

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

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First Lutheran Church

June 2026



God's Work. Our Hands.

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402-557-0882



The deadline for the July Newsletter is June 18.

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
Milissa Reyes	712/204-4492
Terry Sorem	712/490-9271
*Pastor Patti Meyer	623/910-7859

PASTOR PATTI'S PONDERINGS

May was a busy month with graduations and weddings and finalizing the school year. But it always feels like these summer months are as crazy busy as well. And so, I would really like to focus on the following scripture this summer in our worship and in our daily lives.

Acts 17:27 – *[His purpose in all this] is that they should seek after God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us.* (NLT)

There are many things I have learned over this past year in my Spiritual Direction class about the longing I have always experienced to be closer to God, but this verse in Acts speaks directly to that. God is not far from any one of us. We just have to be willing to be open enough and ready to recognize God in our midst. So much of my life I have longed for a closer relationship, but have kept myself busy trying to find that connection instead of quieting my inner being to receive God (or to recognize God) present in my life already.

I have learned a lot of practices and participated in many exercises as I have learned more about

becoming aware of God in me, and learning to quiet my mind and spirit. This past month those practices came in very handy when life became almost overwhelmingly busy. The breathing exercise...[take in a deep breath for four counts, hold it for four counts, and then slowly exhale for four counts all the way out] (repeat three times)...this exercise helped me when my nerves were creeping up; and it helped me when I needed to clear my mind and switch gears. I feel more connected when I practice breathing in God and breathing out all the gunk of life. It helps to connect me with God, and I talk with God more often. I feel like I pray all the time now, but that's not a bad thing according to Paul in his letter to the Philippians, "*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus*" (Philippians 4:6-7).

I hope we can talk more about this over the summer and engage in some additional practices to help us learn more about this journey to connect deeper with God.

Blessings in your summer journey,
Pastor Patti

OUTDOOR WORSHIP/PICNIC

We're having an outdoor worship service and picnic on Sunday, June 7 at 9:30 a.m. Prodigal Sons will be joining us. Please bring a chair and a dish to share. If your last name begins with A-M, bring a dessert. If your last name begins with L-Z, bring a salad.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Milissa Reyes has been appointed by the First Lutheran Church Council to fill the position vacated by the resignation of Clint Barrs. She will serve until the next annual meeting at which time she will be eligible for election. Thank you, Milissa, for your service to First Lutheran.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings everyone! I'd like to update you on a few things.

The floor project is back on again. We requested that the work pause so it was not partially torn up for the wedding on May 17.

Tanner and I are now helping with the sign operation, so messages should change more often. We are open to requests and suggestions for messages.

There will be an outdoor service (weather permitting) on June 7. Music will be provided by Prodigal Sons. Fellowship will be grilling brats and hot dogs after service. Please bring a side or dessert to share.

Thank you to Milissa Reyes who will finish this year on Church Council to fill the vacancy.

Also, thanks to Mike Hunter and Jenni Durant for leading worship while Pastor Patti was at Spiritual Direction Retreat.

I am so grateful for the members of our church who do so much to keep us going. I/we see more than you know! Thank you ALL!

Once again, I encourage the congregation to reach out to Council members regarding questions, concerns and ideas.

Rita Todd
FLC Council President

CIRCLE I

We met on Monday, May 18 for coffee, fellowship and Bible study. We will meet again on Monday, June 15 at 2:00 p.m. All women are welcome!

LYDIA GROUP

Join us for our next meeting on Thursday, June 11 at 6:30 p.m.

WELCA NEWS

We had a very nice potluck and appreciated everyone who came. Circles do not meet in July and August. The board does not meet unless necessary.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 3	Norma Geveshausen
June 5	Mark Johnson
June 9	Adam Durant
June 9	Bonnie Prosser
June 11	Sally Hansen
June 13	Elsie Peters
June 16	Bob Barto
June 24	Kris Bergstrom
June 30	Carla Jo Morgan

YOUTH

June 19	Tayden Kinnaman
June 21	Brooklyn Sorem

ANNIVERSARIES

June 7	Chris and Michelle Kinnaman
June 18	Gerald and Carol Krieger
June 19	Mike and Carla Jo Morgan
June 22	Terry and Angie Sorem
June 25	Bart and Terri Gotch
June 26	Roger and Ruth Jensen

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

LECTORS

June 7	None Needed
June 14	Open
June 21	Open
June 28	Open

Would you like to lector? Please sign up on the designated sheet located at the Welcome Center.

USHERS

June 7	Mike Hunter Jarrod Knudsen
June 14	Jeff Carda Jeff Todd
June 21	Judy Blessing Pam Knudsen
June 28	Linda Fischer Jill Gill

“The greatest gift I ever had came from God; I call him Dad!”
—Anonymous

WEDDING

Congratulations to Kendall Gill and Chanler Steele who were married here at First Lutheran on Saturday, May 16. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin their new life together.

THANK YOU

On Mother's Day the women in the congregation were gifted a Bible verse pouch with sweet treats tucked inside. Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for the Mother's Day remembrance.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy and heartfelt prayers to the families of the following:

Shirley Luehr who passed away on Friday, March 13.

Flo Frey who passed away on Tuesday, April 28.

Rick Hansen who passed away on Saturday, May 2.

Steve McArthur who passed away on Thursday, May 7.

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 177 families at our two May 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.

The Community Gardens are up and running again this year. They brought us radishes and rhubarb to outperform last pantry. They will be

bringing more fresh produce as it becomes available this summer. YAH! Thank you.

We are still accepting clean egg cartons. Just leave them in the kitchen. 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."

Did you know that Dakota County has four Mobile Food Pantries a month?

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.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

TIME TO MAKE THE COFFEE!

While you are enjoying that cup of coffee at church on Sunday morning before or after church, do you ever think about who probably came a little early to brew that "Cup of Joe"? Please remember to give a thumbs up and a big thank you to Bev Bates for that wake-up cup of coffee. Thank you, Bev!

APRIL ATTENDANCE

April 2	22 (Maundy Thursday)
April 5	104
April 12	44
April 19	36
April 26	32

OUR KIND OF GOD

So let us remind ourselves again and again just what kind of God our God is. He is always there; he has always been there. He does not sleep or go on holiday or take a day off. He is always there. So don't despair.

—Archbishop Desmond Tutu

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Worship Planning 5:30 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	2 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	3	4 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m.	5	6
7 Outdoor Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Church Picnic After Worship	8 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	9 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	10	11 Lydia Group 6:30 p.m.	12	13
14 Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	15 Circle I 2:00 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	16 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	17	18 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m.	19	20 Quilting Group 9:00 a.m.-Noon
21 Father's Day Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	22 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	23 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.	24	25	26	27
28 Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	29 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	30 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.				

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

Unscramble the letters to find the words in the word scramble to answer the hidden phrase.

MLAYFI ○ — — — ○
AERTFH — — — — —
ENTUURR — — — — —
IHLOYDA ○ — — — ○
TFUHGHOURL — — — — —
DYDAD ○ — — — ○
STOLO — — — — —
SONTGR — — — — —
OTLFOALB — — — — — ○
DCILHNRE — — — — —
DVOEEDT — — — — —
PSOSRT ○ — — — ○
ERLHAUGT — — — — —
IVGIGN ○ — — — ○
ESMOREMI — — — — — ○
RAVBE — — — — —
MEHO ○ — — — ○
FNYUN — — — — —
TRSPEEC ○ — — — ○
ARCIGN — — — — —
LSIPECA — — — — —

Phrase: _____

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