First Lutheran Church 309 Ninth Street North Northwood, IA 50459 First Lutheran Church

Office Phone 324-2984

Office hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-Noon, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Closed on Fridays

E-mail Address flc@flcnorthwood.org

Web Site www.flcnorthwood.org

Pastor Judy Converse

E-mail Address pastor@flcnorthwood.org

Cell Phone 1-978-808-6780

Parsonage 323-0081

Non-Profit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 33

Address Service Requested

FIRST LUTHERAN FOCUS

APRIL 2018

HEARING LOOP

Thanks to a WCDA grant, a hearing loop has been installed at First Lutheran. A telecoil option is installed in most hearing aids, but those who wear hearing aids may have to ask your audiologist to activate or add it to your instrument.



If you don't have a telecoil equipped instrument, the hearing loop will alert you to borrow a loop listener. First Lutheran has three of these available in the sound booth.



TOWN HALL: FINANCE 201

Following up on the discussion which took place last fall and as part of the ongoing work of creating clear and transparent operations for First Lutheran, the Congregation Council is inviting everyone to another Town Hall to hear about the various 'silos' of funds that are part of First Lutheran Church – and which are managed by other groups within the church. The Council has invited representatives from the FLC Trust Fund, Men in Mission, First

Lutheran Women, Thrivent Financial committee, and the FLC Altar Guild Board to share their mission and goals for the funds that they oversee.

The Town Hall is scheduled for Sunday, April 29th after the worship service. Please plan to join us.

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

■ Sunday, April 1 – The Resurrection of Our Lord – Holy Communion (via continuous intinction)

Sunday, April 8 – Second Sunday of Easter, Service of the Word, Linda Griffith leading and preaching

Sunday, April 15 – Third Sunday of Easter, Holy Communion (via continuous intinction), Holy Baptism

Sunday, April 22 – Fourth Sunday of Easter - Choir Sunday

Sunday, April 29 – Fifth Sunday of Easter – Service of the Word, Holy Baptism

From The Pastor's Desk....

Dear friends,

This has been an interesting season – this 2018 season of Lent.

It began on February 14th – our popular holiday of Valentines' Day – the day on which we celebrate love! Somehow the idea of mixing chocolate and flowers and hearts didn't automatically connect with our holy Ash Wednesday – a day to remember our mortality. And yet . . .

Now we approach the end of Lent – and the grand and glorious celebration of Easter – which will happen on April 1st – also known as April Fool's Day. Is it possible to mix pranks and jokes and tricks with an open tomb and a bright promise of life after death? (Or even eggs and bunnies and more chocolate?!)

Making new connections – finding new ways to think about our faith – is one of the challenges and joys that I get to work on most every week as I try to connect our Bible reading to everyday life. Here is a quote that I came across recently (on Facebook – wouldn't you know!) that has connected with me in a number of ways - particularly as we arrive at Holy Week:

The cross was not God's invention – it was ours. In all our need for an eye for an eye, I have to wonder sometimes if God listened to us cry for blood and offered his own – if Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was not to sate God's wrath, but to show God's response to ours.

Looking ahead with you to seven weeks of the Easter season – celebrating sunny days and new life!

Pastor Judy

THANKS - - - THANKS - - - THANKS

During this season of Lent, I am most grateful for:

- Wonderful lay leadership of our Holden Evening Prayer services!
- Delicious meals cooked and served by a number of groups in the congregation!
- Continued cooperative and progressive work by the leaders of our Council!
- The 'artwork' of sewers and quilters and decorators!
- Melting snow and warmer, sunny days!
- Our musicians and their generosity of time and talents in making our worship together so lovely!
- Fun activities and food for friends of all ages!
- The gift of Lent with its time for study and discussion and contemplation!

Awaiting – with you – the surprise of Easter!

Pastor Judy



PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms

Paisely Rae Olson—March 4th Avery Rae Nielsen—March 11th Dawson Anthony Hauge—March 18th

Weddings

No Weddings in March

Funerals/Memorial Services

No funerals in March

Please contact Pastor Judy or the church office if you or a loved one is or will be hospitalized.

Cell: 1-978-808-6780, Home: 323-0081, Church Office: 324-2984

On Sunday, April 22 at 9:00 am the First Lutheran Choir will present their annual Music Sunday Service. The theme will be "Praise to the Lord"

Together with scripture, prayer, hymns, instruments, and choral music, the service will "Praise and Glorify the Lord".

Come to worship with us at this special Sunday service.

