First Lutheran Church 3601 Dakota Ave South Sioux City, NE 68776 www.flcssc.org www.facebook.com/ firstlutheranssc www.twitter.com/@FirstSsc

## First Lutheran Church

March 2020



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

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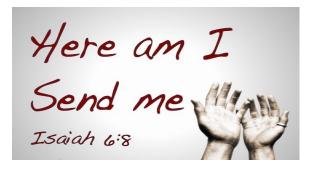
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http://text.flcssc.org



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## **Worship at First Lutheran**

#### March 1

#### First Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:25-26

Second Lesson: Ephesians 2:8-10

Psalm: 8

Gospel: Luke 18:15-27

#### March 8

#### Second Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:10-11

Second Lesson: Philippians 3:12-13

Gospel: John 12:44-47

#### March 15

#### Third Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Isaiah 53:1-6

Second Lesson: Romans 5:6-10; Romans 8:31-32

Gospel: John 11:45-50

#### March 22

#### Fourth Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: 2 Corinthians 3:15-18 Second Lesson: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: John 13:33-35; Matthew 22:1-14

#### March 29

#### Fifth Sunday in Lent

First Lesson: Hosea 11:1-12

Second Lesson: Isaiah 49:1, 15-16

Psalm: 23

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32



Church Office	494-5461
Douglas Dill, Pastor pastordoug@flcssc.org	402/235-6969
Kerri Rahn, Admin. Asst. office@flcssc.org	712/574-7946
Jane Krogh, Organist	494-1630

LeAnn Kilstrom, Custodian lkilstrom@flcssc.org

#### **<u>Church Council</u>** (\* Executive Council)

*Deb Kenny, President dkenny@flcssc.org	712/490-2097
*Jarrod Knudsen, Vice President jknudsen@flcssc.org	712/898-1170
*Chad Cain, Treasurer ccain@flcssc.org	712/635-2974
*Judy Blessing, Secretary jblessing@flcssc.org	255-7775
Kathy Anders (kanders@flcssc.org)	274-4383
Mike Hunter (mhunter@flcssc.org)	712/490-2998
Jennifer Lieber (jlieber@flcssc.org)	712/212-6932

#### **Church Coordinators For:**

Michael Sigsbee (msigsbee@flcssc.org)

Terry Sorem (tsorem@flcssc.org)

Altar Care: Billy Denker 402/404-4212 Lectors:

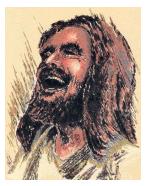
Ushers:

Women of the ELCA Chair:

Bonnie Prosser 494-3384

494-2418

712/490-9271



## Lent Pastor Doug

Lent has come and our journey begins. We have lots that will be happening during Lent and many opportunities to take part in worship. We will have lunch and worship on Wednesdays of Lent. The worship will be a shortened version of Prayers Around the Cross. In the evening, we will have a supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by Prayers Around the Cross at 7:00 p.m. The Wednesday worship will have scripture readings and a short reflection revolving around the book *Ragamuffin Gospel* by Brennan Manning. This is the same book that will be used for the sermon series during Sundays in Lent.

Often during Lent, many people will give something up during the 40-day journey. Some will use food items such as sweets. During the early days of the church, the observance of a fast was very strict. It would consist of taking only one meal a day, which would be towards the evening. The consumption of flesh-meat and fish were not allowed. Some places also restricted the consumption of eggs.

There has been a trend to take additional spiritual building tasks on, vs. giving something up. Maybe that would be to make a commitment to pray more often. A reminder for that would be to place a small sticker on your watch or phone to jog the memory to say a prayer. In our Welcome Center is a reading plan that started on Ash Wednesday, to read the entire New Testament during Lent. It can also be found on our website at: <a href="http://www.flcssc.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Read-NT-Lent-2020.pdf">http://www.flcssc.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Read-NT-Lent-2020.pdf</a>

We have many Lent devotions available in the Welcome Center as well. The ELCA has re-

sources, too. Here is one to reflect on your baptism during Lent: <a href="https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Living\_Our\_Baptism\_Lent.pdf?">https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Living\_Our\_Baptism\_Lent.pdf?</a>
<a href="mailto:ga=2.265577231.1088649576.1582560831-1345814477.1579706392">https://ga=2.265577231.1088649576.1582560831-1345814477.1579706392</a>

I encourage you to do something, either give something up, take something on, or do both. Reflect on what it means that from Dust We Come and to Dust We Shall Go.

