

**First Lutheran Church**

**3601 Dakota Ave**

**South Sioux City, NE 68776**

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# First Lutheran Church

**July 2018**



## ***Obeying Christ and Opening Doors to Faith***

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The deadline for the August Newsletter is July 19.

# Worship at First Lutheran

## July 1

### Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Ephesians 1:17-20

Gospel: Luke 7:36-50

## July 8

### Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Genesis 14:17-23

Second Lesson: Hebrews 5:5-7; 6:16—7:3

Psalm: 110

Gospel: Luke 22:14-20

## July 15

### Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Daniel 1:11-15

Second Lesson: Daniel 2:37-46

Third Lesson: Daniel 5:13-30

## July 22

### Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Second Lesson: Ephesians 2:11-22

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

## July 29

### Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Leviticus 19:9-14

Second Lesson: Jeremiah 6:21

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-23, 18:6-9



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Altar Care: Kathy Anders 274-4383

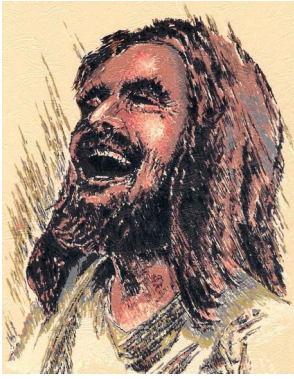
Sandy Larson 494-2135

Lectors: Mary Wolf 494-4697

Ushers: Worship & Music Committee

Women of the ELCA Chair:

Bonnie Prosser 494-3384



## **Support: Emotional and Financial Pastor Doug**

When we support ministries outside and inside the congregation, it takes a lot of support to make those ministries happen. Responding to the call of God is not always convenient. In fact, most of the time it is not at all. God calls, anticipating that we will respond. But, I have something else I would rather do. It is too difficult to do. I cannot afford to do that. Stop and think about what God has called all of us to do, here at First Lutheran...

Let's start at council. Each council member has been called to be a member of the council, to respond to that call to serve. It is not convenient to meet monthly, to discuss the hard choices that must be made, sometimes to meet more often, to have others make criticisms of the decisions without ever asking why or showing up. It would be easier not to respond to the call of God. The council will be going on a two-day retreat to discern where God is calling this congregation and how the council can be the leaders to where God is calling all of us. This will be an intensive time of study, conversation and prayer. This is part of what council is called to do, to serve God and serve the congregation.

Food Bank volunteers have a good time giving out food ... most times. This is hard work for

them twice a month. It is a thankless job most of the time. There is work in getting the food in from the truck, organizing the food, and handing it out to those in need. Many recipients are thankful, but there are times when that is not the case. The people who participate in this mission come in around 10 a.m. and do not leave until after 4 p.m. It is a long day for each of them. Did you know we have multiple volunteers that come from outside of the congregation? It is a good thing too, since we do not have enough of our own members helping. There is always room for more!

Chris Knudsen often has significant clean up from those that are being served at Food Bank. Yes, it is part of his job, yes, he gets paid for it, but which of you want to clean the carpet after someone leaves a mess in the hallway?

Youth ministries are difficult to get adults and the youth involved. I have seen the history of First Lutheran and know at one time there was a thriving youth program here. That can be, and WILL BE, again. It takes support to make that happen. Leaders are needed, parents need to send their youth, we need to encourage the raising up of leaders and encourage the youth and parents to make this happen.

Each of the volunteers, and this is only three ministries I mentioned, need emotional support. Tell them thanks. Show up if only to say thanks. Send a thank you card, stand up and say thank you on Sunday, seek them out. Tell them they are valued children of God. Encourage others to volunteer. Volunteer yourself and be part of what God is calling us to do, even if it is difficult

and not convenient. Encourage expanding what we have and encourage the creation of fresh ideas. Show up and support the fundraisers for ministries and show up to volunteer.

Did you know that our Food Bank, not the Food Pantry, but the Food Bank that gives out food here twice a month, is not fully funded? That is right, this valuable ministry that we do is not able to fund what is expected of us by the Food Bank that sends the food here. We are expected to pay for ½ of the cost of all the food brought in. On average, \$800 in food is brought in each month. We should be responsible not only for the volunteers to hand out the food but also for \$400 in expenses. Only because a single individual dedicates some money each month to the Food Bank, do we pay ¼ of what we should be paying for.

