

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

www.flcssc.org
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First Lutheran Church

August 2020



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

Sign up for electronic giving at:

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Download the EasyTithe app
from the app stores.

Text give at:

402-557-0882

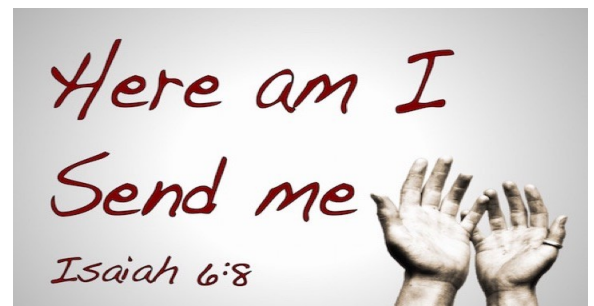


Sign up for Text Notifications
from First Lutheran

Text flcssc to 797979

or use

<http://text.flcssc.org>



The deadline for the September Newsletter is August 20.

Worship at First Lutheran

August 2

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 55:1-5

Second Lesson: Romans 9:1-5

Psalm: 145:8-9, 14-21

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

August 9

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: 1 Kings 19:9-18

Second Lesson: Romans 10:5-15

Psalm: 85:8-13

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

August 16

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Second Lesson: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Psalm: 67

Gospel: Matthew 15:10-28

August 23

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 51:1-6

Second Lesson: Romans 12:1-8

Psalm: 138

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

August 30

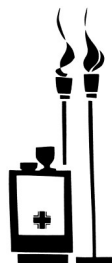
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Second Lesson: Romans 12:9-21

Psalm: 26:1-8

Gospel: Matthew 12:9-21



Church Office 494-5461

Douglas Dill, Pastor 402/235-6969

pastordoug@flcsc.org

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Jane Krogh, Organist 494-1630

LeAnn Kilstrom, Custodian

lkilstrom@flcsc.org

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

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

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Church Coordinators For:

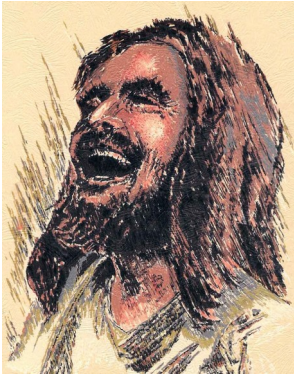
Altar Care: Billy Denker 402/404-4212

Lectors:

Ushers:

Women of the ELCA Chair:

Bonnie Prosser 494-3384



Do We Need Jesus? Pastor Doug

Do we need Jesus?

The real questions are: Do we need Jesus now and did not before? Do we need Jesus more today than yesterday? Do we need Jesus all the time or just some of the time? Do we put Jesus in a box and pull Him out, when we are afraid, anxious, worried, you name it?

There have always been things to be anxious about, if you let them. Jesus tells us over and over, do not be afraid, do not worry. Jesus says in Matthew 6:34, ³⁴ "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (ESV) Now are you saying, oh yea, easier said than done!

It does require some easy work. It is the same work that we are told about in the Bible. It involves prayer. Prayer will ease the burdens we put upon ourselves. Prayer will help us to travel the road light.

Do you recall a sermon series done here at First Lutheran called Traveling Light? This might be an excellent time to go back and listen to this Lenten series from 2019. We have burdens God does not want us to have. We need Jesus to release those burdens. We needed Jesus before, and we need Jesus now, and we needed Jesus as much yesterday as today. Take the heavy bags off, take on the yoke of Jesus. In Matthew 11:29, Jesus says; ²⁹ "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (NIV)

Take this time to watch the sermon series or read the book again or read it for the first time. Here is a link to the series and more information to be able to obtain a copy of the book. <https://www.flcssc.org/wordpress/worship/sermons/sermon-series/>

Pr. Doug

Anniversaries

Ron Frank and Pat Krontz—August 8
Jim and Sally Hansen—August 15
David and Amy HineLine—August 16
John and Barb Koskovich—August 4
Brian and Molly Leiting—August 12
Gary and Bev Rautenberg-Panko—August 31
Chris and Milissa Reyes—August 25
Todd and Diane Sands—August 31
Brandon and Gracie Trautwein—August 16
Brian and Melodee Van Berkum—August 14

Happy Birthday

Kelsie Brown—August 7
Ken Conley—August 2
Jeana Davis—August 9
Karen DeRoos—August 21
Linda Fischer—August 27
Preston Fischer—August 23
Diane Gathje—August 24
Kendall Gill—August 28
Harriet Hansen—August 12
Pam Knudsen—August 28
Haley Koeppe—August 31
Helen Koskovich—August 21
Carol Krieger—August 11
Jennifer Lieber—August 22
Ronda Litras—August 24
Roger Monk—August 6
Susan Monk—August 9
Kelli Perez—August 8
Bob Porter—August 16
Lance Swanson—August 21
Brandon Trautwein—August 17

Youth Birthdays

Raegan Jensen—August 9
Liam Johnson—August 27
Rylie Johnson—August 17
Teagan Kinnaman—August 19
Britton Taylor—August 23

Come!

