



THE "FIRST" EDITION

July 2026

Summer has a different rhythm, doesn't it?

Schedules change. People take vacations. Some head to the cabin. Gardens need attention. Grandkids visit. The pace of life often feels a little different than the rest of the year.

But even as our routines change, God's invitation remains the same: to follow Jesus and continue growing as disciples.

This month we'll gather for our joint Worship in the Park service in Poy Sippi, followed by a potluck meal. One of the things I love about this service is the reminder that God's presence isn't limited to a church building. We worship in a sanctuary most Sundays, but the God we meet there is also present in our homes, workplaces, fields, lakes, and parks. Wherever we go, God goes with us.

July also marks the beginning of a new sermon series on the Psalms. If you've spent much time in the Psalms, you know they are refreshingly honest. Some are filled with praise and thanksgiving. Others wrestle with fear, grief, anger, doubt, or questions. The Psalms remind us that we don't have to clean up our emotions before bringing them to God. Whatever we're carrying, God is willing to hear it.

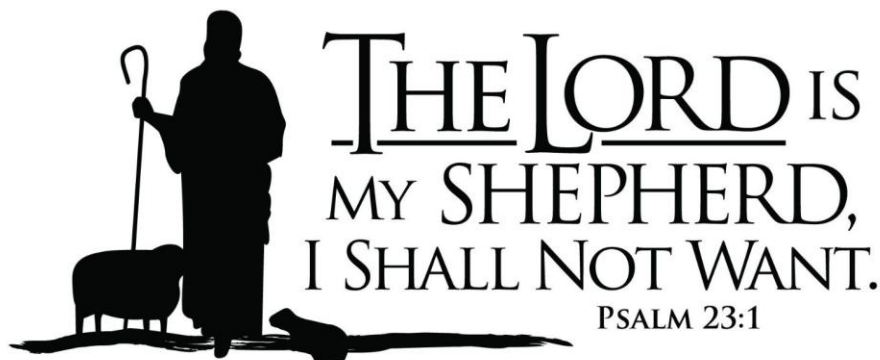
I would also appreciate your prayers this month as I participate in the ordination of Kathy Cartwright. Ordinations are joyful occasions because they remind us that God is still calling people into ministry and service. It's always encouraging to see the ways God continues to work through ordinary people to share the good news of Jesus.

I've also been spending part of the summer working on a significant revision of our confirmation program. My hope is that confirmation will be about more than simply learning information. I want it to help young people develop a faith that lasts beyond confirmation day. The new approach is being built around discipleship and Gospel Fluency, helping students understand the big story of Scripture and learn to see their own lives through the lens of God's grace and promises.

In many ways, all of these things are connected. Whether we're worshiping in the park, praying the Psalms, celebrating an ordination, or helping young people grow in faith, we're really doing the same thing: learning what it means to follow Jesus together.

Thank you for being part of that work. Thank you for your prayers, your service, your generosity, and your faithfulness. May God bless you and your family throughout these summer days.

Pastor Rebekah





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:30am Worship	29 1:30pm Bible Study	30	1	2	3 9-10:30am Food Pantry 3-4:30pm Food Pantry	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY
5 10:30am Worship	6 12:30pm Worship Mtg 1:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm Stampin!	7	8 3:15pm Finance Mtg	9	10 1-3pm Stampin!	11 9am-4pm Craft Day at Grace
12 10:30am Worship 11:30am Cupcakes!	13 1:30pm Bible Study 2:45pm M-Team Myndi Off	14 6:30pm Council Mtg	15 Pastor Off Myndi Off	16	17	18
19 10:00am Worship in the Poy Sippi Park 11:00am Potluck	20 1:30pm Bible Study Myndi Off	21	22 Myndi Off	23	24	25
26 10:30am Worship	27 1:30pm Bible Study	28	29	30	31	1

2 Judy Button
6 Brianna Macijeski
14 Mali Beine
21 Jim Laird
23 John Luttrell
23 Linda Nitzke
26 John Langkau



23 Judy Vergin
28 Sharon Plamann
24 Ryan Wendt
31 Eleanor Fenner

15 Jeff & Rebekah Tarras
31 Shannon & Tara McPeak



Cupcakes & Celebrations!

