



UPcoming EVENTS

FEBRUARY 10—ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP at 12:00 and 7:00

FEBRUARY 17—FELLOWSHIP MEAL at 5:30

MARCH 24—MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP at 7:00

MARCH 25—GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP at 7:00

MARCH 27—EASTER WORSHIP at 6:30, 8:15, and 10:30

APRIL 5—WOMEN OF THE ELCA GENERAL MEETING at 7:00

APRIL 27—25TH ANNUAL SALAD LUNCHEON AND BAKE SALE from 11:00 am—1:30 pm

Staff			
Church Office		home	494-5461
Kelley Pedersen, Interim Pastor		cell	241-8171
			402/750-9944
Kerri Durant, Administrative Assistant			712/574-7946
Betty Barto, Administrative Assistant			494-3026
Chris Knudsen, Custodian			404-0626
Jennifer Durant, Nursery			404-8053
Jane Krogh, Organist			494-1630
Claire DeRoin, Keyboardist			712/389-7214
Eleanor Tasker, Director of Music			276-4072
Church Council (* Executive Council)			
*Scott Koeppe, President			494-3584
*Brandon Trautwein, Vice-President/ Worship & Music			412-2135
*George Weiland, Secretary			402/349-5503
*Sue Hunter, Treasurer			494-1758
Kathy Anders, Fellowship			274-4383
Josh Curry, Christian Education			712/898-2921
Judy Blessing, Social Ministry			255-7775
Mike Gill, Youth			494-2332
Randy Grove, Property			494-5858
Rick Heuert, Stewardship			712/251-2799
Paul Knudsen, Evangelism			494-2770
Church Coordinators For:			
Altar Care:			
Lectors: Barb McLarty			494-3877
Ushers: Worship & Music Committee			
Women of the ELCA Chair: Rita Todd			494-2968

First Lutheran Church

February 2016

Love is God's Gift to Us!

"Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

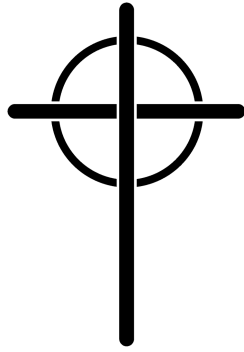
As we approach Valentine's Day this year may we be reminded of God's unconditional love and favor. Love is a gift given to us each and every day, knowing that we will never lose favor with God and his mercy. His love is an extension of who we are created in Christ Jesus our Lord. How might we share this love with others, so that they might feel God's loving embrace around them at all times? I believe there are many opportunities, and you simply have to open your hearts and minds to those possibilities as God reveals them to you. In so doing, you will experience God's love in return as you reach out in ministry and mission to the community and world.

www.firstlutheranssc.org office@firstlutheranssc.org

INSIDE

- February 2016 calendar
- Words from the Pastor
- Youth News
- Women of the ELCA schedule
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You might begin by simply extending a flower, a box of candy, or a smile this Valentine's Day. Through sharing those simple, but unique, ways in expressing your care to someone it may pave the way to an open conversation of unconditional love that will last a lifetime. God created us for relationships, and it is important to extend those relationships with various persons we meet every day. I am reminded of the greatest commandment, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37b-39.



Do you ever miss these opportunities? The time is now, and those relationships will be a blessing to you and your love for your Heavenly Father. You may never know what a blessing you might have in someone's life, if you only take a few seconds to develop a meaningful friendship with persons you meet along your life journey.

Blessings on Valentine's Day and the whole year through,

Rev. Kelley L. Pedersen,
Transitional Pastor



PUZZLE

True Friendship

What makes someone a good friend?
The Bible offers lots of advice about true friendship.