The youth had a car wash fundraiser. Unfortunately, only three youth showed up to help raise funds for all the youth. Why is that? I believe there are several factors related to this.

- 1.) Lack of congregational support for the youth
  - a. When parents hear negative things about the youth programs
  - b. When parents are not encouraged to make their children participate
  - c. When parents see budgets that reflect a lack of concern for youth

- 2.) Parents do not send the kids to be involved
- 3.) Youth do not want to be involved because of 1-2
- 4.) Lack of emotional support for the youth by the congregation not showing up.

We had a total of 18 cars show up for the fundraiser. I can say for certainty that of those, at least three of the 18 were non-members driving in because of the sign or publicity I put out. Conservatively, we worship 100 plus on average a weekend. We claim a membership of over 400. There should have been easily 50 plus cars. Financially, they raised around \$200 over three hours. It could and should have been more.

Financial support of activities is good. We thank each of you that did participate in raising funds for the youth. It fell upon a few, who gave significantly. We had \$1,400 between two people. WELCA gave over \$1,000 and Circle II gave \$300. Thank you so much! Financially is only one way of helping, but with emotional support and showing up, then so much more happens. Hearts and minds are changed for mission. Giving of time and monies is only part, emotional is so much more because it also changes how we give back what God has given us. Our support will change in all our lives.

The smoked pork fundraiser was a good time. Many more could have attended. Just coming out and helping, supporting and being in fellowship, means so much. On the day of the Car Wash Fundraiser, we also had a Dad's Day picnic.

It was nice to see all that attended, but again, there could have been so many more. The fellowship in a Christian community means a lot. The emotional support we provide each other changes us for the good. Who we hang out with is reflective of how we respond to God.

How we respond to God is reflective of who we are. What we say or do not say shows God where our heart is. This can be seen not only by God but others too. How we give back to God, what God first gave us, is reflective of where our heart is. How we support ministry and each other is reflective of where our heart is. God can see this and so can others, not only here at First Lutheran, but by those outside of our congregation.

Can you imagine? Because I can. What this place would look like and the ministries we could do, by showing up, by emotionally supporting and being involved in fellowship here? By responding to God with our hearts and minds. Changed from our old self into a new being centered around responding to God.

I envision something so drastically different from where we are today at First Lutheran. I envision a place that others are clamoring to know more about and wanting to be involved with. I envision a place that is exploding with ministry. I envision a place that needs more room because of all that is going on. I envision a place that is filled just about 24/7 with God's people. I envision a place that could start other congregations. I envision a place that is a beacon of light upon the hill. I envision a place that provides the flavor to all that enter here and those we reach outside. We will

be a salt that does not lose its flavor and the light that cannot be hidden.

Jesus said in his sermon on the mount:

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Let us be the salt and light to each other, to Siouxland and to the world. Support, emotionally and financially, the ministries of First Lutheran. See how we said we would do this in our narrative budget from January 2018, but look at ourselves how we support both emotionally and financially today. We can do better, and we will do better; we will be the salt and light.

## **Anniversaries**

Ned and Jeanne Buser—July 20  
Dan and Daniele Feenstra—July 27  
Preston and Suzie Fischer—July 9  
Ron and Peg Foxhoven—July 31  
Don and Lucy Gagnon—July 3  
Ottie and Jackie Gierman—July 23  
Stacey and Leisa Hamilton—July 17  
Gary and Sharon King—July 26  
Paul and Pam Knudsen—July 17  
Leroy and Beth Koster—July 14  
Rob and Shauna Meier—July 14

Lee and Carrie Novak—July 25  
Bob and Trish Porter—July 12  
Lance and Linda Swanson—July 24  
Darvin and Carol Zastrow—July 2