## **Congratulations**

**Brook Raymond Gotch,** son of Brent and Emily Gotch, was baptized February 9. Sponsors were Nick Jones and Sara Gotch. The congregational sponsor was Elsie Peters.

## **Happy Birthday**

Kathy Blair—March 31 Millie Clark—March 3 Pearl Curry—March 23 John Fader—March 28 Brent Gotch—March 7 Courtland Grant—March 24 Misty Hedquist—March 6 Terry Kenny—March 18 Gary King—March 15 Brianne Lake—March 24 Vicki Lyons—March 10 Matt McArthur—March 11 Ron Olsen—March 25 Alisha Ostendorf—March 20 Mark Peterson—March 20 Trish Porter—March 15 Sharon Potter—March 7 Janell Sila—March 10 Lyle Todd—March 17 Tom Weekes—March 16

## **Youth Birthdays**

Justin Baker—March 14 Nate Feenstra—March 8 Brynlee Mohning—March 26



**����** CIRCLE MEETINGS ����

City.

Bob and Trish Porter and family, on the death of Trish's sister-in-law, Pam Moore, on Friday, February 21. Services were held Friday, February 28 at Mohr & Becker-Hunt Funeral Home.

#### **Church Council Minutes**

## First Lutheran Church – Council Meeting Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Attendance/Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order at 11:57 am by Deb Kenny.

**Present:** Pastor Doug, Terry Sorem, Linda Johansen, Sue Hunter, Deb Kenny, Kathy Anders, Judy Blessing, Brandon Trautwein, Chad Cain, and Trevor Brass.

**Excused:** None

Not excused: None

**Acceptance of Agenda –** Sue moved to accept the agenda as written, Deb seconded. The ayes carry the motion unanimously.

### **Opening Prayer**

Lord God, heavenly Father, you know that we are set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant us such strength and protection, to support us in all danger, and carry us through all temptations; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Martin Luther**

**Devotion – Martin Luther for January 19 –** Read by Pastor Doug on law and gospel.

#### **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

#### <u>LYDIA GROUP March 12, 2020 7:00PM</u>

LEADER: Rose Dudley

HOSTESS: Bev Rautenberg-Panko

CIRCLE I March 16, 2020 2:00PM

LEADER: Group

HOSTESS: Donna Krontz

Lee Mathiason

**CIRCLE II** March 10, 2020 9:15AM

LEADER: Group
HOSTESS: Mary Wolf



#### **Bible Study**

"We are Called!"

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 Marv Muirhead, who passed away Thursday, February 6. Services were held Tuesday, February 11 at Mohr & Becker-Hunt Funeral Home.

Gary and Sharon King and family, on the death of their daughter, Laura Pottebaum, on Saturday, February 15. Services were held Wednesday, February 19 at Waterbury Funeral Service of Sioux for God's diversity.

**Guests** – Deb invited guests to share concerns with the council.

Jane Krogh – Discussed what she felt is the improper display of the Christian and American flags in the church. She doesn't like the flags being placed under the stairs, as the American flag is a symbol of freedom to worship. Both Helen and Mary Wolf agreed.

Strong opinions were discussed both ways from members of the council and from the guests regarding the placement of the American flag.

Pastor Doug made a motion to create a task force to find the best display of the USA and Christian flags, Sue seconded. The ayes carry it, over Chad's nay vote.

Mary Wolf – Had questions regarding the 2020 Mission Support Plan (Budget) regarding the Pastor's housing equity, retirement funds for Pastor Doug, and the nomination of members of the council, the size of the council, and the nomination of new members.

Mr. Novak said his appreciation for the work of the council, serving in a difficult position.

## Minutes from November Council meeting & December Executive Meeting

**Reports** – Sue Hunter moved for the November meeting minutes and January 15th executive meeting minutes as written. Chad seconded. The ayes carry it.

