

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

**Office hours**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9am – 2:00pm

Wednesday, 9am- 12pm, Fridays, closed

**[www.flcnorthwood.org](http://www.flcnorthwood.org)**

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**First Lutheran Focus**

**February 2022**

Address Service Requested

**CARE GROUPS**

Who, What, When Where and Why? The **who** is everyone who makes the spiritual home at First Lutheran. Everyone will be placed in one of eleven groups. **What:** each Care Group will be assigned a month where they will be covering the many tasks of ministry that are needed. The groups will provide the readers for Sunday morning worship, ushers, altar guild/care (don't panic, we will teach you), greeters, serve at funerals as needed. Your **when** will be soon so watch for letters/emails or phone calls when your group is coming up. **Where?** Usually at church but your group will include some of our members who are no longer able to get out so you will have an opportunity to reach out and include them in you Care Group. **Why?** This is a way to involve all members in the life and ministry of the church. We need to move away from a small group of people doing things like setting up for communion or serving at funerals. This invites you to be on duty for a month and teaches everyone the tasks of our work together. If you have questions, please talk to Pastor Becky who will connect with each group as it gets organized for their month.

# PASTOR'S PAGE

What comes to mind when you hear “Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray?” When I hear that I am ready to start into the Lord’s Prayer. Prayer is very important to people of faith. It is our conversation with God. When things are going great we are ready to give God thanks and praise. When we are concerned, we know that we can turn to God for comfort, help and hope. I invite you to an intentional journey of prayer for the month of February.

During this Month let us be intentional about our prayer as individuals and as a congregation.

Suggestions for your prayer:

- ✚ Your spiritual journey and that of your family.
- ✚ The health concerns of your family and friends.
- ✚ You can be a part of the prayer ministry and daily hold up those who we are in our prayers during worship.
- ✚ Pray for First Lutheran Church and the visitors that join us in worship both in person and on Facebook Live.
- ✚ Pray for the Northeastern Iowa Synod and the ELCA Churchwide body that we be a faithful witness to God’s great love for the world. Name our leaders, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Kevin Jones, and the synod staff.
- ✚ Pray for the leadership of First Lutheran Church and for our journey together in ministry. Our staff, council, Sunday school teachers, quilters, worship leaders both for Sunday morning and Inspire.

I like how Eugene Peterson puts Paul’s words to the Philippians 4:6-7

*Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worry, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.*

Pray daily, pray often!

Pastor Becky



# YOUTH NEWS

January is typically a pretty quiet time overall for Youth group, and this year was no exception. I'm very delighted with the fact that February is a short month, and soon we'll be gathering for Lent as spring works its way back.

It was great to recently get the Inspire worship service up and running. We'd been planning for many months on how to make it work, and I am very excited for the future this service will have and the participation and energy the younger people have for it. It was great to see some of our Youth kids also participating in the band.

DayCamp plans are underway. It gives my soul some ease that we already have more helpers signed up to help this June than we had helping last year. DayCamp registrations won't be available until May, but I'm already excited for what's going to happen this upcoming summer here at First Lutheran.

During January we had some great lessons on building our foundation much stronger (Jeremiah 29:11), keeping control of our tongues and words (Proverbs 13:3), uplifting those around us (1 Thessalonians 5:11) and how to keep our word (Jeremiah 29:11 again). These 4 lessons work well with each other and really nails down the point that God does have a plan for us, that includes hard work as well finding strong people to spend our time with.



