



MARCH 1—ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP at 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm
APRIL 13—MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP at 7:00 pm
APRIL 14—GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP at 7:00 pm
APRIL 14—PRAYER VIGIL BEGINS at 9:00 pm
APRIL 16—EASTER WORSHIP at 6:30 am, 8:15 am, and 10:30 am
APRIL 17—OFFICE CLOSED
APRIL 26—26TH ANNUAL SALAD LUNCHEON AND BAKE SALE from 11:00 am—1:30 pm
AUGUST 6-AUGUST 9—VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

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Jennifer Durant, Nursery	712/389-7214
Jane Krogh, Organist	494-1089
Claire DeRoin, Keyboardist	
Linda Johansen, Sr. Choir Director	
Church Council (* Executive Council)	
*John Koskovich, President	494-3421
*Lee Novak, Vice-President	712/281-9444
*Denise Kleinberg, Secretary	712/635-4006
*Sue Hunter, Treasurer	494-1758
Kathy Anders	274-4383
Josh Curry	712/898-2921
Mike Gill	494-2332
Randy Grove	712/203-1365
Josie Geveshausen	494-4815
Deb Kenny	712/490-2097
Paul Knudsen	494-2770
Brandon Trautwein	412-2135
Church Coordinators For:	
Altar Care:	
Lectors: Barb McLarty	494-3877
Ushers: Worship & Music Committee	
Women of the ELCA Chair: Bonnie Prosser	494-3384

First Lutheran Church

March 2017

► Reflections

As we approach Lent, I am excited. Yes, excited about Lent. Lent is a time of reflection of what God will do for us in Jesus Christ. Oddly, this year Lent falls late as does Easter. We have already started to see longer days and shorter nights. Traditionally, Lent was a time when the ðchurchö helped foster an artificial time of depression, through reflection. Why would they do that you may ask?

Let's reflect upon that. Lent more often comes near the time of longest nights and the shortest days. This is the time when people can get more depressed due to the lack of sun and the cold. Warmth and sun will come, but it is not here. So with Lent, we are given an opportunity to reflect just what it means to have Jesus in our lives and the ramifications of His actions. What life would be like if Jesus had not died for us and if God did not raise him after three days, all for us.

The death of Jesus is not an easy death. It is not a death that most, maybe no one, would seek. The death is necessary for our sake, but it is what comes afterwards that has all the hope.

As we contemplate and reflect upon our need for Jesus' death, during the time of Lent, when our days are short and the weather is cold, we know the rest of the story to look forward to. We look forward to the next season that God and Jesus bring about. If we just have short days, long nights, cold weather, that could be depressing and

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- Words from the Pastor
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can be difficult to come to the other side, as we wait for Spring.

It is in the focus and reflection upon our need for Jesus and our dependence upon Jesus that keeps us grounded in an artificial depression built upon hope of the Son. In hope of the resurrection where the Light of the world shines for us.

For our congregation this year, our Lent will be a little different. We will be focused upon what God has given us, our bodies. We will be focused upon being in community to support each other during Lent, during the end of Winter, during longing for warm weather, longer days and shorter nights. God gave us Jesus, and the hope of Easter, but God also gives us to each other.

In giving each of us to each other, we exist with each other through our physical bodies. We can only be with each other and care for each other if we also take care of our bodies. As you read the Daniel Plan book, watch the DVD's and listen to the sermons, you will see how important our bodies are. When the body is not functioning properly, then other aspects of our life with God suffer.

Jesus' body suffered and eventually he died. It is in his death that we receive our reconciliation. It is that reconciliation from our sins, we can also focus upon. It is that reconciliation that we can move forward to carry out what God is calling each of us to do. We can however, only do this if we take care of our bodies. It is then we can start to live up to what God intended for us.

Now that we are in Lent, I invite you to reflect upon what God is calling you and us to do. We can reflect upon the gift that God has given us in Jesus Christ and the expectations that God has for us in what God calls us to do. Being part of the Body of Christ here on earth means we need to take care of ourselves to fulfill this. Taking care of the body, mind and spirit.

This Lent, in your reflection time, we will be taking on new habits and giving up old habits. As part of that focus and reflection time, I will also be leaving out at the welcome center, a reading challenge. Starting on Monday, February 27, I invite you to start reading the New Testament, before Easter day. There will be a guided reading plan to assist you on this.

Peace and blessings during this time of Lent, this time of reflection and renewal.

Pastor Doug



The Psalms are full of wonderful verses about God's care and protection.

Directions: Find each missing letter in the alphabets below. Use the resulting words to complete Psalm 86:7, NIV.