December Team Reports – Chad made a motion to accept as written, Sue seconded. The ayes carry the motion.

Pastor Report from December 2019 – Chad read aloud Pastor Doug's report for this month. Deb made a motion to accept as written, Chad seconded. The ayes carry it unanimously.

#### **New Business**

## Proposed Mission Support Funds for 2020

**Post Forum –** Grammatical changes were made to the name since the budget/mission support

meeting by Sue Hunter, otherwise the proposed budget remains unchanged.

#### **Narrative Budget -**

**Correspondences received –** 1 funeral thank you.

**Synod conflict update** – Pastor Doug contacted Healthy Congregations, but their 1 person who is available had significant ties to the Nebraska ELCA Synod. HC doesn't have anyone else available for a year. Lombard Mennonite Peace Center quotes a minimum of \$20,000. Paula and Jim Reider suggested another outside group, The Effective Church Group. Either consultant that is chosen, enough will need to be budgeted.

#### Synod suggestions for outside consultants

Healthy Congregations not available for over a year. Lombard Mennonite Peace center, one of the options by the synod, gave estimate up to \$45,000

Another location to contact, outside of the recommendations of the synod, is The Effective Church Group. In February the final consultant can be chosen by council to present to the congregation.

## Council Member Continuing Resolution to set number of members each year

Read aloud to Council by Pastor Doug. Slight grammatical/syntax changes to be made. Chad made a motion to accept and Brandon seconded. The ayes carried the motion over Linda's objection. Linda felt it would be inappropriate for the council to determine its own size, in terms of number of council members.

## Final Determination of needed council members

3 to replace members going off and one youth

## **Council Member Elections for Annual Meeting Update:**

Jennifer Lieber

- Chad Cain
- Jarrod Knudsen
- Youth: Michael Sigsbee

#### **Pastor Doug Vacation**

Pastor Doug will be out of town Feb 10-19

Pastor Del Olivier, retired from Augustana Lutheran, in Sioux City will be the supply pastor.

## Move Feb Council meeting to either Feb 9 or Feb 23:

Chad made a motion to move the February 2020 meeting to February 9<sup>th</sup> with Judy seconding. The ayes carried the motion unanimously. The installation of the new council members will be on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Discuss attendance trends** – 571 total attendance for December 2019. 7 new members through baptism, an entire family! 1 removed due to death.

#### **Mission Support Financial Reports and Status**

- Sue delivered her report on the giving and budget numbers for December 2019. Giving fell short of needs by about \$4,000.

Sue made a motion to approve the reports as written, with Brandon Trautwein seconding the motion. The ayes carried the motion over Linda's nay vote.

#### **Old Business**

**Tree removal –** Too cold right now to address.

#### **Parsonage Work and Sewer Smell**

Smell highly concentrated below sink. The basement flooring requires materials to replace the current (asbestos) tiling. Tabling for now. Chad Cain has a contact for this.

#### **Sacristy Ceiling Damaged**

Terry Sorem to fix this in the spring as his time allows.

#### Food Pantry cabinets to be finished update

Pastor spoke with Rick this month and he is working on plans to finish work.

#### **South Garage-Update**

Terry Sorem to fix door, to be done in January.

#### **Property Repair/Update/Replace**

Repair of caulking on floor to ceiling stained glass windows –

Replacement of lights in sanctuary that light up Altar – **New Quote from Schramm Electric coming.** 

Repair/replace Trinity sign on tower – Need bucket and someone to install to be done by Terry Sorem. Waiting for warmer weather.

Repair light on South side of metal FLC sign – **Work done by Schramm Electric.** 

Repair and update lights on tower – **Work done by Schramm Electric.** 

#### Waiting on work to start

Repair/update lighted sign on Dakota Ave to LED – **Quote being prepared by Schramm Electric.** 

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. **Mike Hunter looking for Traffic Signs to finalize changes.** 

#### **Nursing Home status**

Turn area of drive done. Poor drainage and needs to be fixed. Deb Kenny to provide update after speaking with cement company. Contractor agreed the turn needs to be repaired. Will work when the weather is warmer. We will pay current concrete costs but not labor until the work completed properly.

