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

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First Lutheran Church

November 2026



God's Work. Our Hands.

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Sign up for electronic giving at:
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Download the EasyTithe app
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Text give at:
402-557-0882



The deadline for the December Newsletter is November 19.

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

I cannot believe we are already in November. Are you feeling the relief of cooler temperatures and decreased humidity? Or are you feeling a bit of melancholy as we watch the trees grow more barren, and experience the morning chill and graying skies? Are you anticipating all the activities and responsibilities between now and the end of the year?

November is a thin place of death and judgment and mercy. Yet, at the table of Jesus, every week, we step into a thin place where the living and the dead are close again; we are one with the communion of saints, one in the body and the blood. I see that veil open up every time I am able to commune the "other" among us. And it reminds me how easily Jesus can bring the walls down that divide us.

We begin the month with All Saints Day falling on a Sunday, the day after All Hallows Day. This is a time when we look more closely at death, we think more about those dear ones who have died, and we contemplate our own eventual death. We remember the veterans and celebrate the harvest in November. November reminds us that there may be empty places at the tables of this year's holiday gatherings. But our texts these weeks in November give us solid reason to hope: "God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thess. 5:9). God has called us, the baptized, to important labor: to "encourage one another and build up each other" (1 Thess. 5:11).

As we enter this holy month of November and share this holy meal together, may the eyes of our hearts be enlightened so we may perceive the hope to which God has called us.

Blessings in your journey,
Pastor Patti

TURKEY TOM AND TINA

Please have your Turkey basket items here by **November 8**.

CLEAN UP SANCTUARY

Saturday, November 21 at 10:00 a.m.

Prior to decorating for Advent, volunteers are needed to clean up the narthex and sanctuary and prepare for visitors.

TOUR OF STEEPLES

December 4 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
December 5 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sign-up sheets are at the Welcome Desk.

They are always looking for sponsors to help spread the word about this event, without sponsors, this amazing event wouldn't happen. This isn't a requirement by any means, but if every church found a sponsor for the minimum $250 donation, we would be able to get the necessary exposure this event deserves. If you are interested in sponsoring this event, please contact Michelle Smith at tourofsteeples@gmail.com.

For more information, please see the flyers on the tables in the welcome area. If you would like to contribute and help First Lutheran Church become a sponsor, we will be taking donations in the coming weeks.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Church Family,

As we begin another month together, I am grateful for the faith, kindness, and dedication that make our church community so special. Each act of service, word of encouragement, and shared prayer strengthens our fellowship and helps us reflect God's love within our congregation and beyond.

This month, I encourage each of us to look for simple ways to grow in faith and care for one another. Reach out to someone who may need encouragement, welcome a new face, volunteer where you can, and continue to keep our church, community, and leaders in your prayers.

Please take time to read through this newsletter and note the worship services, ministry opportunities, and special events planned for the weeks ahead. Your presence and participation are so important, and I look forward to all that we will share and accomplish together. We look forward to taking part in the Tour of Steeples for the first time this month and will be cleaning and decorating the church. There is a sign-up sheet for hosting and baking treats for this event.

May God bless you and your family throughout the coming month.

In faith and fellowship,
Rita Todd

LYLE TODD CHILI COOK-OFF

November 15 at 4:00 p.m.

Bring a crockpot of your best chili and enter our fun contest. Competition is open to anyone, church members, family, friends or others.

There will be fun prizes for first, second and third place, cinnamon rolls, and extra fixin's.

If you just like to eat chili, please come enjoy with us. Everyone is a judge!

QUILTERS will not meet in November or December.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

November 2	Marla Bianchini
November 4	Rich Potter
November 6	Carol Ostendorf
November 9	Jake Gill
November 10	Shelly O'Brien
November 11	Roger Jensen
November 12	Jane Krogh
November 13	Justin Lake
November 19	Sue Hunter
November 21	Jeff Carda
November 23	Randy Rahn
November 24	Mike Gill
November 26	Jan Brodersen
November 27	Dennis Fischer
November 28	Dona Shook

YOUTH

November 1	Tristan Kinnaman

ANNIVERSARIES

November 24	Bill and Linda Kendra
November 28	Jeff and Ellen Prescott
November 29	Charlie and Ruth Ailts

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

SEPTEMBER ATTENDANCE

September 6	37
September 13	38
September 20	43
September 27	41

SYMPATHY

We sadly learned recently that a former longtime member, Jay Lowry, passed away on August 23. A memorial service was held on October 24 in Little Falls, Minnesota. We extend our prayers and sincere sympathy to the family.

SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt prayers and sympathy to the family of Dennie Derochie. Dennie passed away October 7. A Celebration of Life was held on October 12 in Sioux City.

CIRCLE I met on October 19 for fellowship and Bible study. Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 16 at 2:00 p.m. All women are invited!

LYDIA GROUP will meet on Thursday, November 12 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us! Lydia will accept any used T-shirts size XL or larger to make diapers for baby kits. Printing is ok, we put that on the inside.

LECTORS

November 1	Justin Baker
November 8	Mary Wolf
November 15	Amy Groth
November 22	Sue Hunter
November 29	Justin Baker

USHERS

November 1	Rick and Jennifer Lieber
November 8	Judy Blessing
	Carrie Novak
November 15	Terry and Angie Sorem
November 22	Jean Hedquist
	Vicky Johnson
November 29	Bart and Terri Gotch

POINSETTIA ORDERS NOW OPEN!

Help us add to our beautiful sanctuary for the Christmas season by ordering a poinsettia! Flowers are available for **$11 each** and can be purchased in memory or in honor of a loved one. Order forms are at the Welcome Desk. Please note that all completed order forms and payments must be returned to the church by **Sunday, November 22.** If you prefer to bring your own poinsettia, you are more than welcome to do so; however, please be sure to fill out an order form so your dedication can be recognized in the program! If you have any questions, please reach out to Tanner Koeppe.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Don't forget to turn your clocks BACK one hour on Sunday, November 1 when Daylight Saving Time ends.

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. The month of October we served a total of 183 families.

The GTL students helped to unload the groceries in the morning and assisted our neighbors get their groceries in their car in the afternoon. Thank you to all!

We have had some good produce from our friends at the Dakota County Voices For Food - Community Gardens, including peppers (many varieties), butternut and acorn squash, carrots, tomatoes and apples. Thank you.

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.

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Nov. 1 All Saints Day
First Lesson: Revelation 7:9-17
Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-3
Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Nov. 8 24th Sunday after Pentecost
First Lesson: Amos 5:18-24
Second Lesson: 1 Thess. 4:13-18
Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Nov. 15 25th Sunday after Pentecost
First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Second Lesson: 1 Thess. 5:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Nov. 22 Christ the King
First Lesson: Ezek. 34:11-16, 20-24
Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Nov. 29 First Sunday of Advent
First Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9
Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 *Daylight Saving Time ends.* Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	2 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	3 Bible Study 6:15 p.m.	4	5 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	6	7
8 *Turkey Tom and Tina basket items are due back today.* Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	9 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	10 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	11	12 Lydia Group 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. Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m. Chili Cook-Off 4:00 p.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 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	18	19 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	20	21 Clean up the narthex and sanctuary prior to decorating for Advent. 10:00 a.m.
22 *Poinsettia orders are due today.* Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	23 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	24 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. WELCA Exec. 7:00 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00p.m. Amateur Radio Club 7:00 p.m.	25	26 **Thanksgiving**	27	28
29 **First Sunday of Advent** Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	30 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.					

Thanksgiving Word Scramble



1. rcon _____
2. ukppmin _____
3. krueyt _____
4. omfaylwer _____
5. niwsebho _____
6. ciarrrbesne _____
7. spmiligr _____
8. ricdukmts _____
9. dnenir _____
10. syam _____
11. solrl _____
12. eremnbov _____
13. gobebl _____
14. dessret _____
15. ngstufif _____
16. uyhtarsd _____
17. efats _____
18. rgavy _____
19. nnasidi _____
20. rbeda _____

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