



MAY 17—LAST DAY OF CONFIRMATION
MAY 14—LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL
MAY 21—GRADUATION RECOGNITION at 8:15am
JUNE 4—SUMMER WORSHIP BEGINS at 9:00 am
JUNE 11—OUTDOOR WORSHIP at 10:30 am
JULY 4—OFFICE CLOSED
JULY 9—OUTDOOR WORSHIP at 10:30 am
AUGUST 11-13—FLEA MARKET/RUMMAGE/BAKE SALE
AUGUST 13—OUTDOOR WORSHIP at 10:30 am
SEPTEMBER 4—OFFICE CLOSED
OCTOBER 29—CONFIRMATION at 10:30 am

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Staff | | |
| Church Office | | 494-5461 |
| Douglas Dill, Pastor | | 402/235-6969 |
| pastordoug@flcsc.org | | |
| Kerri Durant, Administrative Assistant | | 712/574-7946 |
| Betty Barto, Administrative Assistant | | 494-3026 |
| Chris Knudsen, Custodian | | 404-0626 |
| Jennifer Durant, Nursery | | 712/577-1162 |
| Jane Krogh, Organist | | 494-1630 |
| Linda Johansen, Sr. Choir Director | | 494-1089 |
| Church Council (* Executive Council) | | |
| *John Koskovich, President | | 494-3421 |
| *Lee Novak, Vice-President | | 712/281-9444 |
| *Denise Kleinberg, Secretary, Christian Ed. | | 712/6354006 |
| *Sue Hunter, Treasurer | | 494-1758 |
| Kathy Anders, Fellowship | | 274-4383 |
| Judy Blessing, Evangelism | | 255-7775 |
| Josh Curry, Support | | 712/898-2921 |
| Mike Gill, Stewardship | | 494-2332 |
| Randy Grove, Property | | 712/203-1365 |
| Josie Geveshausen, Youth | | 494-4815 |
| Deb Kenny, Social Ministry | | 712/490-2097 |
| Brandon Trautwein, Worship & Music | | 412-2135 |
| Church Coordinators For: | | |
| Altar Care: | | |
| Lectors: Paula Verzani | | 712/301-2577 |
| Ushers: Worship & Music Committee | | |
| Women of the ELCA Chair: Bonnie Prosser | | 494-3384 |

First Lutheran Church

May 2017

God shows us God's creating power yet again. God created in the beginning and when God did this, the Word (the Son) was with God and the Word was God. (Jn 1:1) From the very start, creation was done in and with the Son (Logos) and all things came into being through the Word and nothing came into being without the Word. (Jn 1:2-3)

The Word became flesh to live among us and His glory as revealed in Jesus Christ, was shown to all in the fullness of His grace and truth. (Jn 1:14) On Easter a new creation, revealed to all through the grace and truth of Christ Jesus, came into being through the resurrection of Word in the flesh as revealed in Jesus Christ.

This new creation, we celebrated on Easter morning, April 16th. The reality is, however, we can celebrate and we do celebrate this every Sunday. Sunday is the celebration of the resurrection, which is the new creation in Jesus Christ from the Love of God for us in Jesus.

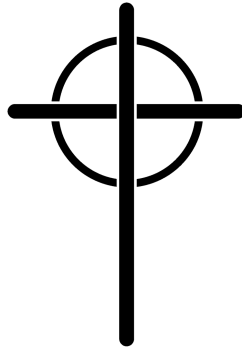
At First Lutheran, we are going through a new creation as well. As you have heard me say before, God did not put First Lutheran here on Dakota

INSIDE

- May 2017 calendar
- Words from the Pastor
- Youth News
- Women of the ELCA schedule
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Financial Reports

www.flcsc.org office@firstlutheranssc.org

Avenue in South Sioux City for no particular reason. We are here for a reason, and God is using us for mission and ministry in the world. That ministry is being redefined (re-created).




The youth are looking to revitalize the softball field and attract teams to our field. We are starting a community garden that will also help supply fresh produce to the Food Bank. Equal Exchange will be starting soon at FLC, which not only will benefit the youth but also producers all over the world. SCRIP will be starting as well. Gift card proceeds will be funding our very valuable youth. We are in the process of getting Stephen Ministries started and building a mediation team. A prayer shawl ministry has been started and small groups continue to meet.

