

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

Office Phone: 641-324-2984

E-mail: flc@flcnorthwood.org

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First Lutheran Focus

May 2025

Address Service Requested

<u>Week</u>	<u>Counter</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>
May 4	Mike & Judy Stevens	Delores Knudson	TBD	TBD
May 11	Stu & Kim Anderson	Heather Rheingans	TBD	Amaya Rugland
May 18	Randy & Laure Buehrer	Gladie Hagen	TBD	TBD
May 25	David & Sharron Petznick	Laure Buehrer	TBD	Tegan Trenhaile Logan Trenhaile

Communion Set up: May 4 Christa Trenhaile

May 18 TBD

Altar Candles: May 1-18 Christa Trenhaile

May 19-31 TBD

Share Shoppe
Saturday, May 3rd

PASTOR'S PAGE

I have a challenge for you, all of you. Let's live into, ponder together, and listen closely to what God is saying to each of us and collectively as two churches working together. On Easter morning the gospel from Luke tells us of the women going out to the tomb early in the morning with the burial spices they had prepared. They were slogging their way through grief, doing the right thing for the teacher, leader, friend. Instead of finding the body of Jesus they meet two angelic witnesses who ask "why are you looking for the living among the dead." (Luke 24:5)

If you want something to change, you must do the work of change. When the girls were young, I would tell them to look with their eyes and not with their mouth. If you want to lose weight you can't keep eating all the unhealthy food. If you are overwhelmed by your schedule you have to let go of some of the fluff in your life (you're family will probably appreciate it). If you can't hear God's voice in your life, you probably need to turn down the volume of the news or the 'must do's' you are hearing and tune into your life of faith.

Back to the challenge. What is God calling you to do? Are you feeling a nudge to change things up? Instead of taking Sunday mornings as your 'my time' come and join us for worship. How about stepping up your giving to the church, not simply when you worship but set up your direct deposit so you are giving on a regular basis. How about gathering some friends and reading a book together or having a weekly Bible study (the youth do).

I am rereading the book *Canoeing the Mountains*, by Tod Bolsinger and will be sharing more thoughts about what I learn with the church councils but invite you to read along. Lewis and Clark learned that their canoes wouldn't be useful as they moved past the Mississippi River and encountered the Rocky Mountains.

We are challenged to not dwell on what we have always been doing and expecting it to continue to be what God is calling us to. The two angelic witnesses reminded the women at the tomb of what Jesus had told them and announced that he was not in the tomb but out ahead of them. Jesus was risen from the dead and calling them and each of us to see with eyes of faith what we are called to do.

You are welcome to join me in reading or start a book group that excites you and draws you into a deeper life of faith.

Blessings!

Pastor Becky

PASTORAL ACTS

April

Baptism

4/27/25

Cooper Blane Maher

Funeral

Helen Trenhaile

4/12/25

YOUTH NEWS

We're getting plans set up for Day Camp 2025. This year the dates will be from June 9 – 13 from 9:00 A.M. to Noon each day. The following Sunday, June 15th we'll be taking over the church service to share about our week. Sign up sheets will be available on the last day of Sunday School as well as in the church office.

On Saturday, May 17, I'll be taking 9 of our Senior guys to Boone for a mudrun. It's been an amazing experience getting to know this particular group of guys over the years and it will be a fun challenge for all of us to complete the weekend before graduation. For those that don't know what a mudrun is, it's an obstacle course that is 6+ miles throughout the woods with around 25 different stops along the way to complete different tasks. It often times forces you to rely upon the members of your group to help you complete the different stations, and if we complete the whole thing, we each get a banana!!!



The first Sunday of summer break, June 1, we are planning on having our annual Youth Olympics – where all our students from 6th grade to college gather together, break into 5 teams, and compete against each other in different games. Directly following that, the Jr. High students will be allowed to stay the night here for a lock-in. Should be a great night of fun and fellowship to kick the summer off.



Regular Council Meeting

March 18, 2025

First Lutheran Church - Northwood

Judy and Mike Stevens, Kimberly A., Kris K., Connie K., Weston W.,

Mariah B., Megan O., Rev. Becky S., Hayley M., Kevin M.

We Assemble in God's Name

Devotion - Weston W - "Trust in the Lord"

We Celebrate our Past

Presidential Correspondence - Kris K. - No updates

Secretary's Report - Megan O. - update on last meetings minutes, under Education - remove "Welcome day was well attended".

Treasurer's Report- Judy S. - corrections: Under Youth Director Continued Education - it should be moved to a different category. Misc. Expenses under Operating Expenses Grant. Both were expected expenses to be taken care of by grants from the Trust Fund and is not an expense to the church directly. Giving is still not keeping up with expenses. This will need attention.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Becky - What a gift it is to have such a wonderful youth ministry! Reaching kids and teens to WANT to join, be baptized and be involved. Scholarship grant was received for the Lily Foundation. They will make their decision and report back in the fall. Wednesday Lenten offerings need to be designated. Suggestion was made to direct them to Lutheran Disaster Response. Funds are given directly to the cause, with nothing taken for overhead. Pastor has had direct experience with this program.

