First Lutheran / Abundant New Life 3601 Dakota Ave South Sioux City, NE 68776

FLC/Abundant

New Life

May 2021



Mission Statement: Christ has called us to: Invite, Connect, Disciple and Go.

Sign up for electronic giving at:

http://giving.flcssc.org Download the EasyTithe app from the app stores.

Text give at: 402-557-0882



Sign up for Text Notifications from First Lutheran / Abundant New Life

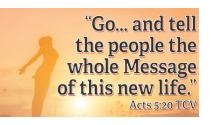
Text flcssc to 797979 or use <u>http://text.flcssc.org</u>



www.flcssc.org www.anlssc.org www.facebook.com/firstlutheranssc www.twitter.com/@FirstSsc 402/494-5461

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Worship at FLC / ANL

5/2 5th Sunday of Easter
5/9 6th Sunday of Easter
5/16 7th Sunday of Easter
5/23 Pentecost
5/30 Trinity Sunday

Want the upcoming readings?

You can check out the readings by looking at the revised common lectionary. This is available online at: <u>https://www.dailylectio.net/calendar</u>

Rarely will we use the Psalm and we follow option I (Semicontinuous.) All scripture during worship will be from the New International Version (NIV), unless otherwise specified.

Office Open Wednesday from 9 a.m. until Noon

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Bible Study

Circle II, which meets on second Tuesday of each month in the church lounge, is hosting a Bible study. You are cordially invited and encouraged to attend the study. Part of discipleship, is studying the scriptures.

The next meeting will be May 11th, at 9:15 a.m.
 If you have any questions, please contact Lucy
 Gognon at 605-999-1332

College Care Packages

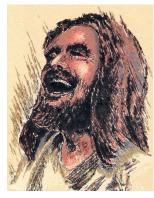
All of the college students, whose names were submitted, received the care packages. They received them in time to re-stock supplies but also provide some fun things and food.

At this time of year, the students are studying for their finals. They can often forget to take care of themselves, both physically and mentally.

Thanks to the many generous efforts of those who donated to, packed and sent out the packages, they have received them in time.

Now they have the items they need to keep up the hard work of study. They will be ready to test but also keep themselves happy and healthy.

Your generosity lets them know that even though they may be away at school, they are still part of this community and are cared for.



Ministering Pastor Doug

Martin Luther believed in the priesthood of all believers. I believe the same, which means that each of us, who claim to be disciples of Christ, are all part of the priesthood.

As part of the priesthood, we minister to those in need of ministering, which to be honest, is everyone. How we minister is as important as ministering. We minister by loving each other, as Jesus loved us. We do not minister for our sake but for the sake of others, in Jesus' name.

Jesus said, "...Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who ae members of my family, you did it to me." NRSV Mt 25:40 and Jesus also said, "...Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." (NRSV Mt 25:45)

I am happy to report that many of you have been reaching out and caring for each other. There have been visits to the shut-ins, taking food to shut-ins, car rides, phone calls and so much more. You know who you are and so does Jesus.

Our salvation comes from Jesus, not from our works, however, what James says has merit. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. (James 3:14-17 NIV) I am a minister too, as a believer. I am a minister as recognized by each of you and the ELCA. In order for me to minister in person to you, I need to know what you need. I need this in the same way that those that are ministering to you now. If I am not told by you, or told by someone you asked to inform me, then I can only assume you do not want me to know or do not believe you need ministering to by me. I enjoy fulfilling my call as a minister, in a variety of ways, but one of the ways I enjoy most is, one to one.

What assets do we have then? We are blessed to have creative people inside the congregation. We have a lawyer, doctor, nurses, care givers and both active and retired teachers and so many more. This is only a snippet of the assets. We also have YOU!

Ministering can include each piece that helps lead a worship service, so everyone can participate in worship. Did you even know that ministry is also taking care of the building? Yup, you see something, care for it. It does not and should not be left up to our wonderful sexton, who gives of her time, for no compensation in return.

Ministering, what a great way of living out our disciple call.



