

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

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First Lutheran Church

May 2020



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

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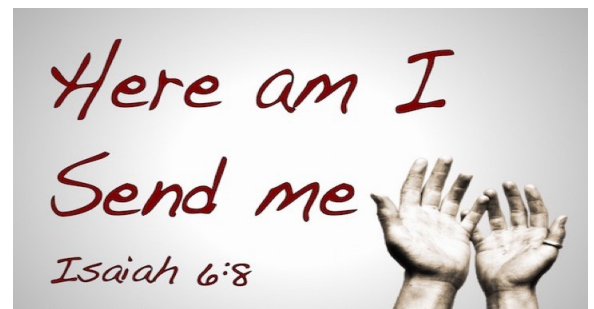


Sign up for Text Notifications
from First Lutheran

Text flcssc to 797979

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The deadline for the June Newsletter is May 21.

Worship at First Lutheran

May 3

Fourth Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Psalm: 23

Gospel: John 10:1-10

May 10

Fifth Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Psalm: 31:1-5, 15-16

Gospel: John 14:1-14

May 17

Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Psalm: 66:8-20

Gospel: John 14:15-21

May 24

Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 1:6-14

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Psalm: 68:1-10, 32-35

Gospel: John 17:1-11

May 31

Day of Pentecost

First Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Psalm: 104:24-34, 35b

Gospel: John 20:19-23



Church Office 494-5461

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Kerri Rahn, Admin. Asst. 712/574-7946

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Jane Krogh, Organist 494-1630

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Church Council (* Executive Council)

*Deb Kenny, President 712/490-2097

dkenny@flcsc.org

*Jarrod Knudsen, Vice President 712/898-1170

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*Mike Hunter, Treasurer 712/490-2998

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Michael Sigsbee (msigsbee@flcsc.org) 494-2418

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

Church Coordinators For:

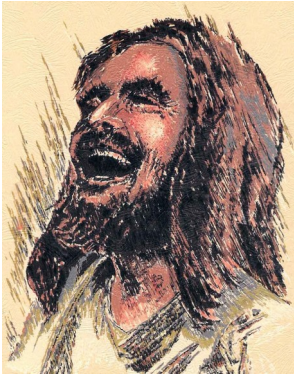
Altar Care: Billy Denker 402/404-4212

Lectors:

Ushers:

Women of the ELCA Chair:

Bonnie Prosser 494-3384



Easter Worship Pastor Doug

Yes, Easter worship at First Lutheran.

We will celebrate our Easter Worship outside on May the 3rd. Spread the word and invite everyone. The worship will include communion. What is that, you say, communion?

I have spoken with the bishop about serving communion, in a different sort of way. We will continue to do this, as long as we are in our current pandemic crisis. Here is how it will work. Please bring your own bread and juice to take communion with while in your cars. The bread and juice will be blessed through the Words of Institution, inviting the Holy Spirit to be present in the community of believers. Then those that are in their cars can either serve communion to each other, or if by themselves, just take communion.

When I proposed this method to the bishop, he felt that it kept as close as possible, given our circumstances, to our theological convictions, while honoring the safety of those that participate. In a social distancing sense, we will still be in community. Those that have been already confined to home with your family, will still be with them in the car but we will all be gathered together in the parking lot.

Another note on our Easter Worship. I have invited the bishop to come and be part of our worship on May 3rd. As of this article, I did not have a commitment yet. This was only due to the fact of a potential conflict that he said he would get back to me on. However, I needed to get this information out to you all. Read more

about this conversation in the article, "Communication."

Spread the word.

We celebrate Easter on May 3 at 10:30 a.m. in our parking lot doing a drive-in style worship. This will still be streamed for those that do not feel comfortable in coming to the parking lot. It can be seen at <https://stream.flcssc.org>.

We can do this worship so early, because of the generous donation to make the shelter in the parking lot! Thank You!!