Mike Stevens made a motion to designate Lenten Mid Week offerings to the Lutheran Disaster Response. Connie K. Seconded. Motion Passed.

Mariah made a motion to accept the reports, seconded by Kevin - Motion Passed.

We Present our Offering

FINANCE - Judy S. - Big goals for time as Treasurer: To offer transparency and clear communication. Judy is excited to learn the behind the scenes and how things work as well as learning about each account. She would like to go through and make sure the necessities are being care for and do a mini audit to get up to date and

First Lutheran Missions

March 2024

Riverside Bible Camp	\$ 17.21
Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 274.20
Lutheran World Relief & World Hunger	\$ 2,730.18
Bremwood - LSI	\$ 326.39
Operation Christmas Child	\$
Education Fund	\$ 200.00
Youth Fund	\$ 176.99
Sunday School Fund	\$
Caring Tree	\$ 107.52
Meals on Wheels	\$
Manna	\$
Heifer International	\$
Campers Fund	\$
Dayspring Children's Village	\$ 42.44
Northern Lights Shelter	\$ 69.94
LRH Auxiliary	\$ 119.12
TOTAL	\$ 4,140.69

Donations

\$43.08 - LWR
\$86.14 - Meals on Wheels, Manna, Share Shoppe

Memorials

\$80 - General Fund - Helen Trenhaile

Mission Project for May

LRH Auxiliary

learn the accounts better. Please feel free to contact her with any questions. She is interested to know if there are any helpful things that could be added in the finance reports?

WORSHIP- Kimberly A. - Met March 3, 2025. Selected choir robes from Gaspard Robe Company out of Wisconsin. They were the best to work with, easy to communicate and good to work with. They do not have a total bill yet, but should be soon. Because of the amount of the order, we did receive a discount. Statement should be available at the next meeting. They worked on and selected music and their next meeting is May 5, 6pm. Plans for old robes have not been discussed. Suggestion was made to see if the NK schools would/could use them.

INSPIRE- Kevin M. - On a bit of a sabbatical for the Lenten season. They are excited for a bunch of new songs and are continuing to learn many new pieces.

YOUTH - Weston W. - 5 week Lent competition going on. Attendance numbers are good. High school is good, JR. High is getting better.

EDUCATION - Mariah B. & Hayley M. - Kids are singing during Easter service and are very excited. Numbers have been 'okay', but have seen the usual decline after Christmas. Helpers and Teachers have been very steady.

PROPERTY - Mike S. - Haven't met since last meeting. WCDA grant was submitted, and they are waiting for a decision.

MISSION- Gina S. - Feed My Starving Children will be our next big project. We will be working with others to make a committee to work on an event in the fall.

FELLOWSHIP- Connie K. - Reminder, planning an Anniversary of the building of the church. We need to select a day. Pictures of the church, old and new will be used to advertise and as prints for the event. Newspaper archives will be a good resource. Recreating the original pamphlet.

There are countless dishes stored downstairs- ideas were presented to use coffee cups for Mother's Day gifts for Sunday School, place settings for silent auctions, etc.

Soup and sandwich meals each Lenten Wednesday. Lunch is served at 12 and dinner at 5. In need of soup volunteers.

Concerns for the Present

Staff transition - Annika and Christopher are sharing the Custodial job. This week and next week, they will be working alongside Troy, learning the ins and outs of the job. Part of the job is opening and closing the building each day, responsibility will be split. Days and schedules are being worked out to make sure there is someone in the building.

First Lutheran Financial Update

March 2024

Income	\$ 11,191.94
Electronic Income	\$ 2,993.81
Expense	\$21,213.98
End of Month	(\$7,028.23)

YTD as of February

Income	\$34,484.50
Electronic Income	\$8,914.85
Other Income	\$32,554.20
Use of Church	\$470.00
Expense	\$69,993.65
End of Month	\$6,429.90

March General Budget Expenses

Payroll:	\$ 17,244.26
E-Giving Expense	\$ 42.71
Church Maintenance	\$ 238.63
Utilities	\$ 2,494.47
Telephone	\$ 216.42
Office Expense	\$ 472.79
Worship 1	\$ 129.70
N. Iowa Synod	\$ 375.00
Total Expenses	\$ 21,213.98
Income	\$ 14,185.75
Net	\$ (7,028.23)

We'd like to get back to having council packets prepared for the Sunday before council meetings.

Catechism- We'd like to upgrade what the people are given. Maybe a nicer version, something they will take pride in holding on to. Something for the future.

