

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

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# **First Lutheran Church**

**April 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



The deadline for the May Newsletter is April 18.

## CHURCH COUNCIL (\*Executive Council)

*President	Bart Gotch 712/259-2001
*Vice-President	Bob Barto 712/490-1676
*Treasurer	Jim Hansen 402/404-4920
*Secretary	Scott Koeppel 712/389-2944
Branden Lieber	712/259-4312
Chris Lofgren	402/580-6161
Randy Rahn	928/551-2464
Ray Schleusener	712/898-5464
Terry Sorem	712/490-9271
Pastor Patti Meyer	623/910-7859

## PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR PATTI

***“Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised,... (Matthew 28:5b-6a)***

He is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

When the women come to the tomb to prepare Jesus' body for burial, an angel meets them and says, “he is not here.”

So where is he then? Isn't that probably what they were thinking? Mary even asks who she thinks is the gardener, “where did you take him?”

Jesus is not here...but he IS here. Always. And forever...with us. He is no longer in the tomb because he is with us. So why is it that we don't see him...always in our lives then? This brings a question for us to ponder on throughout this Easter season: “Will we keep looking for God in our midst?”

The Easter celebration has just begun. Many (and pastors are usually in that bunch) are exhausted and ready to take a break as soon as Easter Sunday has concluded. It's time for that long-awaited Post Liturgical Nap. It's time to rest after such a long season of planning and

preparing for extra services. But not just your pastor...I have asked you to ponder deep this year as we talked about how to GO and...be intentional in our discipleship, whether that's about our prayer time, our communication, our worship practices or continuing in our journey of faith. So many of you are probably also wanting to take a break...you stepped up during this Lenten journey to provide food, and serve, and clean-up for our midweek services...thank you!

BUT...Even though we are all tired and feel we need a break, let's ponder this month on what we need a break from. Certainly not from the story. Or the work of the Lord. Or our part in the mission of the Gospel...Easter is not an end to our work here on earth...Rather it's just beginning.

Jesus is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

Our Lord is alive and well...and with us always. And that knowledge gives me more peace and rest than anything else can. It actually energizes me, knowing I will never journey alone. But I am really pondering on this question about looking for God, because sometimes I feel it's much like a resolution we make at the beginning of the calendar year. How many forget what their resolutions are within a couple weeks or months? If we don't make it habit, we won't do it.

So, with Easter in our rear-view mirrors now, will our ponderings be like those resolutions that are so quickly forgotten? I pray that, like the story, our ponderings are just a beginning. How do you find God in your midst? In each other? How will you be intentional as a disciple or follower of Christ? What will you GO and...be?

Blessings this month as we explore how we will continue looking for God in our midst.

– Pastor Patti Meyer

## PLEASE NOTE

Pastor Patti will be out of town for training on April 4, April 24, April 29 and April 30.

## COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope all of you have adjusted to Daylight Saving Time and are ready for Spring! As we Spring into action, please invite someone to attend our church services!

I want to thank Pastor Patti for the Lenten services and the ladies that volunteered the soup and desserts. In our preparation for Easter, these messages and discussions were good.

The Holy Week services were well received and attended. May we all celebrate and carry the happiness of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ to our community and the world. Thank you to all who helped with the services. A special thank you to Lance Swanson and Tanner Koeppel for their assistance on the projector and PowerPoints to enhance our church services.

The Council continues to plan, prioritize, and encourages you to volunteer your time and talents for the good of the church. Again, the Council invites you to attend any and/or all of the council meetings.

We have a lot to be grateful for at First, especially our pastor and our members/volunteers for the good of the church!

– Bart Gotch

## LECTORS

April 7	Brooklyn Sorem
April 14	Tristan Kinnaman
April 21	Jennifer Lieber
April 28	Jill Gill

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

## FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

February 4	56
February 11	55
February 14 (Wed.)	29
February 18	55
February 21 (Wed.)	22
February 25	60
February 28 (Wed.)	21

## WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

April 7	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> First Lesson: Acts 4:32-35 Second Lesson: 1 John 1:1 – 2:2 Gospel: John 20:19-31
April 14	<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> First Lesson: Acts 3:12-19 Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7 Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48
April 21	<u>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> First Lesson: Acts 4:5-12 Second Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24 Gospel: John 10:11-18
April 28	<u>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</u> First Lesson: Acts 8:26-40 Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21 Gospel: John 15:1-8

