

# First Lutheran Church

September 2016

## Labor Day Reflections

Labor Day brings to mind picnics, cookouts and family gatherings. Falling on the first Monday in September, it marks the unofficial end of summer and the beginning of a new school year. But the holiday was created in 1882 to honor the social and economic contributions of American workers.

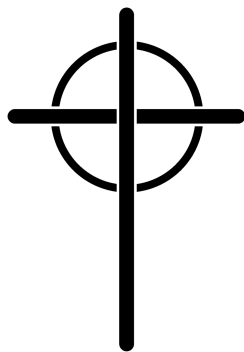
In a strong economy, it's easy to take for granted the ability to work and be paid well. But times have changed during the past few years, with many people still struggling with unemployment and underemployment.

During our holiday celebrations this year, let's give thanks for the jobs we have, pray for those who aren't as fortunate and offer words of encouragement or help to someone who needs it.

### INSIDE

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

## For Everything a Season



Wanting his sons to learn not to judge too quickly, a man sent each, in turn, on a quest to look at a pear tree far away and report what he saw. The first son went in winter, the second in spring, the third in summer and the fourth in fall. Finally, the father gathered the young men together. “What did you see?” he asked.

The first son reported seeing an ugly tree, bent and lifeless. The second disagreed, saying it was budding with fresh new life. The third son reported finding a tree laden with sweet-smelling, beautiful blossoms, while the fourth insisted it drooped with ripe fruit.

The father said his sons were all correct, for they’d seen the same tree, though at different seasons of its life. “Don’t judge a tree—or a person—based on just one season of life,” he counseled his children. “Who they are can only be known at the end, when all life’s seasons have been lived.

“Furthermore,” he added, “don’t give up on your own life if you experience a hard season, such as winter, or you’ll miss out on the renewal of spring, the joy of summer, and fulfillment of autumn.”

## UPcoming EVENTS

**SEPTEMBER 5—OFFICE CLOSED**

**SEPTEMBER 6—WOMEN OF THE ELCA GENERAL MEETING at 7:00 pm**

**SEPTEMBER 11—RALLY DAY**

**SEPTEMBER 11—REGULAR SERVICE TIMES RESUME**

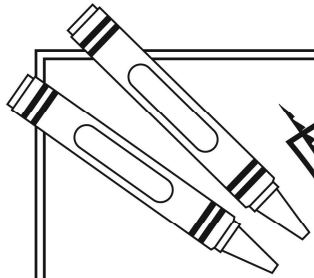
**OCTOBER 30—CONFIRMATION at 10:30 am**

**NOVEMBER 24—OFFICE CLOSED**

**DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP at 5:00 pm and 11:00 pm**

**DECEMBER 26—OFFICE CLOSED**

<b>Staff</b>		
Church Office		494-5461
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
<b>Church Council</b> (* 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		712/203-1365
Denise Kleinberg, Christian Education		712/635-4006
Paul Knudsen, Evangelism		494-2770
Brandon Trautwein, Worship & Music		412-2135
<b>Church Coordinators For:</b>		
Altar Care:		
Lectors: Barb McLarty		494-3877
Ushers: Worship & Music Committee		
Women of the ELCA Chair: Rita Todd		494-2968



# PUZZLE

## THE LORD WILL PROTECT

God always watches over us, during good times and bad.



*Directions: Connect the dots, according to the instructions below. Then use the resulting word to complete the Bible verse.*

*Start at 19. Draw from 19-18, 18-17. 47-62, 62-77. 22-21, 21-20. 50-51. 82-81, 81-80, 80-65, 65-50, 50-35, 35-20. 24-38, 38-53. 24-40, 40-55. 17-32. 47-48. 32-47. 26-41, 41-56, 56-71, 71-86. 56-57, 57-58. 55-54, 54-53, 53-68, 68-83. 55-70, 70-85. 58-43. 57-73, 73-88. 43-28, 28-27, 27-26.*

•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135

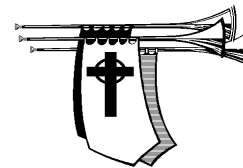
>> "So do not \_\_ \_\_ \_\_ \_\_, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God." Isaiah 41:10, NIV <<

Answer: fear



## Anniversaries This Month

- Mike and Susie Adam September 22
- Mike and Renee Anson September 2
- Todd and Melissa Baker September 30
- Will and Kelli Bass September 19
- Tom and Shelly Hinds September 18
- Mark and Vicky Johnson September 16
- Bryan and Diana Jones September 13
- Greg and Andrea Kleider September 30
- Chris and Becky Knudsen September 20
- Ken and Rosemary Larson September 18
- Jose and Kelli Perez September 15
- Rich and Sharon Potter September 12
- Mike and Bonnie Prosser September 16
- Mike and Tanya Rich September 21
- Earl and Dona Shook September 22
- Randy and Nanci Walsh September 9



## Congratulations

**Ryker James Stolze**, son of Rex Stolze and Alexis Tobin, was baptized August 14. Ryker's sponsors were Trey Meier, Mark and Laci Chytka, and Taylor Stolze. The congregational sponsors were Shane and Jaimee Benson.

## Office Closed

The church office will closed on Monday, September 5 in observance of Labor Day.

---

## Happy Birthday

Bob Anderson—September 19	Jerry Krieger—September 5
Betty Bass—September 7	Kurtis Krieger—September 22
Patty Blessing—September 9	Lynne Lane—September 22
Bonnie Cooper—September 26	Wilbur Larson—September 13
Jan Durant—September 20	Colton Novak—September 12
Jo Ann Garvey—September 1	Joe Prescott—September 20
Ottie Gierman—September 4	Amanda Rich—September 17
Amy Groth—September 17	Joey Robinson—September 23
Randy Grove—September 11	Brenda Rose—September 18
Mike Hunter—September 1	Ronnie Rosenbaum—September 23
Ruth Jensen—September 6	Colleen Schleusener—September 28
David Kasprzyk—September 4	Terry Sorem—September 26
Chris Kinnaman—September 22	Augusta Thramer—September 12
Michelle Kinnaman—September 14	Lee Trautwein—September 24
Abby Kleider—September 20	Melodee Van Berkum—September 14

## Youth Birthdays

Mason Curry—September 13	Emily Groth—September 18
Alyvia Davis—September 22	Mia Oliva—September 26
McKenna Gehner—September 27	Jae Phommavong—September 20
Jack Graves—September 28	Sophie Swanson—September 21

## Women of the ELCA General Meeting

Join us for our Women's general meeting on Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The program is "Hats, History and the Music" presented by Teresa Kay Orr. Please come and wear a hat if you'd like!

---

## Worship at First Lutheran

### September 4, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Deut. 30:15-20 Second Lesson: Philemon 1-21  
Psalm: 1 Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

### September 11, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Exodus 32:7-14 Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12-17  
Psalm: 51:1-10 Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

### September 18, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Amos 8:4-7 Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1-7  
Psalm: 113 Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

### September 25, Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 6:6-19  
Psalm: 146 Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

## September Flower Chart

**September 4 (Altar)** Given by Scott, Cindy and Tanner Koeppel in honor of Haley's 21st birthday on August 31.

**September 11 (Altar)** Given by Bonnie Prosser.

**September 18 (Altar)** Given by Jo Ann Garvey in memory of her husband Bob and daughter Barbara; in honor of all of her family and friends.

**September 25 (Altar)** Given by Mary Wolf in memory of Bob Wolf, loving husband, father, and grandfather.

---

## Lutheran World Relief

In 2015, Lutheran World Relief distributed 153 projects (quilts, kits, soap, etc.) to 4.7 million people in 35 countries with 129 partners. Now it is time to think about preparing more kits for shipment in November.

You can find lists of the supplies needed to complete School, Personal, Baby Care, and Fabric Kits on the bulletin board in the entryway. Wrapped bars of soap are also needed. Please have these items to the church by October 25.

If you would like to fill a School Kit backpack, there are several backpacks available on the bulletin board. Take one, sign your name, and return by October 25.

For more information, contact Lee Mathiason 494-6125.

## Siouxland Food Bank

August 4, 3,813 pounds of food was distributed to 85 households of 293 residents, which consisted of 160 adults and 133 children.

August 18, 74 households received 3,801 pounds of food. 156 adults and 113 children will enjoy the food products.

We welcomed back the students from the South Sioux City Schools. They help with unloading the food, carrying it into the Fellowship Hall in the morning, and loading the participants' boxes into their cars in the afternoon.

---

## Women of the ELCA

### WOMEN OF THE ELCA GENERAL MEETING

**Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Program:** Hats, History and the Music

**By:** Teresa Kay Orr

**Devotions:** Kris Bergstrom

**Hostesses:** Jackie Gierman and Beth Koster

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall

Feel free to wear a hat!

🌸🌸🌸 CIRCLE MEETINGS 🌸🌸🌸

**LYDIA GROUP**      **September 8, 2016**      **7:00 p.m.**

LEADER:      Group

HOSTESS:      Marlene Heithold

**CIRCLE I**      **September 19, 2016**      **2:00 p.m.**

LEADER:      Jo Ann Garvey

HOSTESS:      Jo Ann Addison  
Joann Garvey

**CIRCLE II**      **September 13, 2016**      **9:15 a.m.**

LEADER:      Jan Durant

HOSTESS:      Mary Wolf



### **Bible Study**

“When God’s Not Fair”

Lydia: “Resting in Him: I Need to Slow Down But I Can’t!”



---

## With Deepest Sympathy

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

The family of Jerry Curry, who passed away Monday, July 25. Services were held Saturday, July 30 here at First Lutheran.

Kathy Anders, Kris Bergstrom and families on the death of their brother, George Olson, who passed away Thursday, August 11. Services were held August 16 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Sioux City.

## Choir Schedule

Choir practices resume on August 31. If you or your children would like to join any of the choirs, please contact Eleanor Tasker. The schedule is as follows:

Youth Choir	4:45 pm
Burnished Brass	5:45 pm
Senior Choir	7:15 pm

## Social Ministry

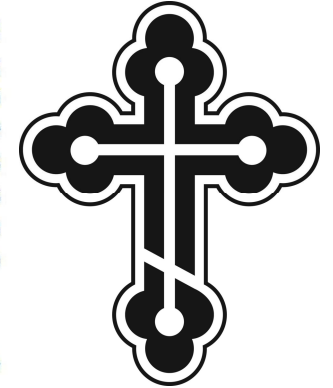
The Social Ministry committee collects "Pantry" items each month to donate to the needs of our community. The Pantry items collected this month are mittens, socks, and hats for South Sioux City schools. Also being collected are nonperishable food items for families in need. Please leave your donations in the shopping cart in the entryway.

---

## Report from the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly



Gathering under the theme "Freed and Renewed in Christ," nearly 1,000 voting members - including 24 from the Nebraska Synod - met in New Orleans Aug. 8-13 for the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Full days included worship, legislative action, reports from Churchwide officers and units, updates on ministries, workshops, Bible study, fellowship and more.



Among more than three dozen legislative actions, the Churchwide Assembly:

- Overwhelmingly affirmed the "Declaration on the Way," a document noting 32 principles of agreement between Roman Catholics and Lutherans. The document is commended as a study resource as Catholics and Lutherans strive toward sharing Communion and ministry.
- Adopted strategies toward greater diversity within the ELCA (whose minority members represent only 6 percent of its membership) through intentional outreach and raising awareness of both overt and subtle racism in the U.S.
- Adopted the AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities) strategy for addressing the complex issue of minors fleeing violence in Central America.
- Elected William B. "Bill" Horne II of Florida to a six-year term as vice president of the ELCA.
- Adopted annual budgets for the next three years of approximately \$64 million annually for ELCA ministries and \$25 million for World Hunger.
- Affirmed efforts to support veterans and their families, military chaplains and all affected by war.
- Adopted strategies for positive investment aimed at supporting peace in Israel and Palestine and reduced energy usage and reliance on fossil fuels.