

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

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First Lutheran Church

July 2024



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The deadline for the August Newsletter is July 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 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.

“That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.” – Ephesians 3:17

We, as Lutherans, believe that Christ is with us and in us. We believe that Christ is present in this space, in the bread and the wine, and the word spoken...and in us. Emmanuel...God with us.

The Nebraska Synod Assembly team, in June, launched a year-long focus around this scripture passage. The theme is called “Cultivating Love.” You will see this theme in logo and in activities a lot over this next year. We will, like last year, introduce an intentional theme each month over the course of the next 12 months.

We are called to love one another. To care for creation, for others, and for our community. We are called to promote peace and joy in the world. And that is all part of “Cultivating Love.”

Do you remember in the book of Matthew, in the 22nd chapter, where the Pharisees were

questioning Jesus about which is the greatest of the commandments? And Jesus responds that the most important is to love God with all your heart, and soul, and mind; and the second greatest of the commandments is that we love one another.

But what does it mean to be rooted and grounded in love? And to Cultivate Love?

I think our Faith Forward activities throughout this next year will be helpful for us to cultivate love in our community of faith as well as in our community of family and friends. Once we learn how to share our faith with others and we put that practice into action, we are cultivating love. It just all works together, doesn't it?

And so, over these next several months watch for tools and activities that I will share with you and what we can do together to help us learn how to share our faith and celebrate our love for God and the world together. Let us lean into our own rootedness and groundedness of faith and love and share that with each other...with those we love...and with the community around us.

There is a story in the Old Testament where God blesses Abraham to be a blessing. He is told his nation will grow and prosper. This can be our story of growth and prosperity. We are blessed as well to be a blessing to the world. Let us go and Cultivate Love everywhere.

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

– Pastor Patti Meyer

AMERICAN FLAGS

If you have an American flag that needs to be retired, you can place it in the designated box in the Narthex. There are Scouts in the community who have projects to learn how to dispose of them properly.

“May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please but as the opportunity to do what is right.”
– Peter Marshall

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

We have been catching numerous people doing good for First! We appreciate everyone’s support and helping hands.

We have witnessed several new and old faces at our worship services. Please welcome and encourage them to join us each and every Sunday. Please continue to invite a past member, a friend or family member to church!

The Council continues to plan, prioritize and lead by example. The Council plans to provide another quarterly financial report in July. Again, the Council invites you to attend any and/or all of the Council meetings.

The 4th of July is upon us. As we look up to see the fireworks, continue to look up for God’s spiritual support and guidance.

– Bart Gotch

LECTORS

July 7	Mary Wolf
July 14	Katelyn Lieber
July 21	Jill Gill
July 28	Tanner Koeppe

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

USHERS

July 7	Ranelle De Jong and Vicki Lyons
July 14	Jean Hedquist and Pam Knudsen
July 21	Bev Bates and Rita Legg
July 28	Jill Gill and Pam Knudsen

MAY ATTENDANCE

May 5	57
May 12	59
May 19	63
May 26	48

GIVING STATEMENTS

If you would like your second quarter giving statement, please contact the office by email at office@flcssc.org or phone 402/494-5462.

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 7	<u>7th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Ezekiel 2:1-5 Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 12:2-10 Gospel: Mark 6:1-13
July 14	<u>8th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Amos 7:7-15 Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:3-14 Gospel: Mark 6:14-29
July 21	<u>9th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Jeremiah 23:1-6 Second Lesson: Eph. 2:11-22 Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
July 28	<u>10th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: 2 Kings 4:42-44 Second Lesson: Eph. 3:14-21 Gospel: John 6:1-21

FAITH FORWARD INITIATIVE

July 7 – “Altar Spaces Beyond the Building”
Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic (maybe this could become our first annual...Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic).