Anniversaries

Doug and Kris Dill—May 27
Todd and Chris Gehner—May 30
Gary and Marian Hayes—May 12
Terry and Deb Kenny—May 23
Scott and Cindy Koeppe—May 7
Brian and Chris Lake—May 16
Del and Sharie Lieber—May 22
Jeff and Rita Todd—May 12
William and Ashley Weiland—May 18

Happy Birthday

Clint Barrs—May 2
Austin Bass—May 1
Judy Blessing—May 7
Suzette Curry—May 26
Elaine Fader—May 18
Don Gagnon—May 9
Jill Gill—May 1
Robin Hansen—May 3
Joey Hartshorn—May 20
Chris Hedquist—May 1
Lance Hedquist—May 9
Sheila Heitman—May 19
Lori Jones—May 30
Deb Kenny—May 27
Cindy Koeppe—May 20
Kyle Koskovich—May 2
Lukas Litras—May 22
Kelli Long—May 22
Lorene Moyse—May 11

Lee Novak—May 18
 Jackie O'Brien—May 24
 Danny Ostendorf—May 29
 Gary Panko—May 22
 Michelle Prosser—May 6
 Carolyn Slaughter—May 15
 Janet Tondreau—May 7
 Brian Van Berkum—May 24

Youth Birthdays

Tyler Fader—May 24
 Kieran Lasley—May 19
 Ashlyn Rich—May 18



☼☼☼ CIRCLE MEETINGS ☼☼☼

(TENTATIVE)

LYDIA GROUP May 14, 2020 7:00PM

LEADER: Machel Dasso
 HOSTESS: Group

CIRCLE I May 18, 2020 2:00PM

LEADER: Group
 HOSTESS: Jackie Gierman
 Sandy Larson

CIRCLE II May 12, 2020 9:15AM

LEADER: Group
 HOSTESS: Linda Johansen



Bible Study

Lydia: "Living Above Worry and Stress"

With Deepest Sympathy

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

Roger and Susan Monk and family on the death of Roger's brother, Claude Monk, on Monday, March 30. Services were held Friday, April 3 at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Jeff and Ellen Prescott and family on the death of Ellen's mother, Elda Warren, on Monday, April 20.

Church Council Minutes

**First Lutheran Church – Council Meeting
 Monday, March 23, 2020 Minutes**

(Conducted Online via The Microsoft Teams App)

Link to video recording

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/864bb9a5-79bc-4924-abe5-f12fa84acc58>

Deb Kenny called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Attendance/Roll Call – Present/online: Pastor Doug, Jarrod Knudsen, Trevor Brass, Judy Blessing, Deb Kenny, Kathy Anders, Michael Sigsbee, Chad Cain, Jennifer Lieber, and Terry Sorem.

Not present / not online - None

Acceptance of Agenda

Opening Prayer – Read by Pastor Doug:

Welcome, welcome, welcome.

I welcome everything that comes to me today because I know it's for my healing.

I welcome all thoughts, feelings, emotions, persons,

situations, and conditions.

I let go of my desire for power and control.

I let go of my desire for affection, esteem, approval and pleasure.

I let go of my desire for survival and security.

I let go of my desire to change any situation, condition, person or myself.

I open to the love and presence of God and God's action within.

Amen

Father Thomas Keating

Devotion – Martin Luther March 23rd

Read by Pastor Doug and reflected on by the council members. Words of encouragement were shared by Pastor Doug. He also reported that there were 80 livestream views at last Sunday's service.

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 – Deb asked if any guests were online, either by their own connection or from another's connection. None made an appearance electronically.

Minutes from the February 9th council meeting

Jarrold Knudsen made a motion to accept the report as written, Kathy seconded this motion. The ayes carried the motion unanimously.

Reports -

February Team Reports – Deb read from the reports for Evangelism for January/February 2020. Deb also read the Worship and Music team notes dated March 3rd, 2020. Mike Hunter moved to accept the two reports as written, Michael Sigsbee seconded the motion. The ayes carried the motion unanimously.

Pastor Report from February 2020 – Judy made a motion to accept the Pastor's Report as written, Jennifer Seconded. The ayes carried the motion unanimously.

New Business

Correspondences received – 1 funeral thank you and an application for the Kraft Memorial Grant (would require FLC to start a *new* mission, and explain how it applies to FLC's overall mission). The grant application is due April 15th, but is offered each year.

Nursing Home

Asking for us to sign an agreement again for them to use our building for an evacuation site in case of an emergency. See Nursing Home.pdf

FLC has made this agreement in the past. It is not legally binding but is rather a Memorandum of Understanding, an advance agreement in the spirit of neighborliness.

Pastor Doug made a motion for FLC to sign this agreement again. Jennifer Lieber seconded the motion. The ayes carried the motion unanimously. Deb Kenny and Michael will sign this with the nursing home.

