

First News

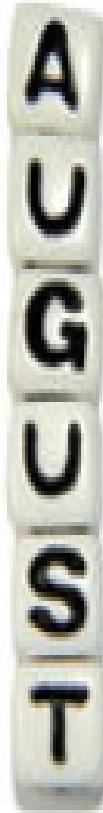
Two Step & A Challenge

Sometimes we can get caught inside ourselves. We have the same conversations. With the same folks. Coming to the same conclusions. To be honest, life is easier when we're not challenged... but is it as productive? Maybe more important, is it good for us to cloister and ignore those around us? Below are two suggested steps to help us break out of usual conversations, opinions, and views and into the lives and situations that surround us. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction." Proverbs 1:7

Step 1: Demographics When was the last time you looked at demographics for Paola and the surrounding communities? Have you noticed our community currently is showing a rise (and is projected to increase) in those age 25-34 and age 65 and over. Would you guess there is a projected increase in the number of single parent homes while also increasing the number of families with late elementary and middle school students? Did you know the families in our community are looking for family support and intervention services along with community involvement and advocacy programs? These would include things like: crisis support groups, family oriented activities, marriage enrichment, parenting development, personal/family counseling, and opportunities for volunteering in the community. Did you know education for our community exceeds the Kansas state average amongst high school/GED graduations but peaks after 'some college' and drops below average after achieving an Associates Degree?

Ever heard of Generation Z (those born 2005-2025) who is projected to overtake both Generation X (those born 1961-1981) and the Millennials (those born 1982-2004) over the next ten years? Did you know many believed they will reflect similar attitudes, accomplishments, and achievements as those of the Silent Generation (those born 1925-1945)? Hearing this, how does it change the way you view our future? What do we need to learn so that we might best prepare today's newborn to 14 year-olds?

Step 2: Listen As individuals and as a congregation we need to practice listening more. We need to position ourselves to hear rather than to judge. This may mean stepping outside of our own echo-chambers where we find joy, love, and trust amongst established relationships! After all, those folks know us and we know them. Continued Pg. 2



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Special points of interest

- Potluck
- Family Ministry
- Youth Action Team
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries

PMC Continued

They work, shop, eat, play, and worship like we do. It's comfortable and free of offense or surprises. "A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion." Proverbs 18:2

How often do we talk to our neighbors? You know, the other ones... the one's whose names we can't remember or who moved in last year. When have we sought to discover what someone in our community wants rather than assuming and projecting on them what we know they need!?? Truth is, often, we aren't sure. We don't know. We assume. We think. We guess. BUT rarely do we ask. And when we do ask, do we listen? Or are we simply trying so hard to change their mind or correct their thinking? How might we position ourselves to be salt and light that flavors and guides rather

than burns when it comes in contact with fresh wounds or blinds like a spotlight singling out sins, failures, or trade-offs? My Challenge: Go find demographics for Paola and her surrounding communities: list two things that were confirmed by the report; and list two things that surprised you about the report. Now, go share those facts with your 'usual' group. Where did your conversation lead? Pay attention to your conversations this month, who do you listen to most often? Is it largely family and friends? Are the majority of your conversations with those connected with First Lutheran or another Lutheran congregation? Who is someone outside of this echo-chamber of friends and family that you listen to... what do they have to say that challenges and comforts you?

"A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back." Proverbs 29:11

"I am not the one who is in complete control." - Brian Mead

Trustees

Have you taken time to look at the new outside wall? If not take a few moments to enjoy the beauty and craftsmanship. We are still waiting for the concluding for our inside project but as the stain glass gets ready we will be putting them in the illuminated window boxes!

Little Wooden Cross

I had been looking at the little wooden cross a while back and every once in a while it looked a little different. I noticed that a few of our wishes have fallen off, which is ok. It is reminding me that it seems that our wishes or even prayers seem to fall away or it may even seem they have not been heard.

Just like in the picture, a few of the rocks are just laying around at the bottom and seem a bit lost. I know there are times that I think that I am all alone in the wishes that I have dreamed of but there are also times I need to remind myself that I am not the one that is in complete control.

God has told us to ask and we shall receive, but I am just like everyone else. I want it now. Sometimes my patience is not in honor of Him, but do not want to wait for his answers. I want it now. And sometimes it seems like he is paying attention to that other person way too much and does not take time for me. I want it now.

