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Monthly Newsletter | First Lutheran Church | August 2018

302 S. 10th St. | St. Joseph, MO 64501 | 816-232-8378 | flcsj.org

Ministry Emphasis: CarePortal

Misty Coyle

'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.' Matthew 25:40 (MSG)

In every community, there are children and families in crisis, who need help. In those same communities, there are churches and people who care and want to take action. CarePortal is our connection point.

Here is how it works: A child welfare professional (caseworker or school counselor) identifies a need of a child and/or family. They check with all agencies within the community, and none could meet the need at that time or is a service not offered by any agency in the community. The caseworker can then submit a request into CarePortal's platform, which quickly sends a message to participating churches nearby. Each church, eight in St. Joseph, can respond directly back to the caseworker when they are able to meet the need, or they can engage other churches and community partners who want to help. Whether one church responds - or a whole community of churches, businesses, and caring people work together - a local church is always at the point of care for the child or family in need. Every request presents the opportunity for us to make a meaningful connection. Sometimes that connection involves meeting one need at just the right time. At other times it develops into a lasting relationship.

Have you ever been in a situation if only 'one thing' could just happen to make things better and move forward? First Lutheran is that one thing for others. When I receive the emails from CarePortal, I forward the email to those who asked to be included in the email chain. Then I ask for you to text or call me on my cell (816-752-5742) if you want to help. You may not have the extra bed in your home; but, you have a friend who has a bed they would like to give; or, you may have an extra \$25 to put towards the purchase of a bed. We have made connections with stores and companies to purchase most needed items at cost. These requests are made when all else has failed. The caseworkers have no where else to turn to except to the church. Yes, the caseworker helped a family receive SNAP benefits, but they do not get their card for 3 days because it is a holiday weekend. The caseworker sends the request to the church and we provide enough food until the benefits can be used. It's that 'one thing' needed for the family to move forward. 83% of families in St. Joseph are one paycheck away from crisis.

Participation in providing help for these children and families is simple. Make sure you are receiving the email requests (we have 2-3 during the summer and 5-12 during the school year). Call or text me with what you would like to do: give money, provide the item, help deliver the item, meet the family. You can also consider giving to the CarePortal fund through your offering. This fund is used to help provide the monetary needs in forms of gift cards. If you have any questions or comments about how First Lutheran helps other families, please call me. If you would like to learn more about why CarePortal and First Lutheran's help to the community is so crucial; please see page 4 about the upcoming COPE event.



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|-------------------|------|---------------------|------|
| Winters, Joy | 8/1 | Johnson, Trevor | 8/12 |
| Runge, Ben | 8/2 | Bunge, Gail | 8/16 |
| Redden, Randall | 8/3 | Aarstad, Justin | 8/17 |
| Anderson, Gay | 8/5 | Johnson, Glenda | 8/20 |
| Hoeffner, Janey | 8/6 | Luthans, Brett | 8/20 |
| Briner, Linda | 8/7 | Bunge, Carol | 8/23 |
| Kunz, Elsa | 8/8 | Kirkpatrick, Pamela | 8/23 |
| Moore, Jodi | 8/9 | Starks, Ellen | 8/24 |
| Thompson, Sharmyn | 8/9 | Redden, Lana | 8/25 |
| Howard, Kay | 8/10 | Young, Karen | 8/25 |
| Justice, Stetson | 8/11 | Lynch, Frances | 8/26 |
| Harmsen, Howard | 8/12 | Schmidt, David | 8/27 |

Safety Procedures Orientation August 5th and 19th 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

The Safety Team will provide an overview of the recently completed Safety Procedures that provide guidance on what to do in event of a crisis situation in the building. You will also learn about the recent upgrades to our outer doors, security system, signage, and areas of accessibility.

Happy Anniversary

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Sylvester & Marla Heeler | 8/1/1992 | 26 years |
| Karen & Deon Jensen | 8/1/1987 | 31 years |
| Robert & Frances Lynch | 8/3/1977 | 41 years |
| Michael & Trisha Viselli | 8/3/1991 | 27 years |
| Linda & Govenor Briner | 8/4/2004 | 14 years |
| Jacqueline & Morton Bigham | 8/8/1960 | 58 years |
| Howard & Janice Harmsen | 8/10/1963 | 55 years |
| Nancy & Steve Gingery | 8/18/1979 | 39 years |

Treasurer's Report June 2018

Cyndee Simpson, Treasurer

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| June Income | \$14, 758.77 |
| June Expenses | \$16, 856.72 |
| Year to Date Income | \$102, 440.17 |
| Year to Date Expenses | \$104, 078.03 |

Building Fund Update

Following the transfer of \$61,068.55 from the Parsonage Fund to the Building Fund's UMB checking account on May 27, 2018, a lump sum payment in the amount of \$30,000.00 was sent to Mission Investment Fund on June 9, 2018. This payment was made in addition to the normal recurring monthly payments.

The remaining portion of that transfer has been retained in the Building Fund's checking account and will be used in conjunction with current offerings to meet the Fund's ongoing obligations as was presented at the congregational meeting on April 29, 2018.