God re-created in Jesus, and God continues to create, and we are part of that continuation of creation. We all have the opportunity to partake in what is going on. We can choose to live in the past or we can live in today, which God is active in. It is really each of our choices. God looks for us to invite him into our lives, in such a way that God must act and be part of us. We are doing that with the ministries that we are starting. Now you must ask yourself: Do you want to live in the past, which is dead and gone, or do you want to live into today and the future, where God is still creating?

Peace and Blessings, in the name of the one who was there in the beginning, was there in the new creation and still comes to us in the continuation of creation, Jesus Christ.


Pr. Doug

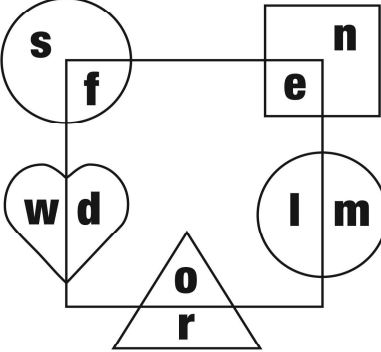


GOD CARES FOR YOU!

Jesus tells his followers not to worry about their daily needs.
What example does he give of God's care for his creation?

Directions:
To complete Luke 12:27 (NIV), match the shapes under each blank with the letter shapes shown to the right.





“Consider how the wild _____
grow. They do not labor or spin.

Yet I tell you, not even _____
in all his splendor was _____
like one of these.” Luke 12:27, NIV

Answer: “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.” Luke 12:27, NIV

Worship at First Lutheran

May 7, Fourth Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47 Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25
Psalm: 23 Gospel: John 10:1-10

May 14, Fifth Sunday of Easter

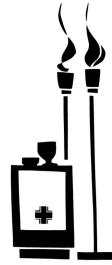
First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60 Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10
Psalm: 31:1-5, 15-16 Gospel: John 14:1-14

May 21, Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31 Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22
Psalm: 66:8-20 Gospel: John 14:15-21

May 28, Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 1:6-14 Second Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
Psalm: 68:1-10, 32-35 Gospel: John 17:1-11



May Flower Chart

May 7 (Altar) Given by Haley and Tanner Koepe in honor of their parents, Scott and Cindy, on their May 7 anniversary.

(Chancel) Given by Don and Lucy Gagnon in honor of Don's 79th birthday and in memory of their son, Darrell.

May 14 (Altar) Given by the Hedquist family in honor of all mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and adopted mothers.

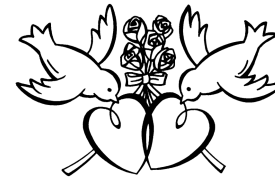
May 21 (Altar) Given by the Koepe family in honor of Tanner and the 2017 graduates.

(Chancel) Given by Elaine, John and Lucas Fader in honor of Tyler's 13th birthday on May 24.

May 28 (Altar) Given by Pastor Doug and Kris Dill in honor of their 28th anniversary.

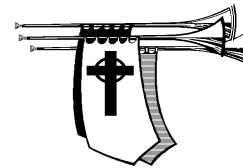
(Chancel) Given by Pastor Doug and Kris Dill in honor of their 28th anniversary.

(Chancel) Given by Bart and Terri Gotch in honor of Bill and Myrna Gotch's 57th wedding anniversary.



Anniversaries This Month

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Doug and Kris Dill | May 27 |
| Todd and Chris Gehner | May 30 |
| Bill and Myrna Gotch | May 28 |
| Chris and Melanie Graves | May 20 |
| Gary and Marian Hayes | May 12 |
| Terry and Deb Kenny | May 23 |
| Scott and Cindy Koepe | May 7 |
| Brian and Chris Lake | May 16 |
| Del and Sharie Lieber | May 22 |
| Ronnie and Jennifer Rosenbaum | May 26 |
| Jeff and Rita Todd | May 12 |



Congratulations

Congratulations to Rachel McFarland on the birth of her son, Liam Allen, on Wednesday, April 5. Liam weighed 8 lbs, 4 oz and measured 22 inches long.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day. The office will be open as usual on Tuesday, May 30.