We invite you to stay a little while after worship on the first Sunday of each month as we gather to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries with cupcakes & fellowship!
And for those unable to join us in person, please know that you remain an important part of this church family. You are prayed for faithfully, and surrounded by God's grace & love wherever you are.
**If we missed a special day or have a date wrong, please contact the office!



Blessings

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

July 5 6 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am	1 John 4:7-21 Communion at the rail	Greeter: Jerry Strehlow Reader: Karin Macijeski Usher: Mark Henn & Joel Bread: Sandy Anderson Communion: Chris Monroe
July 12 7 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am	1 John 5:1-13 Birthdays & Anniversaries Communion in the pew	Greeter: Greg & Sharon Plamann Reader: Tom Wochenske Usher: Harold Nigbor
July 19 8 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship in the Park, Poy Sippi 10:00am	Psalms 23 Communion in the pew	Greeter: Dar Cravillion Reader: Dar Cravillion Usher: Council
July 26 9 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am	Psalms 27 Communion in the pew	Greeter: Joan Everson Reader: Kim Huerth Usher: George Huerth

Alex Bahr

Baby Maverick – born 11 weeks early – son of Macy Goehring

Jerry Wrage – Health Concerns

Rich Evans – Stroke – Friend of the Lairds

Jeri Latshaw – Arm Surgery – Coworker of Linda N.

Michelle Nelson – Health – Germaine's Daughter-in-Law

Jaci Boening – Surgery – Healing

Pastor Bill Meier

Carol Bergeon – Stroke - Germaine Schwebs' Cousin

Wiggie Benton – Cancer – Germaine Schwebs' Nephew

Russ Hofer – Overcoming Grief – Friend of the Lairds

Kathy Piper – Friend of Judy V.

Sue – Health & Continued Healing – Friend of the Lairds

Craig Monroe – Health – Son of Gary & Chris

Chris Monroe – Healing

Mike C. – Continued Healing – Friend of Vergins

Kay Jeske – Continued Healing

Doris – Cancer & Heart

Linda Ewald – Healing – Sister in Law of Judy Vergin

Phyllis Jenks – Continued Prayers - Lee Chase's sister

Pastor Rick Rieten – Health – Friend of Laird's

James Cartwright – Healing, Heart Surgery – Lenny's Cousin



Karin Macijeski – Upcoming procedure
Judy Vergin

Peter – Health Issues

Patti Christie – Friend of the Langkaus

Missy Miller - Healing

Jaci Boening – Surgery, Healing

Lee Nelson – Healing

Julie – Terminal Cancer

Corrine – Healing – Cousin of Judy B.

Mark Bongart – Continued Healing

Mark Kretzmann – Continued Healing

Tammy Kretzmann – Healing

For those battling cancer: Tom, Dave L.



For the month of July, our Noisy Bucket offering will support:
the Poy Sippi and Pine River Public Libraries!

Your spare change helps these wonderful community resources continue to provide books, programs, and learning opportunities for people of all ages. Making a difference - one noisy bucket at a time!

Our May Noisy Bucket Mission, School Lunch Debt relief for Berlin, raised \$297.58!

☀️ Back to the Beach! ☀️

Grab your lawn chair and join us at Kusel Lake on Saturday, August 8, from noon–3:00pm for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and summer fun! The M-Team will be grilling up delicious brats, and everything else is potluck - so bring a dish to share if you're able. Come enjoy good food, great company, and God's beautiful creation at the lake. We hope to see you there!



Distribution Date:

July 3rd, 9-10:30am & 3-4:30pm

July Collection:

This month we're spreading a little extra sweetness! Throughout July, we're collecting jars of jam and jelly. Your donation can help brighten someone's breakfast table and remind them they are cared for by their community.

CRAFT DAY @ GRACE

July 11th, 9am-4pm

Bring your art/craft, enjoy fellowship and a light lunch!

We will also be sewing dresses for Africa again. All abilities welcome!

The crafting fun begins at 9am at Grace Lutheran and ends at 4pm.

Stay the whole time or drop in!



A Friendly Reminder

Need to borrow tables, chairs, serving items, or other church equipment for an event? We're happy to share when we're able! To help avoid scheduling conflicts and ensure items are available, please contact the church office before borrowing anything. A quick phone call or email lets us know what's being used, when it will be returned, and helps us keep track of our church resources.