Bring your family and friends. Don’t forget to bring your own lawn chairs. There will be fun singing and story-telling along with some Faith-sharing Activities all outside. If the weather doesn’t cooperate, we will just bring it all inside. We will be sharing Communion during worship, and then have a church picnic. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be on the grill.

If everyone could bring a side dish or dessert, we would have plenty of food for everyone.

Let’s organize it:

If your name starts with **A** to **M** – bring a side dish or salad.

If your name starts with **N** to **Z** – bring a dessert.

Kindness is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 1	Tanya Rich
July 2	Rick Robinette
July 3	Pastor Patti Meyer
July 4	Kelly Robinson
July 8	Lane Ostendorf
July 11	Jim Hansen
July 20	Betty Barto

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

July 6	Tinley Kinnaman
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ANNIVERSARIES

July 2	Dob and Carol Zastrow
July 23	Ottie and Jackie Gierman
July 24	Randy and Kerri Rahn
July 24	Lance and Linda Swanson
July 25	Jeff Carda and Shelly O'Brien

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

CIRCLE I

Circle I met on June 17 with dessert and coffee. We had a short meeting, then had Bible study. We don't meet in July or August this summer. Everyone is welcome to come when we meet again in September.

LYDIA GROUP

Lydia does not meet in July or August. Join us in September when we meet again.

SUPPER WITH FRIENDS

WELCA is inviting all women of First Lutheran to a Supper with Friends on Wednesday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a salad or dessert. Come alone or bring a friend! Friends do not need to be a member of First Lutheran!

CARD SHOWER

In honor of Pastor Patti's birthday on July 3 and the anniversary of her first year at First Lutheran, a card shower is planned for her on Sunday, July 7. Cards can be brought with you to church that day or mailed to the church, 3601 Dakota Ave., South Sioux City, NE 68776.

FELLOWSHIP EVENT

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.

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.

On June 6 our group enjoyed some fresh food from the Dakota County Voices for Food Community Gardens, which included rhubarb and garlic scapes. The Gardens deliver various garden items through the summer months.

Thank you to Linda Swanson and the South Sioux City High School Student Council for their help in unloading the truck and loading cars.

Help is always appreciated.

No Food Bank on July 4.

A SPECIAL GARDEN

First plant five rows of "peas":

Preparedness
Promptness
Perseverance
Politeness
Prayer

Next to them plant three rows of "squash":

Squash GOSSIP
Squash CRITICISM
Squash INDIFFERENCE

Then four rows of "lettuce":

Let us be faithful
Let us be unselfish
Let us be loyal
Let us love one another

And...no garden is complete without "turnips":

Turn up with a smile
Turn up with determination
Turn up to VOLUNTEER!

July 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Fellowship Meeting 6:30 p.m.	2 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	3	4 Independence Day NO FOOD BANK TODAY	5	6
7 Outdoor Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Family Activities/ Church Picnic after worship	8	9 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	10	11	12	13
14 Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Event at Bob's Bar in Martinsburg after worship	15	16 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	17	18 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m.	19	20
21 Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	22	23 Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	24 WELCA Event/ Supper with Friends 6:30 p.m.	25	26	27
28 Worship 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class/Judaism 10:30 a.m.	29	30 Pastor does Worship at The Palm@Regency 2:00 p.m. Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.	31			

Happy Independence Day!

4th of July Word Search

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



ABLAZE	CROWDS	FEAST	FREEDOM
ANTHEM	DECORATIONS	FLAG	INDEPENDENCE
BACKYARD	BANG	AMERICA	GRILL
BLAST	BOOM	FIRECRACKERS	HISTORY
GATHERING	BATTLEFIELD	ROCKETS	LIBERTY
RED	CAMPING	EXPLOSIONS	NATIONAL
WHITE	DELICIOUS	MUSIC	PARADES
BLUE	DESSERT	PICNICS	PATRIOTIC
CAVALCADE	DEMOCRACY	POTLUCK	FIREWORKS
CELEBRATION	EMOTIONAL		FESTIVAL