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The deadline for the October Newsletter is September 21.

CHURCH COUNCIL (*Executive Council)

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*President	Jarrod 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		

<u>PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR PATTI</u> So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word of mouth or by letter from us.

(2 Thessalonians 2:15)

The word for this month is Traditions. As we journey through the month of September, let's remember that this month is traditionally a month of focus and programming, when our children return to school classrooms; when we plan for learning opportunities here at church through worship and study; and when we begin planning for seasonal changes...in the church and in our lives. And there it is...that word "change" again. It seems to be in us and around us no matter what...

A few weeks ago, I asked you to think about traditions. And to think about which traditions are worth keeping in our faith journey, and which are better retired or let go of. There are always a lot of traditions in all parts of our lives. But there is also a lot of room for growth and change when we allow it to happen.

What we need to remember is something I mentioned last month here, which is that God can do more than any one of us alone. None of us will appreciate the process of change (especially when we are in the midst of it), but sometimes I love seeing what God can do in us and through us when we relinquish our own control and let God be God.

Blessings this month as we explore Traditions.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, it's almost September. I hope everyone had a good summer, but now we are ready to transition to fall. School is back in session and we will begin our Sunday School very soon. If you have children or grandchildren, please bring them at 9:00 a.m. and then stay for service at 9:30 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact myself or Rita Todd.

We are going to be having some events in the fall with dates to come soon.

Fall Clean-Up Day – September 9, 10:00 a.m. Chili Cook Off Craft Fair

Jarrod Knudsen, Council President

RALLY DAY

Sunday School begins on September 10. Young people should be here at 9:00 a.m. to enjoy Bible stories and fun activities. Come and invite your friends!

SEPTEMBER 10 RALLY DAY WORSHIP

All students and teachers are invited to attend and bring their school bags/backpacks for a special "back to school Blessing" during worship.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting has been called by the church council for a vote on September 17 during worship concerning the updating of our sign out by the street. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sept. 3	<u>14th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Jeremiah 15:15-21 Second Lesson: Romans 12:9-21 Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28
Sept. 10	15 th Sunday after Pentecost First Lesson: Ezekiel 33:7-11 Second Lesson: Romans 13:8-14 Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20
Sept. 17	<u>16th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21 Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12 Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35
Sept. 24	<u>17th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Jonah 3:10 – 4:11

Second Lesson: Phil. 1:21-30 Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

LECTORS

September 3	Terri Gotch
September 10	Bob Barto
September 17	Tanner Koeppe
September 24	Mary Wolf

JULY ATTENDANCE

July 2	41
July 9	47
July 16	51
July 23	43
July 30	41

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 1	Mike Hunter
September 1	Rick Lieber
September 4	Ottie Gierman
September 5	Gerald Krieger
September 6	Ruth Jensen
September 7	Betty Bass
September 9	Patty Blessing
September 12	Colton Novak
September 14	Michelle Kinnaman

BIRTHDAYS CONTINUED

September 20	Jan Durant
September 21	Sophie Swanson
September 22	Chris Kinnaman
September 23	Joey Robinson
September 24	Lee Trautwein
September 25	Pat Krontz
September 26	Terry Sorem
September 28	Colleen Schleusener

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

September 9	Randy and Nanci Walsh
September 12	Rich and Sharon Potter
September 16	Mark and Vicky Johnson
September 16	Mike and Bonnie Prosser
September 20	Chris and Becky Knudsen
September 21	Mike and Tanya Rich
September 30	Todd and Melissa Baker

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

SYMPATHY

We extend our prayers and heartfelt sympathy to the family of Marian Hayes who passed away August 17. Services were held August 23 at Mohr and Becker-Hunt Funeral Home.

<u>PLEASE DONATE</u> 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.

<u>THANK YOU</u> to the many volunteers who help with the upkeep of First Lutheran. You have spent many hours mowing the lawn, maintaining the flower beds and cleaning the church, and we want you to know you are very much appreciated.

CIRCLE I

We will meet on September 18 at 2:00 p.m. There will be dessert and fellowship followed by a Bible study. Feel free to come and enjoy the company and study.

LYDIA GROUP

Our next meeting is scheduled for September 14 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us!

THANK YOU

A special thank you to all who sent cards and greetings and attended my 90th birthday party Saturday at First Lutheran. Words cannot express the joy it brought to me, the love and many hugs. Please accept my sincere thanks and God's Blessing.

A very special thank you to my family for hosting the party and my dear friends who so graciously served cake and punch to all.

Thanks all for happy memories.

Blessings and my love, Helen Koskovich

FLOWERS

Would you like to give fresh flowers for a Sunday worship? All orders are to be made directly with Jennifer Lieber at 712/212-6932. Order forms are available at the Welcome Center. Contact Jennifer with any questions.

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.

FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

It's time to do some fall cleaning around the church grounds and even inside the church building. We'll meet Saturday, September 9 at 10:00 a.m. to start this project. Many hands make light work, so mark your calendar and make plans to be here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We will be working on airing and letting go of our grievances throughout the month of September during worship, following worship and special meetings if necessary, and it will be followed up with a Healing Worship on September 24.

Celebration of Life Worship – October 1 with a barbeque following worship.

FOOD BANK OF SIOUXLAND

First Lutheran Church continues to be the gathering place for the Food Bank of Siouxland. The food bank is open the first and third Thursday of each month from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. (Please note the new time!) Besides the food distribution in the afternoon, help is needed from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. when the truck is unloaded.

BE TRANSFORMED

Labor Day weekend – a time to rest from our labors. But this is also an opportunity to reflect on our daily work and discern whether our effort is thankless and uninteresting or something that gives us deep and lasting satisfaction. God intends for our work to be much more than a job, much more than a daily grind. It should be, instead, a vocation – which means, quite literally, a "calling."

In Romans 12:2, Paul challenges us with the words: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect."

The apostle's advice, then, is to be transformed by the renewing of your minds. Paul says be transformed by discovering what the Lord God is calling you to do. -Homiletics

Many things I have tried to grasp and have lost. That which I have placed in God's hands, I still have. – Martin Luther

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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3 Worship 9:30 a.m.	4 Labor Day	5	6	7 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m. (note new time)	8	9 Clean-Up Day 10:00 a.m.
10 Rally Day Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Rally Day Wor- ship 9:30 a.m.	11	12	13 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	14 Lydia 6:30 p.m.	15	16
17 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship/Cong. Meeting (Communion) 9:30 a.m.	18 Circle I 2:00 p.m.	19	20	21 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m. Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.	22	23
24 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Healing Wor- ship 9:30 a.m.	25	26	27 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	28	29	30

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> First Lutheran Church 3601 Dakota Avenue South Sioux City NE 68776

Name:

Date: