

First Lutheran Church
3601 Dakota Ave
South Sioux City, NE 68776

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First Lutheran Church

September 2019



INSIDE

- September 2019 calendar
- Words from the Pastor
- Women of the ELCA schedule
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Financial Reports
- Church Council Minutes

***Loving others in Christ for outreach to all,
while providing for God's diversity.***

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Download the EasyTithe app
from the app stores.

Text give at:

402-557-0882



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Text flcssc to 797979

or use

<http://text.flcssc.org>



**Arise, shine, for
your light has come...**

Isaiah 60:1

The deadline for the October Newsletter is September 19.

Worship at First Lutheran

September 1

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Proverbs 25:6-7

Second Lesson: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Psalm: 112

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 8

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Second Lesson: Philemon 1-21

Psalm: 1

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

September 15

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Exodus 32:7-14

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Psalm: 51:1-10

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

September 22

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Amos 8:4-7

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Psalm: 113

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

September 29

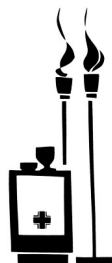
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Psalm: 146

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31



Church Office 494-5461

Douglas Dill, Pastor 402/235-6969

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LeAnn Kilstrom, Custodian

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Church Council (* Executive Council)

*Chad Cain, President 712/635-2974

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*Deb Kenny, Vice President 712/490-2097

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*Sue Hunter, Treasurer 494-1758

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Kathy Anders (kanders@flcsc.org) 274-4383

Judy Blessing (jblessing@flcsc.org) 255-7775

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Terry Sorem (tsorem@flcsc.org) 712/490-9271

Brandon Trautwein (btrautwein@flcsc.org) 412-2135

Church Coordinators For:

Altar Care: Kathy Anders 274-4383

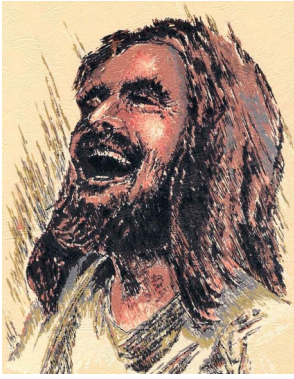
Sandy Larson 494-2135

Lectors: Rita Todd 494-2968

Ushers: Worship & Music Team

Women of the ELCA Chair:

Bonnie Prosser 494-3384



It Is by Faith Pastor Doug

The author of Hebrews tells us it is by faith that we walk. It is by faith that the ones before us walked. It is not for us, but for generations to come. All that have died in faith have not received what was promised. It is in the resurrection that we will receive all that we are promised.

We are in a time of walking in faith, more so than any time in the history of this congregation. The listening sessions are over. The data will be examined, and the synod will suggest solutions. We are in the hands of the synod through the Holy Spirit.

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. ²This is what the ancients were commended for.”

It was by faith the Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Moses walked. It was in their faith that they followed God’s call to walk in the unknown for the sake of the future generations.

This coming year, we will celebrate 100 years of ministry for this congregation. What has been started must continue. The actions of some do not dictate the actions of all. It is by faith we walk. It is by faith we must follow God’s call. That will be manifested by following the recommendations of the synod staff. We don’t have an exact date of when these recommendations will be given, but when they are, we need to walk in faith with the recommendations through the Holy Spirit.

It may not seem like the petition was the right thing to do. In one sense, it was not. It was the wrong way of going about getting the help that now the Holy Spirit has sent in the form of the synod listening teams and the final recommendations. It is not for us, but for our generations to come.

It was by faith that Mary responded to God. It was by faith that Joseph stayed with Mary. It was by faith the kings followed the star and it was by faith that Mary and Joseph fled to Egypt. We too must walk in faith, not for what we receive today, but for what generations to come shall receive in the promise of God in Christ Jesus. We cannot see the ending, but we can follow in faith.