YOUTH NEWS

Sr. High Youth - Wednesday 7:00—8:30 Jr. High Youth - Sunday 6:30-8:00 "Deeper" Group - Monday 5:00-??

For the duration of Lent we have been in a competition called Vets Vs Noobs. The groups have been split up between those who have attended Youth the most against (The Vets) and those who are newer to our groups (The Noobs). On Wednesday Nights we've been attending the Lenten services and then come downstairs for some trivia questions about the church service as well as some fun games and then some short lessons that also go along with the week's service.



During the 3rd week of Lent we focused on reputations. One of the games had the teens moving around the Fellowship Hall in a giant chair labyrinth trying match one another. The Bible verses that week were Proverbs 22: 1–3. The following week we talked about anger and how it affects our faith life. That week's verses were Ephesians 4:26-27.

The 5th week let us look at times we'd like to do over and why does God allow us to make really odd or bad decisions. It's great to get people to realize that we need to be thankful for the good as well as the bad, as they both help define who we are. Romans 7:15 "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do."

Over the course of the past 6 weeks on Sunday Nights we've had the great opportunity to invite the current 6th graders to join in on the Vets Vs Noobs experience. It's been a fun time getting to know all the new kids and we're looking forward to summer arriving to have this class join us every week on Sunday night.

Our current 8th Graders get a chance to join in with the Senior High Youth teens on Wednesday, April 4th. Each year around Easter we have our "Beating The Bunny" lesson which is always a highlight for everyone.

A few things we're looking forward to in the month of April is Ten Dollar Prom and Hotdog Roast. The current Junior class will be picking a new color for the Youthroom towards the end of the month which we will paint the night of Graduation.

DAY CAMP

The dates have been set – June 4-8, and plans are underway for a great week of Day Camp for 3

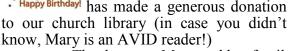


year-olds through 6th graders First Lutheran! Registration forms will available on the last day of Sunday School – May 6.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARY!

Mary Ihnen is celebrating a big birthday on April 7th. To honor this event, her family Happy Birthday! has made a generous donation



Thank you to Mary and her family!

FIRST COMMUNION FOR FIFTH GRADERS

A class for 5th grade students to prepare them for receiving their First Communion will be held during the Sunday school time on Sunday, April 22 and Sunday, April 29. During the class-time, the students will learn

about the significance of meals in the Bible, hear the story of the Last Supper, learn about the ways that communion is offered here at First Lutheran, and bake bread for their first communion Sunday – May 6th.

Parents are invited to attend along with the students.

If you have any questions about the class and/or schedule, please be in touch with me. Pastor Judy



Mission Projects for April



World Hunger Training and educating individuals to work in developing sustainable farming techniques and committed to the alleviation of hunger

around the world

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes February 11, 2018 10:15 AM

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Attended: Stuart Anderson, Shana Brunsvold, Pastor Judith Converse, Josie Einertson, Doug Falgatter, Lisa Hagen, Mitch Hanson, Sharyl Nestor, Heather Rheingans, Richard Selvig, Judy Stevens, Lynn Tenold and Jake Urbatsch. Guests: Lowell Gangstad and Jan Thompson.

WE CELEBRATE OUR PAST

Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the following reports: (MMSP Nestor / Brunsvold)

- President
- Secretary (Corrections to January minutes made. Will begin e-mailing out to Council in February).
- Treasurer (Positive financial results for first four months of fiscal year. Many thanks to Congregation for your continued support.)
- Pastor (Lenten season upon us. Schedule of Council members to quiz Confirmation class on memory work during Lenten season. Pastor has taken on temporary Secretarial role within NEIA Synod).