COVID-19 Protocols

Council Folder for copy – FLC is already in phase III of this protocol, based on the rapidly evolving nature of the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Deb Kenny made a motion to approve and pass the Protocol, Mike Hunter seconded the motion. The ayes carried the motion unanimously.

Lighting/Electrical Work

Changeable Sign

See quotes folder for quote to fix and update sign – currently has 1-2 bulbs working. Two options were discussed: an \$850 option (replace fluorescent bulbs and ballast) and a \$1,050 option (replace with new LED bulbs).

Deb Kenny made a motion for the second option – the \$1,050 option to go for LED bulbs – and

Chad Cain seconded the motion. The ayes carried the motion unanimously. Pastor Doug will get ahold of the electric company March 24th.

HDMI Transmitter

KES provided quote for HDMI transmitter to get the current HDMI connected to the streaming service. See quotes folder for \$789.00. Mike Hunter made a motion to approve the bid and Jarrod Knudsen seconded the motion. The ayes carried the motion unanimously.

Door Fob Quote

See Quotes Folder – There are many outstanding keys owned by the church. This is an ongoing issue, and if there is a security concern the building has to be re-keyed. An electronic fob is \$3-5 each, on the other hand and can be de-activated. The current quote is for \$11,114. A cheaper option for now instead of re-keying is to contact those with outstanding keys and ask them to turn them in. Pastor Doug distributed a list of those who have keys checked out to them.

Synod conflict update

Executive Team had a video meeting with Effective Church Group. Deb says it was informative and the representative from ECG was nice.

See council folder for paperwork

This process is a 2-3 year process with multiple coachings and trainings. It is anticipated that the ECG consultants may be very blunt with certain members of FLC regarding unhealthy communication and behavior. It is believed that this would be a better process because then a 3rd party is delivering the “bad news.”

Estimate is \$25,000 to \$30,000 plus expenses – paid as the consultation process proceeds.

Pastor Doug would like to initiate this process ASAP.

Status of the council retreat is uncertain given the COVID-19 situation, but if it is held then ECG would be willing to attend.

Jarrod Knudsen suggested that it may be prudent to wait given the COVID-19 situation and its impacts on attendance. Pastor Doug said that it is necessary to engage anyways because FLC might close as an

institution. Doing nothing will not lead to a positive result.

Pastor Doug made a motion to engage with the ECG, seconded by Kathy Anders. The ayes carried it unanimously.

Stewardship

Need to start a campaign to get awareness of what good stewardship is.

Pastor Doug mentioned the Stewardship Committee and its current members (Mike Hunter, Tim Niemeyer, and Ken Conley).

Traditionally, Stewardship time is in October.

Discuss attendance trends – Last week there was good online presence. 104 was last month’s average attendance. 2nd service has, on average, greater attendance than the 1st service. Pastor Doug is looking into how to conduct Good Friday and Maundy Thursday services in light of COVID-19 social distancing norms, as these are participatory in nature. Pastor Doug thinks that online-based services may be needed through April 2020.

Mission Support Financial Reports and Status –

Balance sheet for February 2020: Chad Cain discussed the latest he received from Kerri. We have \$111,000 in general liabilities. \$21,284 is the amount we’re short for the budget. Insurance payments were made and giving is down. Some Certificates of Deposit (CDs) are maturing in the near future. The Money Market Account is earning just 0.5% in interest.

Chad Cain discussed ways to encourage members to give more to FLC.

Pastor Doug said that only 10 people are set on automatic, online giving. 47 donors give on a sporadic basis.

A motion to accept the Mission Support financial report was made by Chad Cain and was seconded by Michael Sigsbee. The ayes carried the motion unanimously.

Old Business

Lighting/Electrical Work

Bring to Code Band Lights

Lights on order. Terry Sorem to build stand to hold lights when they arrive.

Lighting of Stained-Glass windows in Sanctuary / Altar Left

Electrical installed and timer installed for lights from dusk to 2:00 a.m.

Lighting of Sanctuary outside on North and South of Building

Lights installed.

Security Team for FLC on Sundays

Status of finding interested members – need to find interested FLC members. Jarrod has contacted 3-4 interested members. Pastor Doug says he needs 6 people to get trained.

Tree removal

Can't afford to address now.

Parsonage Work and Sewer Smell

Can't afford to address now – tolerable.

Sacristy Ceiling Damaged

Terry Sorem to fix in fall. Waiting on work to start when Terry is available.

