

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

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

First Lutheran Church

October 2026



God's Work. Our Hands.

INSIDE

- October 2026 calendar
- Ponderings from Pastor Patti
- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Food Pantry
- Turkey Tom
- Craft Fair
- Sympathy

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 November Newsletter is October 15.

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

Autumn is finally upon us. And I am glad to be back from vacation so I can enjoy the cooler temperatures and the fall colors bustin' out all over the place. I love the changing of season from summer to fall. There's a lot of work to get done cleaning up the gardens and the yards...making sure all those summer projects get zipped up before the snow flies...OK, just a bit early to think about the cold and snow. Tell ya what...let's just enjoy this time.

It's a time of celebration of the harvest. It's time to sit back and ask ourselves if we have done all we can, if we have finished everything up, and if we are prepared for the long winter ahead. As we prepare, we should also ask if we have blessed all we need to bless. Have we blessed one another here in this congregation? Are there more ways we need to work at doing that? Have we blessed our neighbor as ourselves? ...because that IS what we are charged to do... "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (**Matthew 22:39**).

This fall we will hear several Matthean parables that speak loudly and bluntly to our more negative human tendencies (our sin): we do not forgive as widely or deeply as the Lord's Prayer calls us to, we are less than generous with our own forgiveness and judge God to be a little more abounding in steadfast love than strictly necessary...and how about God's sense of fairness? These parables expose our frequent rejection of God's invitations and our inclination to be less than loving to our neighbor no matter the consequences. But if we listen to the ways they accuse us, the accusation can become a blessing. After all, we can't work on changing what we don't see as wrong.

Autumn is a season of blessings, of endings and beginnings. As we move into this new season, Christ gifts us with more grace and forgiveness than we deserve and more compassion and mercy than we ever would think possible.

Blessings in your journey,
Pastor Patti

TURKEY TOM

It's that time again for Turkey Tom to make an appearance here at First Lutheran. Last year we blessed so many families with a Thanksgiving meal, and we'd like to do this again.

Watch for Turkey Tom...he will be here soon...pluck his feathers (he likes that). Take as many as you would like and bring back the food items by November 15 so that we can box and deliver in time for Thanksgiving. We are so grateful for your service to the community.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

October 4 will be Blessing of the Animals. Bring a picture of your pet(s) to church for a blessing.

GIVING STATEMENTS

If you would like your third quarter giving statement, please contact the office by email at office@flessc.org or phone 402/494-5462.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Boo! Time sure flies, here I am "spooking" again!

I would like to thank Bob Barto, Randy Rahn, Judy Blessing and Pastor Patti for agreeing to be on the Nominating Committee this year. They will be looking for Council representatives for 2027. If you think you would be interested or would like more information, please let them know. Feel free to come to the Council meetings to learn more.

Tom Turkey is on display. Please help by bringing a few items on the feathers. These Thanksgiving food baskets will be distributed to several needy families. If you know of a family to put on our list, please let Pastor Patti know.

It takes a lot to make this Church go. Many people doing many things, big things, small things, once, and on repeat. As a Council, we appreciate all of it. You Matter because you all make US Matter. Be sure to let us know if anything needs our attention. Fresh ideas are always welcome.

Rita Todd
FLC Council President

CRAFT FAIR

October 24 is our Craft Fair from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We can use a few people to help set up on Thursday evening and some for the kitchen on Saturday. If you can help, please let Rita or Sue know. There will be a bake sale as well, and if you have some craft items to donate, we would love to have them. Bake sale items can be dropped off Friday evening from 6:00-7:30 or Saturday morning. We would like to purchase a few more tables and maybe some chairs with the proceeds this year.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The FLC Lyle Todd Chili Cook-Off is scheduled for November 15. Everyone gets to judge and choose the best chili. Get your recipes ready!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October 5	Bob Oberg
October 9	Becky Knudsen
October 11	Ranelle De Jong
October 11	Cathie Galvin
October 13	Mike Rich
October 18	Sharon Parker
October 26	Bill Kendra
October 28	Katelyn Lieber
October 31	Patty Matz

YOUTH

October 13	Grace Hunter
October 22	Gabriella Durant

ANNIVERSARIES

October 1	Kimon and Ronda Litras
October 10	Mason and Amy Groth
October 21	Dennis and Linda Fischer
October 27	Lane and Carol Ostendorf

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

SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt prayers and sympathy to the family of Jerry Krieger. Jerry passed away August 23.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy and prayers to the family of Bill Bass. Bill passed away September 18.

CIRCLE I met on September 21 when we assembled 20 back packs with school supplies and 10 personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 19 at 2:00 p.m. All women are invited!

LYDIA GROUP will meet on Thursday, October 8 at 6:30 p.m. Please join us!

"As a child of God, I am greater than anything that can happen to me." —A.P.J. Abdul Kamal

AUGUST ATTENDANCE

August 2	45
August 9	N/A
August 16	53
August 23	44
August 30	39

LECTORS

October 4	Justin Baker
October 11	Amy Groth
October 18	Mary Wolf
October 25	Corliss Bianchini

USHERS

October 4	Judy Blessing Vicky Johnson
October 11	Linda Fischer Jean Hedquist
October 18	Ruthie Ailts Jill Gill
October 25	Mike and Sue Hunter

WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Oct. 4	<u>19th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Isaiah 5:1-7 Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14 Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46
Oct. 11	<u>20th Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Isaiah 25:1-9 Second Lesson: Philippians 4:1-9 Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14
Oct. 18	<u>21st Sunday after Pentecost</u> First Lesson: Isaiah 45:1-7 Second Lesson: 1 Thess. 1:1-10 Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22
Oct. 25	<u>Reformation Sunday</u> First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34 Second Lesson: Romans 3:19-28 Gospel: John 8:31-36

*“Live simply, love generously, care deeply,
speak kindly, leave the rest to God.”*

—attributed to Ronald Reagan

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with and attended the F.L.A.P. dinner September 12. Much appreciation to Jennifer and Rick Lieber for heading this up. The food and atmosphere were wonderful. Many food boxes will be filled.

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 September we served a total of 196 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), tomatoes, butternut and acorn squash, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes and carrots. Thank you.

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.

DID YOU KNOW? – In order to put an article in the monthly newsletter, the article needs to be given or emailed to Betty Barto by Monday or Tuesday of the third full week of the month.

A COLORFUL LESSON

We could learn a lot from crayons: Some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors...but they all exist very nicely together in the same box.
—Robert Fulghum

October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	2	3
4 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Blessing of the Animals	5 Worship Plan- ning 5:30 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00p.m.	6 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	7	8 Lydia Group 6:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	9	10
11 "Weed and Worship" Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	12 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	13 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	14	15 Food Pantry 1:00-2:30 p.m. Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	16	17 Quilting Group 9:00 a.m.-noon
18 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Council Mtg. 10:30 a.m.	19 Circle I 2:00 p.m. Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	20 Bible Study 6:15 p.m. Advanced Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	21	22 Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	23	24 Craft Fair/ Bake Sale 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
25 REFORMATION SUNDAY "Weed and Worship" Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.	26 Closed AA 6:00-7:00 p.m. Beginners' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	27 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.	28	29 Couples' Line Dance 7:00 p.m.	30	31 REFORMATION DAY

Halloween

WORD SEARCH

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

BAT	CREEPY	MONSTER	SKELETON	TREAT
CANDY	GHOST	MOON	SPELLS	TRICK
CAULDRON	GHOULS	MUMMY	SPIDER	VAMPIRE
COSTUME	HAUNTED	PUMPKIN	SPOOKY	WITCH