Hebrews was written to the generations that could not see Jesus, who already was at the right hand of God. It is difficult to walk in faith. Faith is nothing more than trusting in the promise of what God says God will be and do. God walked the earth, Emmanuel. It was easier for some who encountered Emmanuel, Jesus the Christ, but then there were many who doubted. The same can be said even now.

We have the Holy Spirit as our guide to our faith in Jesus who is the I Am of all those in the Old Testament. Read Hebrews through the eyes of a new Christian. Hear the hope and faith that is given to those who have not yet seen Jesus. Spend some time reading chapter 11 a few times. Chapter 11 is a great chapter for devotions.

Have Faith
Peace be unto you.
Pastor Doug

Anniversaries

Mike and Susie Adam—September 22
Todd and Melissa Baker—September 30
Mark and Vicky Johnson—September 16
Bryan and Diana Jones—September 13
Chris and Becky Knudsen—September 20

Rich and Sharon Potter—September 12
Mike and Bonnie Prosser—September 16
Mike and Tanya Rich—September 21
Randy and Nanci Walsh—September 9

Happy Birthday

Bob Anderson—September 19
Betty Bass—September 7
Patty Blessing—September 9
Jan Durant—September 20
Jo Ann Garvey—September 1
McKenna Gehner—September 19
Ottie Gierman—September 4
Randy Grove—September 11
Tyler Heitman—September 19
Mike Hunter—September 1
Ruth Jensen—September 6
Chris Kinnaman—September 22
Michelle Kinnaman—September 14
Jerry Krieger—September 5
Kurtis Krieger—September 22
Pat Krontz—September 25
Wilbur Larson—September 13
Rick Lieber—September 1
Colton Novak—September 12
Robin Petrick—September 19
Joe Prescott—September 20
Joey Robinson—September 23
Brenda Rose—September 18
Colleen Schleusener—September 28
Holly Schleusener—September 14
Terry Sorem—September 26
Sophie Swanson—September 21
Augusta Thramer—September 12
Lee Trautwein—September 24
Melodee Van Berkum—September 14

Youth Birthdays

Sophie Chytka—September 16
Alyvia Davis—September 22
TJ Gunderson—September 18
Taya Mohning—September 7
Beau Ostendorf—September 14
Jae Phommavong—September 20



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Sunday, September 8, 2019

11:30 a.m.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Program: Supper with Friends

Hostesses: Circle I, Circle II, Lydia Group

☸☸☸ **CIRCLE MEETINGS** ☸☸☸

LYDIA GROUP September 12, 2019 7:00 p.m.

LEADER: Marlene Heithold

HOSTESS: Sue Hunter

CIRCLE I September 16, 2019 2:00 p.m.

LEADER: Jo Ann Garvey

HOSTESS: Linda Fischer

Jean Hedquist

CIRCLE II September 10, 2019 9:15 a.m.

LEADER: Lucy Gagnon

HOSTESS: Jane Krogh



Bible Study

“Poetry of the Old Testament”

Lydia: “Living Above Worry and Stress”

With Deepest Sympathy

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

The family of Jackie Lacy. Jackie passed away Saturday, August 3.

Social Ministry

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

Circle 2's Annual Pecan Project

Circle 2 is once again selling pecans! The price is \$10.00 for a one-pound bag of mammoth pecans. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway or you can order by contacting any member of Circle 2. The last day to order is September 15.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 2 in observance of Labor Day.

Church Council Minutes

Church Council Meeting – Wednesday, July 31st, 2019 at 6:30 pm

Attendance/Roll Call – Pastor Doug, Sue Hunter, Chad Cain, Deb Kenny, Linda Johansen, Kathy Anders, Brandon Trautwein, Judy Blessing, Trevor Brass, and Terry Sorem.

Acceptance of Agenda – Pastor Doug motion to modify, skip the devotion, and open with prayer. Judy seconded. Ayes carry it unanimously.

Opening Prayer –

Pastor Doug gave an opening prayer

Prayer – Lord, change them or remove them

from our midst.

Reading of Vision and Mission Statements

Vision Statement – Building upon the properties that God provides. To reach out in mission to the community.