#### Security Cameras –

One camera to be installed on garage. Need electric supply to unit for it to function. - **Electrical box installed by Schramm Electric. Pastor Doug installed security camera.** 

Picnic/Food/Band Shelter -

Need to see plan and estimated costs. Boy Scouts may be able to have this as an Eagle project. Terry Sorem to assist, if/when Boy Scout needs a project. Summer project when an Eagle project.

## Sound cabinet has been modified for new sound board

Terry Sorem completed below.

Pine was painted high gloss white to match countertop.

Hinges were put on back of cabinet

**Open for other new business –** Pastor Doug combined his monthly reports into a year-end 2019 report. He read aloud the highlights from this document to the council.

**Close in Prayer –** Brandon made a motion to close the meeting at 1:47 pm. Deb seconded the motion. The ayes carried the motion over Trevor's nay vote.

## **Financial Reports**

#### Treasurer's Report - January 2020

Beginning General Fund Balance: \$ -34,641.84

#### **Receipts:**

Contributions \$10,	<u> 471.00</u>

#### **Expenses:**

Pastor's salary	\$ 3,458.34
Pastor's allowances / exp.	4,078.58
Auxiliary staff salaries	2,713.15
Payroll Taxes	207.57
Parsonage Payment/Utilities	747.70
Utilities	1,465.98
Grounds Maint.	62.00
Building Maint.	2,042.48

Office Expenses	332.64
Worship & Music	282.69
Parish	571.52
Food Bank	400.00
Christian Ed.	288.00
Church Therapy Exp.	1,500.00
Benevolence	985.00
TOTAL:	\$19,135.65
Transfer to Capital Improvement:	\$ 100.00
Transfer from other funds:	\$ 34,641.84
Ending General Fund Balance:	\$ - 8,764.65

#### **January Attendance & General Fund Receipts**

January 5	113	\$ 2,203.00
January 12	111	\$ 1,683.00
January 19	95	\$ 995.00
January 26	127	\$ 3,230.00
Online/Electro	onic Givina	\$ 2.360.00

## **Council President**

Greetings, my name is Deb Kenny. I have accepted the position as 2020 council president for First Lutheran Church. I was elected to the council in 2017. This was something I was hesitant to get on; however, I stepped up, as many had done before me. I had always believed the church council was a group of people you and I had voted on to do the business of the church, as they saw best.

Over the years as a 'member' I was on a few different committees (teams now), was a Sunday school teacher and helped when I felt like it. I have to admit that I was more active when my children were growing up. They grew up and I felt I was still a good member. I attended church a few times a month, gave my monthly contribution and called it good. Then I finally agreed to run for council after being asked by a dear man, for the third time. I ran and the congregation voted me in. Was I in for a surprise. The church doesn't run by just the

council members and a few others. The first couple of years I watched and learned while senior members led the meetings. I learned a lot about how the church was run and what it takes.

As you know, the past few years have been tough. Not only as a council member, but as a church member. I have to admit that my faith in the council, the church, and God was put to the test. However, I have listened differently to what is going on in the church and in my heart toward the church and I realize that I can't just be a 'member' I have to be a 'disciple' for the Lord.

I want you to know that as council president my main concern is to work together to move this church forward. I know we have made some steps forward and a few back but I know that we can do God's work the way he wants us to. For his glory and not ours.

We have a big 100-year anniversary of our church this year. The message on the new banner is 'We will tell the next generation.' Psalm 78:4. The world is a changing place and I hope and pray that First Lutheran Church will be on Dakota Ave. for the next 100 years, and it can if we continue to believe and say 'Here am I, send me.' Isaiah 6:8.

Deb Kenny

### Thank You

**Gladys Hedquist**-The prayer shawl is lovely and beautifully made with your kind hearts. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. I'm feeling better.

**Lutheran Services in Iowa-**Thank you so much for your church's participation in the gift collection for the families LSI serves in our Siouxland Early Childhood Education program. One hundred one children received gifts in all! That is fantastic!

