



UPcoming EVENTS

MARCH 24—MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP at 7:00
MARCH 25—GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP at 7:00
MARCH 25—PRAYER VIGIL BEGINS at 9:00 pm
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	
*John Koskovich, Vice-President/		494-3421	
*Rita Todd, Secretary		494-2968	
*Sue Hunter, Treasurer		494-1758	
Kathy Anders, Fellowship		274-4383	
Judy Blessing, Social Ministry		255-7775	
Josh Curry, Stewardship/Support		712/898-2921	
Mike Gill, Youth		494-2332	
Randy Grove, Property		494-5858	
Denise Kleinberg, Christian Education		712/635-4006	
Paul Knudsen, Evangelism		494-2770	
Brandon Trautwein, Worship & Music		412-2135	
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

March 2016

The Lenten Journey

As we are in the midst of Lent, may you be encouraged to take the time to reflect, slow down, and to remember Christ's unconditional love and compassion he had for all people. These forty days should be a time not only of sacrifice, but to embrace the fullness and wonderment of God's hand as he sent his Son into the world to do a mighty work to redeem us from our sin and brokenness.

"Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4: 14-16

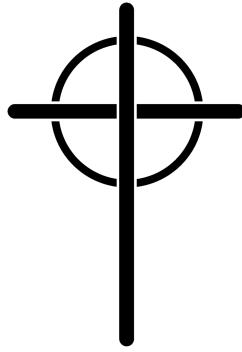
INSIDE

- March 2016 calendar
- Words from the Pastor
- Youth News
- Women of the ELCA schedule
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Financial Reports

www.firstlutheranssc.org office@firstlutheranssc.org

The deadline for the April Newsletter is March 17.

Jesus truly understands our humanity, and reaches out to embrace us in every need that we might have in life. Because of Jesus Christ, we should never feel that we do not have someone who does not truly know our circumstances. Jesus does. Lent is a special time to journey together within our faith community to remember his gracious act on our behalf, and to journey together to acknowledge his love and mercy.





May we find time in our busy and hectic schedules to appreciate the most gracious and loving gift given to us as we wait for the joyous celebration of Easter. The glorious day Christ rose from the dead to proclaim the fulfillment of the gospel. The promise of abundant life given to all who believe.

Have a great Lenten season,

Rev. Kelley L. Pedersen Transitional Pastor



Lamb of God

 John the Baptist knew Jesus was the Messiah —  and offered a special greeting when he saw Jesus.

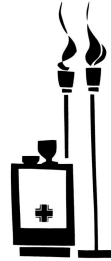
Directions: Cut apart the squares and arrange them in a rectangle in numerical order, starting with #1 in the top left and going across to #7. Continue building four more rows of seven squares each, to reveal John 1:29, NIV.

1	2 "Look,	25	4 Lamb	30	16 sin
8	33	27	12 the	23	18 the
29	6 God,	32	20	10 takes	34
24	17 of	5 of	19 world!"	22	11 away
3 the	31	26	9 who	13	15
14	7	28	35	21	

Worship at First Lutheran

March 6, Fourth Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Joshua 5:9-12 Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 5:16-21
Psalm: 32 Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



March 13, Fifth Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21 Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14
Psalm: 126 Gospel: John 12:1-8

March 20, Palm Sunday

First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a Second Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11
Psalm: 31:9-16 Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56

March 27, Resurrection of Our Lord

First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43 Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 15:19-26
Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24 Gospel: Luke 24:1-12



March Flower Chart

March 6 (Altar) Given by Dude and Miriam Phipps in honor of Alexa Phipps, Nate Phipps, Jay Phipps, and MacKenzie Small.

March 13 (Altar) Given by Todd, Melissa and Jessica Baker in honor of Justin's 5th birthday on March 14.

(Chancel) Given by Conrad and Linda Johansen in honor of their daughter-in-love, Mary Johansen.

March 20 (Altar) open

March 27 (Altar) Given by Elaine, Lucas and Tyler Fader in honor of John's birthday on March 28.

Music Concert @First Lutheran Church

Guess what? There will be a wonderful concert of music at First Lutheran Church—our church. It will be Sunday, March 13 at 3:00 pm. It will feature our own Burnished Brass bell choir PLUS Anna Vorhees, harpist (retired from Sioux City Symphony); Rick Darrow, organ builder and organist at First Congregational Church (also often featured at the Orpheum Theatre); our own organist, Jane Krogh; and a few other surprises—all under the direction of Eleanor Tasker, our Director of Music. Just think, our own people are doing this. The concert is open to the public—please pass the word, and please come—we need your support and prayers. This is our gift to the community. I promise you'll enjoy! "You lift us up!"

Ink Recycling

There is a box on the table under the Women of the ELCA bulletin board in the entryway (next to the paper recycling box) for you to recycle your used printer ink. We can turn these in to Staples and receive Staples Rewards. These rewards are worth \$2 per ink cartridge recycled, and will help us to reduce office expenses. Thanks for your help!

Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 13. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour!

Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, March 28, in observance of Easter. The office will be open as usual on Tuesday, March 29.

