



Poy Sippi, WI

THE "FIRST" EDITION – SEPTEMBER 2025

From Pastor Rebekah Tarras

A few weeks ago, I spent 2 days participating in the Global Leadership Summit. It was two days packed with teaching and encouragement from leaders in ministry, business, and beyond. One particular message has stuck with me, and it came from a simple little verse in Acts 18.

The verse was about a man named Apollos. He had been working with the church in Ephesus and sensed God was calling him to move on to Greece. His fellow believers blessed him and sent him off with letters of recommendation. And then Acts 18:27 says, "When he arrived there, he proved to be a great benefit to those who, by God's grace, had believed" (NLT).

That verse grabbed my attention: "He proved to be a great benefit to the believers there."

Apollos didn't try to make a name for himself, gather fans, or leave behind a monument. He simply showed up in a way that blessed others. His ministry encouraged and strengthened the believers. Another translation even says, "he was an advantage to others."

I think this verse might be my new personal mission statement. I know that I am not perfect (just ask my family). I make mistakes - plenty of them! But at the end of the day, my hope is that my ministry here at First and Grace is a benefit to the believers.

But here's the thing: this isn't just about pastors. This verse is for all of us.

As followers of Jesus, each of us is called to be a benefit to others. To encourage one another, to lift each other up, and to help strengthen the faith of those around us.

Hebrews 10:24 puts it this way: "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works." That's what being a benefit looks like - helping each other walk more closely with Jesus, offering hope when faith feels shaky, and showing love in a world that is starving for it.

So here's my encouragement to you this month: ask yourself, How can I be a benefit to someone else's faith? Maybe it's praying with someone, or writing a quick note of encouragement. Maybe it's finding a new way to serve at church, or simply showing up with kindness.

Apollos may not be the most famous name in Scripture, but his quiet example of faithful encouragement changed lives. And God can use you and me in the very same way.

Let's be a benefit to each other, to our community, and to the world for the sake of the gospel, for the strength of Christ's church, and for the glory of Jesus.

Pastor Rebekah





The ELCA community is celebrating the election of Bishop Yehiel Curry as the next Presiding Bishop!

Bishop Curry is a pastor deeply rooted in community, compassion, and calling. Known for his unwavering commitment to youth, urban ministry, and inclusive leadership, he bring both authenticity and visionary spirit to the national stage. His work reflects the heart of so many – grounded in justice, generosity, and the hope of the gospel.



September Worship Notes

If you are unable to attend in person, join us online on our Facebook page or you can listen to worship vis radio station 93.1 FM or 1600 AM at 9:45 am.

Date	Text	Serving
September 7 13 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am Worship Birthdays & Anniversaries Communion at the Rail	Jeremiah 18:1-11 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	Greeter: Dar Cravillion Reader: Steve/Karin Macijeski Communion Bread: Chris Monroe Communion Assistant: Mali Beine
September 14 14 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am Worship	1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10	Greeter: Diane Warning Reader: Diane Warning
September 21 15 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am Worship	Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Hebrews 10:24-25 Matthew 18:20	Greeter: Patti Langkau Reader: Patti Langkau
September 28 16 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am Worship	1 Timothy 6:6-15 Luke 12:13-21	Greeter: Joan Everson Reader: Lenny Langkau
October 5 17 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am Worship Birthdays & Anniversaries Communion at the Rail	Lamentations 1:1-6 Lamentations 3:19-26 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10	Greeter: Mark Henn Reader: Gary Boening Communion Bread: Chris Monroe Communion Assistant: Gary Boening

Inspired by Luke 15:1-10

Loving Father,

You seek out the lost and rejoice when one soul returns to You.

We pray for our parish family - those present, those wandering & those searching. Draw us closer to Your heart, remind us of our worth in Your eyes & help us to rejoice with heaven over every heart restored.

Make our parish a place of welcome, mercy & joy. Amen.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

In July, our Noisy Bucket raised \$131.15 for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. That, combined with physical school supply donations, we were able to assemble **114 School Kits!** THANK YOU to all who donated loose change, time & supplies!!



September Noisy Bucket Mission: School Lunch Debt Relief

This month's Noisy Bucket offering will support school lunch debt relief for families in our area. Unpaid lunch balances can weigh heavily on both parents and schools, and we want to help lift that burden.

