

July Newsletter 2025



Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Donald Welmer
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Gilbert Pingel
Administrative Assistant	Amy Sandy
Director of Music	Justin Hipp
Organist/Pianist	Anna Hipp
Custodian	Denise Topp
President	Adam Weidman
BCA Principal	David Topp

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

“What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his

labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

(1 Corinthians 3:5-11)

This text was the basis for the 22nd Regular Mid-South (LCMS) District Convention. Our President, Adam Weidman, will be updating the congregation in July with important things discussed at the convention.

Our district is in very good health, in spiritual and earthly matters. We barely have any vacant congregations, and the Lord has blessed this district with good pastors being called from the field and the seminary. Closer to home, Pastor Cox was placed at Cross of Christ Lutheran in Hixon last year and has been doing the Lord's work very diligently there.

Pastor-Elect Benjamin Heinz will soon be installed at Athens Lutheran in Athens, Tennessee. We welcome him to the circuit and give thanks to God for Pastor Coulter who has served them well these past years. Pastor Coulter's last Sunday there is July 6th.

As our circuit is building on Christ, the sure foundation, the brothers elected me as Circuit Visitor for 2025-2028. I give them thanks for their support and trust, as our circuit moves forward in Christ towards the future.

Our principal, David Topp, was elected to the Board of Directors for the Mid-South District (LCMS). May you keep him in your thoughts and

prayers these next 3 years as he will join others in the administration of our District.

With all this being said, after 13 years of ministry, I am taking a short respite. A sabbatical. It will be a time for me to reflect, renew, and enrich myself in God's Word, to remember Christ as the sure foundation of our faith. I begin July 1st and will return on Oct. 1st. Please keep me in your thoughts and prayers during my Sabbatical which you have graciously granted me as the church.

There is still much to build upon here at First Lutheran Church. I am excited to see where the Lord leads us as we approach another decade in 5 years. The Lord is doing his work among us, and we are thankful he is our foundation.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Welmer

July Birthdays

Cosmo Montgomery	7/1	Dari Selcer	7/19
Zoila Alonzo	7/3	Laura Douglas	7/16
Jeremy Miller	7/4	Linda Johnson	7/20
Kevin Hyde	7/4	McKinley Tyson	7/20
Sandra Hemstock	7/4	Daniel Barber	7/21
Jerry Stubbs	7/5	Phoebe Anderson	7/24
Chance Pacenti	7/6	Kelsey Schoneck	7/24
David Topp	7/6	Ken Pfitzer	7/24
Leilani Montgomery	7/8	Madeline Medeiros	7/26
Kathy Dolloff	7/8	Hannah Schlie	7/27
Robert Campbell	7/9	Mariann Fretwell	7/28
Jessica Powers	7/12	Garet Baker	7/30
Grace Norman	7/12	Sadie Pacenti	7/31

July Anniversaries

	Yrs	
Stephanie Anderson & Jeff	8	4/7
Natalie Alonzo & Joseph	8	9/7
Connie Uffalussy & Harry	17	12/7
Katie Halabrin & Jordan	5	18/7
Anna Hipp & Justin	14	23/7
Becky Emmer & Danny	54	27/7
Gwen Meyer & Bob	79	26/7
Shari Kappel & Kurt	41	28/7
Claudia Chiaro & Mike	26	31/7

Prayer Requests

Members

Ingrid Hall
 Judy Nance
 Jesse, Grace, James &
 Charity Norman
 Monty Simmons
 Family of Members
 Eleanor Aramil (Piepenbrink)
 Page Dover (Stroud)
 Doug Emmer (Emmer)
 Sherry Emmer (Emmer)
 Lynn Erke (Randall)
 Rick Gehrke (Stephens)
 Kris Hall (Hall)
 Kathy Kreiman (Lewis)
 Austin Martin (Petty)

Friends of Members

Jacob Carlson's Family (Cox)
 Marty Dunagan (Slaten)
 John "JD" Dye (Stephens)
 Gene & Faye Edwards (Tyson)
 Ava England (Anderson)
 Jon Freese (Gatlin)
 Jim Gilliland (Hyde)
 Charmaine Goines (Petty)
 Alta Hook (Schroeder)
 Stella Kuhn (McMullen)
 Naomi (Randall)
 Jerry Pellman (Anderson)
 Ollie Reeves (Simmons)
 Les Seibert (Anderson)
 Joyce Skiles (J Freer)

Dusty Martin (Petty)

Valerie McMullen (McMullen)

Lloyd Miller (Uffalussy)

Avery Morkert (Morkert)

James O'Connell (Pacenti)

George Selcer (Selcer)

Tim Stroud (Stroud)

Jo & Steve Vail (Vail)

Katie William's Father

The Squires Family

Amy Turner, Lilly &

Tabitha (Turner)

LONG-TERM: Joan Ashton, Mariann Fretwell, Carolyn Kempson, Ida Jane Larson, Walter Meyer, Peggy Moselage, Paul Parker, Pastor Pingel, Stan Puterbaugh, David Ratchford, Pat Stroud, Robbie & Sue Barnes (Hyde), Bonnie Blair (Nance), Thomas Caines (Lowe), Jack Coulter (Schlie), Bethany Dillard (Johnson), Ashley & Jim Koss (Schlie) Christan McCall (Schlie)



Fellowship and Serve:

We will have our

First Monday Fellowship and Serve

on Monday, July 7, from 9 to 12.