Happy Birthday

Austin Bass—May 1
Judy Blessing—May 7
Maynon Burson—May 21
Suzette Curry—May 26
Dale Durant—May 13
Elaine Fader—May 18
Callie Foxhoven—May 4
Don Gagnon—May 9
Jill Gill—May 1
Robin Hansen—May 3
Chris Hedquist—May 1
Lance Hedquist—May 9
Sheila Heitman—May 19

Mike Hofmeister—May 25
Deb Kenny—May 27
Cindy Koeppe—May 20
Lukas Litras—May 22
Lorene Moyse—May 9
Stacy Niemeyer—May 5
Lee Novak—May 18
Gary Panko—May 22
Milt Peters—May 19
Marc Rahn—May 1
Carol Slaughter—May 15
Janet Tondreau—May 7
Brian Van Berkum—May 24



Youth Birthdays

Baylie Bass—May 24
Ashlynn Cooper—May 25
Tyler Fader—May 24

Clover Hirsch—May 11
Nora Hirsch—May 11
Ashlyn Rich—May 18

Miscellaneous Items (Cont.)

For January we were \$915 short
For February we were \$4,278 short
For March we were \$4,881 short

So, as of the end of March 31,2017, we are \$10,074 short, and if you add in the carry over from last year we are \$24,004 short.

When we proposed this budget we asked for each contributing member to increase their giving \$9.00 per week. We realize that not everyone is able to do this, so we ask you to contribute what you can. If you can only give \$1 great, if you can do \$9, thank you, and if you can do more, thank you very much. We would like to be able to fund all our budgeted items. This can be achieved with all of your support.

John Koskovich

Food Bank of Siouxland

On April 6, 3,415 pounds of food and 1,048 pounds of produce was distributed to 84 households that included 193 adults and 131 children.

On April 20, 183 adults and 116 children living in 85 households received 3,366 pounds of food items and 756 pounds of produce.

Thank you to all the smiling and happy volunteers that help distribute these food items and those that help unload the truck, put out the food and help the people load the filled boxes into their vehicles.

Miscellaneous Items

I have many things to inform you of:

Let's have a nice round of applause for the members that paid for the new LED bulbs in the Sanctuary. We have light and they all work. We should not have to replace them for a long time.

Also, thanks to the memorial money for the 2 new lights out front. We still have LED bulbs for them to come and a timer for turning them on and off.

We are looking for a grant writer. This is someone who can creatively write in formation for a grant that will make the donor want to pick us. If you are interested please contact me.

We are going to have our yearly rummage sale again and it will take place August 11, 12, and 13. If you are interested in helping please contact Kerri in the office, Sue Hunter, or myself. We are looking for all kinds of volunteers.

I have not updated you since the January annual meeting as to where we are financially.

As a reminder, we finished Dec 2016 at -\$13,930. From the -\$25,500 balance in March 2016, I feel we did quite a good job of reducing our deficit.

This year, we voted to raise our budget to cover the things we want to improve our ministry on, and we have the additional cost for Pastor's benefit package. This translates into needing \$23,833 per month to cover the budget. *(cont.)*

Women of the ELCA



WOMEN OF THE ELCA GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Program: Brenda Zahnly from Christy Smith Funeral Home

Devotions: Jane Krogh

Hostesses: Kathy Anders and Kris Bergstrom

☼☼☼ CIRCLE MEETINGS ☼☼☼

LYDIA GROUP: May 11, 2017 7:00PM

LEADER: Jennifer Durant

HOSTESS: Rose Dudley

CIRCLE I: May 15, 2017 2:00PM

LEADER: Joann Kleinberg

HOSTESS: Linda Fischer

Jo Ann Garvey

CIRCLE II: May 9, 2017 9:15AM

LEADER: Jane Krogh

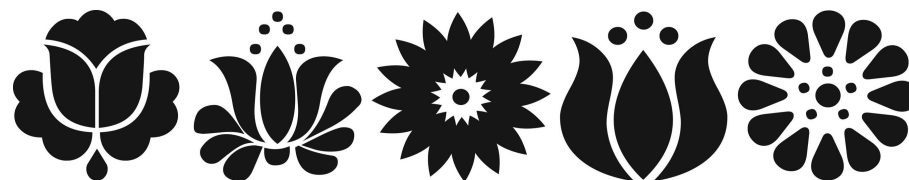
HOSTESS: Linda Johansen



Bible Study

ōAll Anewō

Lydia: ōResting in Him: I Need to Slow Down But I Can't!ō



With Deepest Sympathy

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

◆

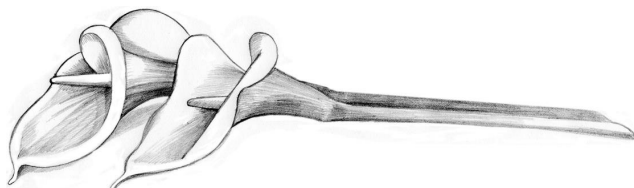
The family of Maxine Linafelter, who passed away Thursday, March 23. Services were held Monday, March 27 at Mohr Funeral Home.

