



**NOVEMBER 11**—ITALIAN MEAL at 11:00 am and 5:00 pm  
**NOVEMBER 23**—OFFICE CLOSED  
**DECEMBER 17**—ONE WORSHIP SERVICE at 9:30 am  
 (SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM)  
**DECEMBER 24**—CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP at 5:00 pm  
 and 11:00 pm  
**DECEMBER 25**—OFFICE CLOSED  
**JANUARY 1**—OFFICE CLOSED  
**JANUARY 9**—WOMEN OF THE ELCA GENERAL  
 MEETING at 7:00 pm

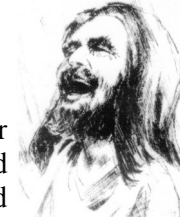
|   |                           |              |          |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|----------|
| <b>Staff</b>                                |                           |              |          |
| Church Office                               |                           | 494-5461     |          |
| Douglas Dill, Pastor                        |                           | 402/235-6969 |          |
| pastordoug@flcsc.org                        |                           |              |          |
| Kerri Durant, Administrative Assistant      |                           | 712/574-7946 |          |
| Chris Knudsen, Custodian                    |                           | 404-0626     |          |
| Jennifer Durant, Nursery                    |                           | 712/577-1162 |          |
| Jane Krogh, Organist                        |                           | 494-1630     |          |
| J.R. Reider, Spirit Connection Leader       |                           | 712/281-0867 |          |
| Joey Hartshorn, Music Director              |                           | 712/389-4492 |          |
| <b>Church Council</b> (* Executive Council) |                           |              |          |
| *John Koskovich, President                  |                           | 494-3421     |          |
| *Lee Novak, Vice-President                  |                           | 712/281-9444 |          |
| *Denise Kleinberg, Secretary, Christian Ed. |                           | 712/635-4006 |          |
| *Sue Hunter, Treasurer                      |                           | 494-1758     |          |
| Kathy Anders, Fellowship                    |                           | 274-4383     |          |
| Judy Blessing, Evangelism                   |                           | 255-7775     |          |
| Mike Gill, Stewardship                      |                           | 494-2332     |          |
| Terri Gotch, Support                        |                           | 494-4430     |          |
| Jayden Grove, Youth                         |                           | 987-1057     |          |
| Randy Grove, Property                       |                           | 712/203-1365 |          |
| Deb Kenny, Social Ministry                  |                           | 712/490-2097 |          |
| Brandon Trautwein, Worship & Music          |                           | 412-2135     |          |
| <b>Church Coordinators For:</b>             |                           |              |          |
| Altar Care:                                 |                           |              | 494-4697 |
| Lectors:                                    | Mary Wolf                 |              |          |
| Ushers:                                     | Worship & Music Committee |              |          |
| Women of the ELCA Chair:                    | Bonnie Prosser            |              | 494-3384 |

# First Lutheran Church

November 2017

## ► Thanks

Being a disciple of Christ, a follower of Jesus, is a free-willed loving and gracious response to a loving and gracious God!



Many thanks I wish to extend to all of you on behalf of myself and my family. On October 16, I celebrated my one-year anniversary here at First Lutheran. On October 17th I celebrated my ordination. On October 29, I celebrated my birthday. I am grateful for all that I have been able to experience while at FLC and in Siouland. That means I am thankful for all, the ups and the downs, because all have been through the Holy Spirit. No matter what, we have God in our lives, whether we know it or not. Whether we acknowledge it or not. How we see the world in times of good and times of bad will be dramatically different if it is based upon how things are going or if it is that God is in our lives.

From Max Lucado's post "In Christ You Have Everything" on October 19, 2017 as found at <http://www.maxlucado.com>.