*Directions: Starting at the *, connect the dots clockwise and complete the words using the word bank. Then fill in Proverbs 27:9, NIV.*

WORD BANK:
heart prings ir verbs vice ness end

27:9, NIV pleasant_____

• PRO_____ * • OF

The

• ad_____ • a

_____ felt • • Fri_____

the__ • • s_____

from •

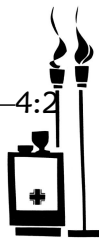
27:9, NIV

Answer: The pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice. Proverbs 27:9, NIV

Worship at First Lutheran

February 7, Transfiguration of Our Lord

First Lesson: Exodus 34:29-35 Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 3:12—4:2
Psalm: 99 Gospel: Luke 9:28-43a



February 14, First Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Deut. 26:1-11 Second Lesson: Romans 10:8b-13
Psalm: 91:1-2, 9-16 Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

February 21, Second Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Gen. 15:1-12, 17-18 Second Lesson: Phil. 3:17—4:1
Psalm: 27 Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

February 28, Third Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Isaiah 55:1-9 Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 10:1-13
Psalm: 63:1-8 Gospel: Luke 13:1-9



February Flower Chart

February 7 (Altar) Given by Bill and Barbara McLarty in honor of their many blessings: Denise, Emily, Jill, Meagan and James.

(Chancel) Given by Todd, Melissa and Justin Baker in honor of Jessica's 11th birthday February 9.

February 14 (Altar) Given in memory of Edwin and Florence Morgan, Larry and Prentiss Morgan, and Judy Morgan.

February 21 (Altar) Given by Scott, Cindy and Haley Koepp in honor of Tanner's birthday February 22

(Chancel) Given by Lance, Linda, Sophie and Breck Swanson in honor of Wilbur and Sandra Larson's 50th wedding anniversary.

February 28 (Altar) Given by Bart and Terri Gotch in honor of a new baby girl to be born soon to Jen and Haiden Smith.



Anniversaries This Month

Randy and Theresa Grove
Wilbur and Sandy Larson
Doug and Janet Tondreau

February 27
February 19
February 14

Read the Bible

How much time does it take to read from Genesis to Revelation? If you would read the Bible at standard pulpit speed (slow enough to be heard and understood), the reading time would be seventy-one hours. If you would break that down into minutes and divide it into 365 days, you could read the entire Bible, cover to cover, in only twelve minutes a day.

Lenten Lunches

We are in need of people to help provide the Lenten lunches beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 10. There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center.

Lenten Midweek Services

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10. Wednesday services then continue for the next five weeks, with services at both 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm. A luncheon follows the noon service and a supper precedes the 7:00 service.

Happy Birthday

Ruth Ailts—February 14
Jane Andersen—February 22
Natalie Andersen—February 23
Tom Barber—February 2
Bob Brodersen—February 24
Nyabiel Bukjiok—February 15
Kerri Durant—February 4
Chris Gehner—February 23
Jackie Gierman—February 7
Jessica Gill—February 17
Terri Gotch—February 24
Chris Graves—February 25
Viola Greene—February 15
Gordon Hansen—February 27
Ilene Hofmeister—February 6
Brandi Johnson—February 12
Jeremiah Johnson—February 14
Linda Kendra—February 11
Denise Kleinberg—February 2
James Kleinberg—February 21
Chris Knudsen—February 27

Kathy Muirhead—February 11
Shaynie Porter—February 18
Mae Reuter—February 27
Diane Sands—February 24
Angie Sorem—February 27
Starla Sorensen—February 3
Linda Swanson—February 8
Manon Thramer—February 22
Jeff Todd—February 24
Rita Todd—February 21
Paula Verzani—February 5
Nanci Walsh—February 14



Youth Birthdays

Jessica Baker—February 9
Drew Benson—February 5
Ian Hernandez—February 28
Khaia Herron—February 13
Alex Kleider—February 2

Carli Lake—February 27
Ethan Lake—February 22
Spencer Leiting—February 25
Hannah Niemeyer—February 3
Logan Rahn—February 12



Easter Lilies Order Form

If you wish to participate in the placing of lilies for our Easter worship, please complete the following and return the form to the church office no later than Thursday, March 10.

LILY COST: \$13.50/plant. I am ordering _____ plant(s).
(quantity)

Please check one: I have enclosed payment.
 I will send payment as soon as possible.

I wish to place my lily in (*Please check one and complete*):

___ Honor of _____

___ Memory of _____

How would you like the "from" worded in our bulletin?

Lilies may be picked up after the 10:30 am service on Sunday, March 27.



Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding
in steadfast love...

Joel 2:13, NRSV

Women of the ELCA



❀❀❀ CIRCLE MEETINGS ❀❀❀

LYDIA GROUP February 11, 2016 7:00 p.m.

LEADER: Marlene Heithold
HOSTESS: Sue Hunter

CIRCLE I February 15, 2016 2:00 p.m.

LEADER: Joann Kleinberg
HOSTESS: Linda Fischer
 Barb McLarty

CIRCLE II February 9, 2016 9:15 a.m.

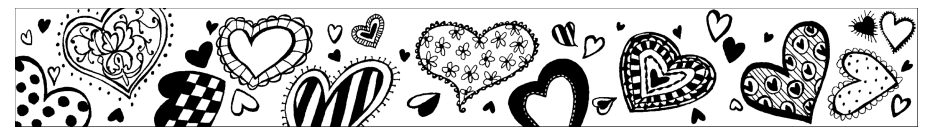
LEADER: Jane Krogh
HOSTESS: Jane Krogh
 Mary Wolf



Bible Study

“Tempo Giusto”

Lydia: “Choosing Simplicity”



With Deepest Sympathy

*We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the following families.
Please keep them in your prayers.*

◆

Ken and Lynnelle Conley and family, on the death of Lynnelle's brother, Brent Longwell, who passed away Monday, December 28. Services were held Saturday, January 2 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Homer.

Helen Koskovich and family, on the death of Helen's brother, George Herfel, who passed away Saturday, January 9. Services were held Thursday, January 14 at San Tan Memorial Gardens in Queen Creek AZ.

Marla Bianchini and family, on the death of Marla's sister, Sharon Mahlberg, who passed away Wednesday, January 13. Services were held Monday, January 18 at Soldier Lutheran Church in Soldier IA.

The family of Lorraine Krumwiede, who passed away Friday, January 15. Services were held Friday, January 22 here at First Lutheran.



New Member

On Sunday, January 10, we welcomed Jan Brodersen into our congregation. Please greet her warmly!



Thank You

Marla Bianchini and family-Thanks to Lydia Group for the food they provided for my family after the death of my sister. It was very much appreciated.

Bonnie Cooper-Thank you for the nice fruit basket and to the ladies for the Christmas package. Thanks especially to Mary Wolf who delivered it.

Ann Davis-Thank you so kindly for the gifts I have received for Christmas. My heartfelt thanks to all the ladies of Circle 2 who did the work and delivery. My new wrap around is so lovely. I can keep extra warm now. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

First Lutheran Church Food Pantry-Thanks to First Presbyterian Church, Curves and South Sioux City Schools for their donations to our pantry. These donations help us to continue our food pantry ministry. Sixty-five boxes were distributed in December. For the year 2015, 815 boxes of food were dispersed.

Doris Georg-Thank you for the Christmas fruit plate and the nice gift bag. Thanks to Mary Wolf for delivering it to me.

Mary Lindquist-Thank you for visiting and thinking of me at Christmas and for your prayers always.

Pat Matz-Thank you for all the nice gifts you gave me. Also thanks to the people who delivered them. It is nice to be remembered.

Les and Lavonne Pressey-Thank you for the gifts this Christmas. I know it is a busy time for all and a "thank you" to Sandy, Wilbur and Lee for taking the time to deliver them.

Jim and Teresa Santee--Thank you for the fruit basket and everything you do for us.