The family of Barb McLarty, who passed away Tuesday, March 28. Services were held Saturday, April 1 here at First Lutheran.

Dan and Daniele Feenstra and family, on the death of Dan's mother, Mardelle Feenstra, on Wednesday, March 29. Services were held Saturday, April 1 at Christ is King Community Church in Norfolk.

Roger and Susan Monk and family on the death of Susan's sister, Mary Carr, on Thursday, April 6, and Roger's brother, Terry Monk, on Friday, April 7.

Mel and Patty Hansen and family on the death of Mel's mother, Anna Marie Hansen, on Monday, April 17. Services were held Saturday, April 22 here at First Lutheran.



Scrip Cards

First Lutheran is proud to announce that we will be participating in Scrip. What is Scrip?, you might ask.

Scrip fundraising is a no-selling program that enables First Lutheran to raise money for our congregation. All profits from the Scrip sales will be used to support our youth. Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of cash, checks, and credit cards. You purchase gift cards from First Lutheran at face value, and your coordinator (Kris Dill) orders those cards from Great Lakes Scrip Center at a reduced price. The difference is an instant rebate for our youth. It's really that simple! Great Lakes Scrip Center covers over 300 of the country's biggest brands, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants, hotels, home improvement, and more. Just by using scrip to pay for your normal weekly purchases, you can easily raise \$500 or more per year. It's time to put your shopping dollars to work!

Kris will place orders once a month to maximize our shipping costs of the cards. Then the cards will be available for pick up. For example: the last of Scrip orders will be taken on a given Sunday. Then on Monday, Kris will make the order. She should receive the gift cards that same week and will have them ready for distribution on Sunday. To make sure we make money, there will be a total monthly minimum order of Scrip cards. That monthly order number is still being worked out, but it will be stated on the order forms available to the congregation. The total monthly order will be a sum of all individual orders.

Gift cards are great ways to pay for your groceries, gas, online shopping, graduation, birthday and confirmation gifts, and more. Anything that you would normally pay for with cash, check or credit card, purchase a gift card for a supported vendor, for the same value and support First Lutheran youth with the profits of the Scrip card.

More information to follow very soon!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thank you to everyone who has been using their wonderful talents to provide Prayer Shawls for those in need. If you have completed a shawl, prayed for the group or donated yarn we thank you!

We are honored to be able to offer this service here at First Lutheran to all those within our church and community who have suffered a loss, received devastating news, or are in need of comfort, strength and hope. God is present with each and every one who makes the shawls and receives the shawls.

If you ever wanted to learn to knit/crochet this is a great opportunity for you. We would love to help you learn. Prayer shawls are easy to make, and are a cherished gift to the recipient.

When donating the yarn, please be sure to include the full skeins that are the same color/lot number. 3 full 6 oz skeins of Home Spun yarn by Lions brand is recommended; however, ANY yarn will work.

Please note there is a slight time change on the meetings for the third Saturday.

Our group meets on the third Tuesday and Saturday of the month; we meet for about an hour. We enjoy stitching together and the fellowship.

Tuesday: 6:00 pm in the church lounge.

Saturday: 10:00 am at the Parsonage

Please come join us. We'd love to have you!