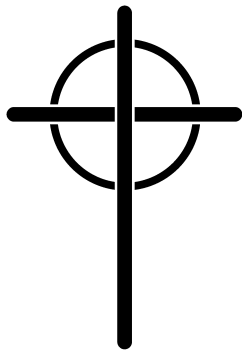
Define yourself by stuff, and you'll feel good when you have a lot, and you'll feel bad when you don't. The cycle is predictable. If I get a car, I'll be happy. If I get

## INSIDE

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

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married, I'll be happy...or if I get the new job. But in each case the joy comes and then diminishes. By the time you reach old age, you've ridden a roller coaster of hope and disappointment. And you are suspicious that life will let you down again.



Contingent contentment turns us into wounded, worried people. But Christ-based contentment turns us into happy people. Death, failure, betrayal, sickness, disappointment—they cannot take our joy, because they cannot take our Jesus. Write this down! In Christ you have everything! He can give you a happiness that can never be taken, a grace that will never expire, and a wisdom that will ever increase. He is a fountain of living hope that will never be exhausted!

As we approach Thanksgiving, let us give thanks, because no matter what circumstance we find ourselves in, we have God and God gave God's one and only Son, so that we can be saved and have eternal life. (John 3:16)


This congregation is in debt, let us give thanks because God is with us, and if God is with us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31) We will come out of debt; with God's help, all things are possible. (Matthew 19:26, Mark 10:27). Debt just means we are spending money and we are doing ministry! We will overcome the debt!

It is in our Faith that God comes to us. Fortunately, it is not us who must learn to have faith because that is impossible for humans because we have our minds set upon the things of flesh not of God. (Romans 8:7-8) Faith is the Gift of God, who can do the impossible. (Ephesians 2:8)

Let us give thanks for all that God has given, all that God will give and the future that God has in mind for us and for First Lutheran. Thanks be to God, come Holy Spirit, come.

The God of all grow your faith and mine through the Holy Spirit in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.


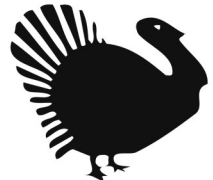


Pastor Doug



## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

God gives us many blessings every day. How can we thank him?

*Directions: To complete the Bible verse below, follow the code and fill in the blanks.*

A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10,  
K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18,  
S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26.

“ \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ name in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ .”

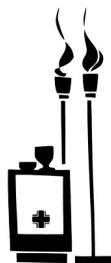
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Answer: "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30, NIV

## ► **Worship at First Lutheran**

### November 5, All Saints Sunday

First Lesson: Rev. 7:9-17    Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-3  
Psalm: 34:1-10, 22    Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12



### November 12, 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Amos 5:18-24    Second Lesson: 1 Thess. 4:13-18  
Psalm: 70    Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

### November 19, 24th Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Zeph. 1:7, 12-18    Second Lesson: 1 Thess. 5:1-11  
Psalm: 90:1-12    Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

### November 26, Christ the King

First Lesson: Ez. 34:11-16, 20-24    Second Lesson: Eph. 1:15-23  
Psalm: 95:1-7a    Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46



## ► **November Flower Chart**

**November 5 (Altar)** open

**November 12 (Altar)** Given to the glory of God by Gordon and Jane Krogh.

**November 19 (Altar)** Given by Janell Sila.

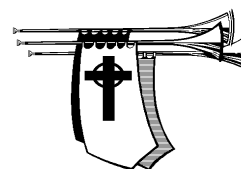
**November 26 (Altar)** Given by Bill McLarty in memory of his son, Mark R. McLarty.



## **Anniversaries This Month ◀**

Josh and Samantha Curry  
Dale and LuAnn Durant  
Bill and Linda Kendra  
Tim and Stacy Niemeyer  
Jeff and Ellen Prescott

November 7  
November 10  
November 24  
November 30  
November 28



## **Congratulations ◀**

**Tinley Michelle Kinnaman**, daughter of Chris and Michelle Kinnaman, was baptized October 22. Tinley's sponsors were Myron Majeres and Brooke Hesenius. The congregational sponsor was Rita Todd.