WE PRESENT OUR OFFERRING

- Education Committee (next meeting 03/06 6PM)
 - ♦ Sunday school Purple Day 02/25 and White Day 04/15 scheduled.
 - ♦ Facebook page changed inclusive of all of First Lutheran activities.
 - ♦ New wide screen TV installed in Theater Room which has capacity of 50 viewers.
 - ♦ Going forward, looking at new curriculum for upcoming Sunday school year.
- Fellowship & Social Ministry Committees (next meeting TBD)
 - ♦ Shrove Tuesday pancake supper in need of more volunteers.
 - ♦ Community-wide Shuffle board & bean bag tournament on Saturday 02/24, teams are welcome to compete and enjoy walking-tacos and desserts! Free-will donations to support FLC summer mission project at Pine Ridge Reservation.
- Finance Committee (MMSP Fallgatter / Hanson)
 - ♦ Lowell Gangstad presented historical financials for "Men-In-Mission" ministry. Carl Peterson originally formed group 23 years ago of which initial scope was Northwood community-wide. Over the years, "MIM" has donated \$83K to worthy causes in the local community. As per Lowell's request, motion made by Council to add FLC Treasurer as co-signor on "MIM" bank account.
 - ♦ Financial review continues as follows:
- Bank accounts at NSB and FSB.
- Check co-signors review on all bank accounts.
- Liability insurance coverages on all FLC assets (most notably the Wicks organ).
- Future external audit.
- Property Committee (next meeting 02/12 7PM)
 - ♦Liability coverages discussed specifically on Wicks organ as has been deemed insufficient. Council tasked Committee to assess independent appraisal of assets for appropriate coverages with insurance carrier.
 - ♦ Current projects at or nearing completion: Kitchen (\$20K WDCA funded), Hearing loop (\$20K WCDA funded), Stained glass windows (\$10K WCDA funded), Fireside room remodel pending.
- Stewardship Committee (next meeting 03/01 7PM)
 - ♦ Reviewed pledges received on December campaign. 75 pledge commitments made totaling \$106K approximating 44% of approved budget. Many thanks to those commitments!
 - ♦ Thanks-Living Sunday will be on 05/27 during which organizations supportive of Youth will be honored community-wide.
 - ♦ Committee in need of "tech" savvy volunteer to assist in build-out of FLC's online presence.
- Worship & Music Committee (next meeting 03/05 5PM)
 - ♦ Lenten meals / Holden Prayers, sound loop install and Communion rail knee pad replacement discussed.
 ♦ Wicks organ project update:
- Team to visit Boone, IA church 03/10 with Dewey Kruger to review organ.
- Team to visit Rochester, MN church 03/11 with Wicks to review organ.
- No site visit scheduled yet with Grandal & Engen yet.

continued on page 5

- Youth Representative
 - ♦ Summer "Day Camp" planning in progress.
 - ♦ "Not to hide our feelings" sharing and trust theme at current Youth meetings.
 - ♦ Mark Willand turns 40 years old on February 16th. Let us all celebrate this!

CONCERNS FOR THE PRESENT

- Mission Support
 - ♦ Reviewed FLC's financial support to NEIA Synod and ranking within Synod based on churches of similar size. FLC commitment currently at \$1,125 per quarter.
- Town Hall "FLC Finance 201" (04/29 10:15AM)
 - ♦ Open meeting will discuss finances, governance and succession planning for various FLC organizations those being: First Lutheran Women, Altar Guild, Men in Mission, Trust Fund and Thrivent Financial.
 - ♦ Emphasis is to streamline finances and improve communication across all entities.
 - ♦ Audit by external CPA firm under consideration by Council.
 - ♦ Egg bake breakfast brunch to follow thereafter.
- Mutual Ministry (MMSP Hagen / Fallgatter)
 - ♦ Committee currently has two openings of which Delores Knudson will fill one opening.
- Lenten Season Offerings / Easter Memorials & Honorariums (MMSP Nestor / Selvig)
 - ♦ Wednesday offerings to go 1/3rd "Community Kitchen" in Mason City, IA and 2/3rd Manna of Worth County.
 - ♦ Funds reviewed and approved for Easter memorial & honorarium donations received.
- Constitution Committee
 - ♦ Committee members are Stuart Anderson (Council member) and Steve Converse. Recruitment of two other members being sought.
 - ♦ Topics of consideration will be bonding of Treasurer, changes to fiscal year end dates for all legal entities, constitutional governance for all FLC related entities to improve alignment in by-laws.

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Lord's Prayer

We Adjourn to Serve (upcoming dates)

February 14 Communion (Rail) – Josie Einertson & Sharyl Nestor

February 18 Communion (Continuous) - Stuart Anderson & Mitch Hanson

March 4 Communion (Rail) – Stuart Anderson & Heather Rheinghans

March 11 Council monthly meeting 10:15 AM

"That all may know the love of God in Jesus Christ"

Respectfully submitted, Richard Selvig, Secretary

First Lutheran Missions		
October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018		
Caring Tree	\$	355.29
Operation Christmas Child	\$	348.82
Youth Fund (Bibles & Catechisms)	\$	45.00
Bremwood	\$	5.00
Opportunity Village	\$	5.00
Lutheran World Relief	\$	10.00
Meals on Wheels	\$	229.66
MANNA	\$	154.65
Heifer International	\$	233.73
Good Samaritan Fund	\$	350.22
Lutheran Services	\$	20.00
Total	\$ 2	2,219.63

MEMORIAL

Marlys Gable

\$10.00—General Fund



TAX TIME

Please remember that your financial gifts to First Lutheran may be tax-deductible IF you give in a way that can be recorded by our office. That includes electronic giving through Simply Giving or through PushPay, and through envelopes assigned to you or by check.

If you would like more information on electronic giving, please call the church office. Envelopes can also be obtained there.

April Volunteers

Ushers

April 1st—Eric and Austin Foss, Tom and Josh Stevens, and Cade Hengesteg

April 8th—Sawyer & Michelle Schulz, Jerry & Jan Hopperstad

April 15th—Larry Foley, Doug Fallgatter, Mitch & Jess Hanson

April 22nd—Dan Hendrikson, Bernie VanVeldhuizen, Colton Moretz, Casson Moretz

April 29th—David & Sharon Petznick, Kevin and Maeghan Petznick





Greeters

April 1st—Kevin, Michelle, Maeghan & Lauren Petznick

April 8th—Doug & Gloria Fallgatter

April 15th—Mike & DeAnn Read

April 22nd—Scott, Brenda, Colton & Casson Moretz

April 29th—Lynn & Mindy Tenold



April 1st—Easter, no coffee hour

April 8th—Maynard & Madelyn Midtgaard and Dianne Johnson

April 15th—Patty Irons and Avis Lehman

April 22nd—Sharyl Lunde and Jan Wilder

April 29th—Judy Stevens and Nancy Amundson





Acolytes

April 1st—Kennedy Christianson and Jason Hanson

April 8th—Nicholas Hanson and Carly Hengesteg

April 15th—Ian Husske and Tyler Mills

April 22nd—Nolan Senne and Eli Mix

April 29th—Josh Stevens and Hayden Moore

Lay Readers

April 1st—Stu Anderson

April 8th—Lisa Wangsness

April 15th—Madelyn Midtgaard

April 22nd—Choir Sunday Concert

April 29th—Doug Krull



Assisting Ministers

April 1st—Cade Hengesteg

April 15th—Steve Converse

Altar Guild & Share Shoppe

Leah Circle

Offering Collectors/Counters

April 1st— Mike Stevens and volunteer

April 8th—Lowell Gangstad and Lee Okerlund

April 15th—Gloria Fallgatter and Nancy Amundson

April 22nd—Russ & Delores Knudson

April 29th—Mike Stevens and volunteer



FIRST LUTHERAN WOMEN

"Blessed are you among women" Luke 1:42

Julia	April 2nd	2:00 pm	Carol Liljedahl's home
Leah	April 5th	9:00 am	Senior Center
Lydia	April 4th	1:00 pm	Gloria Fallgatter's home
Rebecca	April 4th	1:30 pm	Maple Court, Shirley Meyer-hostess
Sarah	April 3rd	1:00 pm	Jan Mielke's home

FLW CORE MEETING

Sunday, April 8th at 10:00 am Fireside Room



- Kimberly Odegaard, Heather Thofson, Kerry Urbatch
- 2 Jessica Bergsma, Damian LaPoint, Judy Lee, Wendell Meyer, Cary Van Veldhuizen, Jean Van Veldhuizen
- 3 Tanner Iseminger, Parker Iverson, Gaylen Quam
- 5 Bradley Christianson, Jill Schutz
- 6 DeAnn Read, Ashlynn Van Sabben, Randy Werner
- 7 Diane Hanson, Mary Ihnen, Amy Petry, Kandie Shupe
- 8 DuWayne Bottleman

4

12

- 9 Irl Madsen, Todd Moore, Emelia Nelson, Arlyn Rustad
- 10 Season Anderson, Vivienne Vandell
- 11 Riley Olson, Amy Van Sabben
- 13 Brian Bestul, Judale Mills, Jamie Nelson
- 14 Larry Gentz, Elizabeth Kenison
- 15 Douglas Hall, Robert Hengesteg, Mary Reyerson, Tristan Rothove, Dirk VanRyswyk