Thank You

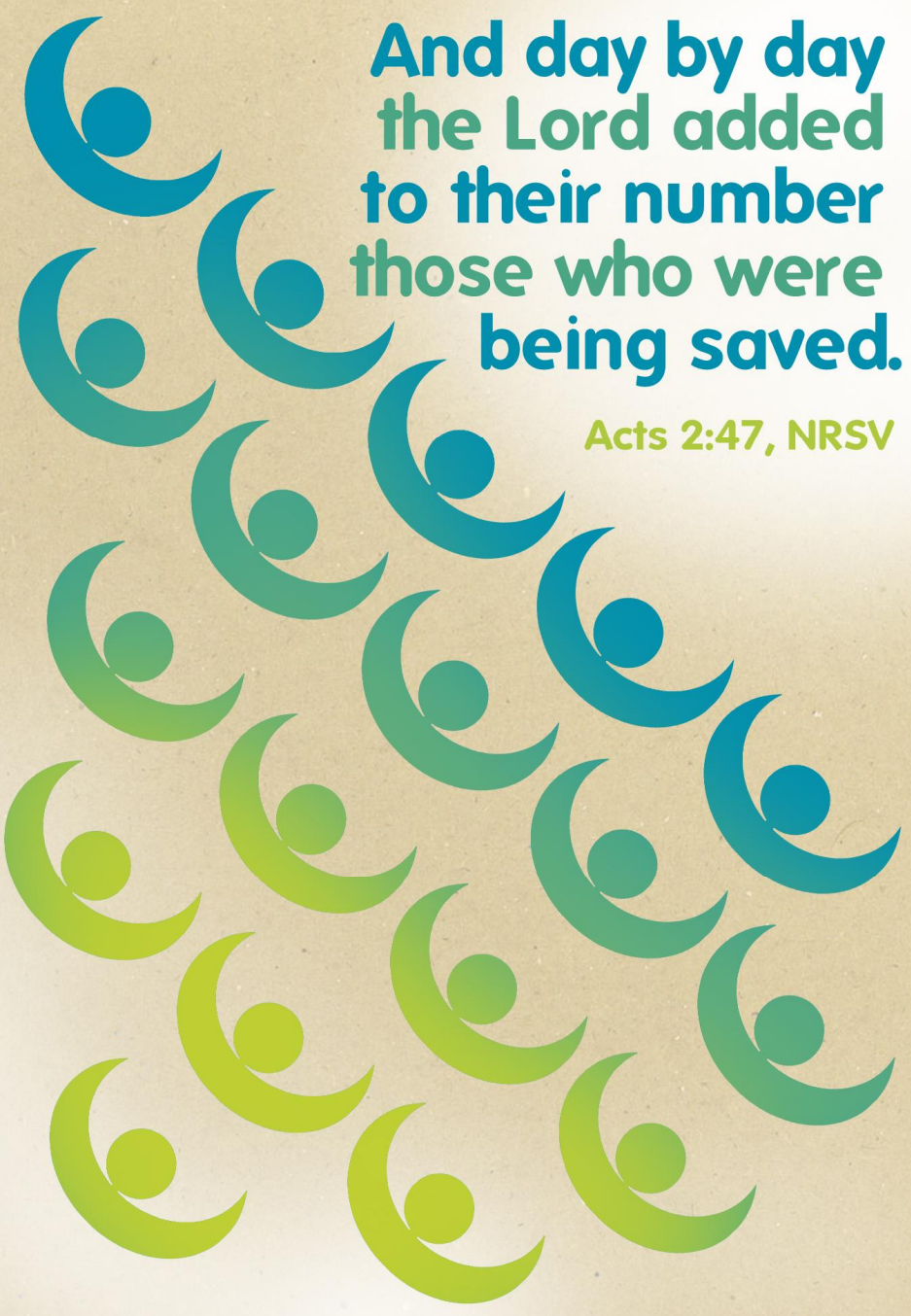
The Feenstra Family-Thank you for thinking of our family during the loss of Dan's mom. Mardi was well loved and will be missed.

First Lutheran Church Food Pantry-Thanks to Circle I and Bobier Studio for their donations of food. Sixty-three food boxes were distributed in March.

Gospel Mission-Moments ago, two ladies from your congregation dropped off a pair of Easter baskets for the young children they heard were at our Single Men with Children's Shelter. I wanted to take a moment to share with you and your congregation our appreciation for your thoughtfulness that you extended to us in this gift. We greatly appreciate these expressions of caring given to those who are in need.

The McLarty Family-A sincere thanks to our wonderful church family. The outpouring of support and love we received will never be forgotten. Barb loved our church and it's very evident that our church loved her. Memorial money donated to First Lutheran in memory of Barb has been set aside for Christian Education.

Social Ministry Committee-Thank you to everyone who made a donation to First Lutheran's Easter baskets. Thanks to the Sunday school children and adults for decorating the baskets. Forty-five baskets were made. Two were given to a father with young children at the Gospel Mission, 13 were given to Haven House, and 30 were taken to CSADV.



**And day by day
the Lord added
to their number
those who were
being saved.**

Acts 2:47, NRSV

Graduation Recognition

At the 8:15 am worship service on May 21, we will recognize all of our members who are graduating this year. If you or a family member is graduating from high school or college, please call the church office with the information so that they may be included in the recognition. We would also like to display pictures of our graduating seniors on the bulletin board in the entryway. Please submit your pictures to the church office.

Reformation Commemoration Service

Sunday, October 29, 2017

2:00 pm-5:00 pm

St. John's Parish, Creighton University,
2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE

Save the date for a Reformation Commemoration Service to be held jointly by the Nebraska and Western Iowa synods at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29, 2017 at St. John's Parish on the Creighton University campus in Omaha, Nebraska.