Food Pantry cabinets to be finished update

Waiting on word from Rick Lieber – Rick intends to use the labor of the Boy Scouts to help, which currently aren't meeting at FLC because of the COVID-19 lock down.

South Garage-Update

Door has been fixed by Terry Sorem. (This item can be now removed.)

Property Repair/Update/Replace

Repair of caulking on floor to ceiling stained glass windows –

Repair/replace trinity sign on tower – Need bucket and someone to install to be done by Terry Sorem.

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 – not warm enough yet.

Picnic/Food/Band Shelter –

Need to see plan and estimated costs. Boy Scouts may be able to have this as an Eagle project. Terri Sorem to assist, if/when a Boy Scout needs a project. Summer project when an Eagle project. *Pastor also approached by scout outside of our pack.*

Open for other new business – Deb asked for any new business that wasn't on the agenda.

Pastor Doug made a motion to close the meeting at 7:26 p.m. and Judy Seconded.

Close in Prayer – Closed in prayer led by Pastor Doug.

Next council meeting: 3rd Sunday in April, or April 19th, 2020.

(This meeting will likely be held online via the Microsoft Teams App).

Financial Reports

Treasurer's Report - March 2020

Beginning General Fund Balance: \$ - 21,484.51

Receipts:

Contributions	\$9,850.00
Interest	21.14
TOTAL:	\$9,871.14

Expenses:

Pastor's salary	\$ 3,458.34
Pastor's allowances / exp.	4,179.12
Auxiliary staff salaries	2,445.22
Payroll Taxes	187.05
Parsonage Payment/Utilities	869.89
Utilities	1,396.32
Worship & Music	653.14
Food Bank	800.00
Altar Care	40.16
Christian Ed.	143.49
Youth	39.00
Fellowship	200.00
Building Maint.	2,032.24
Office Expenses	683.71
Parish	142.55
Synod Conv.	540.00
<u>Benevolence</u>	<u>980.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$18,790.23
Transfer to Capital Improvement:	\$ 100.00
Ending General Fund Balance:	\$ -30,503.36

March Attendance & General Fund Receipts

March 1	85	\$ 2,109.00
March 4	46	\$ 109.00
March 8	80	\$ 1,144.00
March 11	51	\$ 155.00
March 15	71	\$ 528.00
March 22	80	\$ 1,160.00
March 29	93	\$ 1,990.00
Online/Electronic Giving		\$ 2,655.00

Thank You

Bill and Linda Kendra-Bill and I want to thank First Lutheran for remembering us with an Easter

Basket. Even in these challenging times, when we feel even more isolated than before, we were able to enjoy an Easter celebration together in our home. The Rotisserie Chicken was such a treat. With such an easy delicious dinner, we were able to participate in First Lutheran's online service and just take time to enjoy Easter. Thank you to the committee who put together such a delicious thoughtful basket. Also, thank you for the phone calls from members and Pastor checking on us and providing social and spiritual support.

Knit-Witts and Happy Hookers-On behalf of the Knit-Witts and Happy Hookers of First Lutheran, we wish to say thank you to our generous donors. The financial donation we recently received will be put to great use. We would also like to thank all those who have donated yarn to make the shawls and patches.

The prayer shawl ministry is so important to those who make the shawl, and also to those who receive them. It's the hug that keeps on giving! Even while we continue to practice our social distancing, the shawls and patches are a welcome touch.

Prayer (Comfort) Shawl Ministries have been around since 1998, created by Janet Severi Bristow and Victoria Galo. I'm sure when they started this in their own church, they didn't realize how important it was to become. This is what God's missions look like.

If you or someone you know are in need of a prayer shawl, please ask. We will be happy to provide one for you. Prayer patches are for anyone who would like a tangible reminder of God's love, and the conversation that is just a prayer away.

If you would like to become a part of this ministry, when allowed, we will meet again on the second Wednesday at church; and on the third Saturday of the month at the parsonage.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

The Knit-Witts and Happy Hookers

(Kathy Anders, Kris Dill, Vicky Johnson, Lee Mathison and Carol Ostendorf)

Outdoor Worship

We have begun our outdoor worship early this year. Worship will be at 10:30 a.m. and will be a blended type of worship. We will have hymns, hymn sounding music and contemporary Christian worship music.

Because we have a shelter for the band and me, we can start early. Due to the COVID-19 circumstances, it is time to worship together in person, even if it is in our cars. It is important we take this seriously, so not to cause these worships to be shut down, or to infect anyone.