## **Soup Kitchen**

Friday, March 13 is our turn to volunteer at the Soup Kitchen, located at 717 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Sioux City. Help is needed from 2:00-4:00 p.m. (preparation) and 4:45-6:30 p.m. (serving/clean-up). The sign-up sheet is in the entryway.

## **Social Ministry**

Social Ministry is collecting ice cream buckets for Easter baskets. Also being collected is candy, coloring books, crayons, small stuffed animals and other small items to help fill the Easter baskets. Donations can be left in the cart.

#### **Lenten Meals**

We are in need of people to help provide the Lenten lunches and Lenten suppers. There are signup sheets in the entryway.

## **Overview of Our Mission Field**

"We live in an 80/80/80/80/2/1 Reality"

80% of people have no faith home...

80% of churches are plateaued or in decline ...

80% of unchurched people are at least somewhat interested in spiritual conversations and invitations with people they know and trust...

80% of Christians never invite anyone to attend church with them...

2% of Christians invite unchurched friends to church with them...

1% of all the financial giving in US churches goes to reach lost people around the world.

What can we do about that? The key: "Numbers must become names."

Who are the names of the people you pray and yearn to come to know Christ?

Take a Closer Look at "The Statistics"...the Harvest is Receptive and Ripe!

The number of committed followers of Jesus is not only stable, but growing.

Spiritually vibrant churches seeing life transformation through Jesus are growing. Churches who have drifted from Scripture are in decline.

Though the percentage of "Nones" is growing, nearly 1/3 say "religion" is important to them.

Over 20% of "Nothing in Particulars" (part of the "Nones") expect to attend church regularly in the future, 44% say an invitation from a friend would be helpful for them and 75% say they are fine with Christian friends talking about their faith. Rates of receptivity and openness to spiritual conversations is high-78%!

There are 143 million unchurched people in the US, but 71% of people overall identify as "Christian".

Among Millennials, 39% expect to attend church regularly in the future.

Among lapsed and non-Christians, 62% would be interested in a person of faith who: 1. Listens without judgment and 2. Does not force a conclusion/decision on them. These are also their top two fears.

"Unchurched nominally religious" people are the most receptive to spiritual conversations and invitations of any group, including across ethnic groups.

Among unchurched people, the top three factors they want from Christians that will make them more receptive are:

- 1. Treating other people better.
- 2. Caring for people's needs
- 3. Happier because of their faith.

"There is no silver bullet when it comes to reaching new people ... but the top predictive factor was hospitality to the unchurched. If there is a silver bullet, this is it." (Rick Richardson, "You Found Me")

Missional Imagination (Luke 10:2)

"Imagine if churches and leaders around the country (and the world) started to radiate hope that the message that we have and the service we offer is needed, welcomed, wanted by many and can still affect the direction of the unchurched and the quality of life in our communities. Such a rooted and realistic hope could change a nation. That is

the power of missional imagination." (Rick Richardson)

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## **100th Anniversary**

We are looking for people to help plan First Lutheran's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which will take place this year. Bring your ideas on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m.

### **Josiah Mullins Concert**



On Friday March 13 at 7:00 p.m., come to First Lutheran to listen to some outstanding Christian music from Josiah Mullins.

Having grown up in a family where music was a major priori-

ty, Josiah earned a bachelor's degree in Music Theater from the prestigious College of the Ozarks. After graduating he went on to perform in venues ranging from the Riverfront Playhouse at Silver Dollar City to Musical Theater Heritage in downtown Kansas City. Within the last year and a half, Josiah worked, traveled, and performed with the Brown family, based out of Le Mars, Iowa. He performed in venues throughout the United States, Canada, and the Singing at Sea Cruise in February 2019. Three weekends in October of 2019 he unveiled his self-written, one man musical, "It is Well" based on the life of Horatio Spafford and performed it at The Culture House Stage and Studio in January. His recordings include his solo projects, "All Year Long", "Amazing Grace", his big band inspired album, "Big Band: It's a Big Deal", and the original soundtrack of "It is Well". He is quickly gaining the attention of audiences with his rich tenor voice and variety of different genres. With his incredible talent Josiah is hoping to reach the masses with the message of Jesus Christ. His death, burial, and resurrection.