## **Happy Birthday**

Nellie May Anderson—July 22  
Betty Barto—July 20  
Jennifer Bass—July 22  
Jaimee Benson—July 10  
Barb Bring—July 21  
Chad Cain—July 17  
Dan Feenstra—July 1  
Mallory Feenstra—July 5  
Ron Frank—July 14  
Austin Groth—July 11  
Jim Hansen—July 11  
Chris Jensen—July 29  
Chris Kleinberg—July 6  
Paul Knudsen—July 23  
John Koskovich—July 17  
Destiny Krontz—July 29  
Rosemary Larson—July 5  
Jed Litras—July 7  
Kim Long—July 9  
Merle Long—July 19  
Lane Ostendorf—July 8  
Barb Quintard—July 7  
Paula Reider—July 22  
Tanya Rich—July 1  
Rick Robinette—July 2  
Kelly Robinson—July 4  
Lydell Sila—July 19  
Lonnie Slaughter—July 24  
Eleanor Tasker—July 27

## **Youth Birthdays**

Ali Gill—July 6  
Chase Jensen—July 22  
Tinley Kinnaman—July 6

## **With Deepest Sympathy**

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

Bill and Betty Bass and family, on the death of Betty's mother, Mildred Wetrosky, who passed away Tuesday, May 22. Services were held Tuesday, May 29 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Pequot Lakes MN.

The family of Norris Leamer, who passed away Saturday, June 2. Services were held Saturday, June 30 here at First Lutheran.

Ken and Lynnelle Conley and family, on the death of Lynnelle's mother, Lois Longwell, who passed away Monday, June 11. Services were held Saturday, June 16 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Homer.

Ron Frank and Pat Krontz and family, on the death of Ron's brother, Tim Frank, who passed away Monday, June 25. Services were held Friday, June 29 at St. Michael's Catholic Church.

## **Outdoor Worship**

There will be an outdoor parking lot worship service on July 1 and August 5 at 10:30 a.m. The 8:15 a.m. service on those dates will take place indoors as usual.

## **Social Ministry**

The Social Ministry committee collects "Pantry"

items each month to donate to the needs of our community. The Pantry items collected for July are school supplies and nonperishable food items for families in need. Please leave your donations in the shopping cart in the entryway.

## **Thank You**

**JoAnn Addison**-Many thanks to all of you for the cards, good wishes and prayers I received during my recent illness. The support I received from my friends here at First Lutheran was remarkable and never to be forgotten. Thanks again, and may God bless all of you.

**Circle II**-Thank you to Circle I and Lydia Group for the wonderful salad supper they provided us for winning the quarter challenge.

**First Lutheran Church Food Pantry**-Thanks to Circle I for their donation of food. Eighty-four food boxes were distributed in May.

**First Lutheran Church Food Pantry**-Thanks to the people who donated money for a new freezer. It has already been purchased and works wonderfully!

**Lyle Todd**-I would like to thank everyone for the cards and visits while I was hospitalized and in the nursing home. They really kept my spirits up.

## **Costumes**

Christmas is just around the corner, and it is time to begin constructing much needed youth and adult costumes for our program. Our youth always put on an enjoyable Christmas program and present a live Nativity scene. This year you can help dress them in a new updated wardrobe. You don't have to be an expert sewer. Help is

needed sewing and cutting out the fabric pieces, as well as making crowns and angel wings. (I need a creative person for the last 2 items-not me!) A few gals have met to cut out a few pieces at the church and then have taken home the pieces to sew as they have time. We do have a few items sewn; however, there is much more to do. If you are interested in helping, we will be meeting later in July. Time and date TBD. Please consider helping so our youth and adults can share the story of the birth of Jesus with new costumes. Please let me know how you are willing to help. You can contact me at [dkenny@flsssc.org](mailto:dkenny@flsssc.org) or 712-490-2097. Many hands make quick work.

Deb Kenny

## **Volunteers Needed**

Summer is here! The Food Bank needs help from our young adults on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each summer month. Help is needed in the morning at 10:00 and in the afternoon around 1:30.

## **Lutheran World Relief Kits**

Now is the time to think about purchasing supplies for school kits. The end of July and first part of August, stores have school items on sale and we can save much money if we purchase these supplies at this time. Bags and a list of supplies needed for each bag are on the bulletin board in the entryway if you wish to fill one. They won't be shipped until the first part of November, but now is a good time to buy and save money. For more information contact Lee Mathiason (494-6125).

# Financial Reports

## Treasurer's Report - May 2018

Beginning General Fund Balance: \$ - 45,394.78

### Receipts:

Contributions	\$15,976.56
Misc. Income	344.20
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$16,320.76</b>

### Expenses:

Pastor's salary	\$ 3,458.34
Pastor's allowances / exp.	3,481.20
Auxiliary staff salaries	5,606.56
Payroll Taxes	425.08
Parsonage Payment/Utilities	805.77
Utilities	1,257.02
Grounds Maint.	11.67
Building Maint.	314.00
Janitorial Supplies	173.15
Christian Education	-53.00
Parsonage Exp.	1,182.77
Insurance	2,373.00
Worship & Music	112.63
Parish	97.64
Benevolence	545.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$19,790.83</b>

Transfer to Capital Improvement: \$ 100.00

Ending General Fund Balance: \$ -48,964.85

## May Attendance & General Fund Receipts

May 6	131	\$ 4,837.42
May 13	140	\$ 3,524.68
May 20	130	\$ 3,438.63
May 27	105	\$ 2,605.83
Online/Electronic Giving		\$ 1,570.00

## **Narrative Mission Budget 2018**

The mission of First Lutheran can simply be summed up as, "Opening Doors to Faith". Opening the doors both for those who call First Lutheran home and opening the doors to the mission field and opening doors for those out in the mission field, to come inside the four walls and continue in mission and ministry. It is the Holy Spirit that imparts faith upon all. We trust that by "Obeying Christ and Opening Doors to Faith", that God is active in our missions both inside and outside the four walls of First Lutheran.

Volunteering is what is done by those outside of Christian mission. When Christians use the gifts that God has given them, God is present and God through the Holy Spirit impacts us all. It is through our time, talents and financial resources that God goes with us in mission, not just helps us pay the bills. Your giving to First Lutheran Church is the way God's mission gets done among us as we share the mission together. Your time, talents and financial giving help to bring hope to the world and make a difference in so many other people's lives.

### ***Our Plan on Carrying out God's Mission***

- A.** To provide meaningful, life-changing, life-giving worship every week of the year.



Last year we held 106 Sunday worship services, where on an average week, 130 people gathered in different styles of worship (traditional and praise) to worship God: to hear God's Word and share in the sacraments. We had a variety of midweek and special services, including sharing services with St. Paul United Methodist Church. We received 11 people through Holy Baptism. We had 2 young adults confirm their baptism and faith by being confirmed. Eleven people were committed to our Lord's eternal care through the Burial of the Dead. Nine new families for a total of 14 new members joined this community through transfer of membership from other congregations. There were 2 families that joined, other than transfer from another congregation, for a total of 3 new members. This gives First Lutheran a total new membership of 17, with others waiting to join in 2018. We have had many first-time worshipers join us in 2017. Music is a special part of ministry at First Lutheran. Our Choir, Handbells and Spirit Connection band offer great opportunities for God's people to share their gifts and for others to enjoy these gifts.

Budget Total--\$147,174.54

(This total includes a percentage of the pastor's salary; expenses, insurance and continuing education; parsonage mortgage pay-improvements/utilities; the secretary, choir director, keyboardist, Spirit Connection director and custodial salaries; adult's music ministries; janitorial supplies; office expenses; insurance; building maintenance; and utilities.)

**B.** To nurture people in their faith journey.

This congregation has made a commitment in calling a new pastor, to see that education does not stop once someone is confirmed, but instead they have said, "this is only the beginning of a life-long learning through God's Word." This is why we are very intentional in expending energy and prayer to determine how to help all persons, no matter their age or economic background, grow in their relationship with the Lord. First Lutheran provides an education program for all ages, to nurture the faith that the Holy Spirit has imparted, with 52 enrolled in Sunday School, 16 in confirmation and a variety of adult classes that are offered throughout the year. Six confirmands attended confirmation camp. New member classes are steeped into Gifts of the Spirit, to provide the new members with insight of who God made them to be and what God intends them to do. We offer a four-week course preparing the youth for first communion. We have an active and growing Vacation Bible School with adults through multiple congregations using their gifts to lead over 60 children in the process of discovering God in their midst. Confirmation youth are encouraged to attend church camp, to explore their faith through guided exercises and fun activities. We encourage the confirmed youth to attend a week-long, *Leadership Lab*, to nurture their Christian leadership skills for use in the mission field both inside and outside of the congregation. In 2017, we had 4 youth and 1 adult attend.