New Members/Baptisms/Funerals

New Members: Coming next Sunday.

Transfers Out: Dan & Colleen Hendrickson to Deer Creek Valley

Funerals: Bernie VanVeldhuizen, March 21

Baptisms: Hunter Janssen, March 16

Communion Servers: Please sign up - list was passed around to sign up.

We Go Out in God's Name

Motion made to Adjourn by Connie K, seconded, Mariah B.- Approved.

Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: April 15, 2025 6:00PM

Devotions: Kris K.



Please join us on Sunday, May 25th for a special worship service honoring the graduating Seniors of First Lutheran.

Seniors- Please come wearing your cap and gown, you will receive a gift and blessing from the congregation.



June 9th-13th

9:00 AM - Noon

The morning will include lots of activities and finish up at the elementary school for the kids to take part in the feeding program available this summer



Welcome to First Lutheran's newest members: Jeffrey & Stacie Harms, Mike & Laura Walton and Chad & Alli Wurtzel and their children, Parker & Ava.

The Sunday School children will be walking to LRH to sing to the residents on Sunday, May 4th. The last day of Sunday School will be on May 11th.

Congratulations to our 5th graders on their First Communion which took place on Thursday, April 17th!
Baylor Abrams, Ethan Binnebose, Callan Brunsvold, Ryder Duvall, Kash Hickie, Henry Houg, Kaelix Iverson, Parker Iverson, Aubrey Johnson, Lawson Perkins, Keegan Severson, Kyan Skellenger, Blake Stevens, Kinley Thompson, Hudson Ziebell.

Congratulations to Blane & Hayley Maher on the baptism of their son, Cooper Blane. He was baptized on Sunday, April 27th. His sponsors are Mackenzie & RJ Kakach, Jonah & Rena Pirsig, Emilie Pirsig, and Whitney Pirsig.

Our sympathy goes to the family and friends of LaVon Lindflott who passed away on Wednesday, April 2nd at the age of 100. There will be a celebration of life on Saturday, July 12th at 2:00 PM at Hoff Celebration Chapel.

Our sympathy goes to the family and friends of Helen Trenhaile who passed away on Wednesday, April 9th at the age of 94. Her funeral was held here at FLC on Saturday, April 12th.

Our Condolences to the family and Friends of Lee Nelson who passed away on Sunday, April 20th. His funeral will be held here at FLC on Friday, May 2nd at 10:30 AM.

Pastor Becky will be gone at the Festival of Homeletics in Atlanta, GA from May 12th-15th.

Welcome and thank you to Bishop Kevin Jones who will be joining us at worship on May 18th.

We would like to thank the Lindflott family for their generosity with the Lindflott Scholarship for the last 28 years. The Flip and LaVon Lindflott Scholarship was established in 1996 as a way to help deserving church youth. It brought much joy to Flip and LaVon as they followed the successes of each student.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our Inspire service this year!!!! We couldn't do it without you! We look forward to joining you again in September.

The Annual Board Meeting for LRH and Auxiliary will be on Thursday, May 22nd from 6-7 PM in the chapel.

Congratulations to our graduating seniors: Kyle Buehrer, Colby Eskildsen, Hunter Janssen, Kooper Julseth, Loghan Nelson, and Camden Trenhaile.

Quilt Thank you to the FLC quilters! A small thank you does not seem adequate compared to the joy you have brought to our young burn survivors. Please know your quilts have touched many lives in the burn camp community. -Director of Oklahoma Firefighters Burn Camp

Celebrate with Lois Hogen as she turns 90 years old! There will be an open house on Sunday, May 25th from 2-4pm at the Olson building. Please may bring a card if you would like, but gifts are not necessary. If you can't attend the open house you can mail her a card to her home at Lois Hogen- 704 11TH ST N, Northwood.



Easter Memorials and Honorariums



Floral Memorials

In Memory of Helen Holstad, Given by First Lutheran Altar Guild

In Memory of Fathers & Grandparents, Given by Ryan & Jeri Severson

In Memory of Dennis & Helen Orvedal, Given by Jeff & Stacie Harms

In Memory of Family & Friends, Given by Harlan & Barb Helgeson

In Memory of Loved Ones, Given by David & Sharron Petznick

In Memory of Wanda S. Hoffman, Given by Raymond Hoffman

In Memory of Ed & Helen Senne, Given by Mary Jo Senne

In Memory of Arnold Griffith, Given by Family

In Memory of Chuck & Avis Lehman, Given by Patty, Dave, Lisa & Mary Irons

In Memory of Loved Ones, Given by Carol Liljedahl

In Memory of Our Loved Ones, Given by Gary & June Nerlien & Family

In Honor of James Watts

In Memory of Alice & Wendell Watts and Doris & Bill Erdman, Given by Joan & Tom Watts

