

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

www.flcssc.org
**[www.facebook.com/
firstlutheranssc](https://www.facebook.com/firstlutheranssc)**

First Lutheran Church

April 2026



God's Work. Our Hands.

INSIDE

- April 2026 calendar
- Ponderings from Pastor Patti
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Food Pantry
- Holy Week
- Sympathy
- Help Needed

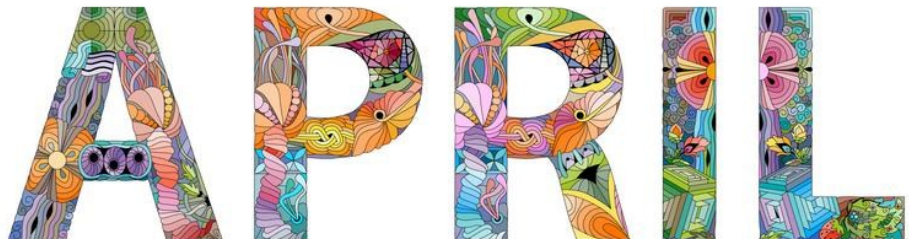
Sign up for electronic giving at:

<http://giving.flcssc.org>

Download the EasyTithe app
from the app stores.

Text give at:

402-557-0882



The deadline for the May Newsletter is April 16.

CHURCH COUNCIL (*Executive Council)

*President	Rita Todd 712/574-1769
*Vice-President	Jarrod Knudsen 712/898-1170
*Treasurer	Jenni Durant 712/577-1162
*Secretary	Amy Groth 712/490-4127
Justin Baker	Youth Representative
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

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.”*

This is the best season of the whole year. In the 50 days following Easter Sunday we can truly experience the joy and hope of the Resurrection as we dig into our baptismal promises. We know that this is what comes after our journey through the darkness and pain of Holy Week, and yet, the mystery of Jesus' presence, that we will learn more about through the gospel readings in this Easter season can touch our lives and stir us into a deeper relationship with the Father himself.

Because this is a season to remember our Baptism, we will be using the Thanksgiving for Baptism liturgy for the 50 days of Easter; and I think it could be helpful for us to review those promises that were made for us and that we confirmed in our own faith development.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism...

To live among God's faithful people,

*To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper,
To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
To serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
And to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?*

If so, answer: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

And now we pray... We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Join me in these glorious Easter days to renew your promises and receive the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Blessings in this journey,
Pastor Patti

WEDNESDAY LENT SOUP AND STUDY

We've had a great turn out for Wednesday Lent Soup and Study. Thanks everyone for your fellowship!

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 2

We are having a spaghetti dinner on Maundy Thursday at 6:00 p.m. We will have worship interspersed with the courses of this meal. Free-will donations will be accepted.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3

The Good Friday service will be on Facebook Live at 6:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

Join us as we gather to celebrate our risen Lord on Easter Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Thank you to Rick Darrow who will be playing the organ for this special service.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Happy Easter! Happy Spring! The robins are out and green is showing! The flooring is still being installed but coming along.

On April 12 after church, please stick around in the sanctuary for a discussion about our empty lot and what to do with it.

We have a sign near the door of our building that says “kindness”. What a great reminder both coming and going. Please approach everyone inside and outside with kindness. If you ask for something or make a request...be KIND, if you are responding to someone...be KIND. Let’s greet EVERYONE and SMILE! Being nice doesn’t cost you anything.

Rita Todd
Council President

LECTORS

April 5 Sue Hunter
April 12 Amy Groth
April 19 Open
April 26 Open

USHERS

April 5 Mike Hunter
Jeff Todd
April 12 Terry and Angie Sorem
April 19 Chris and Milissa Reyes
April 26 Marla Bianchini
Amy Groth

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

February 1 50
February 8 40
February 15 49
February 18 23 Ash Wednesday
February 22 37

SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy and prayers to Pat Brandes and family. Pat’s husband, Rick Brandes, passed away March 9.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 4 Scott Koeppel
April 4 Branden Lieber
April 12 Carrie Novak
April 15 Del Lieber
April 19 Flo Fry
April 24 Corliss Bianchini
April 26 Tom Durant
April 26 Lucy Gagnon
April 30 Kimon Litras
April 30 Ellen Prescott

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

April 26 Bailey Johnson

ANNIVERSARIES

April 15 Bob and Betty Barto
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

We did not meet in March due to inclement weather. Our next meeting is Monday, April 20 at 2:00 p.m. All women are invited!

LYDIA GROUP

Join us for our next meeting on Thursday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. Lydia Group would like you to clean out your drawers, we are accepting used t-shirts size XL and larger to make diapers for Lutheran World Relief.

WELCA EXECUTIVE will meet on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m.

QUILTING GROUP is accepting sheets, new and used, for the backing for quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Our next quilting day is Saturday, April 18 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

“Faith does not struggle; faith lets God do it all.”
– Corrie ten Boom

BAPTISM

On Sunday, March 22, we welcomed Rowan James Voss, son of Sam and Jackie Voss, into the Lord's family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Please keep Rowan and his family in your prayers.

WELCA NEWS

Supper with Friends is Wednesday, April 29 at 6:00 p.m. All women are encouraged to bring a friend and dish to share for a potluck style meal. This is our General Meeting for the Circles, and we invite ALL women to attend and enjoy food and friendship.

HELP NEEDED

We need one person to fill a vacancy on Council for the remainder of this year due to the resignation of Clint Barrs.

We need three people to serve on an Audit Committee. This will take a few hours and then it's done.

Please consider adopting a flower bed at First Lutheran this summer. Weed and clean up. There will be a diagram at the Welcome Center to choose your area. This is great exercise and the church will look so beautiful!

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.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lead me from Death to Life,
from Falsehood to Truth.

Lead me from Despair to Hope,
from Fear to Trust.

Lead me from Hate to Love,
from War to Peace.

Let Peace fill our Heart,
Our World, Our Universe.

– Mother Teresa

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN

April 5 Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter
First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43
Second Lesson: Colossians 3:1-4
Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

April 12 Second Sunday of Easter
First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-9
Gospel: John 20:19-31

April 19 Third Sunday of Easter
First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:17-23
Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

April 26 Fourth Sunday of Easter
First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47
Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25
Gospel: John 10:1-10

WHEN WE CAN'T FIND EASTER

Easter is the most joyous Christian holy day ... except when it's not. What do we do when our mood isn't what we think it "should" be? The kids are sugared up, we're juggling family gatherings (and conflicts), everyday challenges remain, and festive hymns – however rousing – fail to lift our spirits. We wonder, "What's *wrong* with me, that I can't seem to find Easter?"

Been there, done that. And it's okay. *You're* okay.

Jesus' resurrection doesn't scoop us out of our troubles, but the death-defying Christ walks through them beside us, on our own Emmaus Road (Luke 24). We aren't alone. When we can't find Easter, Easter somehow finds us – if not on this designated Sunday, perhaps two days from now, or next week or mid-May. Watch for it; keep your heart open. Christ is risen indeed – and you shall be too.

– Heidi Mann

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 nearly 180 families at our two March pantries.

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.

We have been receiving eggs in flats. If anyone has extra, clean and in good shape egg cartons, we could use them. Either ones that hold 12 eggs or 18 eggs. Just leave them in the kitchen and we will put them away. Thank you in advance.

There are quite a few online sites listing times and locations for food pantries which are out of date and incorrect.

“WHERE CAN I GET FOOD?”

Neighbors looking for food assistance can access all of our food pantry partners locations and times on the Food Bank of Siouxland website, www.siuoxlandfoodbank.org/get-food.

Info is from the Food Bank of Siouxland, Inc. Facebook page.”

Any questions, you can talk to Jean Hedquist or Linda Fischer.

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.

PRAYER

Pray
Regularly
And
You will
Experience
Rich blessings

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

When you are called upon to usher, do you know what to do?

Here is an abbreviated description. There is a full description on the usher’s desk in the Narthex:

1. Try to arrive 15 minutes prior to service time.
2. Be an extended greeter.
3. Count all the people in attendance including Pastor and record the number on the sheet at the usher’s desk. The usher’s desk is in the Narthex on the outside west wall. Record all information on the sheet and leave the sheet at the usher’s desk.
4. Assist in collecting the offering.
5. Assist and direct the congregation to Communion.
6. After the service is over - check and tidy up the pews, collecting anything that is left behind. Put the bulletins in the recycle bin in the entryway. Place lost items on the Welcome Center desk.

Remember, this is an abbreviated description of duties as an usher. Please be sure to read a complete list found at the usher’s desk in the Narthex.

Remember you are the first (and sometimes the last) people visitors and members see at the service. WELCOME everyone to the service.

If interested in ushering, please contact:
Terri Gotch at 712/223-2001 or
Shelly O’Brien at 402/494-6585

Thank you for your time and service.

“Serve the Lord with joy; come before him with singing...Thank him and praise his name.”
(Psalm 100:2-4)

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner/Worship 6:00 p.m.	3 GOOD FRIDAY Facebook Live Service 6:00 p.m.	4
5 EASTER Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	6 Worship Planning 5:45 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	7 Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	8	9 Lydia Group 6:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	10	11
12 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Discussion/ Empty Lot 10:30 a.m.	13 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	14 Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	15	16 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	17	18 Quilting Group 9:00 a.m.-noon
19 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	20 Circle I 2:00 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	21 Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	22	23 Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m. Pastor on Spiritual Retreat 4-23-26 through 4-26-26.	24	25
26 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	27 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	28 WELCA Exec. 7:00 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m. Amateur Radio Club 7:00 p.m.	29 (WELCA) Supper With Friends 6:00 p.m.	30 Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.		

Easter word search

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



- ANGEL
- ARREST
- BETRAYAL
- BREAD
- CROSS
- CROWN
- CRUCIFIED
- DENIAL
- EASTER
- GETHSEMANE
- GOD
- GOLGOTHA
- GOSPEL
- JESUS
- KING
- LAMB
- LIGHT
- LOVE
- PRAYER
- PROPHET
- RESURRECTION
- RISEN
- ROBE
- SACRIFICE
- SILVER
- SINLESS
- SOLDIER
- STONE
- SUPPER
- TEMPLE
- THORNS
- TOMB
- TRIAL
- WATER
- WINE
- WORLD