

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

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First Lutheran Church

June 2024



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The deadline for the July Newsletter is June 20.

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 Koeppe 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

Greetings and Grace to you all.

Our Synod Assembly theme this year is “Cultivating Love.” People all across Nebraska will be gathering in Kearney to share stories, experiences and learn how to develop and enrich ourselves, our congregations and our communities so that love might flourish among us. There are workshops and speakers on Friday and Saturday to teach us how to adopt the practices that draw us more deeply into God’s story and into our relationship with each other. I wish some of you could have come to experience the learning, sharing and business of the Synod.

There are always many learning opportunities and fun activities to take part in at Synod Assembly, and I look forward to connecting with friends and colleagues too. Maybe next year some of you will attend and represent First Lutheran at Synod Assembly.

The scripture for the weekend is based on Ephesians 3:17, “That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.”

In the book of Matthew, we hear Jesus tell the disciples that the greatest of the commandments is to Love God with all your heart and soul, but the second is to love one another. It’s important that we learn how to love one another, but that will take some cultivation. Much like preparing the ground for plants to grow and flourish, Cultivating Love deepens our roots in Christ, grounds us in grace and connects us to our communities.

I look forward to sharing this theme of Cultivating Love with all of you.

– Pastor Patti Meyer

FAITH FORWARD INITIATIVE

This program Initiative is designed to help us share our faith and help each other grow in our faith journey. I will introduce activities through Children’s Time and prayer practices in worship that you can share with your families at home. I’m also planning an “Altar Spaces beyond the Building” outdoor Worship with Faith Forward Activities in July.

Watch for additional information in announcements.

FELLOWSHIP HAS PLANNED AN OUTING!

Please join us at Shrine Temple for the Burger Bar on Wednesday evening June 5. The food is cooked by the Shrine members from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Rainbow girls will be offering desserts that evening as well for a free-will donation. Cost for this family friendly event is very reasonable and there are several things on the menu besides burgers and fries. Cash, please.

FELLOWSHIP...LOOKING AHEAD

July 14 Fellowship is encouraging everyone who can come to meet with us after church at Bob’s Bar in Martinsburg. Should be fun! Cash/checks...no cards.

“I believe that what we become depends on what our fathers teach us at odd moments, when they aren’t trying to teach us. We are formed by little scraps of wisdom.”
– Umberto Eco

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have been catching numerous people doing good for First! We have been recognizing them at church and compiling a list. Thank you to those sharing their time and talents and to those submitting their names.

Please invite a past member, a friend or family member to church!

The Council continues to plan, prioritize and encourages you to volunteer your time and talents for the good of the church. I forgot to mention at the quarterly financial update, the plan is to temporarily crop the excess land until we can get a good stand of alfalfa as a cover crop. This should allow us to reduce the gopher infestation, save on our volunteers and have a positive financial impact. Again, the Council invites you to attend any and/or all of the council meetings.

With summer baseball in full swing, "Who's on First!"

– Bart Gotch

LECTORS

June 2	Pam Knudsen
June 9	Terri Gotch
June 16	Mary Wolf
June 23	Justin Baker
June 30	Brooklyn Sorem

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

USHERS

June 2	Ottie and Jackie Gierman
June 9	Scott and Cindy Koepp
June 16	Sandy Larson Carol Zastrow
June 23	Marla Bianchini Linda Fischer
June 30	Jim and Sally Hansen

APRIL ATTENDANCE

April 7	55
April 14	57
April 21	54
April 28	61

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

June 2	<u>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Deut. 5:12-15 Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 4:5-12 Gospel: Mark 2:23 – 3:6
June 9	<u>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15 Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 4:13 – 5:1 Gospel: Mark 3:20-35
June 16	<u>4th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Ezekiel 17:22-24 Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 5:6-17 Gospel: Mark 4:26-34
June 23	<u>5th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Job 38:1-11 Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 6:1-13 Gospel: Mark 4:35-41
June 30	<u>6th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Lam. 3:22-33 Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 8:7-15 Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

ALTAR FLOWERS

Placing flowers on the altar for Sunday service has changed. We are now using Bittersweet Floral, 2114 Dakota Avenue, SSC (402/404-8383). Two bouquets are required at a cost of \$50. If you wish to place flowers on the altar, sign up on the Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the entryway. The flowers need to be ordered and paid for AT Bittersweet Floral. Let them know they are for First Lutheran Church and will be picked up on the Saturday before the Sunday needed. (They will be picked up by Altar Care.) Let Carol Zastrow (712/281-2311) know they are ordered and paid for. The flowers can be picked up after Sunday service

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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 3	Norma Geveshausen
June 5	Mark Johnson
June 7	Chris Lake
June 9	Bonnie Prosser
June 11	Sally Hansen
June 13	Elsie Peters
June 16	Bob Barto
June 24	Kris Bergstrom
June 29	Katie Prescott-Kvidera
June 30	Jo Morgan

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

June 6	Riverlee Voss
June 18	Maya Weiland
June 19	Tayden Kinnaman
June 21	Brooklyn Sorem
June 27	Axton Davis

ANNIVERSARIES

June 7	Chris and Michelle Kinnaman
June 9	Bob and Patty Blessing
June 18	Gerald and Carol Krieger
June 19	Mike and Jo Morgan
June 22	Terry and Angie Sorem
June 25	Bart and Teri Gotch
June 26	Roger and Ruth Jensen

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

CIRCLE I

Circle I met on May 20 with a great dessert and coffee. We had our regular meeting then Bible study. Our next meeting will be June 17 at 2:00 p.m. Feel free to come!

