

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

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First Lutheran Church

August 2023



God's Work. Our Hands.

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Sign up for electronic giving at:

<http://giving.flcssc.org>

Download the EasyTithe app
from the app stores.

Text give at:

402-557-0882



The deadline for the September Newsletter is August 17.

CHURCH COUNCIL (*Executive Council)

*President	Jarrold Knudsen 712/898-1170
*Vice-President	Bob Barto 712/490-1676
*Treasurer	Mike Hunter 712/490-2998
*Secretary	Jennifer Lieber 712/212-6932
Tayden Kinnaman	712/490-9360
Branden Lieber	712/259-4312
Randy Rahn	928/551-2464
Pastor Patti Meyer	623/910-7859

PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR PATTI

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)

This is the verse that came to mind to post on my mirror for this month to remind me that even when the task seems insurmountable, there is always a power greater than I to get me into and through whatever comes at me.

Moving was what seemed like an insurmountable task this past month. It's hard to move in the best of situations. It's a lot of work that requires many shoulders yoked together to lighten the load. And so, I want to thank all who yoked with us to get that job done...those who came and physically moved boxes from the truck to the house, and even those who yoked in prayer to strengthen us for that job.

And now as I turn my attention to our work of ministry here at First, I realize that what we face is the task of change. Do NOT stop reading right here! I know that word "change" can scare the most experienced, who have gone through a lot of change in life, but what we have to realize and accept is that change is happening to us every day. We cannot stop time or life.

The question is, how will we accept it? Do we fight it with every muscle in our body because we don't like change? Or do we lean into scripture (like the one I mentioned here) and turn to the power that is greater than us? Do we think of the process as "my journey"? Or do we yoke

together as the body of Christ to become more than any one of us can be on our own to accomplish God's mission for this church?

It might feel like the work of ministry is insurmountable at times and in those times, we might want to give up...but God is telling us that God can do more than any one of us alone. I don't always like the process of change, but sometimes I love seeing what God can do in the midst of it.

I know...I ask a lot of questions, don't I? But the thing is that asking questions is what helps me grow as a person and in relationship with God. And I believe that's what God calls us into relationship for...to learn and grow. So, ponder with me. Talk with me. Share your thoughts with me. And tune in each month to "Ponderings from Pastor Patti". Write this verse from Philippians 4:13 on a sticky note and stick it up to your bathroom mirror and pray each day as you journey with me into this new time together here at First.

Pastor D. Patti Meyer
415 W 3rd, Ponca, NE 68770
prdpmeyer@gmail.com

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Wow, where has the summer gone? It will soon be time to start school. I hope all our teachers and students had a nice summer break and are now ready to go back to school. We will be starting Sunday school again in September so if you're interested in helping, please contact Rita Todd. Several projects that are currently in the works: the council is discussing getting a new sign on Dakota Avenue, new flooring in the Welcome Center and down the hallway, and the kickplate is being replaced on the west doors. I was very happy with our summer church attendance numbers. We averaged around 50 each week. I am hoping that picks up in the fall. Now that we have Pastor Patti as a great resource, we need to make sure our contributions stay strong so we can continue to support this church and our missions.

Jarrold Knudsen, Council President

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

- August 6 10th Sunday after Pentecost
First Lesson: Isaiah 55:1-5
Second Lesson: Romans 9:1-5
Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21
- August 13 11th Sunday after Pentecost
First Lesson: 1 Kings 19:9-18
Second Lesson: Romans 10:5-15
Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33
- August 20 12th Sunday after Pentecost
First Lesson: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
Second Lesson: Romans 11:1-2a,
 29-32
Gospel: Matthew 15:10-28
- August 27 13th Sunday after Pentecost
First Lesson: Isaiah 51:1-6
Second Lesson: Romans 12:1-8
Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

LECTORS

- August 6 Bob Barto
August 13 Jill Gill
August 20 Jake Gill
August 27 Mary Wolf

JUNE ATTENDANCE

- June 4 45
June 11 41
June 18 70
June 25 51

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- August 2 Ken Conley
August 9 Jeana Davis
August 11 Carol Krieger
August 12 Joan Robinette
August 16 Bob Porter
August 17 Brandon Trautwein
August 21 Helen Koskovich
August 21 Lance Swanson
August 22 Jennifer Lieber
August 23 Britton Taylor

BIRTHDAYS CONTINUED

- August 24 Ronda Litras
August 27 Linda Fischer
August 28 Kendall Gill
August 28 Pam Knudsen
August 31 Haley Koepp

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

- August 19 Teagan Kinnaman

ANNIVERSARIES

- August 4 John and Barb Koskovich
August 8 Ron and Pat Krontz
August 14 Brian and Melodee Van Berkum
August 15 Jim and Sally Hansen
August 16 Brandon and Grace Trautwein
August 25 Chris and Milissa Reyes

If we have missed any birthday or anniversary, please let us know.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the family of Sharon King who passed away Friday, July 7. The funeral was held Friday, July 14 at Meyer Brothers Morningside Chapel.