## **First Lutheran Mission**

### **January 1 – December 31, 2021**

Bremwood	\$
Operation Christmas Child	\$ 225.35
Youth Fund (Bibles & Catechisms)	\$ 990.00
Caring Tree	\$ 450.37
Meals on Wheels	\$ 401.62
Manna	\$ 1,635.13
Heifer International	\$ 36.00
Riverside Bible Camp	\$ 25.00
Campers Fund	\$ 50.00
Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 1,803.94
Lutheran Services	\$ 72.14
Dayspring Children's Village	\$ 575.00
Northern Lights Shelter	\$ 459.92
LRH Auxiliary	\$ 20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,744.47</b>

### **Donations**

**\$26.19 - Manna**

**\$26.19 - Meals on Wheels**

### **Memorials**

**Irene Stricker \$20 - General Fund**

**Kary Paulson \$90 - General Fund**

## **First Lutheran Financial Update**

### **December 2021**

Income	\$39,032.39
Electronic Income	\$3,286.51
Expense	(\$27,841.04)
End of Month	\$14,477.86

### **YTD as of December 31**

Income	\$199,138.91
Electronic Income	\$36,918.54
Expense	(\$229,073.84)
End of Month	\$6,983.61

### **December General Budget Expenses**

PAYROLL:	\$ 15,452.34
E-GIVING EXPENSE	\$ 42.78
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	\$ 295.19
UTILITIES	\$ 4,837.33
TELEPHONE	\$ 213.99
OFFICE EXPENSE	\$ 1,025.99
NE SYNOD	\$ 1,125.00
WORSHIP	\$ 258.50
MISC. EXP	\$ 4,328.35
BANK CHARGES	\$ 135.35
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 27,841.04
INCOME	\$ 42,318.90
NET	\$ 14,477.86

### **Mission Project for February**

**Good Samaritan Fund**

### **February Share Shoppe**

**Circle will be working February 5<sup>th</sup>**

### **Staff Phone Numbers**

Pastor Sogge	612-718-9151
Mark Willand	641-390-1032
Troy Bachtle	641-430-8305
Jan Thompson	641-390-0883
Christa Larson-Trenhaile	641-390-0484

**First Lutheran Church Council  
Annual Meeting  
January 23, 2022**

We Assemble in God's Name

- Members Present: Mary Jo Senne, Janelle Johnson, Kris Kenison, Nikkole Koenig, Doug Fallgatter, Hayden Moore

**MMSP to open the meeting (Jan Thompson, Dennis Johnson)**

President Janelle Johnson thanks the Council and staff, and nominating committee for their work to prepare this meeting

**MMSP to approve minutes of previous meeting (Dan Reeder, Judy Stevens)**

Opening liturgy reading Mary Jo Senne, Kris Kenison

Opening hymn leader Nikkole Koenig, Delores Knudson. Piano

**Reports**

Pastor Becky

Youth

Congregational Report

Budget/finance report

Other reports

**MMSP to approve all the reports, (Randy Buehrer, Rich Selvig)**

**Elections**

**Distribution of ballots**

**Opening of nominations**

**Mary Jo Senne nominates Rich Selvig for council**

**Motion to close nominations (Jan Hopperstad, Dennis Johnson)**

**Collection of ballots**

**Trust Fund report**

**MMSP to approve Trust Fund report (Doug Krull, Dan Reeder)**

**2022 Budget**

**MMSP to approve 2022 budget (Jan Hopperstad, Tom Watts)**

**Closing Prayer**

**MMSP to close the meeting in 15 minutes following collection of ballots (Sharyl Nestor, Jan Thompson)**

**Results:**

**Church Council: Mariah Ballantyne, Nikkole Koenig, Rich Selvig**

**Nominating Committee: Janelle Johnson, Constance Kenison, Russell Knudson**

**Scholarship Committee: Dennis Johnson, Becky Okerlund, Judy Stevens**

**Trust Fund: Raymond Hoffman, Thomas Watts**

**Lutheran Retirement Board: Ron Christianson**

**Audit Committee: Kimberly Anderson, Jody Christianson, Lauren Welty**

**Voting Members for Synod Assembly: Sharyl Nestor, Richard Selvig**

**Representative to LRH Annual Meeting: Sonya Dahle, Lois Hogan, Shirleen Julson, Leila Gangstad**

Meeting adjourned 11:15am.