LYDIA GROUP

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 13 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us!

WELCA EXECTIVE BOARD will meet June 24 at 7:00 p.m.

WELCA...LOOKING AHEAD

First Lutheran WELCA would like all the ladies to save the date for a fun event! Wednesday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m. More information is coming in the July newsletter!

THANK YOU

Thank you to Hy-Vee for the donation of paper towels.

FOOD BANK

First Lutheran Church continues to be the gathering place for the Food Bank of Siouxland. Food Bank is held the first and third Thursday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

With school being out for the summer, we will not have the students from Gateway to Learning to help unload groceries in the morning and to load cars in the afternoon. If there are any students that would like to help, just show up about 9:30 a.m. or around 1:00 p.m.

Note...There will not be Food Bank on July 4.

STUDY OF WORLD RELIGIONS

The Confirmation class has decided to continue meeting once a month during the summer months focusing on one of the World Religions each month. We focused on Islam in our April meeting and on Buddhism in May. The remaining schedule is as follows:

June 30	Hinduism
July 28	Judaism

Each session we will be looking at characteristics of that religion to help us understand it; we will compare that religion to Christianity and talk about the differences. All are welcome to attend these classes. Please join us!

CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY is planned for Saturday, June 8 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Mark your calendar. Many hands make light work!

BAPTISM

On Sunday, June 30 we will celebrate the Baptism of Madison Isabel Koeppe, daughter of Tanner Koeppe and granddaughter of Scott and Cindy Koeppe. Madison's sponsors are Haley Koeppe and Rachael Koeppe. The congregational sponsor is Jean Hedquist.

NOISY OFFERING

Are you aware that the noisy offering that is taken each Sunday morning by the youth will be used to purchase gifts for names on the Giving Tree at Christmas? So clear out that extra change in your purse or pocket and give generously all year long.

"SUMMER FLOWERS"

Behold the flowers of June!
How fair and bright their buds appear,
as, opening to the summer air,
our eyes and hearts they cheer!

Who would have thought there could abound
such beauty and delight
beneath the cold and wintry ground
that hid those flowers from sight?

That power which made and governs all –
the mighty power of God –
alone could life and beauty call
out of the lifeless sod.

And he, who from the winter's gloom
can summer thus disclose,
shall one day make the desert bloom,
and blossom as the rose.

– Anonymous

A PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Heavenly Father, we come as your children to praise you for putting us into families. Thank you for the love and nourishment we've received – and been blessed to give. We confess our need for your daily forgiveness and guidance in our families. Please grant harmony in our homes and help us always to show respect and love for one another. In Jesus' name. Amen.

ALTAR CARE COMMITTEE

What We Do

Our weekly duties are to prepare the altar for church service by taking care of the following items:

1. Altar
2. Parament colors will need changed as per church calendar
3. Banner change as per church calendar
4. Candles... fill with oil
5. Acolyte candle lighters...check oil and wicks
6. Baptisms
7. See below for Communion Sundays
8. Brass cleaning (as needed)

How We Do It

Each altar care member picks a month out of the year in which to serve.

We would like to have two people for each month.

Check ahead for any upcoming events for the month you are serving.

During your month, the two members come in on Saturdays to prepare for Sunday service.

On the first and third Sundays, Communion will be set up by other volunteers who have signed up for these dates.

Each weekend you will take care of flowers if provided for service.

We would like to have enough volunteers signed up so that the altar care is not left up to a few people.

If you are interested, there will be a sign-up sheet in the entryway for the remainder of the year.

Thank you for your consideration,
Carol Zastrow and Sandy Larson

June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship 9:30 a.m.	3 Worship Plan- ning Meeting 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Meeting 6:30 p.m.	4 Boys Scouts 7:00 p.m.	5 Fellowship Outing Shrine Temple 5:00-7:00 p.m.	6 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m.	7	8 Church Clean- Up Day 10:00 a.m. - ?
9 Worship 9:30 a.m.	10	11 Boys Scouts 7:00 p.m.	12	13 Lydia 6:30 p.m.	14	15
16 Father's Day Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	17 Circle I 2:00 p.m.	18 Boys Scouts 7:00 p.m.	19	20 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m.	21	22
23 Worship 9:30 a.m. Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	24 WELCA Executive Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	25 Pastor Cluster Group Meeting 10:00 a.m. - noon Boys Scouts 7:00 p.m.	26	27	28	29
30 Worship 9:30 a.m./ Koepe Baptism Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.						

Bible Word Scramble

Unscramble the letters to solve the puzzle!

1. ISHAIA _____
2. HEPO _____
3. JBAOC _____
4. CIKEAENNSFNR _____
5. ACAIS _____
6. AHMJREI _____
7. OLPATES ERPET _____
8. CSORS _____
9. MCLEAISR _____
10. DSEICILP _____
11. OESTALP APLU _____
12. UDJAS SAIRIOCT _____
13. NUBRGIN HBSU _____
14. ETN SMNMDCNAETMO _____
15. KOOB FO SNASSIATOLENH _____
16. DLO NAMSTEETT _____
17. SCCEFARII _____
18. LSTUCO _____
19. OODLF _____
20. LOEJ _____