Come for a great night of music, support an up and coming artist as well as the youth of First Lutheran.

Tell a friend, bring a friend and bring your significant other. This will be a great night out, with no cost for enjoying some great music.

The youth will be selling packaged snacks and soft drinks to support going to Confirmation Camp and Leadership Lab.

The youth will fund the cost of bringing Mr. Mullins here for your enjoyment.

There will be a free will offering taken to further support Mr. Mullins coming here.

Here are some links that can be followed to get more information about Mr. Mullins:

https://www.stage32.com/josiahmullins

To listen to some of his music check out

https://www.reverbnation.com/jmullins

## **Leadership Lab**

Is your child in 8th grade-college? If so, they are encouraged to attend Leadership Lab. You can sign your child up online or find more information at leadershiplab.net. Dates for Leadership Lab are July 27-August 1. Cost is \$395 if registered by May 25; after May 25 the cost is \$430.

If any adults are interested in attending, contact Pastor Doug. There is an adult lab that will teach you how to be a youth leader.

## **Lent Sermon Series**

During Lent, Pastor Doug will be doing a sermon series based on the book *Ragamuffin Gospel* by Brennan Manning. The series begins on March 1.

### Are you bedraggled, beat-up, burnt-out?

Most of us believe in God's grace—in theory. But somehow we can't seem to apply it in our daily lives. We continue to see Him as a small-minded bookkeeper, tallying our failures and successes on a score sheet.

Yet God gives us His grace, willingly, no matter what we've done. We come to Him as ragamuffins—dirty, bedraggled, and beat-up. And when

we sit at His feet, He smiles upon us, the chosen objects of His "furious love."

Brennan Manning's now-classic meditation on grace and what it takes to access it—simple honesty—has changed thousands of lives. Now with a Ragamuffin's thirty-day spiritual journey guide, it will change yours, too.

Copies are available in the entryway to follow along. Suggested donation to cover the cost of the book is \$13.

## **Daylight Saving Time**

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 8. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour!

## **Acolytes Needed**

We need acolytes on Easter Sunday, April 12. If your child is available to help, please contact the church office.

#### **New Member**

On February 23 we welcomed Billy Denker into our congregation. Please greet him warmly!

### **Tomorrow**

son!"

I'm not a shoe tossed in a corner or an island lost in the sea.

I'm not an orphan or an unwanted pet, but I might as well be, because I'm alone.

I'm surrounded by people, but I'm all alone. Some people laugh with me, some give advice, some ask for help or tell me I'm neat But no one seems to stop and notice who I really am.

I feel so lonely inside that I've started spinning a shell to cover myself

And hide that strange something inside me that is me.

I don't want to hide it, but I must.

Otherwise people will see what I'm really like. Then they will smile and say: "What a funny perTomorrow I'll try to leave my shell ..... tomorrow, but not today.

I'm surrounded by friendly people who seem so happy.

I pretend to be happy.

And warm and comfortable, too.

I don't know what else to do when I'm with other people.

I'm all alone then ... and yet I can't talk about it or explain why.

It's like being trapped.

I feel like a withered left hand hiding behind someone's back.

I'm wearing a glove to hide myself.

I need my glove, but I hate it because it's not really me.

Tomorrow I'll take it off and exercise my hand ... tomorrow, but not today.

I'm so lonely sometimes I could run away and just disappear into thin air.

But I want those people around me.

I want their love and their joy in me.

Still they keep slipping past me, slipping, slipping away, and never really touching me.

They just see my mask and slide away.

Tomorrow, Lord, tomorrow, I'll remove my mask and people will have to stop and notice me ... Tomorrow, when I'm older and stronger ... I'll remove my mask.

But not today, please, not today ... because today I'm too alone

With so many people around me, so many people in this place called ... a church.

