

The monthly newsletter of
First United Lutheran Church Sheboygan, Wisconsin

GOOD
July

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NEWS!
2025

Vol. 69 • No. 7

Sharing God's Word * Strengthening Faith * Serving Community

As you may know, I'm a huge fan of Taylor Swift. I was lucky to attend the Eras Tour in November 2024 with my daughter. The show opens with a mashup of Taylor's music from all her different albums, or Eras, the centerpiece of the mashup being "Miss Americana and the Heartbreak Prince." The key words repeated over and over, and then the first live words of the show, are "It's been a long time coming..."

Well, it's been a long time coming for First United, but you finally have a permanent Senior Pastor! Pastor Travis Kern will join the staff August 1, and a new Era begins for this congregation.

The Bible is peppered with examples of waiting. God's people waited to be delivered from slavery at the hands of Pharoah in Egypt. Hannah prayed and wept and waited to be blessed with a child. The world waited for a Savior.

In a conversation I had today, someone told me "I know God has a plan, and has everything figured out. I don't know what it is, but I am trying to figure it out."

We don't know God's plan or God's timing exactly, but in times like these, we can lean on the stories of faith and our own experience of how God comes through for us. I've found that when I worry about what comes next, God always makes a way for me. I know he will for you, and for all of us.

It's been a long time coming...but the promise of the resurrection is one of hope and new life. May God richly bless you, and FULC, in this new day.

Pastor Heidi Borkenhagen

FULC HAPPENINGS

July Worship Schedule

Thursday, July 3
NO WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, July 6
9:30 AM - Traditional Worship Service

Thursday, July 10
6:30 PM - Contemporary Worship Service

Sunday, July 13
9:30 AM - Traditional Worship Service

Thursday, July 17
6:30 PM - Contemporary Worship Service

Sunday, July 20
ASP SUNDAY
9:30 AM - Traditional Worship Service

Thursday, July 24
6:30 PM - Contemporary Worship Service

Sunday, July 27
9:30 AM - Traditional Worship Service

Thursday, July 31
6:30 PM - Contemporary Worship Service



Happy Fourth of July!
In observance of the holiday
the church office will be
closed Friday, July 4

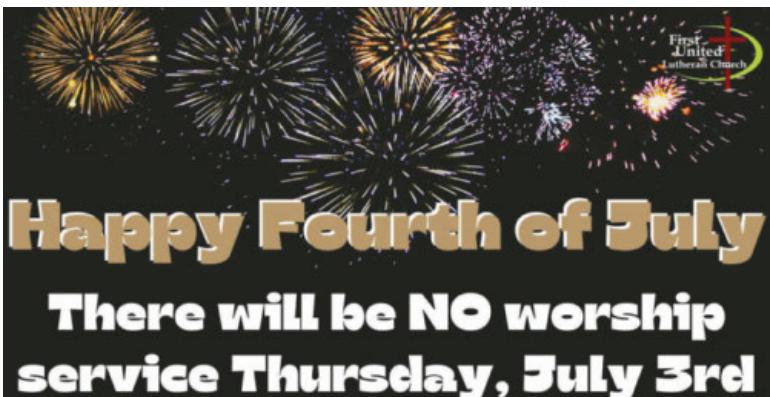
Wishing you & your family a safe
& fun-filled Fourth of July

CHRISTMAS IN JULY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

BACKPACKS (STURDY, GEARED FOR TEENS)
INEXPENSIVE HEADPHONES (NO EAR BUDS)
SOLID COLORED 2 POCKET FOLDERS
COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS
WIDE-LINED SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS
DRY-ERASE MARKERS
WASHABLE MARKERS
HIGHLIGHTERS
GLUE STICKS
BOX OF TISSUES
PENCILS



If you or someone you know could use help with supplies, please reach out to the Church Office.



Our Staff

Transition Pastor • Heidi Borkenhagen
Director of Music Ministries • Matthew Thorne
Children & Family/Great Beginnings Preschool
Administrator • Mary Gorges
Youth/Technology • Thom Nicola
Church Administrator/
Discipleship • Debbie Schneider
Administrative Assistant • Kelly Stoelb
Preschool Lead Teacher • Ellen Yedica
Financial Secretary/Community Ministry • Cheryl Nicholson
Let us know how we can help you. 920-452-2401

A MESSAGE FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE AND CONGREGATION COUNCIL

On behalf of the Congregation Council and Call Committee, we are elated to announce, by unanimous congregation vote, Pastor Travis Kern will be the next senior pastor of First United Lutheran Church.