**Valentines for Vets** is hosted by KCMR radio. Mail or drop off homemade Valentines cards must be received by Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. KCMR radio, 316 N. Federal Ave, Mason City, IA 50401

**Pastor Becky** will be on vacation from January 27<sup>th</sup> - February 7<sup>th</sup>, if you need pastoral care you may call her cell at 612-718-9151.

**Thank you** to Thofson Plumbing and Heating for donating the labor cost for installing the new furnace at the parsonage.

**Please take advantage** of calling Thrivent through the year or your Choice Dollars are lost. Call by March 30<sup>th</sup> of each year and direct the dollars to First Lutheran Thrivent Fund. Directions: Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted say "Thrivent Choice". Have your policy number available. A representative will work with you to direct your dollars.

**Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI)** will begin resettling up to 500 Afghans within the next six months and will continue to resettle other populations in Sioux City and Des Moines (pending approval) after all Afghan individuals have been resettled in the US. The Refugee and Immigrant Services team developed a plan for staff, in-kind donations, volunteers, and a fundraising campaign with a goal to raise \$500,000.

### **How You Can Help**

Make a one-time or recurring financial gift through our Community Connectors or Fund a Family options. Visit [LSIowa.org/resettlement](http://LSIowa.org/resettlement) to learn more and donate.

### **Welcome Boxes**

As LSI welcomes resettled families from across the globe to Iowa, you can show them how welcome they are in our community by coming together with your neighbors, coworkers, faith community, or book club to make Welcome Kits. Many of our refugee families arrive in Iowa with few possessions or supplies. You can help them as they begin to rebuild new lives here and make a home in Iowa.

- **Meal Service Kit**
- **Meal Prep Kit**
- **Bathroom Kit**
- **Personal Care Kit**

### **Annual Meeting for Shell Rock Cemetery Association**

Is to be held on Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at Harlan and Barb Helgeson's home.

**The Pictorial Directory Committee will meet  
on Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the  
Fireside Room.**

<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Counter</u></b>	<b><u>Lay Reader</u></b>	<b><u>Sound</u></b>
February 6	Team 3	Stu Anderson	Eli Mix
February 13	Team 4	TBD	Logan Mayberry
February 20	Team 5	TBD	Hayden Moore
February 27	Team 1	Rich Selvig	Hayden Moore



**Come and See! Come and Hear! Come and Experience INSPIRE!**

First Lutheran Church is offering a new, uplifting **additional style of worship**. Worship dates are set for **Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>**, with additional dates to be announced soon.

INSPIRE will be held in the **sanctuary from 6:00-6:45 pm**. All ages are welcome and will be engaged through music, video, the message theme, and reflection. Coffee, water and snacks can be picked up in the narthex. T-shirts (with logo) will be available sometime in the future!

INSPIRE is meant to **uplift** your spirit, bring a message related to **present day life**, and engage people in **music** enhanced by guitar, keyboard, and at times hand instruments for those present.

**COME and SEE!!!!**

**COME and HEAR!!!!**

**COME and EXPERIENCE INSPIRE!!!!**

**The committee:**

Alyssa Iverson: (Committee chairman) T-shirts, Video, Etc.

Lauren Welty and Loraine Mix: Music & Instruments

Pastor Becky: Message, Video ideas, Guidance

Sasha Holstad - Logo design, Video

Sue Waller: Keyboard

Mark Willand: Youth connection, Video, Message

Marcia and Jim Price: Consulting- valuable knowledge to share from past experiences