(Tomorrow, But not Today, Interrobang, Habel, pp. 26-27)

## **Thrivent Choice**

Don't forget to direct your Choice Dollars! Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice program can help support First Lutheran Church. Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31 to direct any remaining 2019 Choice Dollars. Help support First Lutheran! Go to

Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

#### I ent

Wednesday Lent services continue at 12:00 and 7:00 p.m. A lunch follows the 12:00 service, and a supper precedes the 7:00 service at 6:00 p.m.

## **Insights from Unchurched People**

"Surprising Insights from Unchurched People" (from "The Unchurched Next Door" by Thom Rainer)

- 1. Most unchurched people prefer to attend church on Sunday morning if they attend.
- 2. Females are most likely to be either the most receptive or antagonistic toward the gospel.
- 3. Most unchurched people feel guilty about not attending church.
- 4. 82% of unchurched people are at least 'somewhat likely' to attend church if they are invited. Yet...only 21% of active church attenders invite anyone to church in a given year ... and only 2% of Christians invite an unchurched person!
- 5. Very few unchurched people have had someone share with them how to become a Christian ... and Christians have not been real influential in their lives.
- 6. Most unchurched people have positive views of pastors and the church.
- 7. Some types of "cold calls" are effective, but many aren't. The Lord may nudge us to engage a person we know in a spiritual conversation, but the majority of the time we should build relationships with people as we share Jesus with them.
- 8. Unchurched people would like to develop a real and sincere relationship with a Christian.
- 9. The attitudes of unchurched people are not correlated by geography, ethnicity or gender.

10. Many unchurched people are far more concerned about the spiritual well-being of their kids than themselves.

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## Fellowship Breakfast

There will be Fellowship breakfasts served at 9:30 on March 22, April 26, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25, November 22 and December 27. If you plan on attending the March breakfast, please sign up in the entryway.

#### Chili Cook-off

The annual chili cook-off takes place March 8 at 4:00 p.m. Please join us as competitor, judge, or just for fellowship. A good time is had by all. If you are competing, you can bring your chili in starting around 3:00 p.m. Please sign up in the entryway.

## **Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program**

We are excited to share that First Lutheran's Food Pantry has been selected to be a part of the Hy-Vee Reusable Bag program that supports local non -profits, which is designed to make it easy for customers to contribute to their local community while supporting the environment. For the month of April, each time a \$2.50 red "My Heart" Reusable Bag is purchased at the South Sioux City Hy-Vee, \$1 will be donated to the pantry, unless otherwise directed by the customer through the Giving Tag. This is a great way to raise awareness, support the environment and fundraise for our cause. Let's get started! We can begin by spreading the news to our friends and family. Call, send emails, and post on social media. The more people who learn about the program and purchase the \$2.50 red "My Heart" Reusable Bag during the month of **April**, the more money we will raise. To learn more about this program, please visit hyvee.bags4mycause.com.

#### **March Flower Chart**

March 1 (Altar) Given by Dian Boals in memory of Judy Morgan.

March 8 (Altar) Given by Janell Sila in honor of her 68th birthday.

March 15 (Altar) Given by Carol Marmo in memory of her husband, Louie, and daughters, Linda, Christine, Denise and Roxie Ann.

March 22 (Altar) Given by Floanne Frey in memory of Fred Frey.

March 29 (Altar) Given in memory of Barb McLarty by her loving family.



MARCH 8—CHILI COOK-OFF @ 4:00

MARCH 13—JOSIAH MULLINS CONCERT @ 7:00

MARCH 22—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

MARCH 22—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:30

APRIL 9—MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP @ 7:00

<u>APRIL 10</u>—GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP @ 7:00 <u>APRIL 12</u>—EASTER WORSHIP @ 6:30, 8:15 & 10:30

**APRIL 13—OFFICE CLOSED** 

APRIL 26—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

APRIL 26—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:30

JUNE 28—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

JULY 26—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

JULY 27-AUGUST 1—LEADERSHIP LAB

M a r c h 2 0 2 0

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:15am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Prayer Gathering 10:30am Worship	2 6:30pm Boy Scouts	3 6:30pm 100-year Anniversary Meeting	4 12:00pm Worship 6:00pm Worship & Music Meeting 6:00pm Meal 7:00pm Worship 8:00pm Spirit Connection Practice	5 8:00am Breakfast w/the Pastors 2:00pm Food Bank 6:30pm Fellowship Meeting	6 8:30am TOPS	7 1:30pm Dakota County Amateur Radio Club Testing
8 Holy Communion 8:15am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Prayer Gathering 10:30am Worship	9 6:30pm Boy Scouts	10 9:15am Circle II	11 12:00pm Worship 5:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00pm Meal 7:00pm Worship 8:00pm Spirit Connection Practice	8:00am Breakfast w/the Pastors 7:00pm Lydia Group	13 8:30am TOPS 7:00pm Josiah Mullins Concert	14 9:00am Saturday Quilting Group
Daylight Saving Time Begins					Soup Kitchen	
8:15am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Prayer Gathering 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Church Council Meeting	16 2:00pm Circle I 6:30pm Boy Scouts	17	18 12:00pm Worship 6:00pm Meal 7:00pm Worship 8:00pm Spirit Connection Practice	8:00am Breakfast w/the Pastors 2:00pm Food Bank 7:00pm Dakota County Amateur Radio Club	20 8:30am TOPS	21 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry @ Parsonage
				Newsletter Deadline		
22 Holy Communion 8:15am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Prayer Gathering 9:30am Fellowship Breakfast 10:30am Worship 11:30am Confirmation Class	6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Women of the ELCA Executive Meeting	24	25 12:00pm Worship 6:00pm Meal 7:00pm Worship 8:00pm Spirit Connection Practice	26 8:00pm Breakfast w/the Pastors	27 8:30am TOPS	28
29 8:15am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Prayer Gathering 10:30am Worship	30 6:30pm Boy Scouts	31			April 2020 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	

## **Thanks to our March Volunteers**

March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
First Sunday in Lent	Second Sunday in Lent	Third Sunday in Lent	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Fifth Sunday in Lent
Lectors: 8:15 am Chad Cain 10:30 am Kathy Blair	Lectors: 8:15 am Linda Kendra 10:30 am Jill Gill & Brooklyn Sorem	Lectors: 8:15 am Denise Kleinberg 10:30 am Sue Hunter	Lectors: 8:15 am 10:30 am Pam Knudsen	Lectors: 8:15 am Linda Swanson 10:30 am Billy Denker
<u>Cantor</u> : 8:15 am Chris Knudsen	Cantor: 8:15 am Tim Niemeyer	<u>Cantor</u> : 8:15 am Brandon Trautwein	Cantor: 8:15 am Chris Knudsen	Cantor: 8:15 am Tim Niemeyer
AV Operators: 8:15 am Scott Koeppe 10:30 am Janell Sila	AV Operators: 8:15 am Mike Hunter 10:30 am Trevor Brass	AV Operators: 8:15 am Janell Sila 10:30 am Jenni Durant	AV Operators: 8:15 am Mike Hunter 10:30 am Trevor Brass	AV Operators: 8:15 am Janell Sila 10:30 am Jenni Durant
Acolytes: 8:15 am Katelyn Lieber	Acolytes: 8:15 am Julie Geveshausen	Acolytes: 8:15 am Tyrese Gill	Acolytes: 8:15 am Brooklyn Sorem	Acolytes: 8:15 am Jacob Gill
10:30 am Brooklyn Sorem	10:30 am Jacob Gill Tayden Kinnaman	10:30 am Katelyn Lieber	10:30 am Julie Geveshausen Tayden Kinnaman	10:30 am Tyrese Gill Peyton Martinez
Ushers: 8:15 am Beverly Bates Jarrod Knudsen 10:30 am Gary Panko	Ushers: 8:15 am Beverly Bates Jarrod Knudsen 10:30 am Jill Gill Brooklyn Sorem	Ushers: 8:15 am Beverly Bates Jarrod Knudsen 10:30 am Lee & Carrie Novak	Ushers: 8:15 am Beverly Bates Jarrod Knudsen 10:30 am	Ushers: 8:15 am Jarrod Knudsen 10:30 am
Altar Care:	Altar Care:	Altar Care:	Altar Care:	Altar Care: