

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

www.flcssc.org
www.facebook.com/firstlutheranssc

First Lutheran Church

February 2026



God's Work. Our Hands.

INSIDE

- February 2026 calendar
- Ponderings from Pastor Patti
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Food Pantry
- Church Council
- Lenten Midweek Service
- Easter Lilies

Sign up for electronic giving at:

<http://giving.flcssc.org>

Download the EasyTithe app
from the app stores.

Text give at:

402-557-0882



FEBRUARY

The deadline for the March Newsletter is February 19.

CHURCH COUNCIL (*Executive Council)

*President	Rita Todd 712/574-1769
*Vice-President	Jarrold Knudsen 712/898-1170
*Treasurer	Jenni Durant 712/577-1162
*Secretary	Amy Groth 712/490-4127
Justin Baker	Youth Representative
Clint Barrs	712/301-8951
Bob Barto	712/490-1676
Tanner Koepp	712/560-2053
Terry Sorem	712/490-9271
*Pastor Patti Meyer	623/910-7859

PASTOR PATTI'S PONDERINGS

Hard to believe that we are already entering the Lenten Season. Ash Wednesday is February 18 and we will kick off the season turning our attention to fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. These are all activities meant to quiet our minds, still our hearts, and allow us to draw near to God. We will hear the words "You are dust and to dust you shall return" as ashes are marked on us. We recognize the frailty of our existence, the reality of our personal and corporate sin, and our deep need for Jesus, who forgives our sin and gifts us with eternal life.

Lent is a forty-day reminder for us that it is God who saves. It is an invitation from God that requires a response from us. Not a response to "choose salvation" but a response of heart-filled gratitude as we continue to encounter Jesus, who was willing to go to *all* lengths to redeem us. God is at work in us, and in the world around us. And this time and journey through Lent is an invitation to grow deeper in relationship and in ministry with God.

I think the Lenten (and Advent) seasons are the most meaningful times of the year, because it

begs us to slow down and focus on our relationship with God. We can get so busy in our lives that we don't take the time to slow down to witness and experience God's action in our lives. We don't focus on our relationship with God. And in these special seasons on the liturgical calendar, we turn ourselves inward to focus on slowing down, breathing in God's goodness, and drawing near to God.

Take this time with me to examine our relationship with God, (individually and corporately). Join me on this journey and grow with me and with each other.

Romans 15:13: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Blessings in this journey,
Pastor Patti

CHURCH COUNCIL

Thank you to our newly elected Council members for volunteering their time and energies to be on Council: Tanner Koepp, Amy Groth and Justin Baker. Thank you to Jarrold Knudsen and Rita Todd for running for another term. Council members continuing in their terms are Jenni Durant, Terry Sorem, Bob Barto and Clint Barrs. Please pray for these members throughout the year as they gather to do the business (and sometimes the busyness) of FLC. Also, a thank you to Sue Hunter and Mike Hunter for continuing their support in mentoring our newly appointed secretary and treasurer. They will offer oversight and direction. Executive Committee: President Rita Todd, Vice-President Jarrold Knudsen, Secretary Amy Groth (under the oversight of Sue Hunter), and Treasurer Jenni Durant (under the oversight of Mike Hunter). Welcome them all, congratulate them, and encourage this Council. Bring concerns to any of these members to be addressed by the group or attend any of our meetings on the third Sunday of the month following worship and anyone is invited to attend.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I’ve been wanting to put “something” in the newsletter for a few months. I guess here’s my chance! My heart gets so full because of the things FLC people do! We are so fortunate to have the congregation we do and Pastor Patti is just a great fit in so many ways. My wish is that everyone step up just a little this year. Let’s give even a tiny bit more, DO just a bit more and care just a bit more. Participate in fellowship and get to know one another better. Lent begins this month. Last year we had a group meeting with soup on Wednesday evenings and we have this planned again, please try to attend, bring a friend! Offer to help with projects or share your ideas. If you are not able to help physically there are always opportunities to chip in financially, even a few little bits help out. By the time this is published, the painting of the hallways will be finished. Thanks to the Liebers and all of the helpers, it was even a little fun. Everyone does not have to do everything but everyone should do some things. As always, you are encouraged and welcome to attend Council meetings or ask questions.