A B C E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z _____

A B D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____

B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V X Y Z _____
A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z _____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z _____

When I am in _____, I _____ to you,
because you _____ me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

Answer: When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

Worship at First Lutheran

March 5, First Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Second Lesson: Romans 5:12-19
Psalm: 32 Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

March 12, Second Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-4a Second Lesson: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
Psalm: 121 Gospel: John 3:1-17

March 19, Third Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Exodus 17:1-7 Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-11
Psalm: 95 Gospel: John 4:5-42

March 26, Fourth Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Second Lesson: Eph. 5:8-14
Psalm: 23 Gospel: John 9:1-41

March Flower Chart

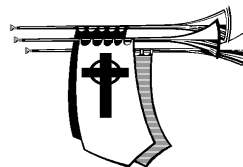


March 5 (Altar) Given by Linda Chaillie in thankfulness for great sisters-in-law like Jean Hedquist.

March 12 (Altar) open

March 19 (Altar) open

March 26 (Altar) Given by Elaine, Lucas and Tyler Fader in honor of John Fader's birthday on March 28.



Congratulations

Richelle Guy, daughter of Rodney and Cheryl Guy, and Emily Ann Marie Guy & Daxton Alan Kleinberg, children of James Kleinberg and Richelle Guy, were baptized February 19. Richelle's sponsor was James Kleinberg, Emily's sponsor was Cheryl Guy, and Daxton's sponsor was Lindsay Anderson. The congregational sponsor was Denise Kleinberg.

Brock Michael Buser, son of Mike and Sara Buser, was baptized February 19. Brock's sponsors were Tom Batter and Amanda Batter. The congregational sponsor was Ned Buser.

New Members

On January 29 we welcomed Chad Cain; Sara Gunderson, Madison and TJ; and Kaylana Pedersen into our congregation. On February 12 we welcomed Gary Panko into our congregation. On February 19 we welcomed Cheryl Guy into our congregation.

Please greet them warmly!

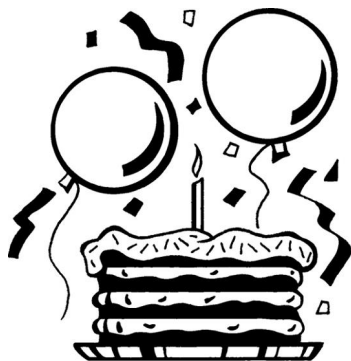
Men's Work Event

On the fourth Wednesday of every month, a men's work event will take place at 8:15 am. We'll start off with breakfast and then do some of the miscellaneous "fix-it" jobs around the church. If you can help, please contact the church office or Pastor Doug. This month we will meet on March 22.

Happy Birthday

Steven Anson—March 2
Kathy Blair—March 31
Patrick Conley—March 14
Pearl Curry—March 23
Becky Dill—March 16
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
Nathan Phipps—March 30
Sharon Potter—March 7
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
Peyton Schutt—March 5

Find Us on Facebook

“Like” First Lutheran on Facebook. You can find us at www.facebook.com/firstlutheranssc. Check it out!



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 30.

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 ðfromö worded in our bulletin?

Lilies may be picked up after the 10:30 am service on Sunday, April 16.

Calling all Knit-“Witt’s”, and Happy “Hookers”
Do you love to Knit or Crochet? Are you looking for a fun, simple project that can mean the world to someone?

I am officially starting up a Prayer Shawl/Adult Baptism Shawl Ministry.

History of the Prayer Shawl:

Over the centuries, shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace and spiritual sustenance. Since the inception of the Prayer Shawl Ministry in 1998, the members of this organization have lovingly donated their time and talents by creating hand knitted and crocheted shawls, filled with the power of prayer for those in need.

The blessing of the Prayer Shawl provides healing and comfort to the sick, the lonely and the elderly. Like all acts of generosity, the presentation of a Prayer Shawl enriches the giver as well as the recipient.

I would like to invite people to participate in creating a Prayer Shawl. We would, with your help, begin this new ministry at First Lutheran. This can be done in a group setting as well as in the comfort of your own home.

The Prayer Shawl begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, shawls can be used for: patients when given a difficult diagnosis; when undergoing medical procedures; as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress; during bereavement; for prayer or meditation. Recipients need not be a member to receive one.

If you would like a pattern (knitting or crocheting), I would love to share them with you. Copies will also be available in the office.

I would like the group or groups to meet once a month.

If you don't know how to knit or crochet, this could be the time to learn. If you want to be involved, but don't like knitting or crocheting you can donate 3 skeins of yarn for each shawl!

If you have any questions, please give me a call. Watch the bulletin for the first meeting date!

Kris Dill
Phone: 630-903-9895
Kris.dill@gmail.com

Women of the ELCA



❀❀❀ CIRCLE MEETINGS ❀❀❀

LYDIA GROUP: March 9, 2017 7:00PM

LEADER: Sue Hunter
HOSTESS: Rita Todd

CIRCLE I: March 20, 2017 2:00PM

LEADER: Lee Mathiason
HOSTESS: Jo Ann Addison

CIRCLE II: March 14, 2017 9:15AM

LEADER: Mary Wolf
HOSTESS: Jane Krogh



Bible Study

Lydia: ðGalatians: Christian Faith and Christian Freedomö
Lydia: ðResting in Him: I Need to Slow Down But I Can't!ö



With Deepest Sympathy

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

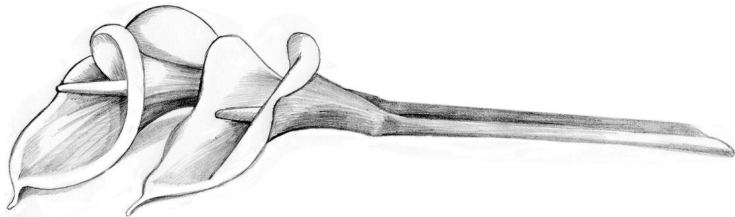
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The family of Harold Gathje, who passed away Monday, February 6. Services were held Friday, February 10 here at First Lutheran.

Dorothy Lux, on the death of her brother, Bill Sutter.

Janell Sila and family, on the death of her father, Kenneth Schroeder, on Monday, February 13. Services were held Friday, February 16 at Salem Lutheran Church in Wakefield.

The family of Betty Stockton, who passed away Wednesday, February 15. Services were held Monday, February 20 here at First Lutheran.



Thrivent Choice

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until March 31 to direct any remaining Choice Dollars. Help support First Lutheran Church. 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.

Electronic Giving

Electronic giving is now available. If you are interested in giving electronically or would like more information, please contact the church office.

Dishes

There are many dishes left in the kitchen from recent activities here at First Lutheran. Please take a moment to check and see if any are yours.

Lenten Meals

We are in need of people to help provide the Lenten lunches and Lenten suppers. There are sign-up sheets at the Welcome Center.

First Lutheran Church Pantry

Did you know that First Lutheran has a food pantry? It is open Tuesday-Friday from 9:00am-11:30am. In 2016, 684 boxes of food were given out of the office to people who are in need of food.

We have been blessed by several people, businesses and churches doing food drives and/or donating money to our pantry. When monetary donations are received, we are able to buy food from the Food Bank of Siouland dramatically cheaper than from the grocery store. No money comes out of the general fund for our pantry; everything is done through donations specifically designated for the food pantry.

Siouxland Food Bank

On February 2, 3,634 pounds of food was distributed to 73 individuals with a total of 262 people in their households.

On February 16, 206 adults, 162 children in 93 households received 3,859 pounds of food.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who help with this project. The students from South Sioux City Schools are very much appreciated.

Lenten Prayer Vigil

The annual prayer vigil begins at 9:00 p.m. on Good Friday, April 14, and concludes on Holy Saturday, April 15. A sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center. Please consider participating this year.

Pastor Doug's Office Hours

Monday	12 pm-4 pm
Tuesday	8 am-4 pm (limited availability until 2 pm)
Weds/Thurs	8 am-4 pm
Friday	off

Other hours by appointment.

Pastor Doug can be reached by phone (402-235-6969) or by email (pastordoug@flcssc.org).

Thank You

Marla Bianchini-Thank you for the condolence cards and especially the hugs at the loss of my brother-in-law.

First Lutheran Church Food Pantry-Thanks to Circle I for their donation of food. Fifty-five boxes were distributed in January.

Gladys Hedquist-Thank you for the lovely Christmas gifts—fruit basket and a bag of useful items. All are appreciated so much. I also am so grateful for the phone calls, flowers, announcements at the church, cards and best wishes from so many. God has truly blessed me with a wonderful family and so many nice friends. It made my 95th birthday so memorable. Thank you for your kindness.

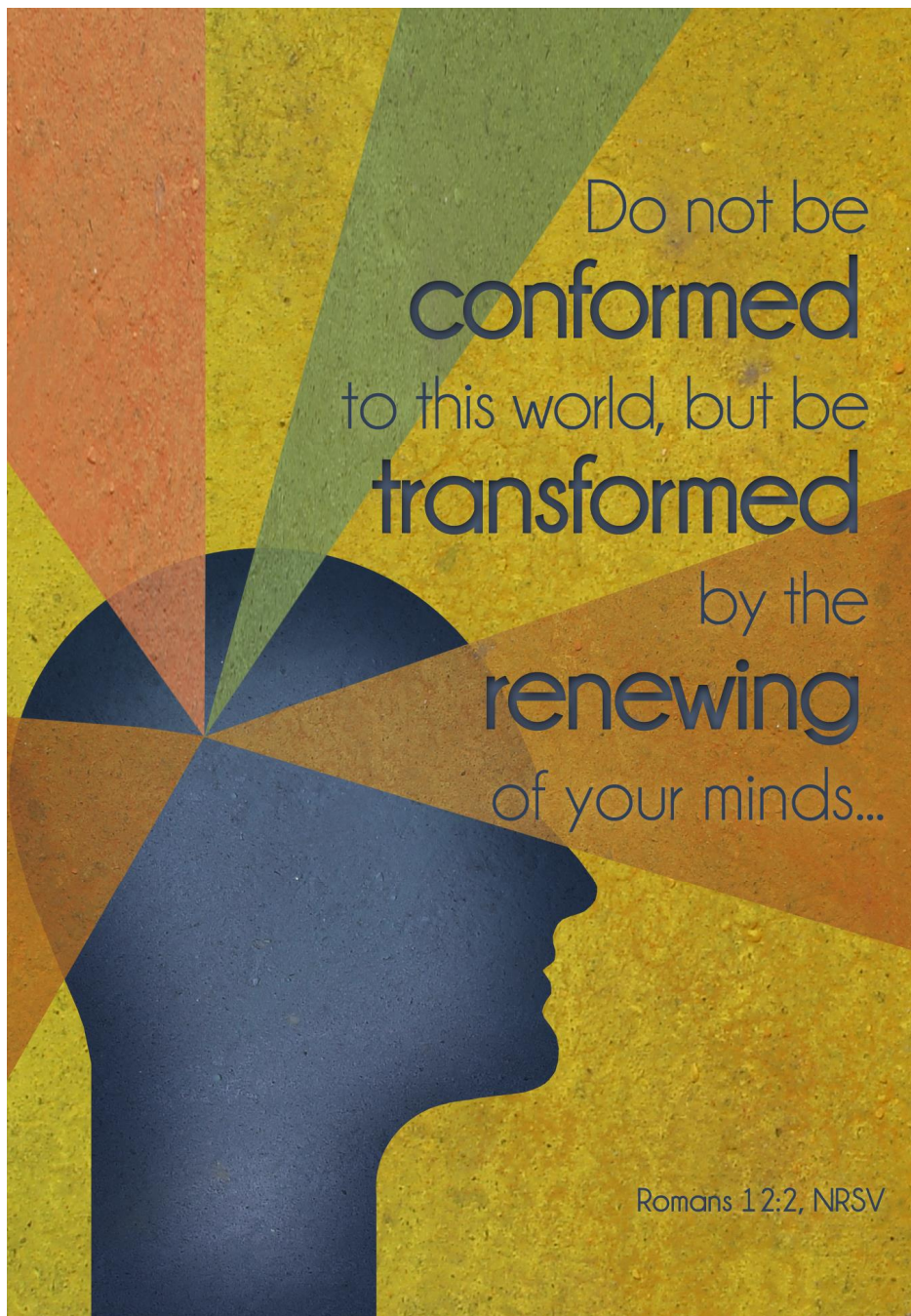
Mike and Tanya Rich and family-Thank you so much for the card, thoughts and prayers on the loss of Mike's mom. We really appreciate it.

Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 12. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour!

Social Ministry

The Social Ministry Committee collects "Pantry" items each month to donate to the needs of our community. The Pantry items collected for March are food items for families in need. Also being collected are toothbrushes, toothpaste, candy, crayons, and coloring books for Easter baskets to be distributed to children at CSADV and Haven House. Please leave your donations in the cart in the entryway.



Military Bible Sticks

First Lutheran has supported Military BibleStick in the past, and we are asking if you would continue to support this ministry again this year. We are designating March 5 to consider a donation that will assist this ministry.

More than 600,000 troops are thanking God this month for the blessing of the Military BibleStick. These small digital audio players are loaded with the complete New Testament along with 65 minutes of selected Psalms.

More troops are still waiting to receive their own Military BibleStick. These brave men and women may resolve to draw closer to God in 2017 but lack the best tools to do so. By joining with us in March, we can equip our military with God's Word—the most valuable resource for growing with God.

Lent

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1, with services at 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Both services include Holy Communion and the imposition of ashes. Wednesday services continue for the next five weeks at 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Beginning March 8, we will share Wednesday evening services with St. Paul United Methodist Church and studying the book *The Daniel Plan*.

Evening services will be held at First Lutheran on March 8, March 22, and April 5. The evening services will be held at St. Paul United Methodist Church on March 15 and March 22.