On June 6, Pastor Kern met with the council and then with the staff. On June 7, we held a conversation with Pastor Kern with a brat fry afterwards at FULC. Members were able to meet Pastor Kern as well as his wife, Heidi, and their daughters, Hannah and Lydia.

On June 8, we shared more about why the call committee felt Pastor Kern was the right candidate for FULC and gave members an opportunity to ask questions. After the congregation vote in the affirmative, Pastor Kern addressed the congregation and he and his family joined us for service.

The Kern family plans on moving to Sheboygan in stages but Pastor Kern will be starting in early August.

As we start a new phase in the history of FULC, we give our thanks and praise to the staff for their dedication and professionalism always! Also, we encourage and welcome EVERYONE to attend service this summer and prayerfully seek out opportunities to be more involved at FULC and in serving our community and beyond.

Respectfully,
Sue Ader, Council President and
Tracy Cinealis, Call Chairperson



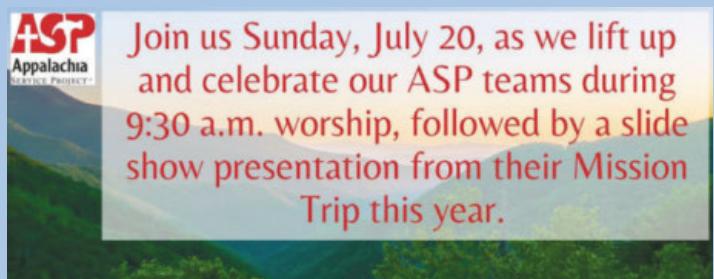
**ART & MUSIC
SPACE CAMP**

JULY 14-17 9:30 A.M.-NOON

3 YR OLDS - 4TH GRADE

**INDOOR/OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES,
SNACK, *ART & MUSIC PROJECTS**

SIGN UP WITH MARY OR THE OFFICE TODAY



Join us Sunday, July 20, as we lift up and celebrate our ASP teams during 9:30 a.m. worship, followed by a slide show presentation from their Mission Trip this year.



THANK YOU
for your continued generosity and support!



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

First United Lutheran Church

Please reach out to Mary Gorges if you would be interested in assisting with Sunday School this year.

920-452-2401 or mary@firstunitedelca.org





FULC Scholarship Recipients

\$500 Scholarships were awarded to:

- ◆ Caden Dick
- ◆ Mackenzie Dick
- ◆ Kailin Gannaway
- ◆ Sophia Gebert
- ◆ Margaret Krueger
- ◆ Brooke Lilyquist
- ◆ Leyna Nida
- ◆ Max Olsen
- ◆ Natalie Ott
- ◆ Greg Pittner
- ◆ Liv Ramos
- ◆ Samuel Ramos
- ◆ Quinton Schulz
- ◆ Madeline Thomas
- ◆ Norah Thomas

These scholarships are available thanks to the generosity of financial gifts to the FULC Endowment Fund.

\$2500 Wayne Homstad Scholarship was awarded to:

- ◆ Madeleine Hammond

The Wayne Homstad Scholarship provides a scholarship to members of FULC who are pursuing careers in Education PK-12 at religious, private, or public colleges and universities.

Congratulations to all of the recipients!

Birthdays & Other News

Grief Warriors

Thursday, July 31 at 5:00 p.m.
in the Bride's Room



All are welcome to join us

First United ELCA

First United FOOD PANTRY HOURS

If you or anyone you know needs food, please check out our Food Pantry located in the Serenity Room. The front office can assist you if you need help.

2nd & 4th Weeks of the Month
Mondays 9AM - 12PM
Wednesdays 1PM - 4:00PM

Growing In God's Love Gardening

Wednesdays in June were so much fun as we learned about and cared for God's creatures and plants! Of course our very first session we spent planting seeds and flowers, then from there we made sure to water them every week. We searched for bugs, butterflies, and birds, heard stories about God's creatures and sang a silly song about a worm. We painted stones, built brick bugs, colored bug hotels, and made fairy art! It was fun for all!

