

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

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First Lutheran Church

October 2023



God's Work. Our Hands.

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Sign up for electronic giving at:

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Text give at:

402-557-0882



The deadline for the November Newsletter is October 19.

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

“Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, ... I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel.” (Philippians 1:27)

These words keep resonating with me since we heard them in our healing service in September. Because when I ask myself where I want to be in my spiritual journey (here at First or in my own heart), I want to be living in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. I want to live in one spirit. I want to live side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel

Simply put...I want to live as God calls me to live every day...and I want to do that with you. I came here knowing and learning about the difficult decisions and discussions that had happened here. And in the beginning, I might have experienced a bit of anxiety, wondering if I would be able to help you heal this depth of brokenness.

I still don't trust completely that I am good enough...but I DO trust that God is! God is good and big enough to do so much more than we can imagine. And I know that God is here

with us. And I know that if we live according to God's word and walk together loving one another, and loving God in our midst, we will work through it.

I heard someone say once that some people are not welcome in heaven. Have you thought about those people who hurt others with words or actions, abuse or are just plain mean? Will they be in heaven? Should we have to see them in heaven? What would I say to someone who has hurt me when I see them in heaven?

Having given some thought to this situation now, I can't emphasize enough how important it is for us to hear these words Paul speaks to the Philippians. "Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ"...one spirit, side by side, one mind. We love one another in response to God's mission in the world. We forgive one another as we have already been forgiven by the one who created us human and imperfect and broken. But we also can struggle with how to do that when we are hurt so deeply by others. The month of October is the month to Go and...Ask. So, we begin this month by asking, "God, how do we live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ?"

Blessings this month as we "Ask".

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings,

Wow, the year is flying by and it's October. It will be Halloween, and kids will be out for Trick or Treating. We have been very busy with the start of Sunday school. If you are interested in bringing your kids or grandkids, get in touch with Rita Todd.

Keep your eyes on the calendar for more events.

1. Church Clean-Up
2. Chili Cook-Off
3. Craft Fair

Jarrold Knudsen
Council President

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 1	<u>18th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Ezek. 18:1-4, 25-32 Second Lesson: Phil. 2:1-13 Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32
October 8	<u>19th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Isaiah 5:1-7 Second Lesson: Phil. 3:4b-14 Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46
October 15	<u>20th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Isaiah 25:1-9 Second Lesson: Phil. 4:1-9 Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14
October 22	<u>21st Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Isaiah 45:1-7 Second Lesson: 1 Thess. 1:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22
October 29	<u>Reformation Sunday</u> First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34 Second Lesson: Romans 3:19-28 Gospel: John 8:31-36

LECTORS

October 1	Tanner Koepp
October 8	Brooklyn Sorem
October 15	Tristan Kinnaman
October 22	Katelyn Lieber
October 29	Jill Gill

If you would like to lector but haven't been called, please contact Mary Wolf at 402/494-4697.

AUGUST ATTENDANCE

August 6	42
August 13	50
August 20	50
August 27	42

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 5	Bob Oberg
October 9	Becky Knudsen
October 10	Ray Schleusener
October 11	Ranelle De Jong
October 11	Cathie Galvin
October 11	Randy Walsh
October 13	Mike Rich
October 18	Sharon Parker
October 26	Bill Kendra
October 29	Kaylana Pedersen
October 31	Scott Koepsell
October 31	Patty Matz

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

October 10	Brinkley Yacevich
October 13	Grace Hunter
October 13	Harley Koepsell
October 19	Eyan Barr
October 22	Gabriella Durant

ANNIVERSARIES

October 1	Kimon and Ronda Litras
October 4	Jerry and Jeana Davis
October 19	Zack and Katie Prescott-Kvidera
October 21	Dennis and Linda Fischer
October 27	Lane and Carol Ostendorf

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

SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy to the family of Donna Krantz. Donna passed away September 13. A time of fellowship and sharing was held September 22 at First Lutheran.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Dr. Todd Oss. Todd passed away September 23. Services were held September 28 at First Lutheran Church in Sioux City.

SUNDAY SCHOOL continues each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Come and enjoy Bible stories and fun activities. Invite your friends!

CIRCLE I

We met on September 17 for our fall meeting for dessert and coffee, after which we had a general meeting and a Bible study. Our next meeting is October 16 at 2:00 p.m. All ladies are welcome.

LYDIA GROUP

Our next meeting is scheduled for October 12 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us!

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. If you have prayer requests that you would like mentioned in the Sunday announcements, leave a message at the church office or contact Pastor Meyer.

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. Besides the food distribution in the afternoon, help is needed from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. when the truck is unloaded.

FOOD PANTRY

Our Church's food pantry is available the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. 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.

COME AND JOIN US for a celebration to give thanks for our Baptism, renew our membership at First, and welcome new members to our midst on October 8. Worship is at 9:30 a.m. with a meal to follow.

BEING A CHRISTIAN IS LIKE BEING A PUMPKIN

God picks you from the patch and brings you in.
(John 15:16)

Then washes all the dirt off of you.
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

He opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc.
(Romans 6:6)

Then He carves you a new smiling face.
(Psalm 71:23)

And He puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see.
(Matthew 5:16)

ALWAYS REFORMING

The Latin phrase *Ecclesia semper reformanda est* means “The church is always reforming”; implied is “And that’s good!”

Ongoing change and growth are important for individuals, too, but for many of us, change is hard. Use this prayer poem to embrace positive change, safe in the arms of our unchanging God.

Cradle to grave—

How shall my life flow?

Always the same,

Never daring to grow? Since

God is the same, always faithful and near,

I’m free to move forward in spite of my fear. So

Naming the Lord as my Power through strife, I

Go forth braving newness — in faith and in life!

—Heidi Mann

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	2	3	4	5 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m.	6	7
8 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Reception of New Members (meal to follow)	9	10	11 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	12 Lydia 6:30 p.m.	13	14
15 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	16 Circle I 2:00 p.m.	17	18	19 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m.	20	21
22 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	23	24	25 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	26	27	28
29 Reformation Sunday Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	30	31 Reformation Day				

PSALM 25

E R E S C U E P Y H U M B L E A S
 O Z F V L F L S Z V I N E H R A P
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RESCUE REDEEM TRUST LOVE MERCY
 ISRAEL CHOSEN FORGIVE HUMBLE UPRIGHT
 SAVIOR TRUTH PATHS HOPE EYES
 LORD GUARD SOUL LIFT FAITHFUL
 TRIUMPH GRACIOUS DISTRESS PSALM