Budget Total--\$46,153.60

(This total includes a percentage of the pastor's salary; expenses, insurance and continuing ed-

ucation; parsonage mortgage payments/ improvements/utilities; the secretary and custodial services; the children, youth and adult ministry; janitorial supplies; office expenses; insurance, building maintenance; and utilities)

**C.** For the Caring of all of God's people.

First Lutheran Church is conscious and has become even more aware that Jesus has commanded us to "Go into all the world." We carry out our mission statement when we say and live out, "Obeying Christ and Opening Doors to Faith." We live as disciples of Christ being Christians who embody; "Being a disciple of Christ, a follower of Jesus, is a free-willed loving and gracious response to a loving and gracious God!"

1. We care for one another as a part of the family of faith. Visitations and communion visits are made regularly by the pastor and sacramental visitors to those who are homebound, in assisted living, and nursing homes. The pastor greets and visits with members and first-time worshipers every Sunday before and after each worship service. Hospital calls are made on members who are hospitalized, and phone calls are made on those with special needs. At the time of deaths both inside and outside the congregation, we reach out to those who are grieving a loss. They are also followed-up with by the pastor through books that help with the grieving process over the next year. The pastor also responds to many personal and counseling needs as they come up

with our members and others who walk through the doors of the congregation.

2. First Lutheran has a tremendous outreach to the community. Our beautiful building is located in a community that has gone through a significant change in its population make-up. The members of First Lutheran respond to those needs through donating their time at the soup kitchen, hosting a food pantry (where about 14 people per week are served), hosting and volunteers at the Food Bank (where about 85 people twice a month are served), giving towards Haven House, Gospel Mission, Cardinal Food baskets, adopt a family (giving tree), SHARE, home communion and nursing home communion, quilts for Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, etc. First Lutheran hosts the following organizations and more: Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, AA, Al-Anon, TOPS and the Dakota County Amateur Radio Club. Pastor works within the community with agencies that reach out to the poor in the neighborhood: Dakota County Connections, Dakota County Ministerial Alliance, Soup Kitchen and reaching out through chaplaincy to all those in need in the community.

Budget Total--\$66,789.86

(This total includes a percentage of the pastor's salary; expenses, insurance and continuing edu-

cation; parsonage mortgage payments/ improvements/utilities; the secretary and custodial services; janitorial supplies; office expenses; insurance; building maintenance; utilities; benevolence to Nebraska Synod; and ELCA World hunger.)

**Total need to fulfill God's mission among us, Obeying Christ and Opening Doors to Faith:**

**\$260,118.00.** May we all be blessed as we share in supporting these ministries.

## **Good News/Bad News?**

OK, I don't know if it's truly good or bad news...but if you've been in virtually ANY retail store in the past couple of weeks, you've seen it...the insidious appearance of school supply displays in the aisles, seasonal sections and endcaps. I've even seen some in hardware stores...in case you need a pencil box to hold your nails and screws, I guess.

I'm writing this on my birthday, and a quick glance at my calendar shows we're still about two months away from school starting—but you apparently need to start laying in the pencils, pens and notebooks NOW! Or you might miss out?

What's this got to do with Contemporary Music and Worship, you ask?

Only that the summertime that just arrived will go away FAR too quickly as a season...and that means we will be stepping up work on new music and consider ways to 'tweak' the service to make it both friendlier and more meaningful for those worshipping with us at 10:30.

We're getting lots of suggestions for songs—some brand new, some older ones, too. We got some great reactions to adding "Get Together" recently;

great tune from the late '60's, that's even more meaningful today!

We want to maintain a truly interactive service experience—and that means we need to hear from YOU! Let anyone in the band know what you like—or what you don't—and we'll take your requests to heart. I can't say we can do everything you might request, but stay tuned—you never know what songs might show up from week to week!

Oh, and if you have kiddos around, I guess you should get your school shopping lists ready. Ready or not, fall will be here all too soon!

A personal note: I want to thank the many members of First Lutheran for their uplifting comments and support during my recent bouts with infections, hospitalizations and gall bladder removal surgery. It's been a tough month or more, but the healing process continues and my strength is coming back. God is Good...all the time!

J.R. Reider, Contemporary Music Leader

## **Equal Exchange and SCRIP**

Thank you for your support of the Equal Exchange and SCRIP initiatives. The profits from this will be used to support our youth. I know you can get coffee and chocolate less expensive at Wal-Mart and at Hy-Vee, so I wanted to say thank you. Your purchases not only support our youth, but they support small farmers around the world. We carry out mission in purchasing the Equal Exchange products. Please let others know about these products. People can come in during the

week and purchase them. Thank you also to AA and Al-Anon, Chamber of Commerce visitors and others who come to First Lutheran, for purchasing the products. Since this Equal Exchange has started here at First Lutheran, it has made \$450.00 in profit to be used towards youth ministries.

Thank you for supporting the SCRIP program. Just through the purchase of gifts cards, for the same face value of your purchase, the youth are given a portion of the sale. For example, if you were to purchase a restaurant card for \$25 and the percentage back was 10% (some cards are lower, and some are higher), the youth will pay \$22.50 for the card. You pay \$25 for the card and can use it for \$25 in product and the youth get the difference. We do try to get an order over \$200 because there is a shipping charge of about \$8.00, so we want to keep this running at a profit on each order. Orders are taken on the first Sunday of the month. These are great to stock up on. They can be used when we need things here. Someone could buy a gift card to Staples and donate it to First Lutheran for a later purchase. You could buy Wal-Mart cards and we can use that to purchase food for some of the fellowship events or fund-raisers or even some cleaning supplies. Check with Kerri to see where we could use gifts cards. Gift cards are a good option to give for birthdays, Christmas, Easter, graduations and more. Going on vacation? Get a gift card for a Visa card. Get one for the hotel(s) you will be staying at. When we have the Giving Tree, there are times that gift cards are requested—get them from SCRIP. Check under the TV in welcome area to see all

the vendors possible to purchase from. Since we started SCRIP, the youth have made \$167.00 towards the youth ministries.

Pastor Doug

## **Giving Statements**

If we have your email address on file, we will email your giving statement to you. All others will be printed and available in the entry-way. Please pick up your giving statement to help us save on postage costs.

## **Blood Drive**

We are hosting a blood drive on Friday, August 10 from 2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help escort donors from the Blood Bank's truck to the kitchen for juice and snacks. A sign-up sheet is in the entry-way.

## **Great Food, Fun Time!**

Circle 1 and Lydia Group served Circle 2 on June 13 in the Fellowship Hall because of our loss of the quarter challenge. New and great salads and the best of desserts were had. The money raised from the quarter challenge from the three women's groups equaled \$932.73, which was donated toward the deficit. Thanks to everyone who helped set up and serve and all of the great help during clean-up. There was discussion that we can do this challenge again, at least once a year. All three groups have projects we are involved in. We would like to have new people come to our meetings. We meet on different days at different times. Come visit and see what we do!

Sandy Larson, Circle 1 and Rita Todd, Lydia Group

## **Office Closed**

The church office will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

## **Fellowship: It's What WE Need!**

Fellowship: Why is it so important? One way the Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines fellowship is: friendly association, especially with people who share one's interests.

Fellowship synonyms are: companionship, companionability, sociability, comradeship, camaraderie, friendship, mutual support, and more.

You might be wondering why I bring this up. As you know, we offer many fellowship events here at First Lutheran Church. Some are better attended than others, and that's okay. After all, we all have different interests and plans for any given day.

When you think about it, fellowship is very much needed, whether it is within the church or outside of it. We cannot thrive without each other. God created us to be in community. Fellowship of a community of believers is just what God calls us to take part in. Take a moment and think about who you gather with, why and when. Imagine if you couldn't do that.

I'm sure you know the verse from Matthew 18:20: For when two or three gather together in my name, I am there in the midst of them. (The Voice)

WOW! Think about that! Every event we hold at FLC, God is present! Who doesn't want to be a part of that?!

Kathy Anders has served as the Fellowship committee chair for a long time. We are all grateful for her following God's call for her in leading the Fellowship committee. We and God can say thank you faithful servant, job WELL DONE. Recently, she has gracefully stepped down from this position. I have been given the honor and privilege to be the new committee chair. So what does that mean? I'm putting a challenge out to all of us.

Now, I know you can't make every event that fellowship puts on, but I am looking for your suggestions! What do you want fellowship to offer so that you can be a part of it? I would love to hear from you. Come talk to me after church, send me an email (kdill@flcsc.com); shoot me a text (630-903-9892); contact me on Facebook; whatever works for you! BRING IT ON! Let's show this community how much fun we can have! Let's get them interested in FLC not just as a place to worship, but a place to have fun, too! Let us gather as the Body of Christ.

No matter what our differences are, or the changes taking place within our congregation, we still need each other. I want to see as many of your smiling faces as I can at our events. It's been said it takes a village to raise a child. So let's become the village that raises a congregation and community we can be proud of.

If you're interested in being a part of the planning, please join us on the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m., located at the church. Pot luck is usually planned; after all, you can't have a meeting without food! Please join us on July 5 at 6:00 p.m. We'll be ordering pizza from Papa Murphy's and working on the upcoming flea market meals and bake sale.

Remember, wherever two or more are gathered in His name, so shall God be.

Kris Dill



## July Flower Chart

**July 1 (Altar)** Given by Don and Lucy Gagnon in honor of their 60th anniversary and their many blessings; in memory of Mel and Shirley Rager.

**July 8 (Altar)** Given by Lee, Ricky, Roy and Rodney Mathiason in memory of William "Tony" Mathiason.

**July 15 (Altar)** Given by Dian Boals in memory of Judy Morgan, Edwin and Florence Morgan, and Larry and Prentiss Morgan.

**July 22 (Altar)** Given by Sophie and Breck Swanson in honor of Lance and Linda Swanson's 25th wedding anniversary.

**July 29 (Altar)** Given by Janell Sila.



**JULY 1—OUTDOOR WORSHIP @ 10:30**

**JULY 4—OFFICE CLOSED**

**JULY 23-28—LEADERSHIP LAB**

**AUGUST 5—OUTDOOR WORSHIP @ 10:30**

**AUGUST 10—BLOOD DRIVE from 2:00-7:00**

**AUGUST 10-12—FLEA MARKET**

**SEPTEMBER 3—OFFICE CLOSED**

**OCTOBER 28—CONFIRMATION**

**NOVEMBER 22—OFFICE CLOSED**

# July 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																
<b>1</b> 8:15am Worship 10:30am Outdoor Worship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00pm AA 7:00pm AI-Anon	<b>4 Independence Day</b>  <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>5</b> 8:00am Breakfast with the Pastor(s) 2-4pm Food Bank distribution 6:00pm Fellowship Committee Meeting	<b>6</b> 8:30am TOPS	<b>7</b>																																																
<b>8 Holy Communion</b> 8:15am Worship 10:30am Worship	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 5:30pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm AA 7:00pm AI-Anon	<b>11</b> 6:00pm Spirit Connection Practice	<b>12</b> 8:00am Breakfast with the Pastor(s)	<b>13</b> 8:30am TOPS	<b>14</b>																																																
<b>15</b> 8:15am Worship 10:30am Worship 11:30am Church Council Meeting	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 1-2pm REACT 6:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Support Committee Meeting 7:00pm AA 7:00pm AI-Anon	<b>18</b> 6:00pm Spirit Connection Practice	<b>19</b> 8:00am Breakfast with the Pastor(s) 2-4pm Food Bank distribution 5:30pm Chamberettes 7:00pm Dakota County Amateur Radio Club  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>20</b> 8:30am TOPS	<b>21</b> 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry @ Parsonage																																																
<b>22 Holy Communion</b> 8:15am Worship 10:30am Worship	<b>23</b> 7:00pm Women of the ELCA Executive Meeting	<b>24</b> 7:00pm AA 7:00pm AI-Anon	<b>25</b> 6:00pm Spirit Connection Practice	<b>26</b> 8:00am Breakfast with the Pastor(s)	<b>27</b> 8:30am TOPS 5:00pm Heitman/ Kershaw Wedding Rehearsal	<b>28</b> 4:00pm Heitman/Kershaw Wedding																																																
<b>29</b> 8:15am Worship 10:30am Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 2:00pm Communion @ Regency Square Nursing Home 7:00pm AA 7:00pm AI-Anon		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">August 2018</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	August 2018							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				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		
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# Thanks to our July Volunteers

