



The First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rush City  
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Thursday, September 10th, 2020

**Worship this Sunday** - We gather in the parking lot where you are welcome to worship from your vehicle or lawn chair. Please maintain a 6-foot (*2 arms length*) physical distance between yourself and other family groups. We ask that masks be worn by those handing out bulletins, collecting offering and distributing communion. In the event of inclement weather, please remain in your vehicle and worship leaders will lead from the sanctuary via an FM transmitter.

**Online Sunday Worship** - Worship online goes live at 8:00 AM Sunday morning on our website and will be available for one week. Unique to this service is a video meditation, Children's Word, and prayers for worshipping in the home.

**Altar Flowers** - Are placed in celebration of Pastor Nathan's ministry and discipleship to this congregation and community for the past 2 years. God Bless you Pastor Nathan!

**Rally Day is this Sunday** - Rally Day begins with worship in the parking lot at 9:00 AM. Included in worship will be some favorite Sunday School songs, Children's Word and a Blessing of the Backpacks. Registration outdoors and a time to re-connect with others follows worship. Sunday School classes resume next Sunday, September 20th, 2020. Please see the September Newsletter for details.

**Life on Earth** - In today's second reading, Paul mediates between two groups who are quarreling over the question of which foods Christians should eat. This issue is among us as well: some Christians eat a full array of foods and thank God for it, while other Christians advocate for a locavore, vegetarian, or vegan diet, considering a crowded planet and a troubled environment. Is there a better or a best way for Christians to eat the produce of this earth? At least we can heed Paul's advice: to live at peace with those whose decisions are different from our own.

**Connections with the Liturgy** - The Lord's Prayer includes a petition that summarizes today's parable: "Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us." Matthew's version of this prayer uses the word "debt," and Luke's both "debt" and "sin." The 1988 international English translation of the prayer uses "sin," since "debt" now usually connotes finances, and "trespass," begun in the third century, now usually refers to walking on another's private property.

**Congregational Meeting** - The Church Council has called a congregational meeting for this Sunday. The purpose of this meeting is to consider a contract already approved by the council for a new lighting system control module. Details on this proposal were sent by mail to all active members of the congregation last week. If you are an active member and did not receive a mailing please inform the church office.

**Giving Made Simple** - You can now set up recurring donations directly from your banking account or credit card with the Give+ Mobile App. Simply download the app on your phone, find our church, and give.

**Special Offering Envelopes** - If you give by envelope, once every two months there is an envelope designated as "Special Offering." These offerings support endeavors beyond the regular ministries of First Lutheran. September offerings support the Decorating Committee.

**Baptism & Membership** - God's grace is a gift that is freely given to us. We don't earn a thing when it comes to God's love, and we only try to live in response to that gift. Please speak to Pastor Nathan if you interested in baptism or becoming a member of the congregation.

**Building Use** - Rules for indoor gatherings have been approved by the council and are available at the Church Office. We encourage small groups to meet outside whenever possible. If you have a group that would like to meet indoors at the church, please be in touch with the church office to place it on the calendar.

**Missing the Sanctuary?** - Our sanctuary is regularly open and quiet on many weekdays during office hours. As you are comfortable, you are welcome either individually or within your family to stop by for prayer and quiet. A daily scripture reading and other devotional items are available near the entrance.

**Confirmation** - Our faith formation ministry to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders begins this Wednesday, September 16th, 2020. If you did not receive information about Confirmation for your child or know of someone who could benefit from this ministry, please contact the church office.

**Worship Changes for Fall** - Following the recommendation of the Worship and Music Committee, the Church Council at its August 26th meeting approved developing procedures for worship in the sanctuary beginning next Sunday, September 20th, 2020. Audio from sanctuary worship will broadcast to the parking lot on FM 96.5. Plans are also underway to livestream sanctuary worship to the internet.

### Members and Friends Homebound or in Assisted Living

■ Dorothy Folkema ■ Jan Goebel ■ Vada Hanson ■ Gladys Haugrud ■ Harley Johnson  
■ Shirley Jones ■ Lois Moses ■ Cliff Shoberg ■ Marion (Van) Vander Plaats ■ Randy Ziesmer

### Remember in Prayer

Prayer requests can be emailed or phoned in to the Church Office: 320-358-4076 or email: [office@rushcityfirstlutheran.org](mailto:office@rushcityfirstlutheran.org)

Please specify if the request is to be on the prayer chain, on the prayer list, or on both.

Please let the Church Office know when a name can be removed from the prayer list. -Thank you.

Cary Behrendt	Diane Friday	Traci Kurtock	Pam Plash
Jeri Bergquist	Cathy Gamache	Bonnie Larson	Corey Ploetz
Kyle Bergquist	Melanie Hedberg	Tennille Lewis	Heather Rasmussen
Matthew Bertram	Sarah Heling	Luke Maher	JoAnn Rieland
Darlene Walter Boyce	Janis Hendrick	Hazel Massey	Rev. Beverly Robinson
Jan Brainard	Steven Horazdovsky	LaDez Mell	Earl Roehlke
Phyllis Burton	Jenna Heibner	Christina Mercer	Melissa Rossci
ReGina Clapp	Jean Howard	Lola Mold	Sue Roth
Kelly Constenius	Al Hutchens	Jerry Mollberg	Rick Schellbach
Margaret Craine	Megan Jacobson	Tyler Muchow	Ray Schoeberl
Evelyn Dahle	Dan Jensen	Kathleen Munt	Richard Schultz
Kari Dittberner	Marsha Johnson	Darla Nelson	Cathy Stanley
Karissa Dittberner	Priscilla Johnson	Gary Olson	Jeff Stevens
John Dreschel	Helen Johnston	Phyllis Olson	Erika Matzke Stoltz
Terry Duban	Josh	Andy Osland	Emily Stuber
Will Dunker	Terry Kay	Helen Peterson	Joann Sybrant
Jeff Elsenpeter	Angela Kuhlman	Linda Philips	Keith Weller
Braydon Erickson	Scott Kurtock	Elaine Pierce	Jen Witte
Darrin Forcier			

**In Sympathy** - FELC expresses their sympathy to the families of † Bob Scheffer (private funeral held this past week), and † Myrna Hanson (committal held this past week).

**Pastoral Calls** - You are welcome to contact Pastor Nathan anytime for a pastoral visit by phone or outdoors - either at your home or at the church. You can use the "Count Me In" to request a pastoral visit.

### This Week

#### Rally Sunday, September 13th, 2020

9:00 AM: Worship

10:00 AM: Special Congregational Meeting

10:00 AM: Sunday School Registration

1:00 PM: Private Baby Shower

#### Monday, September 14th, 2020

1:00 - 6:00 PM: Red Cross Blood Drive here at FELC

1:00 - 5:00 PM: Office Hours

6:00 PM: Worship & Music Committee Meeting

#### Wednesday, September 16th, 2020

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Office Hours

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Wednesday Quilters Come & Go (COVID rules apply)

12:00 PM: Staff Meeting

4:00 PM: 6th Grade Confirmation

5:00 PM: 7th Grade Confirmation

6:00 PM: 8th Grade Confirmation

7:00 PM: Church Council Meeting

7:00 PM: Youth Campfire

#### Thursday, September 17th, 2020

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Office Hours

#### Sunday, September 20th, 2020

9:00 AM: Worship with Sunday School

11:00 PM: Christian Education Committee Meeting