

**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**

**September 2024**



***God's Work. Our Hands.***

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Download the EasyTithe app from the app stores.

Text give at:

402-557-0882



**The deadline for the October Newsletter is September 19.**

## 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***

Well, it's that time of year when the days begin to grow shorter and the earth begins to change. The fall season will soon be upon us full swing. I tend to get an itch this time of the year to learn something new. By reading or taking a class ...it's one of the ways that I remain rooted and grounded in love. Self-care and growth. Things of my life that mean a great deal to me.

This month, I plan to grow and learn as I ponder on September's focus in our Cultivating Love Theme. This month we think about connections. “Cultivating Love through Connection” Ponder with me. Let's start by focusing on some questions that come to mind:

How am I connected? With family, friends and even community?

How is God calling me to cultivate connection?

We are God's people together. We *are* connected within the faith community, but we are also connected through the larger community. We are connected with each other right here in

First Lutheran Church, but that connection spreads out to the larger church as well.

Typically in September, the ELCA has a Sunday designated as “God's Work, Our Hands”, when congregational members work together on projects to reach out and help others in the community and in the world. This is a great way many churches are connecting with each other as well as the world outside their church walls. Let's pray for the church at large as many focus on projects this month that will help them connect with others in the community and the world.

“Cultivating Connection” will mean many different things for different people. As we enter this month of worship and mission, ponder with me on how we can intentionally cultivate connection this month? In connecting with one another, relationships grow and so too awareness about one's gifts, vocations, questions and dreams. In connecting with one another this month, let's also think on how our time together so far this year has connected us with others.

– Pastor Patti

## FAITH FORWARD INITIATIVE

Are you enjoying the Hand-Print altar cloth in our sanctuary?

The Faith Forward Initiative is about finding ways that we can share our faith stories with each other and with our families. And our Hand-Print altar cloth is a great way to begin sharing our stories. Another way we can share our stories is to participate in activities...that we have already tried here in worship...that you have access to on the website that you can connect to just by scanning the QR code on the magnets found in the Welcome Area...or taking one of the packets that have many activities that you can try.

The packets include tools and suggestions of how to share your faith stories at home with your families. There are plenty for all to take one home, and the ideas can be interchangeable. Parent's ideas can be used by grandparents and grandparent ideas can be used by parents.

### COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, it looks like we are “kicking off” our Fall Season. Cheer loud and may your favorite high school, college or pro teams do well!

We appreciate everyone's support and helping hands – whether you get caught or not!

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!

Again, the Council invites you to attend any and/or all of the Council meetings.

GBR! – Bart Gotch

### LECTORS

September 1	Pam Knudsen
September 8	Tanner Koepp
September 15	Bob Barto
September 22	Sue Hunter
September 29	Justin Baker

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

### USHERS

September 1	Pam Knudsen Vicki Lyons
September 8	Jeff Carda and Shelly O'Brien
September 15	Ruth Ailts Ellen Prescott
September 22	Rick and Jennifer Lieber
September 29	Clint Barrs Randy Rahn

### JULY ATTENDANCE

July 7	39
July 14	50
July 21	56
July 28	47

*Autumn is a second spring where every leaf is a flower.*  
– Albert Camus

### WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN

September 1 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
First Lesson: Deut. 4:1-2, 6-9  
Second Lesson: James 1:17-27  
Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 8 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
First Lesson: Isaiah 35:4-7a  
Second Lesson: James 2:1-17  
Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

September 15 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Second Lesson: James 3:1-12  
Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

September 22 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
First Lesson: Jeremiah 11:18-20  
Second Lesson: James 3:13 –  
4:3, 7-8a  
Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

September 22 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
First Lesson: Numbers 11:4-6,  
10-16, 24-29  
Second Lesson: James 5:13-20  
Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

### SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy and prayers to:

Bob and Patty Blessing and family on the loss of Bob and Patty's daughter, Jill Blessing. Jill passed away on July 26.

The family of Charlene Kollbaum. Charlene passed away on August 11.

Sandy Larson and family on the loss of Sandy's brother-in-law, Erwin Larson. Erwin passed away on August 14.