Janelle Johnson: Miscellaneous



- 1) Tyler Trenhaile
- 2) Courtney Jorgensen, Christine Hulsing
- 3) Mary Dodd, Emily Toresdahl
- 4) Lucus Hoffman, Ohin Shackleton, Ryan Tufte
- 5) JoAnn Julson
- 6) Elaine Butler, Anne Marie Kinnin, Amanda Olson
- 7) Monte DeArmoun, Leland Swenson
- 8) Nancy Hengesteg, Zach Nelson, Kinley Thompson, Xander Gentz
- 9) Allyson Carlson, Mary Kalvig, Kenlyn Reindl
- 10) Clare Hengesteg, Caroline Hengesteg, Matthew Johnson, Jaden Lafferty
- 11) Lon Christianson, Debra Rustad, Roger Rustad, Josie Reindl
- 12) Nancy Amundson, Janice Hopperstad, John Janssen, Collin Jaspers, Delores Knudson, Sophie Rye
- 13) Wendy Davis, Deb Hanson
- 14) Abby LaRue
- 15) Callie Flattum, Kent Nitcher, Carol Paulson
- 16) David Capitani, Matt Thompson, Mark Willand, Jim Price
- 17) Kristoffer Kenison
- 18) Dexter Duvall, Larry Kenison, Avery LaRue, Belle Magritz
- 19) Jeri Severson
- 20) Alison Gores, Nicole Husske, Jordan Kenison, Dawson VanRyswyk, Betsy Wright
- 21) Wanda Hoffman, Tyson Werner
- 22) Henry Houg, Helen Ringham
- 23) Diane Myli
- 24) Daniel Bestul, Nathan Buehrer, Haddie Hanson
- 25) Michael Davey, Dori Kostka, Casson Moretz, Zachary Roppe, Scott Severson
- 26) Mary Bloomingdale, Susan Gaskill, Zachary Katcher, James Kostka, Tracey Severson, Irene Stricker
- 27) Jody Christianson, Connie Kenison, Annika Schreiber
- 28) Nicholas Shackleton, Ellen Van Sabben, Brian Waller, John Weitzel, Betty Goodrich, Clayton Ogea, Kennedy Schulz
- 29) Shirley Ausenhus, John Berg



# February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 11:00am: NO Staff Mtng. 6:00pm: NO Bible Study 7:00pm: AA–Al-Anon	<b>2</b> 4:30pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Confirmation 7:00pm: Choir 7:00pm: SH. Youth	<b>3</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pastor Gone on Vacation</b>						
<b>6</b> <b><u>Epiphany 5</u></b> 9:00am- Service with <u>No H.C.</u> 10:10am- Sunday School 6:30pm- JH. Youth	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 11:00am: Staff Mtng. 6:00pm: Bible Study 6:00pm: Worship Mtng. 7:00pm: AA–Al-Anon	<b>9</b> 4:30pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Confirmation 6:00pm: Inspire 7:00pm: Choir 7:00pm: SH. Youth	<b>10</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo 7:00pm: Pub Theology	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Pastor Gone on Vacation</b>						
<b>13</b> <b><u>Epiphany 6</u></b> 9:00am- Service – S.S. Kids Sing & Installation of council. 10:00am- Council Meeting 10:10am- Sunday School 6:30pm- JH. Youth	<b>14</b>  Valentine's Day	<b>15</b> 11:00am: Staff Mtng. 4:00pm: Trust Fund 6:00pm: Bible Study 7:00pm: AA–Al-Anon	<b>16</b> 2:00pm: Sr. Comm. 4:30pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Confirmation 7:00pm: Choir 7:00pm: SH. Youth	<b>17</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b><u>Epiphany 7</u></b> 9:00am- Service with H.C. 10:10am- Sunday School 3:00pm- LRH Worship 3:00pm- Conference Assembly 6:30pm- JH. Youth	<b>21</b>  President's Day	<b>22</b> 11:00am: Staff Mtng. 6:00pm: Bible Study 7:00pm: AA–Al-Anon	<b>23</b> 4:30pm: 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Confirmation 6:00pm: Inspire 7:00pm: Choir 7:00pm: SH. Youth	<b>24</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo 7:00pm: Pub Theology	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b><u>Transfiguration of Our Lord</u></b> 9:00am- Service with catechisms to 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade 10:10am- Sunday School 6:30pm- JH. Youth	<b>28</b>					

