



First Lutheran Announcements

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Mt. Carroll, IL

sharing Christ's love through
worship, study, and service

SUNDAY, July 18, 2021

8th Sunday after Pentecost

This is a day for the sheep to be fed, the warring factions to come to peace, the aliens to become citizens, the building that is the church to stand upon Christ.

Jeremiah 23:1-6 The prophet Jeremiah (626–586 bce) is responsible for chapters 1–25 of the book bearing his name.

Throughout his lifetime, much of the Middle East was at war, and Jeremiah proclaimed that the plight of Israel and Judah was God's punishment for their unfaithfulness. His unpopular message was rejected and led to his persecution. This excerpt, like other ancient Near Eastern texts, likens rulers to shepherds, the metaphor suggesting that kings nourish and protect the people. Jeremiah, in a rare glimpse of hope, uses another ancient Near Eastern metaphor—the king as the tree of life—to announce the eventual arrival of a just king.

Ephesians 2:11-22 Ephesians 2 focuses on the church as one body in Christ. In describing the unity of Jews and Gentiles in Christ, the author, in a linguistic tour de force, employs the metaphors of aliens, strangers, a commonwealth, a dividing wall broken, citizens, a household, a building with one cornerstone, one temple, and God's dwelling place. Circumcision, the primary mark of an observant Jewish male, was not practiced by Greeks. The passage thus indicates that by the late first century, Christians thought of their religious bonds as other than ethnic identity.

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 In Mark's gospel, 6:31-44 and 8:1-10 are parallel narratives of Christ feeding the multitudes. The two feeding narratives bracket 7:1-30, which deals with the end of Jewish purity laws within the Christian community. Yet the fringe of Jesus' cloak marks him as an observant Jewish male. Today's two excerpts, which function as bookends to the feeding story in chapter 6, describe Jesus as a teacher and healer, a worthy shepherd of God's sheep. The theme of rest recalls the Israelites' rest from the nomadic wanderings when entering the promised land.

Drop Off your weekly Offerings

Every little bit helps us get through this difficult period. Our expenses haven't gone away. New envelopes are in the Fellowship area, so drop by and pick up yours. The code for the door is 8044. You can mail in or drop off your offering envelopes in the mail slot at the back-door by the bottom of the ramp.

Shortly, we will have the ability to do electronic deposits or donations online on our Facebook page or website. This will be convenient for those folks who have been joining us online.

Cottage Bakers

Yes, there is joy to be found in the church basement! Whenever the Cottage Bakers are



This Week At First

Wednesday: 7/21

8:00a Men's Bible Study

Thursday: 7/22

10:30a Meals on Wheels
5-8:00p diakonia
Resumes

Friday: 7/23

6:30p Movie Night at
Bridges - *Action
Adventure*

Saturday: 7/24

8-12 Farmers Market

Sunday: 7/25

10:00a Christmas in July
Service at Timber Lake
Resort
11:00 GRO - The Table
Lunch for All

Smile of the Week

We must be ready to
allow ourselves to be
interrupted by God.
Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Thought of the Day

O Lord, teach me that
if I do not live a life
that satisfies thee, I
shall not live a life that
will satisfy me.

Puritan prayer

creating and baking delicious goods to sell at Mount Carroll's weekly farmers market there is a delicious aroma of fresh, sweet delights. Extra hands are needed on Friday early morning and 10:00 to noon. There are many tasks from which to choose. Call JoAnn and let her know if you can help at 815-244-2343.

Booth helpers are also needed to set up, take down, and man the church's booth each Saturday morning. Call Jo Lyn Kruse at 815-213-0330 or sign-up in Church.

Men's Choir Forming for Summer Months

Pastor Bob invites all willing male voices to come together for some traditional gospel songs that we can sing for the congregation on alternate Sundays. Trained voices are not required as we wish to make a joyful noise to the Lord and the congregation. Rehearsals began Saturday, July 17 at 1:30. It's all about trying something new and having fun with it. Younger voices are welcome and encouraged to join us. Contact Pastor Bob with any questions.

Christmas in July at Timber Lake Resort, July 25, 2021

Don't miss this special annual event. We will be holding a worship service at the camp ground beginning at 10:00am. After worship, GRO - The Table will be providing a meal for all participants so we can enjoy a time of fellowship out in God's creation. A Giving Tree will also be available to provide gifts for the residents of Allure Nursing Home. There will be NO regular worship at First this day and all are welcome to join in at Timber Lake. We will be inviting our friends at Christ Lutheran Church of Stockton to join us at the lake or Live Streamed in their Sanctuary.

This will be a great service to invite your neighbors and friends to experience God's love and hear the Christmas story.

Volunteers will be needed to help set-up and tear-down before and after the service. Contact Alan Schroeder for more information or sign-up on the bulletin board in our fellowship area. All proceeds will go to support the GRO Resource Center on Main Street in Savanna and the Wednesday meals they supply for Mount Carroll throughout the year.



Special Birthdays This Week

John Hovorka 18

Anniversaries This Week

Howard & Virginia Helms - 19
Richard & Victoria Collins - 23
Matthew & Kenze Peirce - 24

In Our Prayers This Week

Nico Neely
Charleen Smith
Allison Powers
Lori Cravatta
Ida Merkel
Haley McColley
Sandy Shaw
Dolores & Al Fredericks
Nicole Merboth
Greg Bazilewich
Darlene Streicher
Sandy Haas
Stephanie Rath

In Assisted Living:

Donna Wurster
Lyle Hartman
John Hovorka

In Military Service here and abroad:

Terry Gilmore
Aaron Hartman
John Kaufman
Benjamin Rath
Logan Rittmeyer

