

**First Lutheran Church**

**3601 Dakota Ave**

**South Sioux City, NE 68776**

**[www.flcssc.org](http://www.flcssc.org)**

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# **First Lutheran Church**

**January 2024**



***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



# **January**

**The deadline for the February Newsletter is January 18.**

## CHURCH COUNCIL (\*Executive Council)

*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

## PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR PATTI

### **Happy New Year**

It's a wish that can mean so many things. It could be about happiness for that one day that we change out our calendars to a new year...or about happiness for the whole year represented with that calendar.

It could be about new beginnings...a time to start over. Or it could be about a wish (or blessing) for wholeness and peace throughout the year ahead.

***“And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.”*** Luke 11:9-10

As you read this article, many of you are recovering from the wonderful celebrations to ring in a new beginning, and wondering what the new year has in store for us. You've probably taken your tree down, and all the trimmings packed away with just fading memories of the gifts and gatherings last month. And all we are left with

is a new beginning, a new year...unspoiled time and space before us. So how about we take a moment and take note of where we are right this minute and where we want to go.

We have all made mistakes...right? We have procrastinated, wasted time, made resolutions that we didn't live up to this last year, so let's take a moment now to offer up our confessions and ask God to wipe away all our failures, and then trust that He has put each of us in our own particular corners of the world for a purpose, and just wants us to cooperate with Him in lighting a few candles that chase away the darkness.

We pray “Dear God, don't let me spoil it. Don't let me waste this brand-new year on worthless pursuits. Wake me each morning to spend the first moments with you. Give me your light and your direction for each new day. I will begin all over again each morning with you – the Master Planner of my life.”

Every day is a chance to begin again with the Lord.

Blessings as we explore this new beginning in time and space. Walk with me as we are challenged to get to know who we are, who our neighbor is, and who God wants us to be in our community of faith and in this community in the Northeast corner of Nebraska.

Pastor Patti Meyer  
[prdpmeier@gmail.com](mailto:prdpmeier@gmail.com)

### GIVING STATEMENTS

Year-end Giving Statements will be available at the Welcome Center after January 8. Please pick yours up to help save on postage costs. If we have your email address on file, your statement will be emailed to you.

### 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 or Pastor Patti at 623/910-7859.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Wow, can you believe 2023 is almost over? I think our church has had a productive year. I look back on some of the great things that have happened. First, I would like to thank Pastor Halaas for his wise council to guide our church. This summer we were fortunate enough for Pastor Patti’s arrival to help lead our church in cleaning days and having Confirmation class again. We had many great events put on by our Fellowship Committee, several visits from the Prodigal Sons, and many more events I know I am forgetting. As we look forward to 2024, we have a bright future on our horizon.

Please remember our annual meeting will be the 21<sup>st</sup> of January following worship service.

Lastly, we are still collecting donations for a new sign. I feel this is vitally important to the future of the church, so please contact myself or Pastor Patti if you would like to donate.

Jarrod Knudsen  
FLC Council President

LECTORS

January 7	Tanner Koepp
January 14	Chris Lofgren
January 21	Jake Gill
January 28	Pam Knudsen

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

NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

November 5	57
November 12	54
November 19	51
November 26	59

CHRISTMAS FRUIT PLATES

The following people delivered Christmas fruit plates, provided by WELCA, to 12 shut-ins: Jackie Gierman, Ottie Gierman, Sandy Larson and Mary Wolf. Thank you!

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 7	<u>Baptism of Our Lord</u> First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5 Second Lesson: Acts 19:1-7 Gospel: Mark 1:4-11
January 14	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</u> First Lesson: 1 Samuel 3:1-20 Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 6:12-20 Gospel: John 1:43-51
January 21	<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</u> First Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 7:29-31 Gospel: Mark 1:14-20
January 28	<u>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</u> First Lesson: Deut. 18:15-20 Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 8:1-13 Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Bob Oberg and family on the passing of Bob’s daughter, Jane Bleil. Services were held at Mohr & Becker-Hunt Funeral Home on December 13.

SUNDAY SCHOOL continues on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Please encourage all young people to come for a lesson and interesting stories from the Bible. Come, join the fun and bring a friend!