<u>July 1</u> <u>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</u>	<u>July 8</u> <u>7th Sunday after Pentecost</u>	<u>July 15</u> <u>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</u>	<u>July 22</u> <u>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</u>	<u>July 29</u> <u>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</u>
<b><u>Lectors:</u></b> 8:15 am Pam Knudsen 10:30 am Suzette Curry	<b><u>Lectors:</u></b> 8:15 am Ronda Litras 10:30 am Kim Long	<b><u>Lectors:</u></b> 8:15 am Denise Kleinberg 10:30 am Jill Gill	<b><u>Lectors:</u></b> 8:15 am Daniele Feenstra 10:30 am Terri Gotch	<b><u>Lectors:</u></b> 8:15 am Josie Geveshausen 10:30 am Paula Reider
<b><u>Cantor:</u></b> 8:15 am Brandon Trautwein	<b><u>Cantor:</u></b> 8:15 am Linda Johansen	<b><u>Cantor:</u></b> 8:15 am Chris Knudsen	<b><u>Cantor:</u></b> 8:15 am Tim Niemeyer	<b><u>Cantor:</u></b> 8:15 am Joey Hartshorn
<b><u>AV Operators:</u></b> 8:15 am Scott Koepp 10:30 am	<b><u>AV Operators:</u></b> 8:15 am Janell Sila 10:30 am Jenni Durant	<b><u>AV Operators:</u></b> 8:15 am Scott Koepp 10:30 am Kris Hunter	<b><u>AV Operators:</u></b> 8:15 am Kaylana Pedersen 10:30 am Jenni Durant	<b><u>AV Operators:</u></b> 8:15 am Janell Sila 10:30 am Kris Hunter
<b><u>Acolytes:</u></b> 8:15 am Aidan Arneson Jessica Baker 10:30 am	<b><u>Acolytes:</u></b> 8:15 am Julie Geveshausen Autumn Phommavong 10:30 am Diew Diew Nyaluet Diew	<b><u>Acolytes:</u></b> 8:15 am Nate Feenstra Jake Gill 10:30 am Breck Swanson Britton Taylor	<b><u>Acolytes:</u></b> 8:15 am Branden Lieber Ashlyn Rich 10:30 am Drew Benson Aubree Van Berkum	<b><u>Acolytes:</u></b> 8:15 am Peyton Martinez Autumn Phommavong 10:30 am Aidan Arneson Michael Sigsbee
<b><u>Ushers:</u></b> 8:15 am John Fader Tyler Fader Janell Sila 10:30 am	<b><u>Ushers:</u></b> 8:15 am Scott & Cindy Koepp, Haley and Tanner 10:30 am Janell Sila	<b><u>Ushers:</u></b> 8:15 am John Fader Tyler Fader Lee Mathiason 10:30 am Lonnie & Carolyn Slaughter Lance & Linda Swanson, Breck	<b><u>Ushers:</u></b> 8:15 am Judy Blessing Julie Geveshausen Janell Sila 10:30 am Chad Cain Bart & Terri Gotch Brianne Lake	<b><u>Ushers:</u></b> 8:15 am John & Barb Koskovich Mary Wolf 10:30 am Jeff & Ellen Prescott Lonnie & Carolyn Slaughter
<b><u>Altar Care:</u></b>	<b><u>Altar Care:</u></b>	<b><u>Altar Care:</u></b>	<b><u>Altar Care:</u></b>	<b><u>Altar Care:</u></b>
<b><u>Money to safe:</u></b> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<b><u>Money to safe:</u></b> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<b><u>Money to safe:</u></b> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<b><u>Money to safe:</u></b> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<b><u>Money to safe:</u></b> 8:15 am 10:30 am
	<b><u>Communion Assistants:</u></b> 8:15 am 10:30 am		<b><u>Communion Assistants:</u></b> 8:15 am 10:30 am	