Bruce Taylor

Roundtable

Dwelling in the Word

Phoebe Circle - Tuesday, August 14th, 6:00 pm,
Ladies Night Out @ El Maguey, south

Thursday Morning Bible Study - Thursdays at 10 am
at church

Fellowship

Early Morning Breakfast - Tuesday, August 21st,
6:30 am, at Le Peep

Imagine Eleven - Sundays @ 6 pm,
at Coleman Hawkins Park

August 5th - Phil Vandell/ Atlantic Express

August 12th - Shawn Minter / Soca Juke Box

Service

Archive Committee - Wednesdays, 9:00 am, @ church

Chancel Choir - Wednesdays, starting August 29th,
at 7:00 pm

Leadership

Open Door Food Kitchen - Saturday, August 4th, 10 am

Church Council - Thursday, August 9th, 6:30 pm



Woman At the Well

John 4:13-14

Sept. 14th - 15th

Heartland Center

16965 MO-45, Parkville, MO 64152

What to bring: bedding (sleeping bag or sheets, blanket, pillow), toiletries, towel, comfortable shoes, bible, flashlight, and an old or new mug to exchange.

Supper will be at 5pm on Friday night. The retreat will conclude at 3pm on Saturday.

Registration and \$45.00 due by August 19th to Carol Bunge or Kris Langdon



What is Soles For Christ?

SFC is a program started as an outreach project by a local church group to provide a free pair of shoes to school-aged children.

What is the goal of the program?

To provide a new pair of shoes for each child in need and in turn to

boost the child's self-esteem and enthusiasm for the coming school year. For parents, the goal is to alleviate some of the costs associated with getting their child(ren) ready for a new school year.

Who does the program serve? Any child who lives in Andrew, Buchanan or Doniphan counties and will be enrolled in pre-school through 12th grades will be eligible to receive a new pair of shoes.

What can I do to help? We need shoes! Last year 1,182 pairs of shoes were given away. We are asking for NEW TENNIS SHOES in toddler sizes 5-10, youth sizes 11-6 and all adult sizes. Monetary donations are also welcome. We use these donations to purchase shoes for those we aren't able to fit on the days of the giveaway. We also need volunteers to help with the program. If interested, you can contact us at the number below.

Where and when can I drop off donations? We are asking for donations to be dropped off at AFL-CIO Community Services at the address below no later than Wednesday, August 1. Our office is open Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm.

When and where will the shoes be given away? Shoes will be distributed on Monday, August 6th from 8am to 4pm and again on Tuesday, August 7th from 8am to 6pm at AFL-CIO Community Services. Parents or guardians need to bring their child(ren) with them to the distribution, provide proof of each child's age and proof of residency. Preschoolers must have proof of enrollment in a preschool.

AFL-CIO Community Services would like to thank you in advance if you choose to participate in this worthwhile program. We guarantee your donation will put a smile on a child's face!

AFL-CIO Community Services

1203 N 6th Street St Joseph, MO 64501

816-364-1131 800-365-7724 Fax 816-364-2304

www.helpmenow.org



Wednesday, August 8th, 6 pm - 8:30 pm

**St. Paul United Methodist
18681 Hwy 59, St. Joseph, 64505**

THE COST OF POVERTY EXPERIENCE was co-designed with low-income individuals and allows a group of participants to experience one month in the life of a family or individual living below the poverty line. The goal is to encourage participants to collaborate more actively with low-income individuals and families in their communities to understand and address the issues of poverty and to work together to address the issues.

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WHAT TO EXPECT This COPE will provide participants ample time to process, discuss and dream together as they respond to what they learn about themselves and others during the experience. The event is limited to 120 participants. Attendees and volunteers will represent the child welfare sector, international development sector, business community, and local faith community.

REGISTRATION Attendance is free. Register by August 1st: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cope-st-joseph-tickets-46975097782>

August Sermon Series

Jesus uses bread as a metaphor for the importance of humanity's need for God alone as the source of life and salvation. Based on John 6 where Jesus refers to himself as the Living Bread. God knows our hunger for life that is purposeful and leads us in Jesus for our hearts and minds to be consumed by that which is imperishable. Miss one of the weekly messages? Go to www.flcsj.org and hear each week's sermon in audio.

July 29

Cost of Bread

August 5

Labor's Reward

August 12

I Am = Bread of Life

August 19

You Are What You Eat

August 26

Some Prefer Junk Food



First Lutheran Church Council

Executive Committee

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Pastor | Rev. Roger Lenander |
| President | Jim Farrell |
| Vice President | Jim Pierce |
| Secretary | Debbie Taylor |
| Treasurer | Cyndee Simpson |
| Financial Secretary | Joy Winters |

Council Members

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Carol Bunge | David Newman |
| Laurel Goforth | Jim Perry |
| Sylvester Heeler | Phil Hornbostel |
| Kris Langdon | Brenda Bass |

Support Staff

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Office Administrator | Misty Coyle | Custodian | Debbie & Larry Stafford |
| Associate Director of Music | Sharon Gray | Director of Music | Sharmyn Thompson |
| Nursery | Carol Bunge | Sudanese Worship Director | Phillip Alier Deng |
| Central State Synod | Bishop Roger Gustafson | | |