Fellowship Breakfast

When: May 23rd @ 8:00 a.m.

The Fellowship Team is looking at providing eggs, biscuits and gravy, coffee and juice. Please come and enjoy a hot breakfast and fellowship before worship at 9:30 a.m.



Creative Crafters

What a great success the event was. Hear all about it from Beverly Rautenberg-Panko, Vicky Johnson or Kris Dill.

There is already talk of planning another, so if you are interested, please see them.

Church Council Minutes

Church Council minutes are available upon request. Contact the office at 402/494-5461 or office@flcssc.org.

Financial Reports

Financial Reports are available upon request. Contact the office at 402/494-5461 or office@flcssc.org.

Hopes to Habits Study

Postponed until further notice. People are being trained to lead this valuable study as soon as they are, we will have the study. Please let Pastor Doug or Jarrod Knudsen know if you plan on attending. We want to make sure that there are ample study books.

The cost for the study material will be \$5.00.

If you cannot afford the cost, please contact pastor Doug. He has resources to help cover your cost. We want everyone to be part of this.

Food Pantry

Opportunities to serve

Hours of Open: Every Wednesday 9-11 am & again from 1-7pm.

Especially needed 9-11, 3-5.

No heavy lifting ... food selection is grocery store style. Sometimes your 2-hour shift is quiet ... other times we are very busy.

Call Bev 308-991-8324

Sponsor a Song

Would you like to sponsor a song for 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 Sponsor a Song found under Worship and Music.

Ministry Job Opportunities

These opportunities are available to members and non-members. Only non-members will be as paid compensation for their work. We are always looking for talented people from the congregation, to share their musical talents.

We are seeking a guitarist.

Compensation negotiable.

We are seeking a guitarist to participate in our 9:30 am Sunday Contemporary worship. Practice with the band and participation on Sunday a must. Keyboardist will report to the praise band leader.

Contact Pastor Doug at 402-235-6969 or at <u>pastordoug@flcssc.org</u> Send your resume to Pastor Doug, Apply on Facebook below. <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> job_opening/442038713411095/?source=job_ats

We are seeking a keyboardist:

Compensation negotiable.

We are seeking a keyboardist to participate in our 9:30 am Sunday Contemporary worship. Practice with the band and participation on Sunday a must. Keyboardist would report to the praise band leader.

Social Ministry

The Social Ministry Team would like to thank everyone who donated candy or gave a donation of money to help fill Easter Baskets. We filled a total of 78 baskets. 53 baskets went out into the community for the Gospel Mission and The Council on Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence in Sioux City and to the Haven House in South Sioux City.

Each basket had toys, a coloring book and crayons, chalk, a toothbrush and toothpaste, a pencil, plastic eggs filled with candy and a few loose pieces that may not have fit into an egg. The team wants also thank WELCA for the donation of gift cards that each basket also received.

The team was also able to fill 25 Easter baskets that were given out Easter morning to the youth who worshiped with us in person.

Six church families received food boxes. Each box had what they would need to have, to enjoy an Easter dinner with their family.

Again, thank you to everyone who help to spread God's LOVE!

AmazonSmile

Do you shop at Amazon? Did you know that First Lutheran / Abundant New Life will receive a .5% donation from your purchase if you shop through <u>smile.amazon.com/ch/47-6000954</u>? \$145.47 has been raised from 16 donors since we joined the program. Help increase the number of donors and the money raised for mission.



Smoke Off & Grill Tasting

June 26 2021 from 1-5 p.m., in the parking lot. Each contestant should supply 12 pounds of meat. Prize money will be split between 1st, 2nd and 3rd. There will also be a 50/50 drawing at 4:30 p.m.

Contestants cost is the 12 pounds of meat.

Tasters: Adult \$8.00, includes 2 oz from each contestant, side and includes a drink. Children: \$6.00 hot dog, side and drink,. Check website for more details and registration.

Flea Market



We will be hosting our annual Cardinal Flea Market, August 13-15, 2021.