Why haven't we seen you at worship?
Bring a chair, sit outside.
Sit in the car.
Sit on the grass.
Sit on a bleacher.
Bring bread and wine for communion.
Come, encounter the Lord at FLC.



Church Council Minutes

Church Council minutes are available upon request. Contact the office at 494-5461 or office@flcssc.org.

Financial Reports

Financial Reports are available upon request. Contact the office at 494-5461 or office@flcssc.org.

Thank You

Marla Bianchini-Thank you for all of the condolences sent to me via cards, phone calls, texts, and Facebook messages on the loss of my sister, Wanita.

Attendance

When watching online or in the parking lot, please use our online attendance form at pre-sent.flcssc.org. This can also be found in our app, which can be installed at app.flcssc.org.

Social Ministry

Social Ministry is collecting elementary school emergency supplies (underwear, socks, sweat-pants, and Kleenex) and back to school food snacks for the Siouxland Family Center, Haven House and CSADV. Also being collected are non-perishable food items for families in need.

Calling All Bakers!

We need baked items for our Flea Market!

The Flea Market is August 7-9. Please consider baking something and bringing to the church by August 7.

Shutterfly

Don't forget, if you shop at Shutterfly, you can shop through First Lutheran's storefront at flcssc.shutterflystorefront.com/. First Lutheran will receive 8% of your purchase!

Confirmation Corner

What will confirmation 2020-2021 look like? That is a good question, and we don't have a definitive answer yet. It really depends upon if we are having worship services inside or not. It is also dependent upon who the mentors are. If the mentors are over 65 or have a compromised immune system, we will need to look at using Microsoft Teams to do virtual confirmation classes once a month.

Incoming 6th graders will use their parents for their mentors. Last year's 6th graders will need to find a non-relative in the congregation to be their mentor. Last year's 8th graders are expected to still be part of confirmation, until the confirmation service at the end of October.

At this point we are still planning to have a single worship service for Confirmation/Reformation Sunday in October. Those that will be confirmed are not required to take on any roles in the service. However, **all other students are expected to lead the worship.** This would entail readings,

ushering and acolytes. Normally there is communion and assistants are needed for that as well. At this point, it is unsure how communion will be served in the coming months inside.

We want all persons desiring to be confirmed to be confirmed, but all the requirements must be completed prior to being confirmed. There will be no exceptions to this. Mentors, if you believe that your confirmation student fulfilled all the requirements, please contact Pastor Doug.

Confirmation 2020-2021 should start September 27th, at 11:45 a.m. This may be in person; it may be via Teams. If your child is in confirmation, we need an email address to send the Teams invite to, should we be using Teams and not in person meetings.

Information about the actual confirmation program will be sent to all eligible confirmands in a direct mailing. If you were in 8th grade last year, you have a list of requirements already to be confirmed. You must speak with Pastor Doug before being confirmed to see if you are eligible. This is determined by meeting the requirements that were handed out in last year's program.

Free Concert

Come out of the house and listen to some great music!

Josiah Mullins will be providing a free will offering concert.

Josiah joined us last year in our sanctuary and he is coming back again!

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and sit back and listen to some music.

Josiah will be singing on August 7th and 8th at 7 p.m. in the parking lot shelter.

He will also be joining the band to lead worship on Sunday, August 9th at 10:30 a.m.

If you miss the concert or him singing during worship, you have another chance at Salem Lutheran Church, Dakota City.

On Sunday, August 9th at 4 p.m., Josiah will hold another concert there.

Josiah will also have a booth at the Flea Market and you can purchase his CDs there.

Come to the Flea Market and stay for the concert.

For more info, head to our [website](#).

YouTube

Please subscribe to the First Lutheran YouTube page. We need 100 subscribers to customize the URL to something that is easy to remember.

<http://ow.ly/7GdH50yS9AQ>

50 Years of Ordained Women

With gratitude for those who have gone before and hope for the future, the ELCA gives thanks to God for the ministry of women. In 2019 and 2020 we celebrate 50 years of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States, 40 years of women of color being ordained, and 10 years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely.

As part of this anniversary year, we lament that women have been barred from serving and have been bullied, dismissed and excluded. We also celebrate the gifts and service that women have brought to our church and our world as pastors.

For more information, please visit <https://www.elca.org/50yearsofordainedwomen>

Loving Your Neighbor

I am sick of Covid! How about you?

If it is not bad enough to be in the midst of a pandemic, now the pandemic has become a partisan issue somehow. When did wearing masks to prevent the spread of a deadly virus, become an event that is ripe for civil disobedience because it is a person's "right" to choose whether or not they cover their face to possibly prevent the spread of this disease which is killing people. I seriously, and I mean seriously, do not understand.

It brought to mind a conversation I had with an American pastor friend of mine who is serving a three-point parish in Norway. I have several clients who are pastoring multi-point parishes and there is often a competition between them – wanting to make sure that the pastor does not show favoritism. The situations are often frustrating with increasing demands on the pastor to make sure that each church gets the same attention from the pastor. Knowing that my friend serves these three churches in Norway, I asked her what she has to do to keep the three churches happy when they compete for her attention. She laughed and said that it doesn't happen. I didn't understand and asked her to explain. She said that since there is a commitment to social welfare in Norway, it has filtered into the culture and there is a basic assumption that she will be giving each of the three churches exactly what they need. There isn't a competition. The culture permeated the thought process of these congregations. I have literally been thinking about this conversation for years.