- 2 Mike Offenbecher
Parker Reinhart
Lucas Schermetzler
James Wray
- 3 Leia Meade
Kristin Murphy
Roger Saeger
- 4 Tom Olmsted
William Rupnick
Bryce Suse
- 5 Lauren McGowan
Claire Mikkelson
Joan Offenbecher
- 6 Ginny Mikkelson
Margot Rudlaff
- 7 Paula Dick
Michael Gorges
Getahun Green
Courtney Kissinger
Lois Sachse
Doug Strauss
- 8 Annette Schaefer
Laurie Seymour
- 9 Jackson Hein
Thomas Lampe
Kim Menth
Dale Ulleststad-Heneke
Michael Winkler
- 10 Jacob Grabowski
Jessica Hein
Teagan Lilyquist
August Montemayor
- 11 Alexander Knowles
Chloe Pelzel
Christina Williams
- 12 Mary Dekker
Marilyn Froh
Nora Modjewski
Grace Cing Sian Hung
- 13 Kyle Karstaedt
Ryan Menart
- 14 Eric Kletzien
Ginnie Romaine
Cing Lam Vung
- 15 Doris Backes
Cin Khua Lun
- 16 Elizabeth Crisp
- 17 Chad Baumann
Sue Kieffer
Skye Ostermann
Claire Roberts
- 18 Nicole Billmann
Kayla Billmann
Linda Brandt

Dan Roberts
19 Mary Ulleststad-Heneke

20 Adeline Cooper

Danielle Ohl

Lynette Pittner

Brian Seymour

21 Mary Hedlund

Henry Wittstock

22 Jacob Aldag

John Deltgen

Lauren Larson

Roxy Mueller

Pau Sian Vaan

23 George Dippold

Sophia Jackson

Doris Willgrubs

24 Tracy Cinealis

Keegan Reinhart

Travis Tock

Kim Warden

26 Ron Clarke

Adlai Hullin

Patricia Prigge

27 David Crisp

Jon Dielentheis

Missy Eirich

Keith Potter

Jane Wautlet

28 July Thein Hally

Alexa Jacobchick

Steve Shircel

29 Keith Grabowski

Gena Nelson

30 Cami Daun

Greta Thoresen

31 Emma Belmore

Kailin Gannaway



GREAT BEGINNINGS Preschool Enrollment

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Calendar of Events

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 1:15 PM Staff Meeting	2 9:00 AM Wednesday Guys 6:00 PM Laundry Love	3 NO WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM Prayer Group	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5
6 CHRISTMAS IN JULY STARTS 9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service	7	8 1:15 PM Staff Meeting	9 9:00 AM Wednesday Guys	10 9:00 AM Prayer Group 4:00 PM Finance Committee 5:00 PM Community Freezer Meals 6:30 PM Contemporary Worship Service	11	12
13 9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service	14 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Food Pantry 9:30 AM Art & Music Space Camp	15 9:30 AM Art & Music Space Camp 1:15 PM Staff Meeting	16 9:00 AM Wednesday Guys 9:30 AM Art & Music Space Camp 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Food Pantry 4:30 PM Exec Team	17 9:00 AM Prayer Group 9:30 AM Art & Music Space Camp 5:00 PM Holy Knitters 6:30 PM Contemporary Worship Service	18	19
20 ASP SUNDAY 9:30 AM Traditional Worship 10:30 AM ASP Slideshow	21 6:30 PM Congregation Council	22 1:15 PM Staff Meeting	23 9:00 AM Wednesday Guys	24 9:00 AM Prayer Group 6:30 PM Contemporary Worship Service	25	26
27 9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service	28 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Food Pantry	29 1:15 PM Staff Meeting	30 9:00 AM Wednesday Guys 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Food Pantry	31 END OF CHRISTMAS IN JULY  9:00 AM Prayer Group 5:00 PM Grief Warriors 6:30 PM Contemporary Worship Service		



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Great Beginnings Preschool



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!



For More Information go to:

www.firstunitedelca.org/great-beginnings

Contact us at: **(920) 452-2401** or
preschool@firstunitedelca.org

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A 4C 01-1030



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First United Lutheran, Sheboygan, WI

B 4C 01-1030

Coming Soon . . .

JULY

You are invited to join us for in-person and online Worship Services:

Facebook page: First United Lutheran Church - ELCA

YouTube channel: First United Lutheran Church - Sheboygan WI



SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 CHURCH PICNIC
Fellowship Hall after 9:30 a.m.
worship



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