

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

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First Lutheran Church

April 2025



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The deadline for the May Newsletter is April 17.

CHURCH COUNCIL (*Executive Council)

*President	Jarrod Knudsen 712/898-1170
*Vice-President	Rita Todd 712/574-1769
*Treasurer	Mike Hunter 712/490-2998
*Secretary	Sue Hunter 712/490-1110
Clint Barrs	712/301-8951
Bob Barto	712/490-1676
Jenni Durant	712/577-1162
Carli Lake	Youth Representative
Randy Rahn	928/551-2464
Terry Sorem	712/490-9271
*Pastor Patti Meyer	623/910-7859

PASTOR PATTI'S PONDERINGS

Cultivating Love Through Creation

It is difficult to think about longer brighter days, new growth, and the colors that enter our world with spring coming, when there is a new blanket of snow blowing around outside creating hazardous driving conditions. As I write this article, I am pondering on how I can create a meaningful study on the Lord's Prayer through Facebook Live tonight since we are not able to gather in person.

But by the time you read this, the snow that is blanketing us today will provide moisture for the new growth that we will witness this month. As our trees begin budding and providing leafy shade, and the spring flowers sprout and bloom, let us remember the promises of new life that come in the events of Holy Week – from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday to Easter Vigil, and then the new life of Easter and the resurrection life. In these events we remember God's story of bringing new life and new creation even amid the most uncertain, anxious and dark days. At the same time, this month is a perfect opportunity to remember the goodness of all of God's creation which God entrusts into

our care. God is doing something new, cultivating new creation and new life, for me and for you, and for all of God's beloved.

Our Cultivating Love theme for April is "*Cultivating Love through Creation*".

Cultivating Creation provides an intentional opportunity for us to look outward beyond the walls of our church ... even the walls of our home. It calls us to think bigger. To see the fields, rivers, lakes, oceans, mountains and all of the world that surrounds us, and to care for all of creation. God calls us to care for and cultivate creation, and to focus on growing as disciples and stewards of God's love.

So, a question to ponder on this month is this: How might God be inviting you to join in and cultivate creation? What are two or three ways that you will cultivate creation this year?

Our Lenten Midweek worship/study continues with our look into the Book of Faith, 40 Days in the Lord's Prayer. I always learn a lot with this study and I hope that you too are experiencing newness in your relationship with God through this study.

– Pastor Patti Meyer

LENTEN/EASTER SCHEDULE

April 2: 6:00 p.m. Midweek/Study – p.84-97 "*give us today our daily bread*"

April 9: 6:00 p.m. Midweek/Study – p.100-113 "*forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us*"

April 13: 9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship with Communion

April 16: 6:00 p.m. Facebook Live – p.116-124 "*And deliver us from Evil*"

April 17: 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion

April 18: 6:00 p.m. Good Friday Meditations on Facebook Live

April 20: 9:30 a.m. Easter Worship with Communion

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN

April 6	<u>Fifth Sunday in Lent</u> First Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21 Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14 Gospel: John 12:1-8
April 13	<u>Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday</u> First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a Second Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11 Gospel: Luke 22:14 – 23:56
April 20	<u>Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter</u> First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43 Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 15:19-26 Gospel: Luke 24:1-12
April 27	<u>Second Sunday of Easter</u> First Lesson: Acts 5:27-32 Second Lesson: Rev. 1:4-8 Gospel: John 20:19-31

LECTORS

April 6	Tanner Koeppe
April 13	Carli Lake
April 20	Bob Barto
April 27	Branden Lieber

USHERS

April 6	Lance and Linda Swanson
April 13	Mike and Sue Hunter
April 20	Bev Bates Rita Legg
April 27	Justin Baker Melissa Baker

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

February 2	42
February 9	45
February 16	39
February 23	60

SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy and prayers to Pastor Patti and family. Pastor's aunt passed away on March 8.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 4	Scott Koeppe
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 26	Lucy Gagnon
April 30	Kimón 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 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 met on Monday, March 17 and enjoyed fellowship, dessert and Bible study. We will meet next on April 21 at 2:00 p.m. We will deliver plants to shut-ins for Easter.

LYDIA will meet Thursday, April 10 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us!

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

THE QUILTING GROUP will meet on Saturday, April 19 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

He that seeks God in everything is sure to find God in everything.

– William Law

CONFIRMATION

Students are attending and helping to lead our Wednesday Midweek Study on the Lord's Prayer. I have reserved on my calendar space and time on April 27 and May 4 after worship for individual interviews with parents and students to review faith statements and check on completion of projects. During the month of May, we will be working on our projects and preparing for Confirmation Day, June 8.

Please contact Pastor Patti to reserve a time for your interview on faith statements.

GIVING STATEMENTS

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

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.

QUILTERS NEEDS:

Sheets – full size or larger, used or new for backing.

New spools of neutral color thread – 250 or 300 yards for Lutheran World Relief Sewing Kits.

Helpers to put together quilts on the third Saturday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to noon. No skills required.

“Easter is the soul's first taste of spring.”

– Richelle Goodrich

FOOD PANTRY

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

Food Pantry served around 60 families in March. Pantry was cancelled for March 20.

Thank you to the students from Gateway to Learning for the help with unloading the pallets of groceries onto the tables for distribution in the morning. Then, returning in the afternoon to help load groceries into the cars.

We invite anyone who is interested in helping, whether you can only help in the morning to set up or can only help in the afternoon to do the distribution of food, to come and be a part of this ministry.

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.

The following article was on the Food Bank of Siouxland, Inc. Facebook page February 19, 2025:

FOOD BANK VOCABULARY

Do you know what these terms mean? In the world of food banking, we use a unique vocabulary that may be unfamiliar to some. Let's break down what the term Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is.

Previously known as Food Stamps, SNAP is a state-run federal program that provides food benefits to individuals and families to help supplement the grocery budget.

Grant, O Lord, that in your wounds I may find my safety; in your stripes, my cure; in your pain, my peace; in your cross, my victory; in your resurrection, my triumph; and a crown of righteousness in the glories of your eternal kingdom.

– Jeremy Taylor, “The Westminster Collection of Christian Prayers,” compiled by Dorothy M. Stewart, *Christianity Today*.

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	2 Soup & Dessert 5:30 p.m. Lent Worship/Study 6:00 p.m.	3 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	4	5
6 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	7 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	8 Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	9 Soup & Dessert 5:30 p.m. Lent Worship/Study 6:00 p.m.	10 Lydia 6:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	11	12
13 PALM SUNDAY Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	14 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	15 Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	16 Facebook Live "And deliver us from Evil" 6:00 p.m.	17 MAUNDY THURSDAY Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. (Communion)	18 GOOD FRIDAY Meditations on Facebook Live 6:00 p.m.	19 Quilting Group 9:00 a.m.-Noon
20 EASTER Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	21 Circle I 2:00 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	22 WELCA Exec. 7:00 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m. Amateur Radio Club 7:00 p.m.	23	24 Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	25	26
27 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	28 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	29 Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	30			

HE IS RISEN!

-Word Scramble-

Correctly Unscramble the Words

1. IEIARSFCC

2. NREIS

3. BMTO

4. RATSHICNI

5. RTIOEALNEBC

6. LEAIV

7. USJES

8. RAIEMCL

9. ERRPAY

10. LPMA DSYANU

11. INOFRIXUCIC

12. SORCS

13. AHTFI

14. LYHDIOA

15. HTRBREI

16. CIEREVS

17. NTEL

18. HAS ENDEYWDSA

19. ODGO RYAIDF

20. TRRSNUEORECI