Here's the exciting part! The Endowment Committee has pledged to match gifts up to \$1,200!! So that means every noisy coin and folded bill you drop in the bucket will be doubled until we reach that amount! The total funds will be divided between the Berlin, Wild Rose, and Weyauwega/Fremont School Districts, directly helping local students and families.



A huge thank you to all who worked tirelessly behind the scenes - planning, decorating, cleaning & praying. Your dedication and love made our 150th celebration not only possible but unforgettable!

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting : July 8, 2025

Attendance:

Bill Deppe (Pres.)	X	Judy Schierland	Absent
Dar Cravillion (V.Pres.)	X	Jim Laird	X
Joan Everson (Treas.)	X	Lenny Langkau	X
Mali Beine (Sec.)	X	Pastor Rebekah Tarras	X

Call to Order: Pres Bill Deppe called meeting to order at 6:31PM.

Devotions: Led by Pastor.

Visitor(s): None

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: approve minutes from June 10, 2025 with no corrections. Seconded. Carried

Approval of Monthly Financial Reports:

MOTION: approve financial reports as presented. Seconded. Carried.

Clarified that windows were ordered and have begun to draw down extra funds from the door project.

New Business:

1. Update the CD player in the Sound System and add a Bluetooth connection Quote received.
MOTION: Purchase professional CD player and Bluetooth connection for sound system out of sound technology fund. Seconded. Carried
2. Lectionary: Currently using revised lectionary as method for lectionary selection. Narrative lectionary is also available as an option. Pastor is considering completing Year C in the Revised lectionary cycle and then transitioning to the narrative lectionary.
 - a. Developed at Luther to provide a 4-year cycle that dives more deeply into single books at a time and works to tell a story across the weeks.
 - b. Note: This cycle does not follow the worship in the home books people currently have, nor with Sunday School.
 - c. September thru May = start with creation story, then lead to a single gospel (2026 is John)
 - d. Summer = in depth focus on a single Old Testament book. And a New Testament bookMOTION: Approve transition to the Narrative lectionary in December 2025; pending approval by Grace. Seconded. Carried.
3. Approval to get Mark Henn a credit card
Credit Union only allows 4 card holders.
Return to finance ministry to evaluate who should be 4 card holders.
4. Unspecified Victor Hansen Memorial funds – finance ministry recommends moving to Building & Grounds
MOTION: Move Victor Hansen Memorial fund to the Building & Grounds Fund. Seconded. Carried.
5. Marco printer belongs to the church and we need to disposition.
MOTION: Propose offering copier and toner on Marketplace for a donation of \$150. Seconded. Carried.
6. Approve minutes from congregational minutes.
MOTION: Approve the minutes from the congregational meeting with clarifications to window location and fund sources.

Unfinished Business:

1. 150th Anniversary plans update
Grace will staff. Parking arrangements made with neighboring churches and lots.
Need: a projector. Mali and Lenny will work to arrange.
2. Office Windows Update – windows are ordered
3. Bingo Committee – Ruth, Kevin, Harold, Lee said yes. Still following up with Kay.

Reports:

- Pastor
 - (4) funerals, (2) at here.
 - Refocusing confirmation curriculum
 - Prep for 150th Anniversary
 - Will be on vacation end of month, all arrangements in place to cover.
- Parish Council
 - Worship in the Park – July 13th at Berlin at 10:00 AM. Potluck to follow.
- Worship Committee (pastor)
- Children's Ministry Committee
- M-Team (Jim Laird)
 - Party on the Pond – September 13
 - Lions interested in partnering. Will approach FD and PoySippi Betterment Committee as well
- Endowment Committee (Joan Everson)
 - Next mtg in August
- Property Committee – nothing additional
- Archive Committee – on hiatus until December
- Outreach Committee - Inactive
- Staff – will clean light fixtures prior to anniversary, alert her to any other

Other Business:

1. ELCA Churchwide Assembly will be at the end of July and can be watched online in a livestream.
 2. School Lunch Program was a noisy bucket for September. Wild Rose School District runs ~\$6,000 deficit every month in their school lunch program. Discussed potential to nominate this for endowment and seek additional information from Berlin and Weyauwega School Districts.
 3. ELCA change to Synod Staff.
 4. Where will memorial bricks be located. Recommend widening walkway.
 5. Consider how special funds coming in from the Anniversary are spent.
- MOTION: Tithe any anniversary offering toward ELCA Lutheran World Relief. Seconded. Carried.