Friday, from 12:00 pm-7:00 pm

Saturday, from 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Sunday, from 11:00 am-4:00 pm

Free admission to shop and browse the indoor and outdoor spots. You can purchase lunch on

Saturday and Sunday, onsite.



Community Picnic & Pet Blessing

August 28th, 2021 the Fellowship Team will host

an End of the Summer Neighborhood Picnic. It will run from 1-4 p.m. and is FREE to the entire Neighborhood !!

Free Hotdogs, Hamburgers, chips and dessert. We are looking at providing outdoor games. If you have Horse Shoes, Volley Ball nets and Corn Hole set available, please contact Kris Dill.

Pastor Doug will be available to bless any pets brought to the picnic. If you cannot bring your pet, bring a picture!

We hope to have local animal organizations in attendance to register animals and provide adoption.

Outdoor Worship

Starting with the first Sunday in June and running through the first Sunday of September, we will have outdoor worship on the first Sundays of each month.

Lord's Prayer

Have you ever stopped and really thought about the Lord's Prayer? Even beyond that, have you ever thought about what you are asking God to do? Especially when we are asked to be forgiven of our "Debts", "Sins", "Trespasses", whichever format of the Lord's Prayer you pray.

Below are two versions of the Lord's Prayer, as printed in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Note on the versions, there are some word changes but they say essentially the same thing. The choice of words when translating from Greek into English can make a difference in how we hear and take into ourselves, what we hear, see and feel. They are still however essentially the same.

Lord's Prayer from the (ELW)

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sin

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

or

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen. Evangelical Lutheran Church, *Pastoral Care – ELW* (Fortress Press, 2008).



There are two locations in the Bible, that we can find the prayer. We can look at <u>Matthew</u> <u>6:9-13</u> and <u>Luke 11:2-4</u>. Luke's version is shorter and it does not include something that I find is crucial to an understanding of what we are asking God to do. Thus the point of this post. So, first let's look Matthew's account of the prayer.

Below, is from <u>Matthew 6:9-13, (NRSV)</u> where Jesus tells us how to pray.

⁹ "Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

¹⁰Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹Give us this day our daily bread.

¹²And forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³And do not bring us to the time of trial,

but rescue us from the evil one.

The Holy Bible: New Revised Standard Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1989), <u>Mt 6:9–13</u>.

What I think we often fail to see, because we do not say it in our prayer and maybe often we fail to see because of taking the prayer out of it's full context, are the verses that follow the prayer.

Jesus continues to speak, and says;

¹⁴For if you forgive others when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

The Holy Bible: Today's New International Version. (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2005), <u>Mt 6:14–15</u>.

Now think about the prayer and read it carefully.

²And forgive us our debts, [sins, trepasses]

as we also have forgiven our debtors. [those who sin against us, trespasses against us]

Now go back to verse 14 and 15. Are we really prepared to be forgiven by God, how we forgive others? Do we need a change of heart before we pray this prayer?

Just food for thought, when we pray this prayer.

On a couple of other notes. I encourage you to look at both Matthew's and Luke's account of the prayer. I also highly encourage you to look at different translations of the Bible. I used a couple of here, but there are many other translations. There is a difference between translations and paraphrase and interpretations. The Message Bible is an example of a paraphrase interpretation. The best translations were translated by using the original Greek and Hebrew scriptures. When you start looking at the footnotes to the verses, you will also note that some of the original copies of the Greek and Hebrew scriptures, can be slightly different as well. They may use different words, add words or not have other words included. The word choice when translating, is chosen by the translators. Often there is NOT a word for word way to translate from one language into another. What also has to be taken into consideration is:

Translator's background (Context) The context of the original text The year of the translation The audience of the translation, their context There are many other factors as well, but all of this makes a difference when looking at other translations.

Studying the scriptures can be a lot of fun. It can also be confusing and frustrating at times. Listening for the Holy Spirit during those times can make it even more interesting and fun. God continues to speak to us today, in words of the Bible, the environment, other humans, other written words, etc. God continues to speak.

In all things:

Our Father in heaven,\ hallowed be your name. ¹⁰Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

AMEN



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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