In the past we have allowed people to sit on the bleachers and gather in the green spaces. However, in our area, we have not peaked yet during this pandemic. We are asking that you stay in your cars and worship there.

Once we can worship inside, our outdoor worship will move to a contemporary format the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m., while still having the traditional 8:15 a.m. worship inside.

The outdoor worship will still be streamed live at <https://stream.flcssc.org>. If you cannot join in person, watch on the stream. Let your friends and neighbors know about worship. Ask them to meet you there and worship together, outside in God's creation.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

Social Ministry

Social Ministry is collecting food items for families in need. Also being collected are toiletries and household cleaning supplies for the Council

on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. Please leave your donations in the cart in the entryway.

Smart Phone App

First Lutheran now has an app for your smart phone: app.flcssc.org. With this app, we hope you find better integration into the community at First Lutheran. You can access your online giving, worship, sermons, critical communications, sign up for activities and much more.

You Tube

Please subscribe to the First Lutheran YouTube page. 100 subscribers are needed to customize the URL to something that is easy to remember. <http://ow.ly/7GdH50yS9AQ>

Sponsor a Song

Would you like to sponsor a song for the 10:30 worship? There are many songs that we will use over and over. Normally songs are rented as part of our package we have with MultiTracks.com. However, if we use it often, it would be better to purchase it. The cost to do so is \$30 per song. If you would like to sponsor a song, please indicate this on your check or use online giving to give towards a Sponsor a Song found under Worship and Music.

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.

Youth Car Wash

On June 6 from 1-3:00 p.m. there will be a youth car wash to help fund Confirmation Camp and Leadership Lab. Please come out and get your car washed. If you do not want the car washed, donations will also be accepted for the youth fund.

Social Ministry

Social Ministry met on April 4 to put together 45 Easter baskets. The Gospel Mission received 25 for their youth, and CSADV received 20 for their youth. Social Ministry also put together seven Easter food baskets for members of our own congregation.

Pet Blessing

Mark your calendars! There will be an upcoming pet blessing on June 6 from 1-3:00 p.m. Get your pets blessed by Pastor Doug and partake in some food. Bring your pets on a leash, in a cage, or if you prefer, a picture. Pastor Doug will bless each and every pet. While you are getting your pet blessed, head over to the youth car wash!

Need Assistance?

We have people that want to help. Pastor Doug and others want to help, if you need anything. Want your prescriptions picked up? Food picked up? Laundry taken to the cleaners? Whatever you need, we are here to help.

Sign Up Online

Online signup is available for lectors, ushers, altar care, cantors, AV operators, streaming, video/Proclaim, and Welcome Center M-F at <https://www.flcsc.org/wordpress/disciple-volunteers/>
<https://www.flcsc.org/wordpress/disciple-volunteers/>

Please sign up today!

Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program

Although the month of April is over, you can still help First Lutheran's Food Pantry by buying a red "My Heart" bag. Here is what to do:

1. Visit myHy-VeeCause.com within 7 days of your purchase.
2. Remove the scratch-off layer on the Giving Tag to reveal the unique code.
3. Submit your code and select First Lutheran to receive a \$1 donation.

Your donation must be made within 7 days of your purchase, or the donation will be sent to the Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program beneficiary—the monthly featured non-profit selected by store leadership at the store where you purchased the bag.



Giving to First Lutheran

Although our Church building has to remain closed, our ministry remains "open for business" as we reach out in mission to the community. In fact, just this week we have made Easter baskets for the mission, took VBS and Sunday School supplies to our Sunday School youth, had a food bank twice last month and will be doing so again and using our lot for the St. Paul Food Bank. We continue to reach many viewers with our worship offerings. All of this is fulfilling our FLC Mission, Loving others in Christ for outreach to all; while providing for God's diversity.

Of course, ministry and mission, whether within or beyond the walls of a church building, require income – our gifts, tithes, and offerings. It probably comes as no surprise, though, that our offering receipts have decreased since we've had to pause worshipping in our Church building. Many

of us have been trained from childhood to bring our coins, cash, or checks to worship with us so we can place them in the offering plate as it's passed; and no offering time means no opportunity to give. But, we think we've found a way to make it easier for you.