We will do some work around the church, cleaning and repairing, have a short devotion and enjoy lunch together. All are welcome.



*Ladies' Fellowship
meets at 6:00 on
Thursday, July 17,
at Portofino's on
Ringgold Road.*



Men's Fellowship
meets at 6:30 on
Thursday, July 17 at
Rib & Loin



Thanks to all who attended Pastor Pingel's 60th Ordination Anniversary
Party.

(shown above) President Paavola & Pat, Pastor Pingel & Linda


BCA

Christian Education – A Gift for a Lifetime!

Now Enrolling for Pre-K – 8th Grade!

Spaces are available for August for rising pre-k3 through eighth grade. Learn more about how your child will benefit from Christian education at Belvoir Christian Academy. Reach out to Emily Patton, Admissions, via text at 423-443-6270 or [email admissions](#) to schedule a tour! BCA serves infants beginning at ages six weeks through eighth grade.

July Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	JULY	1 9-2 Food Pantry	2	3 11:00 Evangelism	4 Happy Independence Day!	5
6 3rd Sunday after Trinity 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	7 6:00 BCA Board	8 9-2 Food Pantry 7:30 Christian Ed	9	10	11	12
13 4th Sunday after Trinity LWML Mite Box 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	14	15 9-2 Food Pantry 10:00 Quilters	16	17 6:00 Ladies' Fellowship at Portofino's 6:30 Men's Fellowship at Rib & Loin, Brainerd	18	19
20 5th Sunday after Trinity Food Pantry Offering 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	21 Newsletter & Calendar Deadline	22 9-2 Food Pantry	23	24	25	26 12:00 Luau at Camp with 2:30 Divine Service
27 6th Sunday after Trinity 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	28	29 9-2 Food Pantry	30	31		

July Worship Assistants

July 6 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
Assistants Frank Streufert
Jeff Anderson
Ushers Ralph Meissner
Kurt Piepenbrink
Altar Guild Jordan Halabrin

July 6 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
Live Stream Eric Turner
Assistants Freer Team
Ushers Yarman Team
Altar Guild Gary Tallant
Acolyte Shilo Miller
Nursery Ashley Shamblin

July 13 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
Assistants Frank Streufert
Jeff Anderson
Ushers Tony Seiberlich
David Topp
Altar Guild Michelle Bumgardner
Linda Cox

July 13 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
Live Stream Adam Weidman
Assistants Freer Team
Ushers Yarman Team
Altar Guild Carla Brooks
Acolyte Eradesa Stroud
Nursery Dari Selcer

July 20 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
Assistants Steve Kempson
Jim Post
Ushers Chris Douglas
Kurt Piepenbrink
Altar Guild Patty Chewning

July 20 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
Live Stream Charlie Simmons
Assistants Freer Team
Ushers Yarman Team
Altar Team Jodie Hyde
Acolyte Audrey Hipp
Nursery Jasley Montgomery

July 27 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
Assistants Jim Post

July 27 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
Live Stream Jordan Halabrin

	Steve Kempson
Ushers	Ralph Meissner
	Tony Seiberlich
Altar Team	Michelle Bumbardner
	Linda Cox

Assistants	Freer Team
Ushers	Yarman Team
Altar Team	Sandy Turner
Acolyte	Jackson Barber
Nursery	Dari Selcer



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From: service@paypal.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 6:15 AM
To: office first4u.org
Subject: You received a payment

Hello, First Lutheran Church



You received a payment

Jul 1, 2025 03:14:39 PDT
Transaction ID: 90577768RS483153T

You received a payment from Jodie Hyde for Give to First Lutheran Church - Monthly

Customer details

Customer name	Jodie Hyde
Customer email	ckjahyde@gmail.com
Profile ID	I-V8BNN5LGTYL8
Profile status	

Subscription details

Amount received	\$900.00 USD
For	Give to First Lutheran Church - Monthly
Outstanding balance	
Amount paid each time	\$900.00 USD
Maximum amount you can bill	\$900.00 USD
Next payment due	Aug 1, 2025



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David Topp
Altar Guild Michelle Bumgardner
Linda Cox

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Ushers Yarman Team
Altar Guild Carla Brooks
Acolyte Eradesa Stroud
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Altar Team Sandy Turner
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 Website

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