Continued Pg. 3



Little Wooden Cross wishes dreams and prayers

Little Wooden Cross (Continued)

Not disclosing this to very many people until now, during my time in Iraq, we had times of rockets and small arms fire that I had made the decision to put myself in God's hands. I did not worry very much when the alarms went off and the rockets would come flying in. I knew that if it were my time, it would not have been in my hands. I put my trust in God and, at least I think, He heard my prayers at that time. I still think about those time a lot, but I did not want that at that time.

Please take a look at that cross and see if any of those are your dreams or wishes or maybe some of our prayers, we may need to find a way to ask God about them again, especially if yours look like the ones that are falling away and laying around at the bottom.

- Brian Mead



SonShine

Wow! The summer is quickly flying by and soon SonShine will resume for the fall semester. We have some exciting things going on including new flooring in both classrooms and the installation of a gazebo on our playground.

We are excited to get back to preschool to see our returning families and meet many new families. It is our privilege to help prepare our kiddos for Kindergarten and to guide them in their spiritual walks as well. What an amazing blessing!

SonShine Open House will be Tuesday, August 22 from 5 to 7 pm. Our first days of preschool will be Tuesday, September 3 and Wednesday, September 4. We ask for your prayers as we begin our year and as always, thank you so much for your continued support of the preschool.

Kris, Kay and Kristal

Stephen Ministry

What Is a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministers are laypeople- Christian men and women- trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation, or separation due to military deployment.

Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life with one thing in common- A passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

Stephen Ministers serve as a "Leaning Post"

It takes more than a set of ears to be a good listener to another member of your church. The Stephen Ministry is a nation-wide program in which congregation members go through intensive training to be there for others in their times of need.

Stephen Ministry is active is because they realize the pastor can't get to everyone in the congregation, so people in the church are trained and help the pastor. That means 50 hours of training. This can be an extremely rewarding experience. You get an opportunity to really share intimate thoughts and feelings you don't get to normally, because of the trust factor. You don't build that overnight. All we're really doing is being vessels for Christ, to be a listening ear and to walk with people during difficult times. I know a leader that got involved after her mom passed away. At that point, nothing

that big had happened to her. You can go to some dark places, and Stephen Ministry is having someone lead you out. Usually when a loved one dies, there is a rush of support and visitors, but two weeks after the funeral, the grieving person is alone. But the person's Stephen Minister will still be there.

Men are not bred to share their feelings. But when it all comes down, men hurt as much as anyone else, maybe even more. It takes a little while to build trust, but once you peel back the layers, you see men have the same fears as everyone else. If you want people to pray for you, it's better if they know what's going on with you.

It's such a rewarding experience. Before we meet with a care receiver (you), we pray first, asking the Holy Spirit to lead. I think of it as being a leaning post. It makes you feel closer to God. Many Stephen Ministers are wounded healers, too. If you have gone through something when no one was there for you, like I have, you see yourself in the care receiver.

I know God can handle anything!



June Financial Summary

Total monthly offerings for June were \$19,570, roughly \$15,000 behind our monthly budget.

Halfway through the year, we are \$70,000 behind on offerings.

Expenses remain in line with budget.
General fund balance is \$213,625.



"Learn about tax law changes that could impact you and your family."

Stewardship

Stewardship and Thrivent will be presenting the topic "Income Taxes & Retirement" on Wednesday, August 7. A light dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. with discussion beginning at 7 p.m.

Topic description is: Learn about tax law changes that could impact you and your family. Get positive, professional guidance from a membership organization of Christians that has been help-

ing its members be wise with money and live generously for more than 100 years. Sign up is in the Narthex.

The class is for those 55+ years young!

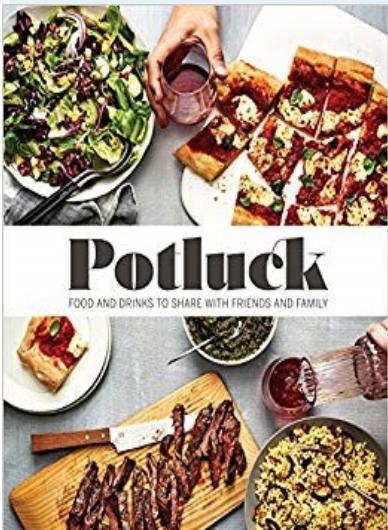


Angel Gillespie

WELCOME

Let's come together after services and her installation on **Sunday August 4th** for a good old church potluck and welcome for Angel Gillespie.

Table service & drinks provided. Great opportunity to meet her and for our church family to come together in fellow-



Potluck

FOOD AND DRINKS TO SHARE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Stephen Ministry

Our YOUTH ARE BACK!!

Join us between services on August 11th to hear all about their trip to the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis.