**Thaddeus Robert Blaine Schiltz**, son of Rumor Schiltz and the late Brian Gallardo, was baptized October 15. Thaddeus' sponsors were Jim and Liz Roscovius, Benji and Kimmy Cotter, and Skye Slater. The congregational sponsor was Joey Hartshorn.

## **Daylight Saving Time ◀**

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 5. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour!

## **Office Closed ◀**

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 23 in observance of Thanksgiving.

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## ► Happy Birthday

Adesh Adesina—November 1  
Denise Barber—November 12  
Nancy Beekman—November 24  
Jaecee Benson—November 3  
Marla Bianchini—November 2  
Jan Brodersen—November 26  
Laci Chytka—November 15  
Dennis Fischer—November 27  
Fred Frey—November 11  
Mike Gill—November 24  
Marian Hayes—November 4

Sue Hunter—November 19  
Roger Jensen—November 11  
Donna Krontz—November 30  
Ken Larson—November 22  
Dorothy Lux—November 8  
Andy Mohning—November 28  
Carol Ostendorf—November 6  
Rich Potter—November 4  
Randy Rahn—November 23  
Adam Rich—November 7  
Dona Shook—November 28



## ► Youth Birthdays

Lucy Blessing—November 10  
Jake Gill—November 9  
Tristan Kinnaman—November 1  
Justin Lake—November 13  
Chloie Likes—November 27

Ben Niemeyer—November 18  
Lola Phipps—November 16  
Autumn Phommavong—November 18  
Baeli Phommavong—November 14

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## Food Bank of Siouxland ◀

Thursday, October 5, 3,088 pounds of food was distributed to 69 households (49 from Nebraska and 20 from Iowa). One hundred twenty-nine adults and 97 children are living in those homes.

Thursday, October 19, 3,188 pounds of food was distributed to 81 households (52 from Nebraska and 28 from Iowa). One hundred sixty-nine adults and 169 children are living in those homes.

The Fellowship Hall is a very busy place on those Thursdays. Volunteers and school children are busy unloading the food truck, sorting the food, and giving it to the people.

Come visit us on the first and third Thursday of the month, hours 10:00 am—11:30am or 2:00 pm—4:00 pm. Twenty plus members and friends of First Lutheran and South Sioux City students are busy sorting, filling people's carts with food, and helping them to their vehicles. It is a busy, fun time—you might want to join the group. Volunteers are welcome!

## A Wake-up Call ◀

The good God permits such small evils to befall us merely in order to arouse us snorers from our deep sleep and to make us recognize, on the other hand, the incomparable and innumerable benefits we still have. ...

With [our misfortunes], God gives us a light by which we may see and understand his goodness and kindness in countless other ways. Then we conclude that such small misfortunes are barely a drop of water on a big fire or a little spark in the ocean. Then we understand and love the words: "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!"

—Martin Luther

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## ► Updates

Here are a few updates on things that have been going on:

1. Storm damage our front from the tree and wind
  - a. The engineer has made recommendations and the contractor will be working on the beam work and soffit over the next few weeks.
  - b. Next, the roofer will repair the roof and gutter.
  - c. Finally, the new windows will be installed; they are all banged up from the soffit coming down.
2. Second wind and hail storm
  - a. New roof and siding will be installed by the end of October on the church garage.
  - b. The parsonage roof and gutters will be done in the Spring.
3. Budget
  - a. The deficit from 2015 is down to \$5,000; it would be great if before Christmas we closed this out. Considering where we started, we have done well.
  - b. With that said, we have not done well with this year's giving and attendance. We have not increased attendance by any great numbers. The giving is not keeping up with the budget for 2017. We are in the hole \$34,000. You say, how can this be? For example, we need \$23,000 per month to cover all bills. August's giving was \$13,000. That makes the deficit grow quickly, at \$10,000 per month. I am asking you to look at your giving and help where you can.
4. Our Support Committee has been working on the budget for 2018. We are asking you to please pledge so we can have some idea of what we have to work with for money. In the past we received a small number of pledges, and this makes the guess on the budget really hard. This year, I will be back with a pledge total and explain what the pledges will buy and where that leaves us. I know that some of you do not know what your job will deliver you in a paycheck each month. Please pledge what you plan on giving and then we will work with it. Planning and budgeting is hard with the way it is now.
5. Remember, we have it so you can sign up to give electronically each week, twice a month, etc. We can set it up so we receive it how often you want. This is a great help.

John Koskovich, Council President

## Women of the ELCA ◀



### ☸☸☸ CIRCLE MEETINGS ☸☸☸

*Don't forget to bring your Thankoffering this month!*

#### LYDIA GROUP      November 9, 2017      7:00 p.m.

LEADER: Sue Hunter

HOSTESS: Rita Todd

#### CIRCLE I      November 20, 2017      2:00 p.m.

LEADER: Group

HOSTESS: Jo Ann Addison  
Betty Bass

#### CIRCLE II      November 14, 2017      9:15 a.m.

LEADER: Group

HOSTESS: Mary Wolf



#### Bible Study

“The Apostles' Creed”

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



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## ► With Deepest Sympathy

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

◆

The family of Mary Hulse, who passed away Monday, October 2 in Murphy NC. Services were held in Beresford SD on Saturday, October 7, and in Morganton GA on Saturday, October 14.

## ► Newsletter Information

In order to cut costs and reduce the deficit, starting with the January newsletter we will no longer be mailing out the newsletter. There will be printed copies available in the welcome center.

As we have done in the past, the newsletter will continue to be available online at our website, <http://www.flcssc.org>. Those in the nursing home and homebound, will receive the newsletter, either hand delivered or through the U.S. Postal system.

## ► Social Ministry

The Social Ministry committee collects “Pantry” items each month to be donated to the needs of our community. The Pantry items collected for November will be food items for the holiday food baskets. The food baskets are then given to families in need within the church community. Also being collected are “Basic Needs” items for Haven House. A list of requested needs can be found on the shopping cart by the Welcome Center as well as on the bulletin board in the entryway. Please leave your donations in the shopping cart.

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## Pledge Card ◀

With us being short, the Support Committee is working hard at making a lean, mean budget. We need to know what we can expect from you for contributions so we can plan our 2018 ministries.

If you have not pledged before, please do so this year. If you are worried, what if I lose my job, what if I get sick, what if I have some other unexpected expense and cannot make my pledge? We understand things happen and I will not come knocking on your door with my hand out. We just ask that you resume your normal giving as soon as you can get back on track. It is always ok to give more than you pledge.

Pledge cards have been distributed, or there is one on the opposite page. Please return to the office by November 5.

## College Care Packages ◀

Close to final exam time, the Youth Committee will be sending out college care packages. Because addresses change so frequently, we will be sending care packages only to those who notify us of their current address each semester, even if it hasn't changed. Please take a moment to inform us of your son or daughter's address by either calling (494-5461) or emailing ([office@firstlutheranssc.org](mailto:office@firstlutheranssc.org)) the church office, or by calling (494-2968) or emailing ([toddsix@aol.com](mailto:toddsix@aol.com)) Rita Todd.

Approximately 20 care packages are sent each year. The cost of this ministry is approximately \$200 each spring and fall. Monetary donations or donations of individually wrapped goodies will be accepted. We will accept your leftover Halloween candy! The college care packages will be packed at 9:30 am on Sunday, November 12. Please bring your donations to the church no later than Sunday, November 5.

# TAKE ONE STEP UP . . . FOR CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH

ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARD

In response to God's love and as a concrete expression of my faith in and commitment to Christ and his church, I plan to TAKE ONE STEP UP in my giving.

**STEP UP BEYOND TITHING**

My desire is to do more than God's minimum.

**STEP UP TO TITHING**

I will give 1/10 of my income to God's work.

**STEP UP TOWARD TITHING**

I am not yet a tither, but I will move toward that goal.

**MY COMMITMENT IS \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **per week**

This represents an increase over last year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

This commitment may be revised or cancelled at any time at my request.  
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0-687-06406-6 Abingdon Press. Litho in U.S.A.

## Thank You ◀

**Circle 2**-Circle 2 sincerely thanks everyone who purchased pecans and special thanks to those who gave extra donations. A profit of \$175 was realized which will be used for several upcoming projects.

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

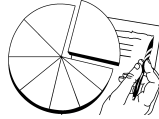
## Acolytes Needed ◀

We are in need of acolytes on the following Sundays: one acolyte at the 10:30 service on November 12; one acolyte at the 10:30 service on November 19; one acolyte at the 10:30 service on December 3; one acolyte at the 8:15 service on December 10; and one acolyte at the 10:30 service on December 31. We are also in need of acolytes for each of the services on Christmas Eve morning and evening. If your child is available any of these days, please contact the church office.

## Giving Tree ◀

The Giving Tree will be in the entryway on November 19. On the tree will be names of underprivileged children (provided by Lutheran Social Services) and names of seniors, as well as names of less fortunate children from our own congregation. Please pick a name from the tree and give a gift to a child or senior this year! Gift suggestions are listed on each tag. Presents need to be returned to the church no later than **Friday, December 8**.

## ► Financial Reports



### Treasurer's Report - September 2017

Beginning General Fund Balance: \$ - 38,103.07

#### Receipts:

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Contributions           | \$23,799.82 |
| Interest - Credit Union | 63.58       |
| Misc. Income            | 42.21       |

**TOTAL: \$23,905.61**

#### Expenses:

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Pastor's salary             | \$ 3,458.34 |
| Pastor's allowances / exp.  | 3,487.71    |
| Auxiliary staff salaries    | 7,108.58    |
| Payroll Taxes               | 543.83      |
| Parsonage Payment/Utilities | 808.66      |
| Utilities                   | 1,028.31    |
| Postage & Supplies          | 139.15      |
| Evangelism                  | 142.85      |
| Worship & Music             | 49.37       |
| Grounds Maint.              | 81.89       |
| Building Maint.             | 142.61      |
| Janitorial Supplies         | 241.09      |
| Christian Ed.               | 537.79      |
| Youth                       | 35.00       |
| Parish & Other exp.         | 540.13      |
| Office Expenses             | 131.12      |
| Benevolence                 | 948.75      |

**TOTAL: \$19,425.18**

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Transfer to Capital Improvement: | \$ 100.00     |
| Transfer from other funds:       | \$ 2,042.30   |
| Ending General Fund Balance:     | \$ -31,680.34 |

### September Attendance & General Fund Receipts

|              |       |             |
|--------------|-------|-------------|
| September 3  | 94    | \$ 9,934.47 |
| September 10 | 61/96 | \$ 4,061.59 |
| September 17 | 58/82 | \$ 4,073.75 |
| September 24 | 74/61 | \$ 5,730.01 |

## Christmas Poinsettias ◀



If you would like to participate in the placing of poinsettias for our Christmas worship, please designate below on the appropriate line.

Please return this form no later than  
**Friday, November 24.**

### **Poinsettias are \$13.50 each**

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias.  
(quantity)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will send payment in to the church office.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed payment for the poinsettia(s) ordered.

***I wish to place my poinsettia in (honor) or (memory) of:***

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



***Please specify*** how you would like your "given by" information to appear in the bulletin:

- ◆ This information is needed for us to be accurate in our recognitions that will be printed in the bulletin.
- ◆ Poinsettias may be picked up after the second worship service on December 31st.



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## ► “He Who Sings Prays Twice”

—St. Augustine

We lift our voices up to sing praise at every worship service—traditional or contemporary. Just as you sing in the traditional service, you certainly can—and should—sing along in the contemporary service, too!

Yes, the music is different at the Spirit Connection service, but we try to make it easy to follow along. The words are on the screen in front. And you will find that we do the same music each week in some parts of the service. The Creed is “This I Believe” (unless spoken in a ceremony, such as a baptism), “Offering” (we will sing different lyrics to the song during Advent and Christmas, but use the same tune). The first song during Communion is always “Have Mercy on Me” and the “Benediction and Sending” is always the same.

“The Lord’s Prayer” is spoken the first Sunday of each month; sung the rest of the month. We may change to a different version in the future, as it is a little more difficult to learn than the others.

Our opening songs are designed to be meaningful to the weekly theme, but also contemporary in nature. We usually feature at least one new song each week and rotate other pieces in our ever growing catalog, too.

For Communion, we prepare at least two additional songs that can be easily learned or already known—such as “Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone.”

So please lift your eyes to the screen in front and sing along with us during the service—we’d love to hear your voices joining in to “make a joyful noise unto the Lord.”

Oh, one last thing—yes, we’re a Lutheran congregation, but I have it on good authority that applause is NOT prohibited in the Sanctuary...if you enjoy the music, whether from the Choir, Bell Choir, Organist, Spirit Connection Band or Special Music, let them/us know!

Bring your friends, your neighbors and even your relatives and join us in worship! It’s here waiting for them...and for YOU!

See you on Sunday!

J.R. Reider, Contemporary Music Leader

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## Thanksgiving Food Baskets ◀

Our tradition of providing a Thanksgiving dinner to families from First Lutheran that are in need continues this year. Food offerings will be collected during November. Items needed are: canned pumpkin, canned milk, canned fruit, cranberries or cranberry sauce, stuffing croutons, pie crusts, marshmallows, and sweet potatoes. Please place your food donations in the cart in the entryway.

## For the Health of Our Church ◀

Please take a pill bottle, fill it with cash or coin, and return it to the church. Circle II is putting out a challenge for the other Circles and anyone else who wishes to join in to see how much money we can collect for our deficit.

## New Member ◀

On October 1 we welcomed Joey Hartshorn into our congregation. Please greet her warmly!

## 2018 Flower Chart ◀

The flower chart for 2018 has been hung up on the bulletin board in the entryway for anyone wishing to sign up to give flowers. The first name on the line gives altar flowers, which are \$18. The second name on the line gives chancel flowers, which are \$20. If you do sign up for a date, please take time to completely fill out a flower form located to the left of the flower chart; then turn the form (along with your payment) in to the office or place it in the offering tray. Even if the date you signed up for seems a ways off, you still need to turn in your flower form and payment right away to the office as we “work ahead” due to newsletter deadlines!

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## ► Confirmation Class



### 2017 Confirmation Class

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The following 9th graders were confirmed on October 29, 2017:

**Sara Gatluak Diew**

**Benjamin Lorenz Niemeyer**

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## Italian Fellowship Meal and Bake Sale ◀

The Fellowship Committee will be serving Italian meals at 11:00 am and 5:00 pm on Saturday, November 11. There will also be a bake sale. Help is needed: youth, bakers for the bake sale, etc. If you are able to help, please contact Kathy Anders (274-4383).

Cost for the meal is \$10 for adults, \$8 for senior citizens, and \$5 for children. Veterans eat free with the purchase of an adult ticket. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

## Hope For a New Life ◀

There will be a fundraiser for Siouxland Coalition Against Human Trafficking at Buffalo Alice, 1022 4th Street, Sioux City on Sunday, November 12 from 4:30-7:00 pm. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$4 for kids 4-12. Kids 3 and under are free. There is a \$25 household maximum. 100% of your tips go to the Siouxland Coalition Against Human Trafficking.

## Armed Forces Candy ◀

We will again be sending candy to our service personnel. We need names and addresses in to the office by November 1. If you are able to provide candy (individually wrapped) or money for postage, please contact the office or Jackie Gierman (494-1218).