Now fast forward to Covid and it got me thinking about this conversation again, thinking about the fact that our country was founded on rebelling against a regime and we demanded our rights, and we created a bill of rights, and we talk about people not being able to take away our rights. I do NOT disagree with this – I am delighted to live in a country with such rights. I simply have to ask when did the response to this pandemic become more about our rights and less about the health and wellbeing of one another. Don't get me wrong, please don't make this a political thing – I don't want to go there – it is not my point.

Back in college, I was taking an international management course and we were tasked with solving an economic problem in a country. I remember asking the professor if he would allow me to write a paper saying that a Christian culture could solve the economic problems of the country I was assigned. He said that if I could make a case for it, it was fine. I was so impressed

that he let me do that. Fast forward to today and a world of Covid.

What if we truly put the welfare of others above our own, regardless of what we thought about masks, regardless of whether it is awkward or uncomfortable, regardless of it being your right not to wear one?

What if we all worked together to stop the spread of Covid for the sake of EVERYONE?

If we ALL wore masks, physically distanced and tried to slow our exposure with others, we ALL would benefit, fewer people would become infected, fewer would die, our kids could be safely going back to school sooner, and our economy would recover quicker. If you don't want to look at it as a "right" thing – look at it selfishly in that regard OR look at it as the Christian thing to do, as taking care of neighbor.

One of my clients was feeling that it is not safe now to have people come back to worship in person in the building. By the end of our conversation, she had come up with the phrase, "For now, I am willing to be wrong and have you be inconvenienced, than for me to be right, and have any of you get sick or die."

Many of you saw on my personal Facebook page, the fact that I ran over to my neighbor's house a few days ago after I heard a piercing cry. I feared my neighbor had fallen – but she had heard that her brother had died of Covid. When I go out, I wear a mask because I love my neighbor – not just the ones in my neighborhood – but my neighbor in the biblical sense of the word.

If you read this as a political diatribe – you have missed the point. If you read this as a "love your neighbor" sermon – thank you – you have connected with my soul.

Barbra Solsa author

Barbra is the owner of Clergy Life Coaching & Spiritual Direction.

<https://www.clergylifecoaching.com>

They offer Life Coaches, Clergy Life Coaches and Spiritual Direction

Online Directory

Good news! Our new Lifetouch Mobile Directory is ready!

Our Mobile Directory contains contact information for all the families of First Lutheran and is an easy to use tool to help you stay connected. PLUS, you will see portraits of all our families that participated in our recent photography event. What a great way to connect names and faces!

To access the mobile directory:

1. Click on the link listed on our website: www.flcssc.org/wordpress/member-directory
2. Enter your Access Code: (contact church office for this code)

Once you are logged in, you can scroll through the directory, search by name, view family profiles, call/map, and view the staff only page. The onscreen Guided Tour will walk you through each of these areas.

To update your contact information, please contact the church office. Periodically, we will be hosting additional photography events to include even more of our family's portraits in our mobile directory. Connecting has never been easier! Check it out today.

Outdoor Worship

We will continue with one outdoor worship at 10:30 through the month of August. Council will re-evaluate during their August meeting.

Thrivent Choice

The Thrivent Choice program gives eligible members of Thrivent Financial the power to recommend where Thrivent should consider distributing part of its annual charitable outreach funds each year.

First Lutheran has received \$177 in Choice Dollars

grant funds in 2020.

To learn more about Thrivent Choice, contact your Thrivent Financial representative or visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. You can also call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Sign Up Online

Online signup is available for lectors, ushers, streaming, and slides/Proclaim at signup.flcssc.org.

Please sign up today!

Awaken Me

Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there;

if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning

and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead me,

and your right hand shall hold me fast.

—Ps. 139.7-10

God of infinite love,

awaken me like Jacob

to know you are in this place.

In strange times, in new places,

in unfamiliar circumstances,

you are here.

You walk with me.

You bear the burden with me:

you, my strength and wisdom.

With me you see with new eyes

and guide me as I find my way.

Though I may journey in an unknown land

your loving presence is steady.

Though I may face difficulty and uncertainty

your grace is sure and your blessing constant.

I thank you. Awaken my gratitude.

I need you. Deepen my trust.

Open my eyes. Open my heart.
God of infinite love, you who walk with me,
give me faith to walk with you.
Amen.



Steve Garnaas-Holmes
Unfolding Light
www.unfoldinglight.net

Smart Phone App

First Lutheran 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.

AUGUST 7-9—FLEA MARKET

SEPTEMBER 7—OFFICE CLOSED

SEPTEMBER 27—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

OCTOBER 25—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

OCTOBER 25—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:45

NOVEMBER 3—CRAFT FAIR from 9:00-3:00

NOVEMBER 22—FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 9:30

NOVEMBER 22—CONFIRMATION CLASS @ 11:45