Bishop Brian Maas of the Nebraska Synod and Bishop Rodger Prois of the Western Iowa Synod will be leading the worship service. The service also will feature choral music to help commemorate the occasion. Representatives of the ELCA's ecumenical partners will be invited to attend and participate.

A reception will follow the service. More information will be made available soon.

YOUR STORY ISN'T FINISHED YET

Minneapolis Author

Open to the Public

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
3601 DAKOTA AVENUE
SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE 68776

AUTHOR EVENT at REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, SOUTH SIOUX CITY

*Hazelden & Augsburg Fortress Author
Daniel D. Maurer Will Present*

**Sunday, June 4th at 9:00am Worship &
Sunday, June 4th at 10:00am**

*"How Luther's Story of Reformation
is More Relevant than Ever in Today's
World"*

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU! SIGNED BOOKS AVAILABLE

Calling All Adults of First Lutheran! Adult Small Catechism Discussions (April 30-June 7)

It may have only been a year ago that you completed your confirmation or maybe some 100 years ago or maybe you never attended a single Lutheran Confirmation class. Well, now is your opportunity to be in a conversation around Luther's Small Catechism. A lot has changed in how we view the writings of Martin Luther in the last 100 years, and this is an opportunity to refresh yourselves (or learn anew) about Luther's Small Catechism.

This year we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, all starting with the 95 Theses being nailed to the Wittenberg church (at least that is how the legend tells it). Martin Luther, looking to reform the church, posted his objections to the practices of the Catholic church. During the time of reformation, he also wrote the small and large Catechisms.

Pick a small group to attend the classes in. Sign-up sheets are posted in the entryway. We will offer classes on Sunday between services, Mondays at 1 pm and Wednesdays at 6 pm. We will have no classes the week of May 28. If you have your own copy, bring it! Or, books are available in the church office. If you would like to contribute toward the price of the book, please donate \$6 to First Lutheran.

On June 4th, author and illustrator, Dan Maurer "Dan the Story Man", will be preaching and giving his own reformation story of life inside and outside of the church. Dan is the author of "Papa Luther" published by Augsburg Fortress. His book was one of the featured books from the Augsburg Fortress Library that First Lutheran was displaying for sale last month. Dan will have some of his books on hand to purchase and sign.

Community Garden

You may have seen that part of our green space has been plowed up. In the first part of a combined ministry of Property, Social Ministry and Evangelism, a community garden is being developed. The Property Committee arranged for the green space to be plowed and cow manure to be added to the garden. Next, a rototiller will be used to finalize the soil. Property is also arranging to put down wood chips between plots, so the gardeners do not have to walk on dirt and mud when going between plots.

The garden is open to the entire community on a first come, first serve basis. Anyone wanting a garden plot will be able to contact the office to receive an available plot. We encourage users to give one row of their harvest to the food bank.

In order to use the plot, there will be a signed agreement regarding the care of the plot. If a plot is left unattended and overgrown, the plot user will be given time to clean it up. If they fail to do so, what produce is available will be harvested and donated to the food bank. The garden will then have Round-up and/or rototiller applied.

Keep a watch for the opening date, as some more details get worked out.

Summer Worship

Beginning June 4, we will have one worship service at 9:00 am. Summer worship time will last through Labor Day. Outdoor worship will be on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 10:30 am.

Equal Exchange

First Lutheran will begin selling Equal Exchange products in May. Equal Exchange partners with multiple organizations, such as the ELCA and Lutheran World Relief, to bring high quality products to consumers who are ministry minded in their support for others, worldwide, in ensuring the producers of the product are paid a fair market value for their products. This helps producers in underdeveloped countries to stay competitive with the large corporate providers and still deliver high quality products to the consumer, us.

We will keep some products on hand and the Equal Exchange table will be available every Sunday. All other days, it will be stored in the coffee room and products can be purchased through the office. The proceeds of the sales will be given to our youth.

There is much more accomplished through the purchases than just funding our youth or providing a living wage for the producers. Look for the table soon, and more information on Equal Exchange. You can also visit their website at www.equalexchange.coop for more information.

Social Ministry

The Social Ministry committee collects “Pantry” items each month to donate to the needs of our community. The Pantry items collected for May will be food items for families in need. Also being collected are toiletries and household cleaning supplies for the Council on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. Please leave your donations in the cart in the entryway.