you can do to make the change:

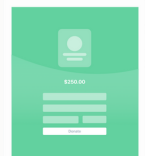
- Email Rene, our Finance Coordinator, at finance@farmingtonlutheran.com to cancel your Simply Giving or do so by signing in online
- Fill out a form online or pick one up in our office if you would like us to set up your account for you
- Follow the link [here](#) and set up an account and your online giving

We so appreciate your help in this transition! If you have any questions at all or need assistance please do not hesitate to reach out to us!

4 WAYS TO GIVE WITH TITHE.LY



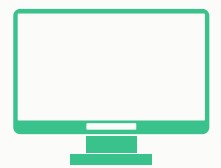
Text GIVE to
(855) 410-8106



Kiosk Giving



Give by Phone



Give Online

other news around FLC



OWLS IS BACK!

Older Wiser Lutheran's is back meeting in person! This group meets for Bible study on Wednesday mornings at 9:30. If you're interested in checking them out, feel free to stop by anytime, no sign up required!



AUDIO VIDEO VOLUNTEERS

Throughout the last year, FLC has made some improvements to our Audio Video booth. Are you interested in helping run screens, sound or the livestream on Sunday mornings? Contact Jen Watts for more information.



COUNCIL & MINISTRY TEAMS

On May 11 FLC Staff, Council, and Ministry Team Leaders met to share their experiences over the last year and set goals for the upcoming year. We are so grateful to be in ministry with all of you!



USING OUR GIFTS

LINDA MORRIS

Guess what? No matter how it looks from the outside, no one has it all together.

Everyone has good days and bad days. We have struggles. We must make choices. Everyone has different struggles, and everyone has different strengths and different gifts to share with the world. Everyone is different.

Sometimes, it may look like others have the perfect life, or all the answers. Or that everything comes easily to them. It is hard to keep up, measure up, and to get up, when we get caught in this set of beliefs. Try hard to stop comparing yourself to anyone else. We each are uniquely made. We are each fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14) We are uniquely made with God given gifts. A God given gift is something that we are given freely from God and these gifts vary with each person. Perhaps yours

is the gift of speaking, or maybe the gift of teaching, or of writing. These gifts are often referred to as talents, as they come naturally to us. Your God-given gifts are things you do well and love doing, use them to honor God and help others in the body of Christ – this will bring you joy!

The Bible states that God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7) and that Jesus taught it is better to give than receive (Acts 20:35). Being able to receive a gift with gratitude is a sign of a healthy, humble spirit. Keep your eyes on your path, listen to God's nudge. Keep your eyes to the light, and do not look at anyone else's path except to lend a hand. Cheerfully use the gifts you have been given to enhance the lives of others and to glorify God. In doing so you will find true joy and fulfilled purpose.

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 am and 10:00 am

Livestreaming at 10:00 am



www.farmingtonlutheran.com

20600 Akin Road Farmington, MN 55024 651.463.4100