



First Lutheran Announcements

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Mt. Carroll, IL

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

SUNDAY, September 25, 2022

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

We continue through the autumn's standard Sundays, now proclaiming some of Luke's parables, which although able to be simplified into universal truths, were probably in the mouth of Jesus somewhat disconcerting depictions of the nearness and reversals of God's kingdom and of what the cross of discipleship meant.

Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Amos was a farmer who spoke God's word in elegant Hebrew during the eighth century bce (see more detail in last week's Lectionary 25). His message was that since the people were living without care for the poor and were participating in pagan religious practices, God would punish them. Zion is a poetic name for Jerusalem, the capital of the southern kingdom of Judah. Samaria was at Amos's time in the south of the northern kingdom of Israel, which is here called Joseph (v. 6). Archaeologists have found one such bed with ivory inlays marked with the name of the king of Damascus. The meat of lambs and milk-fed calves is very tender, and since the animal has not served its full purpose, expensive. Amos believes that God will end the kingdom's political independence as punishment for the people's sins.

1 Timothy 6:6-19 Written probably in a late first century by a disciple of Paul, the author of the Pastoral Epistle 1 Timothy is concerned about false teachings and the ungodly lives of some members of the church. Although many early believers came from the lower classes, the author addresses the newer situation in which some Christians had wealth. This passage describes a Christian lifestyle that no longer anticipates an imminent eschaton, urges societal contentment, as did one of the virtues in Stoicism, and focuses on economic disparity in the community. The reference to Pontius Pilate seems to connect with John 18:36-37. "The commandment" is the composite of Christian truths. The passage of praise (vv. 15-16) may come from an early Christian hymn. King of kings, a title used by Oriental monarchs, was used by Christians to refer to God.

Luke 16:19-31 This famous parable of Jesus, written down in the late first century only in Luke, is similar to others from Egypt and among the rabbis. The color purple designated expensive clothing reserved for the upper classes; linen was used for Egyptian undergarments of the rich. The use of the name Lazarus may link this parable with the story in John 11, in which a Lazarus returns from the dead but does not convince Jewish leaders that Jesus is messiah. The rich were expected in lieu of taxes to feed the poor. Rabbinic literature referred to the eschatological banquet as Abraham's bosom (NRSV, "to be with Abraham"). Hades, not the medieval hell, is the lowest level of the three-tier universe which houses the dead. This parable exemplifies Luke's focus on the poor and his condemnation of the inappropriate use of wealth. The final line indicates that Luke understands the gospel of salvation is found in what we call the Old Testament.



This Week At First

Wednesday: 9/28

7:00p Weekly Praise & Worship Gathering

Thursday: 9/29

10:30a Meals on Wheels

5:30p Choir Practice

Friday: 9/30

Pastor's Sabbath
8a-12p Cottage Bakers

Saturday: 10/1

8a-12p MCMA - FLC
Miles for Coins at Farmers Market

8:00a Breakfast at the Café

8a-12p Farmer's Market

Sunday: 10/2

8:15a Sunday School

9:00a Live Worship Service, on Zoom & Facebook Live Stream

Smile of the Week

Normal day, let me be aware of the treasure you are. Let me learn from you, bless you before you depart. Let me not pass you by in quest of some rare and perfect tomorrow.

Mary Jean Irion

Body & Soul Gathering

You are invited to Dinner and a Bible Study Sunday September 25th at 5:00pm. Sirvo and Mary Wiemero, (850 N. Washington Ave. Mt. Carroll, 805-304-9923), will be hosting and providing a Swedish/Finnish Meatballs main dish. Please bring along a side dish from the following list: Appetizer, Breads, Potato or Rice dish, Vegetable dish, Salad or Dessert. Please RSVP by return e-mail, with your side dish selection and copy everyone in. Or just sign-up on the church bulletin board. Bring some friends, all are welcomed!!

Meet Your Neighbors, Sign-up for Booth Duty

The Cottage Bakers meet in the church kitchen every Friday during the farmer's market season. Bakers, sellers, packers, etc., are all needed. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for your convenience. Many hands make light work. And, the pies are delicious! Please contact JoAnn Palmer with any questions.

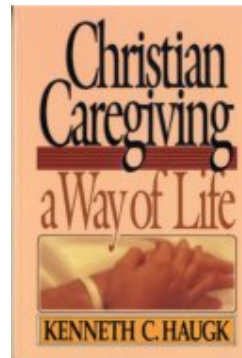


Wednesday Night Gathering "Mountain Moving Faith"

We invite you to take a break in your busy week to recharge your spiritual batteries and spend some time with family, friends and neighbors in God's presence. We look forward to joining together, regardless of where you are on your journey, to lift our voices toward our Creator in praise and thanksgiving. Will we see you this Wednesday, September 28, at 7:00pm?

Christian Caregiving, a Way of Life

If you have ever wanted to become a better caregiver, this 5 class course will help improve your caregiver skills. Starting on Thursday, October 6, at 1:00pm the classes will be held at Bridges on Main St. in Savanna. Every consecutive Thursday, Pastor Bob Stark will lead these workshops that focus on five key aspects of distinctively Christian Caregiving. The workshops are free, but you will have to purchase Kenneth C. Haug's book, Christian Caregiving a Way of Life. These books will be available on or before the first Workshop.



Envisioning What God is Calling us To

If you have ever wondered what God might have in store for us here at First Lutheran, join Pastor Bob and JoAnn Palmer as they pull together a group to help us prayerfully discern God's mission for us in this community. As the Holy Spirit speaks through each of us, this will involve all of us at some point or another. Come and join in the conversation early in the visioning process.

Mt Carroll Ministerial Ass'n Miles of Coins Kicks-Off at Farmers' Market

Starting next Saturday, October 1st and throughout the remaining Saturdays of the Farmers' Market each church will take a turn manning a table at the market. First Lutheran has the first Saturday and we need 4 volunteers to assist for one hour each, 8 AM - 12 PM. Don't miss your opportunity, especially if you haven't volunteered lately, to be the first to sign up to serve our community in this special way. All you need to bring is a smile.



Birthdays This Week

Chloe Neis - 9/27

Chris Neis - 9/27

Madison Olson - 9/27

Brian Brinkmeier -
9/30

Emma Eisfeller - 10/1

Anniversary This Week

Pastor Bob &
Barb Stark - 9/28

In Our Prayers This Week

Nico Neely

Haley McColley

Sandy Shaw

Jo Lyn Kruse

Dolores & Al Fredericks

Nicole Merboth

Sandy Haas

Ron Messenger

Peggy Mader

Richard Kehl

Kenneth Kingery

Nancy Schroeder

Earl Gilliland

Ashton Miller

Dawn Rittmeyer

The Family and Friends
of Darlene Streicher

In Assisted Living:

Lyle Hartman

John Hovorka

Earl Gilliland

In Military Service here and abroad:

Aaron Hartman

John Kaufman

Benjamin Rath

Logan Rittmeyer

Thought of the Day

What is heaven, but to be with God, to dwell with him, to realize that God is mine, and I am his?

Charles Spurgeon