Closing Prayer:

Adjourn:

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting 8:22pm. Seconded. Carried.

Next Meeting Date: August 12, 2025 @ 6:30pm

Have pictures from the 150th Anniversary you'd like to share?

Scan the QR code and upload them to our Album

or email your pictures to the office at firstluthpoysippi@gmail.com



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 	2	3 10:15 Choir	4 11:15 Archive	5 9-10:30 Food Pantry 1-3 Stampin 3-4:30 Food Pantry	6
7 10:30 Worship Cupcake Sunday!	8 12:30 Worship Committee 1:30 Bible Study 2:45 M-Team 5:30 Finance	9 6:30 Council	10 10:15 Choir 6:30 Confirmation Class Begins	11	12	13 8am Men's Breakfast 9-4 Craft Day @ Grace 2pm-6pm Party on the Pond!
14 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship	15 1:30 Bible Study	16	17 10:15 Choir	18	19	20
21 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship Pack the Pew & Pack the Pantry 11:30 Pancake Palooza!	22 1:30 Bible Study	23	24 10:15 Choir	25	26	27
28 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship	29 1:30 Bible Study	30	1 10:15 Choir 	2 11:15 Archive	3 9-10:30 Food Pantry 1-3 Stampin 3-4:30 Food Pantry	4

SEPTEMBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 Keven Birschbach
2 Emersyn Deppe
6 Sharon Deppe
6 Rich Jorgensen
7 Samuel Behnke
12 Anders Beine
12 Dan Button
14 Pastor Rebekah Tarras

15 Andrew Hein
15 April Yahr
17 Andrew & Christina Hein
18 Brianne Langkau
21 Mick and Diane Warning
22 Jacklyn Jorgensen
23 Steve Cravillion
28 Tammy DeFilippo-Kretzmann

Cupcakes & Celebrations!

Join us after worship on the 1st Sunday each month as we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries with yummy cupcakes! Whether you're marking a special occasion or just love a sweet treat, come enjoy the fellowship and celebrate together! **If we missed a special day or have a date wrong, please contact the office!



Reminder: Confirmation Classes begin on September 10 @ 6:30pm for students in 7th & 8th grade. Classes will be held at Grace Lutheran. This year our focus will be on the Biblical Story. Any questions, contact Pastor Rebekah at pastortarras@gmail.com or call/text 715-897-5393.

Craft Day @ Grace: 9/13, 9am-4pm

All crafters are welcome to join! Bring any art or craft you enjoy as we create, connect, and share in fellowship while enjoying a light lunch. Feel free to bring a snack & your favorite beverage. Stay for as long or as little as you'd like! Sign up on the clipboard so we know how many crafting stations to have prepared.

Grace English Lutheran Church
384 Oak St. in Berlin



Sunday School begins September 14th at 9am! Children 3yrs to 6th grade are invited to attend!

The Lord's Acre!

The Lord's Acre is ready to receive any and all of your extra garden goodies! If you have been blessed with a bountiful garden & would like to donate, contact Judy: 920-987-5582. Thank you to all who have donated so far!

Food Pantry:

September 5, October 3

Regular times: 9-10:30am & 3-4:30pm

Items Needed: Cereal, Pasta, Pancake Mix

Polka & Potluck – October 26

Save the date & join us for a polka infused worship with a potluck to follow!

Please Pray For:

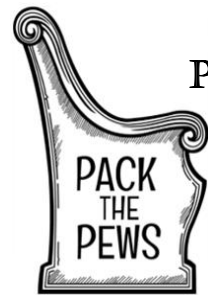
Phillip Rew – Recovery from Car Accident
 Connie Kunde – Stroke – Sister of Gary Monroe
 John – Toes Removed
 Debbie Gabrilska – UTV Accident
 Lee Nelson – Hip Replacement
 Lloyd Nelson – Healing from Accident
 Linda Ewald – Sister-in-Law of Judy Vergin
 Baby Nyla – Granddaughter of Sandy Anderson
 Linda Nitzke – Breast Cancer – Healing
 Jim Laird – Continued Prayers
 Chris Monroe – Continued Prayers
 Keith Krause – Cancer - Friend of Judy Vergin
 Patty C. – Cancer - Friend of Judy Vergin
 Kay Jeske – Prayers for Healing
 Roxie Andersen
 Corrine – Healing, Cousin of Judy B.
 Lilyana Marauder – Continued Prayers
 Tammy Hansen
 Donna Christie – Healing - Friend of Patti
 Darlene Christie - Continued Prayers -Friend of Patti
 Mark Bongart – Continued Prayers
 Dick Tuner – Cancer - Nephew of Sandy Anderson
 Gen Everson – Continued Prayers
 John Trochinski - Continued Prayers
 Phyllis Jenks – Continued Prayers -Lee Chase's sister
 Pastor Rick Rieten – Health - Friend of Laird's
 Bill H – Health - Friend of Dan and Judy Button
 Jaci Boening – Continued Prayers
 Lee Nelsen – Health - Germain's Son
 James Cartwright – Health - Lenny's Cousin
 Mark Kretzmann – Continued Healing
 Tammy Kretzmann – Healing
 Sue – Health & Continued Healing - Friend of Lairds
 Carl Anderson- Continued Healing, son of Sandy A.
 For those battling cancer: Tom, Dave L, Vicki



Update on Mark Bongart. He has been on the prayer list for almost a year. He has Multiple Myeloma. On Good Friday Mark received a bone marrow transplant. He just had a follow up a week or so ago. He has no new cancer. He still has a fairly large tumor in his back. But they are going to continue to monitor that and possibly do some kind of treatment. He was able to return to work recently. Mark and his wife Kathy want to thank everyone for their prayers. He still has a long road ahead. So if we can continue our prayers they would both be very grateful. Thank you.

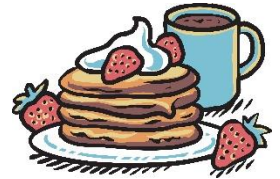
First Lutheran Poy Sippi
150 Years Together
1875 – 2025
August 10, 2025





**PACK THE PEWS!
PACK THE PANTRY!**

&



Sunday, September 21

In honor of Pastor Rebekah's birthday, we are asking for non-perishable food donations for the Poy Sippi Food Pantry.

Pancake Palooza will follow

10:30am Worship! The menu will include weird & wonderful pancakes!

Invite friends & family!

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

-Matthew 18:20

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please check the sign up sheet to see how you can volunteer to help to make all of our parish events festive successes! Volunteers needed for: Party on the Pond, Pancake Palooza, and ongoing help with Coffee & Fellowship and Celebration Sundays!

Men's Breakfast Kickoff

Guys from First and Grace, let's start the year strong!

Men's Breakfast kicks off at **First Lutheran** on **Saturday, September 13 at 8:00 a.m.**

Bring a friend and bring an appetite. We will eat well, share a brief devotion, and make a simple plan for the year ahead. Please sign up if you are planning to attend so we can plan enough food.

Lay School:

Did you know that our Synod offers a school specifically for you? The lay school exists to equip and challenge adults for their lives as disciples of Christ. The classes meet once a month on Friday evening and Saturday and meet in a hybrid format (in-person at two satellite locations and can be accessed remotely through a virtual link). Find out more information: <https://ecswlayschool.org/>

First Lutheran Church

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(920) 987-5151

www.firstlutheranpoysippi.org

Pastor Rebekah Tarras

(715) 897-5393
pastortarras@gmail.com

Office hours at First:

Monday 9 am to noon

Wednesday 9 am to noon

Carolynn Rynish, Office Admin.

firstluthpoysippi@gmail.com

Mon-Wed 8:30 am to noon

Thursday 8:30 am to 11 am

Myndi Margan, Bookkeeper

firstluthbook@gmail.com

Mon and Thurs. 9 am to 1 pm

Bulletin Deadline:

Wednesday 9 am

Newsletter Deadline:

20th each month

Church Council

President: Bill Deppe	920-229-5547 sbdeppe@live.com
VP: Dar Cravillion	920-987-5887 dcravillion@icloud.com
Secretary: Mali Beine	262-224-8336 malimeri@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Joan Everson	920-295-9404 jceverson217@gmail.com
Lenny Langkau	920-229-3593 emspof1954@yahoo.com
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