

First Lutheran Church

3601 Dakota Ave

South Sioux City, NE 68776

www.flcssc.org

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First Lutheran Church

May 2026



God's Work. Our Hands.

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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 June Newsletter is May 21.

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
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

John 14:27 *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”*

We continue this month in the Easter season with the focus on the promises our parents and sponsors made at our Baptism, and then learned through our own faith development, so we could commit to those promises for ourselves at Confirmation. I hope reviewing these promises and listening to the encounters between Jesus and his disciples in this first half of our Easter season has helped to deepen your relationship with God. Easter is a season that helps us recognize Jesus in our own lives by hearing the stories about Jesus with the disciples after the Resurrection. He shows himself in body when he comes into the upper room while they hide from the authorities. And he tells them not to fear and then makes himself known to them in the bread and wine. We continue learning about Jesus as He prepares us to know Him without his physical presence. Jesus lives on in us in Spirit and strengthens us with that spirit to live on and carry out God's mission in this world to love and care for one another.

May is a crazy, busy month for many as we experience graduations, Mother's Day, and make preparations for the summer schedules, but take time in the midst of all that to "see" God and breathe in the goodness of God's presence in our lives. Breathe out the busyness of our lives. Find moments this month to watch the trees and bushes fully blossom, breathe in the freshness of new life, and as you spring clean, breathe out the old dust and debris in your minds that keep you from fully seeing Jesus present among us.

Blessings in this journey,
Pastor Patti

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Pastor will be in Kearney May 29-31 to attend Synod Assembly. The theme this year is "Broken Open" and the Presiding ELCA Bishop, Yehiel Curry will be our Keynote Speaker. He lives out the "broken open/mended by grace" message in word and action, and I can't wait to see what can be learned from my time there. Please pray for me to listen with an open heart for a mindful message that could help break open things that keep us from experiencing God's fullness in love and grace among us as we continue to worship together and learn how to carry God's message and ministry into the world we live in.

SEVEN THINGS YOU'LL NEVER REGRET

1. Feeling reverence for your Maker.
2. Showing kindness to an aged person.
3. Destroying a letter—or not sending an e-mail—written in anger.
4. Offering an apology that saves a friendship.
5. Stopping gossip that could wreck a reputation.
6. Taking time to show loved ones consideration.
7. Accepting the judgement of God on any question.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We would like to fill the Council position, vacated by Clint Barrs, by our next Council meeting. The obligation is only until the end of this Council year, so until January. If you are interested, speak to one of the Council members.

We could use just one more person in the rotation for mowing this season.

The finished mural is great. We have already had many great comments.

I will be getting copies of Easter pictures to everyone soon. If I did not get your photo, please let me know so we can have everyone in the directory we are hoping to get done.

Thank you Jeff and Shelly for the spring clean up around the church. It helped us have a beautiful Easter!

Thank you Amy Groth for attending Synod Assembly on our behalf this year.

For those interested, the Welcome Center will be back "out" in the regular entry as soon as the wall trim gets placed.

Thank you to the Prayer Group for praying for our church and those especially in need.

Rita Todd
Council President

CIRCLE I

We met on Monday, April 20 for coffee, fellowship, Bible study and our meeting. We will meet again on Monday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m. All women are welcome!

LYDIA GROUP

Join us for our next meeting on Thursday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m. Lydia Group is accepting used t-shirts size XL and larger to make diapers for Lutheran World Relief.

WELCA EXECUTIVE will meet on Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 p.m.

QUILTING GROUP will not meet this month.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 1	Jill Gill
May 2	Clint Barrs
May 3	Robin Hansen
May 7	Judy Blessing
May 9	Lance Hedquist
May 15	Carol Slaughter
May 18	Elaine Fader
May 18	Ashlyn Rich
May 20	Cindy Koeppel
May 24	Tyler Fader

ANNIVERSARIES

May 7	Scott and Cindy Koeppel
May 12	Jeff and Rita Todd

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

LECTORS

May 3	Open
May 10	Open
May 17	Open
May 24	Open
May 31	Open

Are you interested in lectoring? Please sign up on the designated sheet located at the Welcome Center.

USHERS

May 3	Marla Bianchini Amy Groth
May 10	Adam Durant Jenni Durant
May 17	Ranelle De Jong Linda Fischer
May 24	Ruth Ailts Jean Hedquist
May 31	Bart and Terri Gotch

MARCH ATTENDANCE

March 1	54
March 8	43
March 15	canceled
March 22	62
March 29	49

THE SPRING FLOWERS ON EASTER

were given to the glory of God by:

Patty Blessing in memory of Robert and Jill
Blessing — Psalm 31:27.

Gabbi Durant in honor of her Aunt Celeste and
Uncle Adam.

Jenni Durant in honor of her children: Celeste,
Brett and Adam Durant and her granddaughter,
Gabbi Durant.

Mike and Sue Hunter in honor of their children:
Kandy and Kris Hunter.

Mike and Sue Hunter in memory of their par-
ents: Rodney and Martha Hunter and Dick and
Fran Smolnik.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the members of First Lutheran
Church who sponsored 2026 graduates with the
cost of caps and gowns. Several students
needed assistance with the purchase of their
caps and gowns for the Graduation Ceremony.
Several congregational members of First Lu-
theran Church stepped up to the challenge and
made it possible for these students to participate
in the Graduation Ceremony. Another way First
Lutheran Church is helping to assist our com-
munity in South Sioux City. Thank you!!!!

CONTACT INFORMATION:

First Lutheran Church
Phone: 402/494-5462
Email: office@flcssc.org

Pastor Patti Meyer
Phone: 623/910-7859
Email: prdpmeyer@gmail.com

*“Faith is like wi-fi: It’s invisible, but it has the
power to connect you to what you need.”*

—Unknown

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN

- May 3 Fifth Sunday of Easter
First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60
Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10
Gospel: John 14:1-14
- May 10 Sixth Sunday of Easter
First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31
Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22
Gospel: John 14:15-21
- May 17 Seventh Sunday of Easter
First Lesson: Acts 1:6-14
Second Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-14;
5:6-11
Gospel: John 17:1-11
- May 24 Day of Pentecost
First Lesson: Acts 2:1-21
Second Lesson: 1 Cor. 12:3b-13
Gospel: John 20:19-23
- May 31 The Holy Trinity
First Lesson: Genesis 1:1—2:4a
Second Lesson: 2 Cor. 13:11-13
Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

SCRIP

Scrip is a way of purchasing gift cards for com-
mon items like gasoline, restaurants and shop-
ping. It is not limited to just those. First Lu-
theran will get a percentage of what is pur-
chased. There is a white binder at the Welcome
Center with order forms that list all the vendors
available. Just turn in your completed order
form along with your check to Sue Hunter.
Scrip orders are due the third Sunday of each
month and gift cards will normally be available
the following Sunday. Contact Sue Hunter with
any questions.

JUST FOR PUN!

Every calendar’s days are numbered.

A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.

Acupuncture is a jab well done.

Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.

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 170 families at our two April 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.

“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.siouxlandfoodbank.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.

NOISY OFFERING

Are you aware that the noisy offering that is taken each Sunday morning by the youth will be used to purchase gifts for names on the Giving Tree at Christmas? So, clear out that extra change in your purse or pocket and give generously all year long.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

SOUND BOARD

Each and every week there are a lot of items that happen behind the scenes to make the service run smoothly. I am going to bring some insight to what working the sound board looks like.

Before Sunday, the week starts with communication between Pastor and myself to share what she calls the “guide” for service. This is a complete document for each and every item that will either be read, sung or acted upon during a service. In this guide it will provide me with the lyrics, prayers and any other information to share via the PowerPoint on Sunday mornings. Throughout the years of effort, I have taken the time to set up a template for creating each week’s PowerPoint. This effort has helped my time each week to be limited for updating with new information. Once Sunday comes it is all about just acting on the work already completed. It’s a combination of sound and video. I start by setting up our live stream tablet. Then spend the rest of my time before service making sure the screens are working, sound is audible over the sound system and that the play list is ready for each song. During service, my efforts involve adjusting sound quality for each mic, playing the audio for each song, and advancing the slides for each participant of service to follow along.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can assist or have any recommendations, please reach out and I will gladly discuss how we can continue to assist or better our service.

God Bless
Tanner Koeppe

PRAYER CHAIN

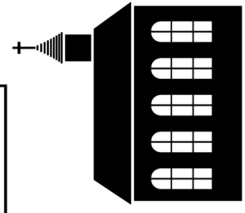
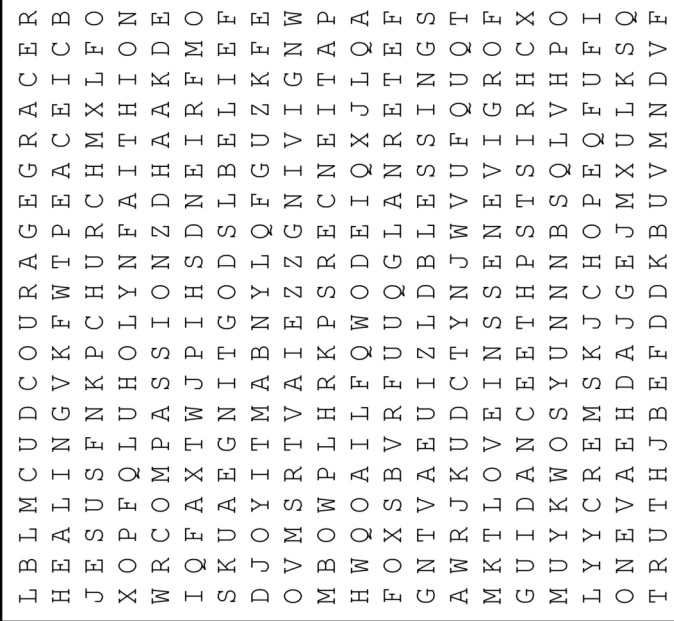
If you have a concern or need for which you would like prayer, please contact Sandy Larson at 402/494-2135 or Mary Wolf at 402/494-4697 or Pastor Patti at 623/910-7859.

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	4 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	5 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	6	7 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	8	9
10 Mother's Day Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	11 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	12 Bible Study 6:15 p.m.	13	14 Lydia Group 6:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	15 Gill/Steele Wedding Rehearsal 5:00 p.m.	16 Gill/Steele Wedding 5:00 p.m.
17 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	18 Circle I 2:00 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	19 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	20	21 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	22	23
24 Pentecost Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	25 Memorial Day	26 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. WELCA Exec. 7:00 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7 p.m. Amateur Radio Club 7:00 p.m.	27	28 Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	29 Synod Assembly	30 Synod Assembly
31 Synod Assembly Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)						

Church is Fun

Word Search



Word list:

- BELIEF
- BLESSINGS
- CHRIST
- CHURCH
- COMPASSION
- COURAGE
- ETERNAL
- FAITH
- FAITHFULNESS
- FORGIVENESS
- FRIENDSHIP
- GIVING
- GOD
- GRACE
- GUIDANCE
- HEALING
- HEAVEN
- HOLY
- HOPE
- JESUS
- JOY
- LOVE
- MERCY
- OBEDIENCE
- PATIENCE
- PEACE
- SALVATION
- SPIRIT
- TRUTH
- WISDOM