Alex Kamprath
Josie Worrell
Gentry Blanck
Hannah Menefee
Chris Lohaus-Fast
Mika Menefee
YAV
Jordan Menefee



National Youth Gathering

Family Ministry



Also plan to attend Blocktoberfest out at Trinity Lutheran on September 21st where Youth will be selling drinks & fun snacks. Polka dancing, kid's activities and a wonderful German meal are just part of the fun! This is one of our biggest fun raisers for the year. We are taking donations of bottled water and pop for resale. Just drop off items at the church.

Youth Action Team

The Youth Action Team is planning out fund-raisers and activities for the next 12 months!

Stay tuned in for the dates and times of a movie & pizza outing (all are welcome) and a Back to School BASH & welcome party for Angel Gillespie!



Birthdays

Amy Livingston August 01	Beverly Helin August 19, 1943
Crystal Moore August 01, 1991	Austin Needham August 22, 2000
Mildred Burk August 02, 1922	Ben Damron August 24, 2002
Adam Ohlmeier August 02, 1974	Kaseyn Way August 24, 2014
Wyatt Mock August 04, 2009	Georgia Wehmeier August 24, 1949
Patty Moser August 05, 1937	Jane Chronister August 25, 1953
Karolynn Lohaus-Fast August 06, 2010	Joleigh Osborn August 25, 2005
Joab Ory August 06, 1982	Eli Kelley August 26, 2015
Jody Brown August 07, 1952	Christie Schroeder August 26, 1961
Rose Anne Chilson August 09, 1955	Sherri Meaux August 27, 1962
Kevin Erwin August 10, 1957	Shelly Huber August 28, 1980
Lindsay Berggren August 11, 1986	Carolyn Jacobs August 29, 1943
Bryan Law August 11, 1965	Quintin Chilson August 30, 2004
Stephen Stringham August 12, 1974	Fred Helm August 30, 1924
Kevin Brown August 15, 1958	Garrett Scott August 30, 2000
Jeff Menefee August 15, 1973	
Brock Pitzer August 15, 2002	
Joe Teagarden August 15, 1951	
Brandon Livingston August 17, 1972	
Manuel Worrell August 17, 1974	
Tim Meaux August 18, 1958	
Linda Medlin August 18, 1964	

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1 Isaiah 64-66	2 2 Kings 20-21	3 2 Chronicles 34-35
4 Nahum 1-3	5 2 Kings 22-23 2 Chronicles 34-35	6 Zephaniah 1-3	7 Jeremiah 1-3	8 Jeremiah 4-6	9 Jeremiah 7-9 Jeremiah 10-13	10 Jeremiah 10-13
11 Jeremiah 14-17	12 Jeremiah 18-22	13 Jeremiah 23-25	14 Jeremiah 26-29	15 Jeremiah 30-31	16 Jeremiah 32-34 Jeremiah 35-37	17 Jeremiah 35-37
18 Jeremiah 38-40 Psalm 74 Psalm 79	19 2 Kings 24-25 2 Chronicles 36	20 Habakkuk 1-3	21 Jeremiah 41-45	22 Jeremiah 46-48 Jeremiah 49-50	23 Jeremiah 49-50 Jeremiah 51-52	24 Jeremiah 51-52
25 Lamentations 1:1-3:36	26 Lamentations 3:37-5:22	27 Ezekiel 1-4	28 Ezekiel 5-8	29 Ezekiel 9-12	30 Ezekiel 13-15 Ezekiel 16-17	31 Ezekiel 16-17
1	2 Notes					

July '19	September '19
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
28 29 30 31	29 30 31

Church Assistants August 2019

	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25	
Greeters	8:00 AM Vicki Teagarden Lois Moore	Mary Lou Hein JoAnn Russell	Joe and Vicki Teagarden	Donna, Kevin, and Jessica Erwin	
	10:30 AM Jean Kaiser	Ella Hinman	Norlene Minden	Ella Hinman	
Ushers	8:00 AM Dennis Rentz David Wehmeyer	Dallas Amburster Jeff Menefee	Dennis Rentz David Wehmeyer	Dean Lovig Jeff Menefee	
	10:30 AM Don Polson Randy Fast	Alex Kampfath Jacob Hinman	Randy Fast Terry Dugg	Bob Gardner Jason DeCaire	
Acolytes	8:00 AM Jake Page (SWA) Logan Page William Mock	Brody Lotto Wyatt Mock	Lydia Prothe (SWA) Erin Livingston Ruby Kane	NeGela and Xavier Herrera	
	10:30 AM Noah Stringham (SWA) Braden Thoden Alex Forsberg	Jonathan Reque Elizabeth Schrotberger	Maddie Pitzer (SWA) Amanda Pitzer Keira McIntire	Jace and Evan Reifinger	
Lectors	8:00 AM Virgil Lyons	Christie Schroeder	Sandi Armbruster	Daryl Benedict	
	10:30 AM Brian Mead Daryl Benedict Mark Fuchs	Brian Mead Daryl Benedict Mark Fuchs	Dean Lovig Virgil Lyons	Joe Teagarden Jonathan Kampfath	
Communion Assistants	8:00 AM Ron Moore Terri Drina	Jonathan Kampfath	Joe Teagarden Jonathan Kampfath	Joe Teagarden Ron Moore	
	10:30 AM Kim Rentz Christopher Lohaus-Fast	Mark Fuchs Julie Kampfath	Kim Rentz Melinda Pitzer	Emily Mead	
AV Tech	8AM 10:30 AM	Lindsay Sinclair Elo Hinman	Jean Kaiser Betty Hewitt	Comille Benedict Pam Meyer	
		Janet Bucher	Leona Smith	Kris Fuchs Leona Smith	
Counter/Helper	8AM	Mark Fuchs	Kim Rentz	Emily Mead	
	10:30 AM	Christopher Lohaus-Fast	Julie Kampfath	Comille Benedict Helen Webster	
Organist	8AM	Mark Fuchs	Kim Rentz	Emily Mead	
	10:30 AM	Christopher Lohaus-Fast	Julie Kampfath	Comille Benedict Helen Webster	
Sunday School Teachers/Helpers	9:15AM	Karla Lohaus-Fast	Suzi Karigan	Sandi Amburster	
				Suzi Karigan	
Kid's Ministry Leaders/Helpers	10:30AM Service	Karla Lohaus-Fast Jody Brown Jen Garcia	Suzi Karigan Jody Brown Sarah Schrotberger	Suzi Karigan Mary Kettler Loree Gardner	
	10:30AM Service	Justin and Autumn Diehm	Jody Brown	Preston and Lindsay Berggren	
Tiny Disciples	9:15AM	Cindy and Brian Mead	NYG In Sanctuary	Julie and Jonathan Kampfath	
				Jody Brown	
FLC Youth Sunday Classes	9:15AM				

Thank you for volunteering your time to help serve the Lord in this way! Remember: If you are unable to be here on the Sunday that you are scheduled please find your replacement, then call or email the church office so that we know who will be covering for you. Try to trade weekends if at all possible. Also, please be at the church at least 15 – 30 minutes before Worship or Sunday School begins to adequately prepare yourself to serve. Church office: 913-294-3476 Office@flclutheran-paola.org

First Lutheran Church

401 E Piankishaw
Paola KS 66071

Phone: 913-294-3476
PMC:
Pastormark@firstlutheran-paola.org
Office:
Office@firstlutheran-paola.org



Anniversaries

Huber, Brad & Shelly	August 02, 2003
Drugg, Terry & Jane	August 05, 1983
Fuchs, Mark & Kris	August 08, 1987
McIntire, Tim & Brigette	August 11, 2001
Lewis, Gregg & Janet	August 12, 1977
Stringham, James & Laverne	August 12, 1953
Brown, Mike & Jody	August 13, 1977
Teagarden, Joe & Vicki	August 19, 1972
Smith, Gary & Leona	August 29, 1975

<i>Date</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Senior Worship Assistant</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>
<i>8/4/2019</i>	<i>8:00</i>	Jake Page	<i>8:00</i>	Logan Page	William Mock
	<i>10:30</i>	Noah Stringham	<i>10:30</i>	Braden Thoden	Alex Forsberg
<i>8/11/2019</i>	<i>9:00</i>		<i>8:00</i>	Brody Latto	Wyatt Mock
			<i>10:30</i>	Jonathan Reque	Elizabeth Schrotberger
<i>8/18/2019</i>	<i>8:00</i>	Lydia Prothe	<i>8:00</i>	Erin Livingston	Ruby Kane
	<i>10:30</i>	Maddie Pitzer	<i>10:30</i>	Amanda Pitzer	Keira McIntire
<i>8/25/2019</i>	<i>8:00</i>		<i>8:00</i>	NeCeliah Herrera	Xzavier Herrera
	<i>10:30</i>		<i>10:30</i>	Jace Reitinger	Evan Reitinger

If you cannot acolyte on your assigned date, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF ANY CHANGES!