

# FIRST COVENANT LAMPLIGHTER

*First Covenant Church*  
*Virginia, Minnesota*  
**741-7117**

*[www.firstcovenantvirginia.org](http://www.firstcovenantvirginia.org)*

**Volume XLVII - Number 6**  
**June 2023**

## **A PRAYER FOR PENTECOST**

We thank you, O Holy Spirit, for the birth of the Christian Church at Pentecost and for the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace; patience, kindness, goodness; fidelity, gentleness, self-control. Dear Lord, in this Pentecost season, once more make your church powerful with the Holy Spirit. After uneventful days and unmarked years, disturb her lethargy, give her a new passion, and unite her division that she might redeem the world of its warring, violent, and godless ways. Empower the church to see men and women hungry for life; to challenge injustice that exploits innocent victims; to bring your love to all people everywhere in the name of Jesus Christ.

—William L. Peterson (our former pastor)  
*Talking to God / Speaking to Man*

## **FIRST COVENANT CHURCH PURPOSE STATEMENT**

**The mission of First Covenant Church is  
to worship God,  
equip people to live in faith,  
share God's love,  
and serve the community around us.**

## **SERVING CHRIST IN HIS CHURCH**

### **Ushers:**

Jun. 4—Bob & Mary Nelson  
Jun. 11—Wayne & Bernie Christiansen  
Jun. 18—Shirley Koski  
Jun. 25—Roger & Judy Linden  
Jul. 2—Mike & Kathy Hannay

### **Church caretakers for the week of . . .**

Jun. 4—Mike & Kathy Hannay  
Jun. 11—Roger & Judy Linden  
Jun. 18—Lucas & Cassie Hill  
Jun. 25—Roger & Gail Johnson  
Jul. 2—Wayne & Bernie Christiansen  
& Audrey Branstrom

### **Lawn mowing for the week of . . .**

Jun. 4—Russ Carlson / Magan Carlson  
Jun. 11—Bob Nelson  
Jun. 18—Brian Hill  
Jun. 25—Lucas Hill  
Jul. 2—Mike Hannay

## MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

**4/1/23-4/30/23**

Checking account balance as Apr.. 1st: **\$37,110.76**

General Fund income for current period: **\$8,845.00**

Other income: **\$165.00**

Total expenses for current period: **\$6,337.24**

Checking account balance as of Apr.. 30th:  
**\$39,938.52**

## OFFERING FOR PETERSONS' CAR FUND

At the mission event with Covenant missionaries to Mexico Karl & Sue Peterson, the Petersons informed us that they are in need of a new vehicle. An offering received that night for a car fund amounted to \$979 from folks from the Biwabik, Virginia, and Cook churches.

## CHURCH BENEVOLENCE FUND

We as a church maintain a benevolence fund in order to have unbudgeted funds available to those in need. The funds can be disbursed at the discretion of our pastor, or the Church Council. Our current balance is \$141.52, so currently we are limited on presenting benevolence gifts.

We do not announce a special offering for the Benevolence Fund. Anyone in the congregation may donate to the fund at any time by designating a gift for BENEVOLENCE. Envelopes in the pews can be used for cash donations. Thanks to all for your consideration.

## CHURCH PICNICS

We have been invited by the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to attend their worship service and church picnic beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 16th, at the Lions Club building in Olcott Park. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided, but please bring dish to share.

Our own church picnic will be held beginning with your worship service at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 23rd, at the Kline-Cuppoletti Building on Silver Lake. The folks at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church are invited to join us. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service.

Good Shepherd pastor Mike Tift will be preaching both Sundays.

## GRADUATION CELEBRATION

You are invited to a graduation celebration for Adrien Knapper from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 17th, at Mountain Iron Senior Center, 8876 Main Street. Adrien is the granddaughter of Darrell and Barb Knapper. Growing up she attended Sunday school in our church. Please RSVP at 218-780-8879.



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

<b>Jeffrey Jones</b>	1st
<b>Bernie Christiansen</b>	8th
<b>Mike Hannay</b>	20th
<b>Brian Hill</b>	29th

## AMONG US

We extend our Christian sympathy the family of **Stephen Hill**, who died unexpectedly and suddenly on May 25th. A large number of friends and family members gathered to honor his memory at his funeral at our church on May 31st.

**Roger and Judy Linden** recently attended their granddaughter Emily Hixon's senior vocal recital, choir concert, and graduation from Bemidji State University. They were pleasantly surprised to learn that she had been selected to sing the National Anthem at all three BSU commencement ceremonies.

At the end-of-the- year Rock Ridge faculty and staff breakfast, **Wayne Christiansen** was honored for his 60 years of teaching in the district.

## BULLETIN, CALENDAR, AND NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Items for the July calendar need to be e-mailed to [pogy56@gmail.com](mailto:pogy56@gmail.com) by Sunday, June 16th. Weekly bulletin items should be e-mailed to [wbchris@q.com](mailto:wbchris@q.com) by the Wednesday before they are to appear.

Items for the July issue of the **Lamplighter** should be turned in by Sunday, June 23rd. Items may be submitted by e-mail to [wbchris@q.com](mailto:wbchris@q.com). Remember that we are always looking for news of interest for the "Among Us" column.