Rita Todd
Council President

LECTORS

February 1 Brooklyn Sorem
February 8 Open
February 15 Terri Gotch
February 22 Carli Lake

USHERS

February 1 Cindy Koeppe
Madison Koeppe
February 8 Jeff Carda
Shelly O’Brien
February 15 Vicky Johnson
Carol Zastrow
February 22 Jean Hedquist
Jarrod Knudsen

“All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn’t hurt.” —Charles Schulz

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE

December 7 26
December 14 39
December 21 44
December 24 111
December 28 30

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February 4 Kerri Rahn
February 5 Drew Benson
February 7 Jackie Gierman
February 8 Linda Swanson
February 9 Jessica Baker
February 9 Rita Legg
February 11 Linda Kendra
February 11 Kathy Muirhead
February 12 Brandi Johnson
February 21 Rita Todd
February 22 Tanner Koeppe
February 24 Terri Gotch
February 24 Jeff Todd
February 25 Tom DeRoos
February 27 Chris Knudsen
February 27 Angie Sorem

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

February 27 Carli Lake

ANNIVERSARIES

February 27 Randy and Theresa Grove

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

CIRCLE I

No meeting was held in January due to inclement weather. Our next meeting is Monday, February 16 at 2:00 p.m. All women are invited!

LYDIA

Join us for our next meeting on Thursday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m.

WELCA EXECUTIVE will meet Tuesday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m.

FOOD PANTRY

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

Food Pantry served right at 70 families in the month of January. Only had Pantry one time this last month due to the holiday.

The students from Gateway to Learning (GTL) helped to put groceries on the tables. Thank you so much for your help and returning in the afternoon to help load groceries.

Thank you to all of our volunteers. We had quite a few of our regular volunteers ill or on vacation – the Lord blessed us with quite a few new volunteers that stepped up to help. Thank you.

A big thank you to whoever has been setting the tables up for Pantry day. It is very much appreciated.

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.

LILIES FOR EASTER

There will be forms at the Welcome desk in February for you to order lilies. You also have the option this year to bring in a Spring plant or flowers to adorn our worship space for Easter Sunday. Either way, we will need to know who you would like your plant/flowers/lilies to be in honor of or in memory of for the bulletin insert on Easter. Instructions will be explained on the form.

First Lutheran Church Contact Information

Phone: 402/494-5462

Email: office@flcssc.org

Pastor Patti Contact Information

Phone: 623/910-7859

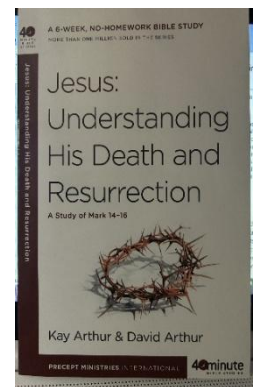
Email: prdpmeyer@gmail.com

LENTEN JOURNEY begins Ash Wednesday, which is February 18. Worship is at 6:00 p.m. with Communion by table and marking of the ashes.

LENTEN MIDWEEK SOUP AND STUDY

will begin February 25 and continue through the month of March. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:30 p.m. for soup and desserts and continue with worship at 6:00 p.m. (There will be a sign-up sheet for soups and desserts at the Welcome table in February). Our time together will follow the same format as the past couple years with conversations around the scriptures surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection. In this "study", we can consider for ourselves all that Jesus endured to bring forgiveness to sinners and hope to the hopeless, from which we can understand as never before why it's so essential to share with others the good news of His death and resurrection. Why would Jesus, who knew beforehand all that would happen and who held the power of heaven at His command, submit to being humiliated, tortured and ultimately killed?

If you would like to follow along during Lent with a study book, you can purchase this on Amazon. However, I will have handouts with the readings we will share and the questions we will ponder.



WALKING WITH GOD

The essence of the Christian life is knowing God and walking with him. It's about sticking with him when the sky is blue and also when it's filled with clouds or choked with smoke. It's about walking with the Lord through thick and thin, and pressing on through every heartache and trial that happens to come our way.

—Greg Laurie

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	2 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	3 Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	4	5 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	6	7
8 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	9 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	10 Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	11	12 Lydia 6:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	13	14
15 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Council Meeting 10:30 a.m.	16 Circle I 2:00 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	17 Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	18 ASH WEDNESDAY Worship 6:00 p.m. (Communion by Table and Marking of the Ashes)	19 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	20	21 Quilting Group 9:00 a.m.-noon
22 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	23 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	24 Bible Study 5:45 p.m. WELCA Exec. 7:00 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 pm Amateur Radio Club 7:00 p.m.	25 Lent Mid-Week Soup and Study 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:00 p.m.	26 Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	27	28

Name: _____ Date: _____

VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SEARCH

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

FIND THE FOLLOWING WORDS:

CAN BE FORWARDS, UP, OR DOWN

CANDY

FEBRUARY

HUG

RED

CARDS

FRIENDS

LOVE

ROSES

CHOCOLATE

HEART

PINK

VALENTINE