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 4	Scott Koeppel
April 4	Branden Lieber
April 12	Carrie Novak
April 13	Julie Geveshausen
April 14	William Weiland
April 15	Del Lieber
April 16	Michael Sigsbee
April 19	Flo Frey
April 26	Tom Durant
April 27	George Weiland
April 30	Kimmon Litras
April 30	Ellen Prescott

## YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

April 7	Isabella Hunter-Juneau
April 26	Bailey Johnson

## ANNIVERSARIES

April 15	Bob and Betty Barto
April 17	Kelly and Joey Robinson
April 17	Ray and Colleen Schleusener
April 24	Bill and Betty Bass
April 29	Lance and Jean Hedquist

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

### CIRCLE I

Circle I met on March 18 for dessert and fellowship. We had our lesson and Bible study and discussed deciding on a new project. Our next meeting is April 15 at 2:00 p.m. Feel welcome to join us.

### LYDIA GROUP

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

WELCA EXECUTIVE BOARD will meet April 22 at 7:00 p.m.

### FELLOWSHIP EVENT

Fellowship has planned an outing to Palermo Italian Cuisine in Jackson, Nebraska for Sunday, April 14 at 4:30 p.m. We will meet there. Dutch treat. There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center so we can let them know how many to expect. Sign up by **April 7**, please!

### GIVING STATEMENTS

If you would like a first quarter giving statement, please contact the office.

### 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.

### 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.

“Seek a relationship when you pray, not answers. You won’t always find answers, but you will always find Jesus.” – Father Mike Schmi

### THANK YOU

I wanted to drop you a quick, yet sincere note of thanks!! The bright smiles from 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who received the generous gifts from First Lutheran Church Angel Tree Project were true magic. Please know the generosity you give to SSC Middle School is impactful.

Thanks again,  
Kelli Rahn

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Lent Wednesday meals. Whether you provided food and/or helped with setup, serving or clean-up, you are appreciated!

### SENIOR CENTER FUNDRAISER

Northeast Nebraska Senior Center Craft/Vendor Fair Fundraiser will be held Saturday, April 20, 2024 beginning at 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Senior Center. Kitchen will be open.

### CHURCH OFFICE

Phone: 402/494-5462

Email: [office@flcssc.org](mailto:office@flcssc.org)

Pastor Patti’s phone: 623/910-7859

Pastor Patti’s email: [prdpmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:prdpmeyer@gmail.com)

Please let us know if you are not receiving emails. We may need to update your email address or phone number from what we have on file. We would love to keep in touch with you.

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!

### ALTAR FLOWERS

If you are interested in providing flowers for worship, please check out the flower chart and instructions on the bulletin board in the entryway.

# April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Fellowship Meeting 6:30 p.m.	2 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	3	4 Food Bank 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	5	6
7 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m.	8	9 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	10	11 Lydia 6:30 p.m.	12	13
14 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship Planning 10:30 a.m. Fellowship in Jackson, NE 4:30 p.m.	15 Circle I 2:00 p.m.	16 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	17	18 Food Bank 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	19	20
21 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)  Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	22 WELCA Executive Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	23 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	24	25	26	27
28 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m.  Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.	29	30 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.				

## Armor of God Word Search

N I T A J R A Q L Y X E E R L R J W Z G  
 H O J N A G J S V I B Z C O E I H D F B  
 T T I P G F I J H R L G A T P G B L E J  
 S R I T Z T G L E I D O E J S H E R W M  
 Q C U A A S N A I S E H P E O T L A S Y  
 L S W T F V S C J S V L C E G E T C V R  
 W Y Y V H T L E C P L P D K A O D G I Q  
 I U S A P V N A Y I I I A V U V U S M  
 S U D L L Q C G S R S T R A D S X W R A  
 L Z A Q N D O Y J I L L F L A N T N W T  
 U T Y F G T U X P T Q P A Y E B B X V  
 E E K W G T B S B N Q Y J U H S Q O O J  
 W B B E E N E I T D Q F V W Y S I S K T  
 W M I M R O B S W O R D B C B X O N M Y  
 S K L Z H L Z E Q R B T R S X K H F R R  
 T E Y S E F G A T H P D X P R A Y E R M  
 H K E W T N D C W W H M Q A O O Q L N L  
 Z R E O P C J A O O E Z R Q X I M V T T  
 I E L W T B N P D L C A P Y A G F P A P  
 E P H D T L E I Y F H X Q E S F C N N R

BELT	BIBLE	BREASTPLATE
DARTS	EPHESIANS	FAITH
GOSPEL	HELMET	PEACE
PRAYER	RIGHTEOUSNESS	SALVATION
SHIELD	SHOES	SPIRIT
SWORD	TRUTH	