Happy Birthday

Autumn Boyer—March 17
Patrick Conley—March 14
Pearl Curry—March 23
Dean Dudley—March 25
John Fader—March 28
Leisa Hamilton—March 4
Misty Hedquist—March 6
Tom Hinds—March 28
Roger Johansen—March 28
Terry Kenny—March 18
Gary King—March 15
Gayle Kleinberg—March 18
Brienne Lake—March 24
Vicki Lyons—March 10

Matt McArthur—March 11
Shauna Meier—March 14
Ron Olsen—March 25
Mark Peterson—March 20
Alexa Phipps—March 5
Nathan Phipps—March 30
Sharon Potter—March 7
Mike Robinette—March 4
Pat Sands—March 28
Jim Santee—March 18
Janell Sila—March 10
Lyle Todd—March 17
Tom Weekes—March 16



Youth Birthdays

Emily Anson—March 24
Landon Anson—March 15
Justin Baker—March 14
Nate Feenstra—March 8
Joe Graves—March 20

Ashley Kleider—March 6
Anakin Porter—March 4
Zach Saunders—March 12
Peyton Schutt—March 5

His father saw him and...ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

Luke 15:20



Youth News

K-2 Club & 3-5 Club

The K-2 and 3-5 Clubs meet
one Sunday a month
from 11:30 am-1 pm.

6-8 Club

The 6-8 Club meets for
confirmation class every
Wednesday at 6:00 pm.

6:00 pm—Confirmation Class

Women of the ELCA



☼☼☼ CIRCLE MEETINGS ☼☼☼

LYDIA GROUP: March 10, 2016 7:00PM

LEADER: Sue Hunter
HOSTESS: Vicky Johnson

CIRCLE I: March 21, 2016 2:00PM

LEADER: Group
HOSTESS: Jackie Gierman
Sandy Larson

CIRCLE II: March 8, 2016 9:15AM

LEADER: Carol Marmo
HOSTESS: Mary Wolf



Bible Study

“Confidence in God’s Beginnings and Endings”

Lydia: “Choosing Simplicity”



With Deepest Sympathy

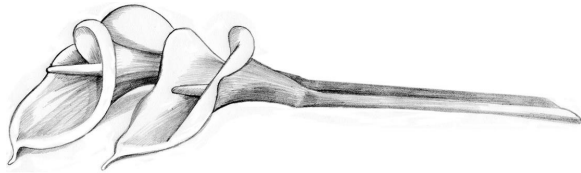
*We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the following families.
Please keep them in your prayers.*

◆

Pat Matz and family, on the death of Pat's daughter, Dollie Rockwell, on Tuesday, January 19. Services were held Wednesday, January 27 at Menke Funeral Home in Sun City AZ.

Carol Marmo and family, on the death of Carol's daughter, Roxie, on Thursday, February 4. Services were held Tuesday, February 9 at Mosaic Chapel in Beatrice NE.

Mike and Renee Anson and family, on the death of Renee's father, Jay Smith, on Saturday, February 13. Services were held Thursday, February 18 at First Congregational United Church of Christ.



Social Ministry

The Social Ministry committee collects "Pantry" items each month to donate to the needs of our community. The Pantry items collected in March will be food items for families in need. Also being collected are Easter basket supplies (crayons, coloring books, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and candy) that will be given to children at Haven House and the Council on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence (CSADV). Please leave your donations in the cart in the entryway.



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.

Thrivent Choice

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2016 to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide grant funding to First Lutheran. Go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Lent Midweek Services

Wednesday Lenten services continue at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. A luncheon follows the noon service.

Maundy Thursday/Good Friday

On Maundy Thursday, March 24, and Good Friday, March 25, we will be having services at 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Prayer Vigil

The annual prayer vigil begins at 9:00 p.m. on Good Friday, March 25, and concludes on Holy Saturday, March 26. A sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center. Please consider participating this year.

Thank You

Marla Bianchini-I would like to thank everyone for the condolences of flowers, food, cards, words of comfort and hugs regarding the loss of my sister, Sharon.

Marla Bianchini-A special thanks to the family of Josephine Petersen for donating the beautiful figurines of different times in Jesus' life that are on display in the sanctuary. They are very appropriate for the Lenten season.

First Lutheran Food Pantry-Thanks to First Presbyterian Church and Circle I for their donations of food. This will help us to continue our food pantry ministry. Sixty-one boxes were distributed in January.

Gladys Hedquist-Thank you so much for the Christmas gifts and fruit plate. Thanks also to those involved in all the Christmas activities—the music was so enjoyable and the Christmas decorations were lovely. Thank you to all who participated.

Siouxland Food Bank

On February 4, when food from the Siouxland Food Bank was distributed to 55 families, 109 adults and 98 children received food. On February 18, 80 families received food for 184 adults and 130 children. Families receiving the food are very grateful and say "thank you". It is a very worthwhile project for First Lutheran Church to be able to give food to those in need. Food Bank distributions are the first and third Thursday of every month.

He is
LORD
of all.

Acts 10:36, NRSV



Celebration of Life

In Memory of Kerri "Uma" Hartman

Sept 21, 1956 - Dec 1, 2015

Diagnosed in August 2015 with Lung, Kidney, and a very rare form of Sarcomatoid Bone Cancer

When: March 5th, 2016

Where: First Lutheran Church
3601 Dakota Ave, South Sioux City Nebraska

Time: Come and Go from 12pm – 5pm

Having a Silent Auction, Bake Sale, and Free Will Donation Meal



From time of diagnosis, Kerri and her family endured multiple trips to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and numerous doctor appointments in Sioux City, which has caused significant hardships on the family due to the entire medical and funeral expenses that were not covered by medical or life insurance. Family also took time away from their jobs in order to make sure Kerri's needs were always taken care of, causing loss of pay for multiple family members for extended periods of time.