LuAnn Rogge and family on the loss of LuAnn's husband, Roger. Roger passed away on August 18.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 1	Mike Hunter
September 1	Rick Lieber
September 4	Ottie Gierman
September 5	Gerald Krieger
September 6	Ruth Jensen
September 7	Betty Bass
September 9	Patty Blessing
September 12	Colton Novak
September 14	Michelle Kinnaman
September 14	Holly Schleusener
September 17	Amy Groth
September 19	Robin Petrick
September 20	Jan Durant
September 21	Sophie Swanson
September 22	Chris Kinnaman
September 23	Joey Robinson
September 24	Lee Trautwein
September 26	Terry Sorem
September 28	Colleen Schleusener
September 30	Anne Lofgren

### YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

September 22	Alivia Davis
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### ANNIVERSARIES

September 8	Chris and Anne Lofgren
September 12	Rich and Sharon Potter
September 16	Mark and Vicky Johnson
September 21	Mike and Tanya Rich
September 30	Todd and Melissa Baker

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

CIRCLE I didn't meet in August. Our next meeting will be on September 16 at 2:00 p.m. Join us for coffee and dessert, short meeting and Bible study. We would like to have YOU come!

LYDIA will meet Thursday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us!

WELCA EXECUTIVE BOARD meets Monday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m.

### FOOD BANK

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

The month of August was a busy time serving between 80 to 90 families each week that Food Bank was held.

We once again had a variety of produce from the Dakota County Voices For Food Community Gardens.

Thank you to members of the Sioux City Metro Hockey Team who came in August to help with unloading the pallets of groceries onto the tables for distribution in the morning.

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to ALL who show up to volunteer or has anything to do with supporting this ministry. This ministry would not be possible without all of your support.

### QUILTING GROUP

Quilters meet September 21 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Everyone is welcome to come. You don't have to know anything about quilting or sewing!

### THANK YOU

With much appreciation we thank Terri Gotch for leading worship on September 1 while Pastor Patti is on vacation.

### THANK YOU

We want to thank Lucy Gagnon for thoughtfully remembering all of us at First Lutheran in a very generous way by placing flowers on the altar several times in the coming months. Thank you, Lucy!

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Fellowship Committee and Church Council are planning a congregational meal following worship service on September 29. Watch for more details.

### LOOKING AHEAD

A Craft Fair is being planned for October 26.

## CONFIRMATION CLASS

We are into our year of learning about the Reformer, Martin Luther, and the Catechism. Please pray for our students, their mentors and parents too, as we journey through this year to learn more about our Lutheran roots and help our students grow in faith together.

So this is where we have another connection...students – mentors – parents and the entire congregation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL begins again on Sunday, September 8 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 wish to place flowers on the altar for Sunday service, please note the following:

We are using Bittersweet Floral, 2114 Dakota Avenue, SSC (402/404-8383). Two bouquets are required at a cost of \$50. Please 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.

## WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Take a look at this line of type:

GODISNOWHERE

Did you read it as “God is nowhere”? Or are you an optimist who read it as “God is now here”?

## 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 is a sign-up sheet in the entryway for the remainder of the year.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Carol Zastrow and Sandy Larson

# September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 9:30 a.m.	2 <b>Labor Day</b>	3 Boys Scouts 7:00 p.m.  Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	4	5 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m.	6	7
8 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m.	9 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.  Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	10 Boys Scouts 7:00 p.m.  Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	11	12 Lydia 6:30 p.m.	13	14
15 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship (Communion) 9:30 a.m.  Council Meeting 10:30 a.m.	16 Circle I 2:00 p.m.  Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	17 Boys Scouts 7:00 p.m.  Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	18	19 Food Bank 1:00-2:30 p.m.	20	21 Quilting Group 9:00 a.m.-Noon
22 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m.  Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.	23 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.  WELCA Exec. Board Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	24 Boys Scouts 7:00 p.m.  Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.  Amateur Radio Club 7:00 p.m.	25	26	27	28
29 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  Worship 9:30 a.m.  Congregational Meal 10:30 a.m.	30 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.		<b>Note:</b>  <i><b>Pastor Patti is on vacation August 30 – September 7.</b></i>			

# Romans 12

UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS -  
THERE IS ONE IN EVERY VERSE -  
THEN SOLVE THE FINAL WORD -  
WRITE DOWN THE CIRCLED LETTERS

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