Mission Statement – Loving others in Christ for outreach to all; while providing for God's diversity.

Guests – Mary Wolf recognized to speak by President Chad Cain. Ms. Wolf read aloud a letter she wrote to the council regarding that she felt she was being accused of spreading rumors regarding Pastor Doug's salary. Upon wanting to know who was saying that she was discussing Pastor's salary, Pastor Doug advised her it was Father Mike and offered to call him and come in to discuss what she was saying. Mary declined to speak with Father Mike. Mary also claimed that Mike and Sue Hunter were falling over themselves to find out what Chad had been discussing with her that day. Mary retracted that statement. Mary's letter was not submitted to the council.

Minutes from June Council meeting – amended with suggestions by Linda, motion to approve by Sue, seconded by Brandon. Ayes carry it unanimously.

Reports -

June Team Reports -

Pastor Report from June – Deb's motion to approve, Judy seconded. Ayes carry it unanimously.

Old Business

Tree removal –

Parsonage Work and Sewer Smell

May need new wax ring on toilet. Chad recommended a rubber seal as being superior.

Sacristy Ceiling Damaged – Sue has no update from Randy on this.

The ceiling was never replaced from water damage 3 years ago.

Randy Grove was to replace the ceiling tiles.

Food Pantry cabinets to be finished update

– Sue has no update on this.

South Garage-Update – Terry Sorem said he can help on this, would like reminder.

Property Repair/Update/Replace

Repair of caulking on floor to ceiling stained glass windows –

Replacement of lights in sanctuary that light up Altar –

Replacement of incandescent to LED lights outside of choir loft –

Repair/replace tower lights –

Repair/replace trinity sign on tower –

Repair light on South side of metal FLC sign –

Repair/update lighted sign on Dakota Ave to LED –

Change of Entrance/Exit on Dakota Ave into FLC –

Currently we have an entrance on North side of FLC.

The remaining drives indicate exit only.

Deb Kenny advised she had signs and that she was willing to put the new signs in. John Koskovich, who was in attendance, gave suggestions on how to install the signs. When Pastor Doug asked if he would be willing to help install the signs, he advised that he was too busy.

Proposal to make double wide drive on South to Exit only with left and right turn lanes. Drive North of the double wide to be made into entrance only. Signage to indicate same for these locations.

Sound equipment Protection

Power conditioner was purchased and installed

Nursing Home Letter status

Latest Letter received June 26th.

Response received from nursing home that they will begin repair.

Deb will follow up to make sure all the concrete is repaired – through the turn to the NW of the church.

Security Cameras –

One camera to be installed on garage. Need electric to unit for it to function.

Picnic/Food/Band Shelter –

Need to see plan and estimated costs. Boy Scouts may be able to have this as an Eagle project.

Term Sorem to get an estimate for the September council meeting. Trevor Brass to talk to the Boy Scout Troop 149.

New Business

Correspondences received – 1) Synod Mission Fund Grant from the Immanuel Vision Foundation (IVF). This offers up to \$10,000 for outreach by the congregation, but NOT internally-focused expenses like salary or building expenses.

2) Immanuel Vision Foundation (IVF): Application for Celebrate Grant received. This is a \$1,000 grant to help fund education for someone going through Parish Ministry Associate (PMA).

3) Editor of *Give Us This Day* contacted FLC regarding permission to use the image of Calling of the Disciples stained glass window. Sue Hunter will look into the copyright.

4) Letter from gentleman who said that by listening and being there for him, Pastor Doug saved his life.

Subpoena served to Chad Cain for small claims suit against First Lutheran by James Reider

Will be addressed as a council with the Synod's advice and consultation.

Synod conflict update

Sign-up sheet available in the welcome center for a listening session on Wednesday, August 14th – 20 minutes and the slots are *by family/household*.

It is ideal if the mailed questionnaire is filled out *before* your listening session. This expedites the process greatly and makes the best use of the 20 minutes FLC members will have with the synod listening teams.

If you can't make it to a session, you can mail your response sheets by August 21, 2019.

Book of Concord handouts

Chapter 10 – Concerning Ecclesiastical Practices That Are Called Adiaphora or Indifferent Things. (These are things that have no *theological* significance, like the color of the carpet in the church.)

Discuss attendance trends – June 2019 Sunday attendance 637, 1 more weekend in June compared to May, which had 497. April had 648. March had 521.

Mission Support Financial Reports and Status –

Sue Hunter read her reports on the financial accounts and condition of FLC.

General fund balance numbers need to be updated. (Savings v. checking)

Ongoing concern about use of the word "deficit" - as this misrepresents the financial condition of FLC, and can lead to a self-fulfilling prophecy as people then reduce giving when they hear this.

Motion to approve by Deb, seconded by Brandon. Ayes carry it unanimously.

Open for other new business – No new business was advanced.

Close in Prayer

Brandon's motion to adjourn, Terry seconded.

Financial Reports

Treasurer's Report - July 2019

Beginning General Fund Balance: \$ - 723.23

Receipts:

Contributions	\$12,364.29
Misc. Income	(3.05)
TOTAL:	\$12,361.24

Expenses:

Pastor's salary	\$ 3,583.34
Pastor's allowances / exp.	4,109.01
Auxiliary staff salaries	4,699.08
Payroll Taxes	359.49
Parsonage Payment/Utilities	803.18
Utilities	630.58
Grounds Maint.	235.18
Building Maint.	1,142.58
Office Expenses	203.11
Worship & Music	509.90
Christian Ed.	(175.24)
Parish	296.08
Food Bank	400.00
Youth	78.00
Insurance	1,280.25
<u>Benevolence</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$19,154.54

Transfer to Capital Improvement: \$ 100.00

Ending General Fund Balance: \$ - 7,616.53

July Attendance & General Fund Receipts

July 7	104	\$ 2,601.00
July 14	101	\$ 2,930.01
July 21	134	\$ 2,988.28
July 28	131	\$ 1,450.00
Online/Electronic Giving		\$ 2,395.00

Cheap Grace

Pastor Jose Miranda



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the great German pastor, theologian, martyr, spy was asked in 1943 how it was possible for the Church to sit back and let Hitler seize absolute power. His firm answer: "It was the teaching of cheap grace."

"Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, communion without confession, absolution without personal confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Confirmation Time is Coming (All Need to Read)

Soon you will receive a letter from the office detailing the confirmation program. This year will be different. The full details will be in the letter. Our first meeting will be Sunday, September 22, following the second Worship.

Confirmation will meet once a month and will be moving to a mentor-based confirmation. This means more involvement for sixth graders with their parents. For 7th-8th grade, they will need to find a non-family mentor to walk with them for confirmation.

In baptism, we promise to support the newly baptized. Being a mentor is part of that. Sermon notes will go away, and volunteer hours will come back.

Adults in the congregation, you may be approached to be a mentor. Help follow Jesus' call for us to make disciples of all nations. Jesus said,

¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy

Spirit,²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

We can start, right here at First Lutheran.

⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" ⁹ He said, "Go and tell this people:

Here am I. Send me!

Pastor Doug

Flower Chart

Open dates on the flower chart are October 13, October 27, November 3, November 17, December 1, December 8, December 15, December 22 and December 29. If you would like to give flowers on any of these days, please sign up on the chart in the entryway. Also, please complete a flower form, located near the chart, and turn this in to the church office along with the cost of the flowers.

Crop Walk

The Dakota County Crop Walk will be Sunday, October 6. Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. here at First Lutheran. The walk will begin at 3:30 p.m. Sponsor forms will be available soon. For more information, contact Pastor Doug.

Music-Music-AND More Music!

We will be starting rehearsals on Wednesday evenings, beginning September 11.

Bell Choir 6-7

Choir 7-8

Praise Band 8-9

Interested in being involved? Please come!! We would love to have you. Any questions, call Joey Hartshorn 712-389-4492.



Bell Choir 6-7
Choir 7-8
Praise Band 8-9
Hope to see you there!!

Rally Day

Sunday school begins again on September 8 at 9:30. Teachers are still needed! Contact the office if you can help. Donations of candy and pop are needed for prizes. These may be left in the cart in the entryway.

Evangelism

Due to illness, no Evangelism communications were sent in August.

God's Work, Our Hands

Join us Sunday, September 8 for "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday! There will be a potluck lunch at 11:30. Please bring a dish to share! We will then put together kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Impossible

God, I thought: this is too hard.
I throw myself at it.
I drag myself through it.
It is more than I can do.
It is hard; I doubt I have what it takes.

And then you said,
no, it is not hard. It is impossible.
You cannot do it.
You don't have that power.

But I do, and I give it to you.
I breathe my power through you.
You need not "dig deep" to find it.
It's right there, flowing through you.
It's there when you don't feel it.
It's there when you feel you're a failure.

As long as you think it's hard,
it will be hard.

But when you realize it's impossible
then you know it's not yours to do, but mine.
Stop trying to do it. Let me do the hard work.
You just come along.

I am doing the hard thing in your life.
Stay with me while I do it,
because without you, even for me,
it's impossible.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes
Unfolding Light
www.unfoldinglight.net
August 16, 2019

September Flower Chart

September 1 (Altar) Given by Cathie Galvin in honor of her loved ones.

September 8 (Altar) Given by Rita Todd in honor of Grandparents Day—celebrating grandparents past and present and their importance as role models.

September 15 (Altar) Given by Ray and Colleen Schleusener in honor of Holly Schleusener's birthday.

September 22 (Altar) Given by Mary Wolf.

September 29 (Altar) Given by Ray Schleusener in honor of Colleen Schleusener's birthday.



SEPTEMBER 2—OFFICE CLOSED

SEPTEMBER 8—OUTDOOR WORSHIP at 10:30

SEPTEMBER 8—GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

SEPTEMBER 13—SOUP KITCHEN

**SEPTEMBER 22—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST
from 9:30-12:30**

SEPTEMBER 22—OUTDOOR WORSHIP @ 10:30

SEPTEMBER 22—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:30

SEPTEMBER 24—WOMEN OF THE ELCA GENERAL MEETING @ 6:30

OCTOBER 6—CROP WALK from 3:00-5:00

OCTOBER 13—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST from 9:30-12:30

OCTOBER 27—ONE WORSHIP SERVICE @ 9:30

OCTOBER 27—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:30

OCTOBER 27—HALLOWEEN PARTY from 1:00-2:30

NOVEMBER 2—CRAFT FAIR from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 10—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST from 9:30-12:30

NOVEMBER 24—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:30

NOVEMBER 28—OFFICE CLOSED

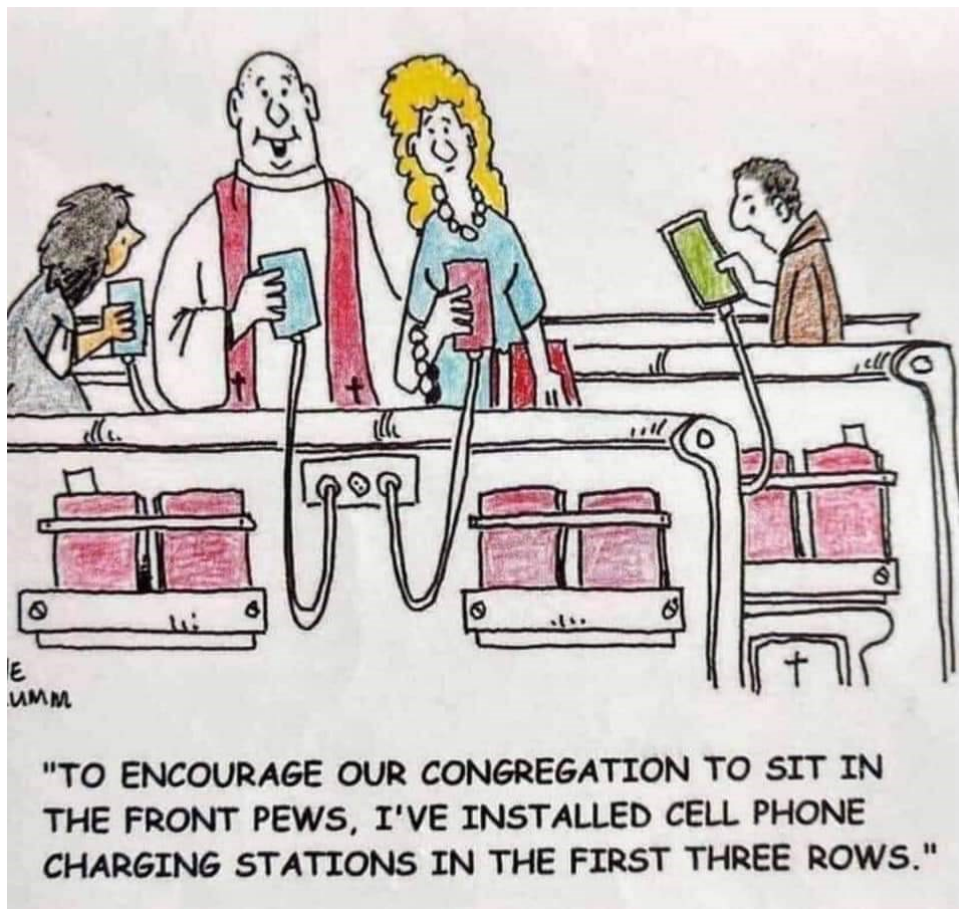
DECEMBER 8—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST from 9:30-12:30

DECEMBER 13—SOUP KITCHEN

DECEMBER 22—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:30

DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP @ 5:00 and 11:00

DECEMBER 25—OFFICE CLOSED



Thanks to our September Volunteers

<u>September 1</u> <u>12th Sunday after Pentecost</u>	<u>September 8</u> <u>13th Sunday after Pentecost</u>	<u>September 15</u> <u>14th Sunday after Pentecost</u>	<u>September 22</u> <u>15th Sunday after Pentecost</u>	<u>September 29</u> <u>16th Sunday after Pentecost</u>
<u>Lectors:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<u>Lectors:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<u>Lectors:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<u>Lectors:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<u>Lectors:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am
<u>Cantor:</u> 8:15 am Tim Niemeyer	<u>Cantor:</u> 8:15 am Joey Hartshorn	<u>Cantor:</u> 8:15 am Brandon Trautwein	<u>Cantor:</u> 8:15 am Linda Johansen	<u>Cantor:</u> 8:15 am Chris Knudsen
<u>AV Operators:</u> 8:15 am Scott Koepp 10:30 am Jenni Durant	<u>AV Operators:</u> 8:15 am Joey Hartshorn 10:30 am	<u>AV Operators:</u> 8:15 am Joey Hartshorn 10:30 am Trevor Brass	<u>AV Operators:</u> 8:15 am Mike Hunter 10:30 am	<u>AV Operators:</u> 8:15 am Joey Hartshorn 10:30 am Trevor Brass
<u>Acolytes:</u> 8:15 am Tyrese Gill 10:30 am Katelyn Lieber	<u>Acolytes:</u> 8:15 am Brooklyn Sorem 10:30 am Julie Geveshausen	<u>Acolytes:</u> 8:15 am Jacob Gill 10:30 am Tyrese Gill	<u>Acolytes:</u> 8:15 am Katelyn Lieber 10:30 am Brooklyn Sorem	<u>Acolytes:</u> 8:15 am Julie Geveshausen 10:30 am Jacob Gill
<u>Ushers:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<u>Ushers:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<u>Ushers:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<u>Ushers:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am	<u>Ushers:</u> 8:15 am 10:30 am