*In Loving Memory of Avis Lehman, Cayleigh Pepper, Kay Reyerson, Loren Nelson, and Shirley Olson,
Given by Conner Colonial Chapel*

General Fund

\$500 *In Memory of Loved Ones, Given by Joan & Tom Watts*

\$500 *In Memory of Loved Ones, Given by Brian Kenison Family*

\$500 *In Memory of Avis Lehman,, Given by Patty, Dave, Lisa & Mary Irons, and Karen, Allen & Emma Baldwin*

\$300 *In Memory of Loved Ones, Given by Roger & Debbie Rustad*

\$100 *In Memory of Ron Wangen, Given by Judy Wangen*

\$100 *In Memory of Crane Family, Given by Judy Wangen*

\$100 *In Memory of Wanda S. Hoffman, Given by Raymond Hoffman*

\$100 *In Memory of James & Helen Tanner, Given by Jim Tanner & Arlene Rosdahl*

\$25 *In Memory of Duane Thompson, Given by Jan Thompson & family*


South Shell Rock Cemetery

\$200 *In Memory of Loved Ones, Given by Roger & Debbie Rustad*



1. Andrew Husske, Makayla Reyerson, James Tanner, Clifford Zipse
2. Kash Hickie, Justin Mills, Bruce Rheinfels
3. Dana Cunard, Brody Ralston
- 4.
5. Rhonda Tufte, Lucille Watney
6. Angela Gaskill, Terran Haberman, Eric Otis, Michael Otis, Taylor Pierce, Trey Waldemar
7. Kyan Skellenger
8. James Krull, Brock Nelson, Ryker Amundson
9. Tyler Husske, Cambria Schreiber, Silas Waller, Robyn Wilder
10. Michael Bachtel, Casey Gentz, Ray Larson
11. Spencer Capitani, Douglas Helgeland, Alyssa Iverson, Casey Carlson, Lois Nelson, Sawyer Schulz
12. Raymond Hoffman, Scott Moretz, Hayden Olson, Wayne Trenhaile, Aurora Navratil
13. Teresa Krull, Joseph Read
14. Florence Klitzke, Tanner Wright
15. Joseph Kuennen, Joanne Moretz, Colby Severson, Tracy Van Sabben
16. Owen Binnebose, Taylor Foss, Jordan Reindl
17. Tucker Duvall, Jesse Olson, Chandler Schulz
18. Jerry Hopperstad, Julia Weigle, Briar Tenold, Ashley Thompson, Bexton Braun
19. Mikaela Lehmkuhl, Patricia Nelson, Peyton Wilder
20. Roger Harris, Jason Johnson
21. Teri Dahlby, Tyler Julson, Terri Olson, Tinzley Robb, Jace Shackleton, River Flattum
23. Chris Ballantyne, Gene Severson
24. Clara Helgeland, Ryan Kalvig, Cheryl Nitcher,
- 25.
26. Barbara Helgeson, Dylan Hengesteg, Patricia Irons
27. Heather Rheingans, Michael Weisert
28. Gloria George, Kimberly Hengesteg, Colton Moretz
29. Breanne Lombard, Harper Haxton
30. Courtney Meyer, Aaron Stevens, Cassandra Lande
31. Lois Hogen, Marlys Johnson, June Nerlien, Eric Thron

MAY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo	2	3
4 <u>Easter 3</u> 9:00am: Service with H.C. 10:10am: Sunday School 10:30am: DCV with H.C. 6:30pm: JH. Youth	5 6:00pm: Worship Mtng.	6 Manna Truck 7:00pm: AA–Al-Anon	7 4:00pm: Confirmation 6:00pm: Inspire 7:00pm: Choir 7:00pm: SH Youth	8 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo	9	10
11 <u>Easter 4</u> 9:00am: Service with N.O 10:10am: Last day- Sunday School 7:00am: DCV 6:30pm: JH. Youth	12	13 7:00pm: AA–Al-Anon	14 7:00pm: Choir 7:00pm: SH Youth	15 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo	16	17
18 <u>Easter 5</u> 9:00am: Service with H.C. with Bishop Jones 10:30am: DCV with H.C. 3:00pm: LRH 6:30pm: JH. Youth	19	20 Manna Truck 4:00pm: Trust Fund 6:00pm: Council Mtng 7:00pm: AA–Al-Anon	21 2:00pm: Maple Court 7:00pm: Choir 7:00pm: SH Youth	22 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo	23	24
25 <u>Easter 6</u> 9:00am: Service with N.O Baccalaureate -Senior Sunday 10:30am: DCV 6:30pm: JH. Youth	26	27 Noon: Staff Mtng 7:00pm: AA–Al-Anon	28 7:00pm: Choir 7:00pm: SH Youth	29 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Gr. 6:30pm: Taekwondo	30	31