Thank you for helping us care for these shared items and for being considerate of your church family!

God's will, not mine.

Luke 22:42

Hosted by:
First Lutheran Church Poy Sippi
Grace Lutheran Church Berlin

Worship IN THE PARK

July 19, 2026

10:00am

Poy Sippi Park

W2332 Robert Street - Poy Sippi, WI

All are Welcome!

Fellowship & a Potluck after!

Pulled Pork & Chicken Sandwiches provided.

Bring a dish to share if you are able.

God is good!



As Samuel prepares to begin this exciting new chapter, we pray that God will guide his steps, grant him wisdom, and surround him with faithful friends. May He bless Samuel with strength, courage, and confidence as he grows in knowledge and in faith. God's richest blessings, Samuel - we are praying for you!



A huge **thank you** to the Men of Grace for hosting another wonderful Brat Fry, Potluck, and Bingo evening! While the weather may have moved us indoors, it certainly didn't dampen the fun, fellowship, or delicious food. Thank you to everyone who helped organize, brought a dish to share, and joined us for a great evening together. God's blessings were evident in the laughter and fellowship we shared!



What a wonderful way to celebrate Father's Day! From the laughter around the tables to the conversations shared among friends, our Father's Day Breakfast was a beautiful reminder that church is more than a place we worship... it's a family we belong to. Thank you to everyone who cooked, served, cleaned up, and pulled up a chair. Your gifts of time, hospitality, and fellowship helped create a morning filled with warmth, gratitude, and community.



The May 12th, 2026 meeting of the First Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President Bill Deppe at 6:30pm. Members present were Bill Deppe, Mark Henn, Aron Nelson, Mali Beine, Pastor Tarras, Judy Shierland & Jim Laird. Guest was Harold Nigbor.

Pastor gave a devotion on the meaning of the Church Council.

Minutes from last meeting were approved by Mark Henn & seconded by Mali Beine.

Financial Minutes were read and approved by Jim Laird, seconded by Mali Beine.

New Business:

1. Harold Nigbor gave a report on options for the church lawn mower.
 - a. Get old one fixed
 - b. Buy new John Deere
 - c. He donates his old one to the church

Decision to keep old FIXED lawn mower and revisit in the Fall.

2. Crossways Camp. Jackie Wilson & Tara McPeak have met with Crossways Camp. Their Waypost Camp is losing money. Their plan is to sell and donate property, and still keep Crossways Camp going.
3. Council voted on the color brown for our new bench from collecting plastic.
4. Steve Macijeski will step down from the Financial Committee and Joanne Andersen will take his place. This was approved.
5. Kathy Cartwright will accept a pastor position at Zion Lutheran Church in Fairwater.

Unfinished Business:

1. Discussion on what do with Library and Library Fund. Perhaps purchase materials such as Bibles for distribution. Maybe bring up at Annual Meeting.
2. Worship Committee will again use sign-up sheet for Communion Bread.
3. Discussion on lights in the class rooms. Jim Laird will contact Don Betler to give the whole church a once over.

Reports:

President – Joint Council Meeting on May 18, 2026 at 6pm at Grace.

Pastor – Pastor vacation schedule

Worship – Summer plans, Worship in the Park

Children's Ministry – Done for the season

M-Team – Mother's Day had about 40 people. The M-Team are thinking of possible summer outings

Property – Lawn mower & lighting

Endowment – moving from Fortifi to Community 1st Credit Union

Archive – On hiatus until October

Staff – Myndi will start new schedule soon (working Wednesdays instead of Thursdays). Joan will have time off as needed to be with Gen

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Motion Made by Jim Laird to adjourn, seconded by Mark Henn at 8:15pm.

Next Meeting: June 9th at 6:30pm

Submitted by Judy Schierland



First Lutheran Church

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Monday 9am to noon

Wednesday 9am to noon

Carolynn, Office Admin.

firstluthpoysippi@gmail.com

Mon & Wed 7:30am to 12:30pm

Myndi, Bookkeeper

firstluthbook@gmail.com

Mon and Wed 9:30am - 2:30pm

Bulletin Deadline:

Wednesday 9 am

Newsletter Deadline:

20th each month

Worship 10:30am Sundays

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



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