PLEASE DONATE your used American flags. Jake Gill's Eagle Scout project is to dispose of these flags properly. Used flags can be placed in the designated red box in the entryway.

FLOWER CHART

Would you like to give altar flowers for a Sunday worship? Please sign up on the flower chart located on the bulletin board in the entryway and contact Jennifer Lieber at 712/212-6932.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a concern or need for which you would like prayer, please contact Sandy Larson at 402/494-2135 or Mary Wolf at 402/494-4697.

"Pray, and let God worry." – Martin Luther

WORLD RELIGIONS BIBLE STUDY

Are you curious about other religions or denominations? Are you ready to grow in your own faith journey by learning more about how to live in a pluralistic America with more (and very different) beliefs by learning more about others and our differences? This study will begin August 5 and will run for several weeks. Each class will begin at 9:30 a.m.

August 5	Introduction
August 12	Buddhism
August 19	Hinduism
August 26	Islam
September 2	Judaism

Throughout the month of September, we will explore some of the mainline and nondenominational faiths. Each session is designed to be independent from another so you can come to all sessions or whichever ones perk your interest; and you don't have to feel like you will be left behind if you are not able to attend one or another.

I look forward to learning with you.

UPCOMING EVENTS (mark your calendars)

Saturday, September 9
(begin at noon with a light lunch)

We will have an Open Forum to share our grievances. This will be a structured event to allow all grievances to be named and/or spoken.

Everyone is welcome to attend and share.

We will then have a healing service in worship on September 24.

CIRCLE I

There was no meeting in July and there is no meeting in August. We will meet again on September 18, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to come for dessert, coffee and fellowship followed by Bible study.

LYDIA GROUP

We will not meet in August. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 14 at 6:30 p.m.

YOU ARE INVITED!

The family of Helen Koskovich invites you to join them in celebrating Helen's 90th birthday on Saturday, August 19 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. No gifts please. Just come and celebrate with Helen.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank our First Lutheran Church family for all their kind words and cards of sympathy in the passing of our sister, Sharon King.

A special "thank you" to the ladies of the church who provided the cookies and bars for the luncheon, and to Sandy Larson and Jackie German for being such great friends to us in our time of need.

Our heartfelt "thank you" to all.

Jill and Mike Murphy
Sally and Jim Hansen
Clark Kleinberg

FOOD PANTRY

Our Church's food pantry is available each Wednesday. Hours are from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and again from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Donations are always accepted for this project – either in the form of grocery items or monetary. All grocery items must be non-perishable.

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS are posted on the bulletin board in the entryway.

BLESS THE STUDENTS

Dear Lord Jesus, bless the children and youth of this nation, returning to their schools and colleges. May your Holy Spirit enlighten their minds, purify their vision and strengthen their wills. Protect them as they learn in the classroom and participate in activities outside it. May they learn to follow in your steps, just as you grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. Amen.

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	3 Food Bank 1:00-3:00 p.m.	4	5 World Religions Bible study 9:30 a.m.
6 Worship 9:30 a.m.	7	8	9 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	10	11	12 World Religions Bible study 9:30 a.m.
13 Worship 9:30 a.m.	14	15	16 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	17 Food Bank 1:00-3:00 p.m.	18	19 World Religions Bible study 9:30 a.m. H. Koskovich birthday celebration 1:00-4:00 p.m.
20 Worship (Communion) 9:30 a.m. Council Meeting 10:30 a.m.	21	22	23 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	24	25	26 World Religions Bible study 9:30 a.m.
27 Worship 9:30 a.m.	28	29	30 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	31		

Personal Progress Word Search

Faith #1

Find the words in the puzzle below. These are words you find by working on Faith Experience #1! Be sure to find two conference talks on faith and write your thoughts on the included journal pages.

Y Q U X U C D D Z A G Z B T M B Q J M D
 M M W C R L O J L J S C U E C I W X S M
 B O I I U O O P Y E K N O W L E D G E G
 T S V J X P T G M R O I V A S I Q L N P
 V E C W Q L E A L H H B N I Y U E L Q D
 D S A R D R J Z C F F S Y Z X J A V X K
 G J L A I R T I H H C M L K O L B M E Y
 L L B S K P R Z I A E R U S A E R T V V
 Z B E M R E T Z L B F R E H M N A E T D
 X D S A J O Y U D I R P S T O U H S S L
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FAITH
 HABIT
 SMITH
 SAVIOR
 TRIAL
 TESTIMONY
 BELIEVE
 FIRST
 SCRIPTURES
 ISAAC

MOSES
 ABRAHAM
 HOPE
 JAMES
 KNOWLEDGE
 JERICHO
 CHILD
 VISION
 ENOCH
 MORONI

PRAYER
 JOSEPH
 TREASURE
 SARA
 WISDOM
 TRUE
 CONFOUND
 DESIRE
 ALMA