Currently, we have five ways you can give, or catch-up on your giving:

1. **TEXT:** Text the word "GIVE" to 402-557-0882, then follow the instructions texted back to you.
2. **APP:** (did you know we have an app!?) <https://app.flcssc.org/>
3. **CHECK** Sent to the office at 3601 Dakota Ave, South Sioux City NE 68776
4. **AUTOMATIC PAYMENT** can be arranged through your bank, or in our e-Giving at <https://give.flcssc.org>
5. **AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWL** can also be arranged through your bank, or with e-giving

Don't forget: if you have trouble remembering your offering, both our text and app have a "recurring" option that will send your offering to FLC every week or month (you choose), regardless of whether or not you're in the building! And you can always arrange for Automatic Payment or Withdrawal through your bank!

We can't begin to say enough THANK YOU for your faithfulness and continued generosity for our FLC ministries and missions. Together we're making a difference!

Did You Know?

By Sunday night 4-12-2020, we had over 466 streams of our worship services! Take a survey on your experience at <https://www.flcssc.org/wordpress/live-stream-survey/>

We are reaching people across the country. We are reaching to Burma, Brazil and beyond.

You can now be part of worship on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and Vimeo. Thank you to the person who donated to make the Vimeo possible, which make the above possible. Prior to the

change to Vimeo, we would have around 100 stream views. Thank you!!!

Fundraiser

Jenni Durant is helping to raise funds for FLC. She will be doing a virtual 1/2 marathon. Tri State Physicians and Physical Therapy Clinic of South Sioux is helping her with the monies needed up front for selling t-shirts. She will begin her indoor run on May 3 at 10:00 a.m. How can you help? You can sponsor her at whatever you want per mile she runs. A half marathon is about 13 miles. You can also purchase a shirt for \$20. \$10 of the shirt cost goes back to FLC. You can contact Jenni at: jenzumba1@outlook.com or (712) 577-1162.

Communication

We have been through a lot of stuff here. Whatever you want to call it, but we have been through it. Since I started my call here, my door has always been open, so we can be in communication with each other. This does not always mean that you or I will get all we want. It does not mean we will always agree. It does mean an opportunity to talk and an opportunity to listen.

After the October vote, you all know which one I am speaking of, it could have been easy to just shut down the line of communications between myself and the congregation. If I am honest, I wanted to sometimes, but I choose not to, because I did not believe that was what God was calling me to do.

I also could have chosen to shut down communications with the synod and most specifically Bishop Maas. I was hurt both by the actions of the congregation, the synod and by my own reactions. But I did not want it to stay that way. I chose to change my feelings and keep communication open.

To change, it took lots of prayer and lots of forgiveness. Forgiveness is really for the one that does the forgiving, not the one that is forgiven,

at least when it comes to humans forgiving. If we truly believe what we pray in the Lord's Prayer, then we will forgive. We ask to be forgiven, as we forgive others. If we are unwilling to forgive, then we are praying to God, NOT to forgive us too.

I have kept in communication with the bishop. I have let him know how our annual meeting went. I let him know of all the good things happening here and the great positive things I have seen and that others have expressed about how things are going at First Lutheran. I intentionally did, to keep our lines of communication open with each other.

When I had a meeting with Bishop Maas, prior to me starting this call, I told him that I wanted to keep him informed. I wanted First Lutheran to be more connected to the Synod than it had been in the past. I wanted to break down barriers and not build walls. I am not going back on that. I believe that because of this, God, in the Holy Spirit, has been active with our congregation and with the Synod.

Just because we disagree does not mean we should stop our communication. If we cannot, for whatever reason, forgive or communicate, then we must ask ourselves, why and what should happen next? Sometimes it takes a change of attitudes, scenery, Holy Spirit shaking, or you could name a plethora of other things the Holy Spirit can do to wake us up and guide us to a new direction.

Communication, communication and more communication. During this pandemic I have been trying to over communicate, through phone, text, email, announcements, television interviews, whatever I can think of to reach out.

Let's communicate. Let's keep it moving forward. Here am I, send me.

Peace in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

Pastor Doug

First Lutheran App & Survey

Have you installed the app? Visit <https://www.flcsc.org/wordpress/flc-app-survey/> to take a 2 minute survey, please. Didn't try out the app yet? What can the app do for you? We have a new app to keep us informed. It allows for electronic donation (which is so important at this time, especially recurring donations). From this app you can contact the office. You can send in a prayer request. There is an events section that will let you see what is coming up. Also, you can access the latest worship post and live stream when we go back to that. Go to the events tab to get a direct link to the newsletters. Install the app at <https://app.flcsc.org>. After you install the app, send us a message in the contact page to let us know you installed it.

