

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

www.flcssc.org
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First Lutheran Church

August 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



AUGUST

The deadline for the September Newsletter is August 20.

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 Koeppe	712/560-2053
Milissa Reyes	712/204-4492
Terry Sorem	712/490-9271
*Pastor Patti Meyer	623/910-7859

PASTOR PATTI'S PONDERINGS

Back to School.

I hope as your summer is winding down, that you don't find your schedule more full than ever with all those last little trips to get away or shopping now for school supplies and getting ready for the mad rush to get everyone ready to get back into the learning mode. While nature still beckons us outside to enjoy all the sounds of creation, don't forget to take a few moments to breathe. Breathe in God's goodness...breathe out all the distractions. Draw yourself closer to God.

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)

God beckons us to breathe in all the freshness of nature...to seek God, and to grow into a deeper relationship with Him. God beckons us to live into our baptismal promises. This verse from Acts, chapter 17 can be a very good reminder for us...that God has a purpose and presence

with us. He is never far from us, and He beckons us to draw near to Him.

As we go through this month of August, it is the Council's challenge to implement ways we can experience "welcome" here at First. See if you can identify how they are carrying out this challenge as we finish up the summer readings from Genesis and enter the fall season. As your kids/grandkids prepare for school to begin again, I challenge you to find ways to "welcome" others as you shop and prepare.

As you finish up your summer activities, take time to breathe in God's awesome nature and rest in God's goodness.

Blessings in your journey,
Pastor Patti

OUTDOOR SERVICE/PICNIC

August 9 there will be an outdoor service and picnic. Bring a chair, an umbrella for the sun and a dish to share. If your last name begins with A-M, bring a dessert. If your last name begins with N-Z, bring a salad or side. We plan to grill hamburgers and hot dogs.

"WELCOME" CHALLENGE

As part of our "Welcome" challenge, the Council has designed "visitor cards". When you meet someone new, always let them know "you matter". Escort them to the Welcome Desk and invite them to fill out a card that they can drop into the offering plate or back at the Welcome Desk. This way, we can make sure someone is able to follow up with them and help them feel more welcome and comfortable here at First.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH/PASTOR

Due to confidentiality laws, Pastor is not notified when members of our church are admitted to the hospital or other facilities. If you or your family would like Pastor to visit while in a facility, please contact the church (402/494-5462 or 623/910-7859) to let her know which facility and your room number.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Yay! The new flooring is all in! We are so glad it's finished and the Welcome Center is back OUT!

Outdoor worship is August 9. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

This year as part of "God's Work. Our Hands", we will donate school supplies for needy elementary students in October. Any school supplies are good to provide. Since we are covering various grades, all school supplies are fine. Now is a great time to purchase some things ahead of time. Everyone knows I love a good sale!

Council considered repainting the parking lot lines this year but at a cost of \$2,208.00 we have decided maybe this can wait a bit longer. If we have some who would like to help fund even a portion of this, we may be able to reconsider.

I'm so grateful for everyone who works so hard to make First Lutheran a nice HOME for all of us.

Thank you, Tanner Koeppe! The sign is looking better with more colors in the display! We also appreciate your work every Sunday running the screen for worship.

Ruth Ailts continues to work so hard cleaning the church and she is donating her time for this. Thank you so much! Also, Shelly O'Brien for backing her up when needed.

Shelly O'Brien, Ruth Ailts and Ranelle De Jong have been doing altar care and we are so grateful for their work.

All of the Food Pantry volunteers are needed and appreciated, but none so much as Linda Fischer and Jean Hedquist who are always here long after the others leave, cleaning up and putting back.

Especially this year with this summer heat, thanks to the entire mowing crew for keeping up the grounds.

Much appreciation is due to Leisa Nolte for the countless hours she has spent in the HOT weather pulling weeds in our flower beds.

Any of these are continuous jobs and if anyone would like to step up and lend another hand, I know it would be accepted. At the very least, pray for them and thank them.

Until next month...

Rita Todd
FLC Council President

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August 11	Carol Krieger
August 12	Joan Robinette
August 21	Karen DeRoos
August 21	Helen Koskovich
August 21	Lance Swanson
August 22	Jennifer Lieber
August 24	Ronda Litras
August 27	Linda Fischer
August 28	Kendall Steele
August 28	Pam Knudsen
August 31	Haley Koeppe

YOUTH

August 17	Rylie Johnson
August 19	Teagan Kinnaman
August 27	Liam Johnson

ANNIVERSARIES

August 15	Jim and Sally Hansen
August 20	Rick and Joan Robinette
August 25	Chris and Milissa Reyes

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

CIRCLE I AND LYDIA GROUP do not meet in August.

AMERICAN FLAGS

If you have an American flag that needs to be retired, you can place it in the designated box in the Narthex. Scouts in our community have projects in which they learn how to dispose of them properly.

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.

July was a very busy month with serving 114 neighbors at our July 2 pantry and 92 neighbors at our July 16 pantry. That is over 200 neighbors helped in July. WOW!!

Student Council students helped in the afternoon of our July 16 pantry assisting neighbors get their groceries in their car. Thank you to Linda Swanson and her group for the help. Thank you to Justin Baker for assisting as well.

We have had some good produce from our friends at the Community Gardens. Including some very large kohlrabi, cabbage, red and golden beets, onions, kale, potatoes, turnips and zucchini.

We are still accepting clean egg cartons. Just leave them in the kitchen. Thank you in advance.

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.

USHERS

August 2	Rick and Jennifer Lieber
August 9	Justin Baker Randy Rahn
August 16	Milissa Reyes Carol Zastrow
August 23	Luke Bray Jeff Carda
August 30	Ranelle De Jong Rita Todd

JUNE ATTENDANCE

June 7	no count taken
June 14	53
June 21	41
June 28	44

DO YOU KNOW when the Food Pantry was started at First Lutheran Church?

Looking through some paperwork in the Food Pantry, I found the application to obtain food from Food Bank of Siouxland dated August 29, 2011. This was under the time that Pastor Jerry Gilbreath was our Pastor.

The Food Pantry has been in existence for at least 15 years this month. Maybe even more, not sure.

I know several members of our congregation were regular volunteers over the years to make the Pantry what it is today.

If anyone has some past history on the Pantry (the one held on the first and third Thursday), it would be appreciated. It would be nice to have this information for the record. Let me know.

— Linda Fischer

THANK YOU

Thank you for the prayers, calls and cards we received while Jeff was in the hospital and recovering. It was very thoughtful and appreciated.

— Jeff and Shelly

THANK YOU

Thank you for your donations to help purchase graduation caps and gowns for our students. Your kindness and support for our students and our school helped ensure that every student had the opportunity to participate in the graduation ceremony.

With sincere appreciation,
South Sioux City High School
Counseling Department

SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy to the family of Tom DeRoos, Sr. Tom passed away June 21. Please keep the family in your prayers.

SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Mark and Vicky Johnson and family on the passing of Vicky's mother, Marcella Gerritson, on July 8.

WORSHIP PLANNING COMMITTEE

“God’s Work. Our Hands.” Community Outreach Donation Drive dates are August 9 through September 13, 2026. During that time, we will be collecting donations from the congregation for Haven House in South Sioux City. Your contribution will support survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, and harassment. You can place your donations in the designated box in the FLC entryway. Monetary donations are also accepted. The following items are on their Wish List:

Clorox Wipes	Baby Wipes
Shampoo	Tissues
Conditioner	Hand Sanitizer
Laundry Supplies	Toilet Paper
Cleaning Supplies	Paper Towels
Tooth Paste	Dish Soap
Tampons	Hand Soap
Pads	Storage Totes
Diapers	Trash Bags
New Tylenol (Adult and Children)	
New Cold Medicines (Adult and Children)	
USB-C and iPhone Chargers	
Easy Meals like Ramen Noodles	

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

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

SCRIP

Scrip is a way of purchasing gift cards for common items like gasoline, restaurants and shopping. It is not limited to just those. First Lutheran will get a percentage of what is purchased. 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.

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.

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

“August is like the Sunday of summer,” an online meme proclaims. But that means different things to different people.

If you see Sunday as the end of a week — a chance to sleep in, do “nothing”, relax and play — then August might be your downtime at the end of a busy summer. If Sunday feels heavy because the onslaught of the workweek is approaching, then August may carry the dread of falling leaves and falling temperatures.

But if you view Sunday as a fresh start to the week, then August, with a new school year and new church programming around the corner, can be exciting. And if you honor Sunday as the Sabbath, indeed “August is like the Sunday of summer.” God invites us to enjoy these holy days and give thanks to him, the Creator of all seasons.
—Heidi Mann

“Spread love everywhere you go; to show love for God and our neighbor we need not do great things. It is how much love we put in doing that makes our offering something beautiful to God.”
—Mother Teresa

August 2026

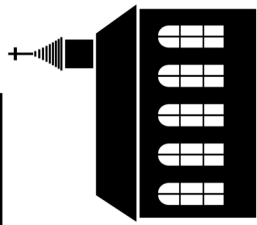
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	3 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	4 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	5	6 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m.	7	8
9 Outdoor Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Picnic follows Worship	10 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	11 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	12	13	14	15 Quilting Group 9:00 a.m.-noon
16 Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion) Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	17 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	18 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	19	20 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m.	21	22
23 Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	24 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.	25 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m. Amateur Radio Club 7:00 p.m.	26	27	28	29
30 Worship 9:30 a.m. (Communion)	31 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m.					

+ Church is Fun +



Word Search

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



Word list:

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