BUDGET FORUM

A Budget Forum will be held following worship on Sunday, January 14. If you have any questions regarding the budget, please plan on attending.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 21 following worship service. Your voice and vote make a difference! Come and participate.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

January 1	Shirley Luehr
January 3	Alexis Tobin
January 7	Bob Blessing
January 9	Mike Morgan
January 10	Bill Bass
January 10	Tim Niemeyer
January 11	Jan Durant
January 11	Clark Kleinberg
January 14	Breck Swanson
January 16	Melissa Baker
January 16	Amy Hineline
January 17	Lucas Fader
January 23	Josie Geveshausen
January 24	Bev Bates
January 25	Chris Reyes
January 26	Charlene Kollbaum
January 27	Milissa Reyes
January 29	Billy Denker
January 31	Ruth Weiland

### YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

January 10	Lena Trautwein
January 12	Lincoln Schleusener
January 21	Ryker Stolze
January 27	Carolyn Barr

### ANNIVERSARIES

January 14	Matt and Cheryl Kinnaman
January 17	Tom and Jennifer Durant

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

### CIRCLE I

We met on December 18 for our Christmas lunch. Our next meeting will be January 15, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. for dessert and Bible study. You are welcome to come!

### LYDIA GROUP

Our next meeting is scheduled for January 11 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us!

WELCA EXECUTIVE BOARD will meet on Monday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m.

### TIMELINE UPDATE

The timeline is beginning to take shape. I look forward to exploring it in more depth as we enter the new year. If you think of important events that have affected our community together, write them on the sheets at the Welcome Center and place them in the basket to be added to the timeline.

### SMALL GROUP "ASSET MAPPING"

I have set aside three dates in January and February for small groups to gather for Asset Mapping. If you have not been involved with Asset Mapping before, it is where we talk about the different areas that we could have assets valuable to the wellbeing and growth of our congregation. I need as many of you to participate as possible to make this worthwhile.

I will have each of the dates posted in the welcome area. Sign up on one of them. There will be (up to) 20 spaces to sign up on each of the dates. Sign up before your "best time" is full up.

Dates are Saturday, January 20 – 10:00 a.m.; Sunday, February 4 after fellowship; Sunday, February 11 after fellowship. Watch for the sign-up sheets.

### THANK YOU!!!

Thank you all for the cards and gifts expressing Christmas Joy and Peace. I really appreciate all of you and appreciate the confidence you have placed in me as your pastor. I look forward to beginning a new year and embarking on new adventures of ministry together with you. Blessings as you enter this season of Epiphany and beyond.

Happy New Year  
Pastor Patti

### THANK YOU

With much appreciation we thank Randy Rahn for assembling and putting up the pew candles in the sanctuary for Christmas Eve.

# January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4 Food Bank 1:00-2:00 p.m.	5	6 Epiphany
7 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m.	8 Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	9	10 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	11 Lydia 6:30 p.m.	12	13
14 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m. Budget Forum follows worship  Worship & Music Meeting after Forum	15 Circle I 2:00 p.m.	16	17	18 Food Bank 1:00-2:00 p.m.	19	20 Group 1 Asset Mapping 10:00 a.m.
21 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m. Annual Meeting follows worship  Council Meeting after Ann. Mtg.	22 WELCA Executive Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	23	24 Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m. 5:00-7:00 p.m.	25	26	27
28 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m.  Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.	29	30	31			Upcoming Events: <b>February 4</b> Group 2 Asset Meeting  <b>February 11</b> Group 3 Asset Meeting

The resurrection of  
Jesus Christ

from the Books of Matthew and Mark

Bible Crossword  
No.3



A crossword puzzle grid with 15 numbered starting points. The grid is composed of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. The numbers are: 1 (top left), 2 (top left), 3 (top left), 4 (top left), 5 (top left), 6 (top left), 7 (top left), 8 (top left), 9 (top left), 10 (top left), 11 (top left), 12 (top left), 13 (top left), 14 (top left), 15 (top left).

Across

- 1 where they laid Jesus after He died (Matt.27:60)
- 4 the place where Jesus died (Matt.27:33)
- 5 Jesus and two thieves were \_\_\_\_\_ together (Matt.27:38)
- 8 mother of Jesus
- 9 The angel said "He is \_\_\_\_\_ He is not here" (Mark 16:6)
- 10 They made Jesus wear a scarlet \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt.27:28)
- 12 Jesus was betrayed for \_\_\_\_\_ pieces of silver (Matt.27:3)
- 14 Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ of any crime (Matt.27:4)
- 15 The 12 companions of Jesus

Down

- 2 Jesus shed His \_\_\_\_\_ for our sins
- 3 Judas Iscariot \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus (Matt.27:4)
- 5 Roman commander of a hundred men (Matt.27:54)
- 6 Jesus said " My God, My God why hast thou \_\_\_\_\_ me" (Matt.27:46)
- 7 a title of Jesus (it means anointed one) (Matt.27:17)
- 11 They laid the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus in a tomb (Matt.27:59)
- 12 Jesus wore a "crown of \_\_\_\_\_"
- 13 our Lord and Saviour