FLC Turning 100!

Did you know that FLC is celebrating 100 years in ministry? Yup, it is true! God did not put this congregation here by accident. It is here by design, and God continues to use



us for ministry to God's people. Because of your faithful discipleship, attendance and giving, we are here "**Loving others in Christ for outreach to all; while providing for God's diversity**"

Fire TV & Roku Apps

Not only do we have an app for your smart phone, we now have an app for your Fire TV. Yes, you read that correct. Now you can search on Fire TV for First Lutheran and install the Sermons App and the Worships App and watch previously recorded events right on your TV. Roku has been developed and should be available soon.

VBS T-Shirts

If your child attended Vacation Bible School last summer, VBS t-shirts are available to be picked

up in the church office.

Thomas

*Thomas (who was called the Twin), said to them,
"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands,
and put my finger in the mark of the nails
and my hand in his side, I will not believe."*

—John 20, 24, 25



Thomas, brother in agony,
may I be your twin
as you are his:
and reach for him
where it hurts,
let that electric pain leap in,
connect in that opening,
touch the wound and bless;
as he reaches us
in our guilt, our anguish,
our still bleeding despair,
and offers the assurance
of his living.
He puts his hand in my side
and touches the marks of the nails
in my soul
and so I know
he is alive,
and my Lord,
and I am alive,
forgiven,
truly risen.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes
Unfolding Light
www.unfoldinglight.net

Online Signup

Online signup is available for lectors, ushers, altar care, cantors, Welcome Center, streaming and AV operators at <https://www.flcssc.org/wordpress/disciple-volunteers/>

MAY 25—OFFICE CLOSED

JUNE 12—SOUP KITCHEN

**JUNE 21—FATHER'S DAY ROOT BEER FLOATS
BETWEEN SERVICES**

JUNE 28—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

JULY 3—OFFICE CLOSED

JULY 26—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

JULY 27-AUGUST 1—LEADERSHIP LAB

AUGUST 7-9—FLEA MARKET

AUGUST 23—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

SEPTEMBER 7—OFFICE CLOSED

SEPTEMBER 11—SOUP KITCHEN

**SEPTEMBER 27—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @
9:30**

First Lutheran Church - So Sioux City NE
Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2020

Friday, April 24, 2020

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
101.101	Checking - F&M Bank	2,346.52
102.101	MoneyMarket - SFCU	5,265.61
102.104	Savings-Memorial - F&M Bank	15,425.11
102.105	Savings - SFCU	31.68
102.106	SNB - KP	67,155.06
102.107	SNB - Bld the Spirit CD	428.39
102.108	SNB - Cap. Imp.	12,702.05
	Total Assets	\$103,354.42
Liabilities		
200.000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	0.00
201.101	Taxes Withheld - State	264.81
201.102	Taxes Withheld - Federal	567.10
206.101	Payroll Clearing Account	0.00
	Total Liabilities	\$831.91
Fund Balance		
301.010	General Fund Balance	(30,503.60)
301.011	General Fund Deficit Balance	0.00
301.020	Capital Impr Fund Balance	17,792.15
301.021	Memorial Fund Balance	15,425.11
301.022	KP Fund Balance	0.00
301.023	Parsonage Fund Balance	0.00
301.025	Handbell Fund Balance	2,041.76
301.026	Continuing Ed. - Pastor Fund Balance	0.00
301.027	Handbell Maintenance Fund Balance	5,162.00
301.028	Sewing Fund Balance	461.66
301.029	Flea Market Fund Balance	0.00
301.030	Organ Fund Balance	8,333.33
301.031	Flower Fund Balance	323.00
301.032	Thrivent Choice Fund Balance	12,476.36
301.033	Special Offerings Fund Balance	57,197.51
301.034	In & Out Fund Balance	4,103.45
301.035	Annual Salad Lunch Fund Balance	0.00
301.036	Choir Robe Fund Balance	220.00
301.038	World Hunger Fund Balance	21.00
301.039	Wednesday Meal Fund Balance	2,438.01
301.040	Confirmation Camp Fund Balance	0.00
301.044	Build The Spirit Fund Balance	1,108.73
301.053	Youth Fund Balance	5,922.04
	Total Fund Balance	\$102,522.51
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$103,354.42