- 16 Mackenzie Costello, Levi Eilertson, Hal Johnson
- 17 Kyle Waller

20

- 18 Brady Christianson, Amber Varner, Jordan Wright-Thofson
- 19 Coni Butler, Misty Eilertson, Corey Haberman
- 21 Danielle Lickteig, Angela Senne, Jayne Wheeler
- 22 Renee Hartman
- 23 Rick Hanson, Melba Marker
- 24 Ronald Christianson, Ashley Duvall, Jonathan Hickman, Madison Shoger
- 25 Cheryl DeArmoun, Scott Halbach, Kael Julseth, Jeremy Solberg, Darrell Hartman
- 26 Brad Brunsvold, Caleb Johnson
- 27 Deanna Halbach
- 28 Samantha Butler, Laurie Harris, Diane Meyers
- 29 Chad Mills, Helen Trenhaile, Jacob Urbatsch
- 30 Eric Trenhaile



A **THANK YOU** from the "Caring Ministry": Worshipers who attended the Ash Wednesday service and the First Sunday of Lent were offered daily devotion booklets to take home and use during the Lenten season. Tucked inside was a purple yarn crocheted piece made with an obvious outline of a cross in the center as symbol of our Lenten journey.

These many, many pieces were carefully and prayfully made by two beautiful crocheters: Margaret Grell and Janet Severson. We thank them for their time and nibble fingers.!



April 2018, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

According to the Iowa Department of Human Services, 8,892 Iowa children were found to be abused in 2016. The most common forms of abuse included denial of critical care, physical injury, exposure to illegal drugs and sexual abuse.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) helps combat child abuse through prevention, safety, and stability services, as well as mental and behavioral health treatment.

Through regular in-home visits to families, LSI's Early Childhood Services prevent child abuse by giving parents the support, education, and resources they need to build a healthy, stable home for their children. In 2017, our Early Childhood programs provided more than 15,000 in-home visits to families.

LSI's Family Safety, Risk, and Permanency Services help children and families already involved in a crisis or abuse situation to become safer and more stable, and LSI's Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers serve many children and youth who have experienced trauma from past abuse or neglect.

You make a direct impact on these children and families through your support of LSI. Thank you!

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and Facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Building a Stronger Family

Stacy's daughter, Danikah, was a happy and playful toddler. But things began to change when her baby brother, Parker, was born. She was happy to see him in the hospital at first, but she struggled to adjust to a new child at home, especially when it came to sharing a room with Parker.

Stacy found LSI's New Parent Program shortly after Parker was born, and she hoped it could help her daughter adjust to the changes at home. The free, voluntary program provides support and education to families during and after pregnancy. Through the program, Stacy gets to meet other families in her community, and Danikah gets to interact with other children who have siblings.

Danikah is learning how other siblings share their toys and interact. Meanwhile, Stacy is learning to adjust to her children's developmental stages. Through the program, she has learned to potty train Danikah and manage her daughter's temper tantrums.

At home, Stacy and her children receive regular visits from their LSI team. Each week, the team brings creative new crafts Stacy can make from materials around the house. Danikah, now 5, is always eager to learn a new activity from her LSI worker during each visit. She's even starting to share her homemade toys with Parker. "The program is fun for the kids, but you can also do things as a family," Stacy says. "You get that time with your child, and you're building a better relationship in the process."

Easter Word Search

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

KZOUKHJRC Y J F NEHYKR 1 EKAUQHT OSTDOYUVXXCLZS T E S CLKF H O A P O S T L E S S D E L E O U L G N O X F C NJTNYQVYCP V R T I C R O W N O F T H O R N S T V IGHPRI ESTH ERF VG JUDASISCARIOT

ANGELS APOSTLES BETRAYAL BLOOD CALVARY CROSS CROWN OF THORNS CRUCIFIXION DARKNESS DEATH EARTHQUAKE **EASTER GOLGOTHA** HIGH PRIEST JESUS CHRIST JOSEPH JUDAS ISCARIOT

KING

LAMB

RUVBCYLU RSKPSTPC BETRAYAL QRTQOSEF SNXNG ORAAHEO NBMIKERL VOOBIBYG NWCO QDRTGVFT D M J JCFOH LOODENA BXVLSOJ SGP LEME SRMI TTIS AEAAXSSU NLVTHYS GOCRSC UNEAVRH E U VLOER NGS ARACCDS IRKMML T VRZYNBOY RYOREESG ICSYDSG NHNSQES

MARY NAILS **PASSOVER** PIECES OF SILVER PIERCED PILATE RESURRECTION ROBE ROMANS SACRIFICE SIMON OF CYRENE SOLDIERS SON OF GOD SPEAR STONE **TEMPLE** THIEVES THREE DAYS **TOMB**