

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

**Office hours**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9am – 3:30pm  
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**

**April 2021**

Address Service Requested

Are you a good listener? Do you ever find yourself wondering how someone who you know well, can really think something so different from how you think? Maybe it is your crazy friend or family member spouting off at your family get together. Plenty of those conversations happen around politics. Maybe you feel like the lone voice of reason listening in on the hot button issues of the day or as you as read Facebook.

A conversation happens when at least two people talk and listen to each other, but it becomes a lecture when one person insists on dominating the exchange or will not really hear what the other person is saying. In many ways we have lost the art of civil discourse. When we do not agree we either shut them out of our life or shout over their crazy rant.

This happens in all areas of our life including church. In my work of redevelopment and transitional ministry I have led conversations about listening to God and listening to one another. I invite you to come and join me in the first workshop of practicing how we communicate with each other. We will talk through the basics of communication and practice having conversations about things we may not agree on. This is not about raising your blood pressure but learning how to navigate difficult conversations. **Thursday, April 22 at 7:00PM** we will have the first meeting of “**Listening to God and Listening to One Another**”. If you are a classic interrupter bring along some \$5.00 bills because you will pay a fine for interrupting and/or not actually listening.

# PASTOR'S PAGE

*“Woman,” he said, “why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabbouni!” (which means teacher).*

John 20:15-16, NIV

I would imagine that Mary would be like any of us. Memories of time spent, and conversations shared with Jesus carried her through that quiet, holy Saturday. It would be too overwhelming to remember the horror of watching Jesus die on the cross. It would be better to remember her gentle and holy friend with all his wonderful words and deeds. That Holy Saturday was a necessary day of rest, but early the next morning she went to the tomb to take care of the tasks of proper burial.

But, when she arrived, Mary was distressed to be robbed of her last good-bye. As she was trying to make sense of all that took place, Mary heard her name. And, in hearing her name, she knew that the man standing before her was Jesus, risen from the dead. No longer did Mary feel lonely, forsaken or abandoned.

I never grow tired of hearing the resurrection story. I never grow tired of singing the Easter hymns. After the months of winter, I am ready for spring. After forty days of Lent, I'm ready to hear the passages that walk us through Holy Week, and I am ready for Easter.

The beauty of this story each of us, is that hope, and light overcome despair and darkness. In the midst of our grief and pain, Jesus calls each of us by name. In the good and bad times, Jesus is there calling our name, reminding us that we have been named by God and claimed as a child of God.

May this gospel story carry you through the challenges of life. May this gospel story challenge you to share these words with those around you. Each day is a wonderful gift from God. A gift to be cherished. A gift to be celebrated. A gift to be shared. Each day we are to rise to newness of life. Easter does not return Mary and Jesus to the past, but instead, Easter opens a new future. In the time of sadness as well as joy, Jesus is calling your name, reminding you of his promise.

Listen closely to the passages of Holy Week and be ready to celebrate the Resurrection.

In Christ,

Pastor Becky Sogge

## **PASTORAL ACTS - 2021**

### **Baptisms:**

Malakai Wagner Reding – 1/23/2021

Xander Raymond Gentz – 1/28/2021

Breckan David Willier – 2/28/2021

Kennedy Jaymes Schulz – 2/28/2021

Calvin Lee Thofson – 3/7/2021

Braxlee Georgia Iverson – 3/14/2021

### **Funerals:**

Robert Ellsworth Reeder Jr. – 2/22/2021

## Catching up on business from 2020: Pipe Organ Proposals

I began my career in the Organ and Piano business on January 2, 1966. I was hired to manage the Organ and Piano Division of Carleton-Stewart Music in Mason City, Iowa. In early 1975 I began researching church organ manufacturers as what we were then installing gave us little variety. In this search I kept coming back to Rodgers, in Hillsboro, OR. Rodgers was one of the earliest builders of fully transistorized Church Organs. They came into being in 1958. We signed a contract with Rodgers in May of 1975. We received our first two consoles in June of 1975. One of those consoles was installed that fall in a church in Burt, IA and is still being used today in their worship service. Betty and I moved from Mason City to our present home Southwest of Northwood in November of 1978. We opened Dewey Kruger Music on November 2, 1981 and are now in our 40<sup>th</sup> year. When we opened our business both the Rodgers and Kawai franchises came with me. In 1966 Rodgers was already experimenting with interfacing their consoles with existing Pipe Organs. The technology to make this happen has evolved over the years to what we can offer in today's digital design. Many times when it is time to replace the existing console on a Pipe Organ there seems to be a wedge driven between a Rodgers Console and a Pipe Organ built console. This wedge is a bit of a moot point as they both perform the same function. The Rodgers Digital Organ, in addition to playing the Pipe organ, offers an enormous amount of Digitally Sampled Pipe Organ sounds in addition to the existing pipe work.

Rodgers Consoles became 100% digital-software based in 1990. Being software based allowed us to update certain systems in the console down the road. Today's Rodgers Consoles allow for software updates via USB and thumb drives. "We've come a long way, baby" I just had to insert that quote! Whether a Rodgers Console, the existing console or any other console to replace the existing console will key the Pipe Organ in the same manner. Steve Smith and I worked on this organ in the mid 80's. We spent two weeks re-soldering some dead notes (where the wire from the relay comes into the pipe chest and is soldered to the valve that opens when energized to let air into the pipe to make it sound). There were probably a dozen dead notes. These wire connections were re-soldered. We found in about half of these cases we could find no evidence of solder residue on the connection. This led us to believe that these connections had never been soldered. When we finished every pipe played and we put a final tune on the organ. We also fixed 2 or 3 small air leaks in a couple of the pipe chests. When tuning the organ, at that time, I noticed the console had a couple of small issues. Since that time it has been on my bucket list to replace the existing organ console with a new Rodgers Console. I thank you in advance for taking the time to read this note. I've heard a quote that stated the Electronic Organ produces sound similar to a Moog Synthesizer. Bob Moog's Synthesizer came into being in the mid 1960's. To compare the Moog Synthesizer to today's Rodgers Consoles is a bit like comparing the space shuttle with a Model T Ford. There is simply no comparison. More organ notes to follow.

-Respectfully, Dewey Kruger



## First Lutheran Mission

### January 1,- March 31, 2021

Bremwood	\$	
Operation Christmas Child	\$	
Youth Fund (Bibles & Catechisms)	\$	360.00
Caring Tree	\$	
Meals on Wheels	\$	305.43
Manna	\$	1,238.94
Heifer International	\$	
Lutheran World Relief (Trust Fund)	\$	
Riverside Bible Camp	\$	25.00
Camperships	\$	
Good Samaritan Fund	\$	1,483.94
Lutheran Services	\$	25.00
Lutheran Disaster Relief –Iowa Storm	\$	
Day Springs	\$	
Northern Lights Shelter	\$	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$3,438.31</b>

## First Lutheran Financial Update

### February 2021

Income	-	\$10,565.00
Electronic Income		\$3,339.54
Expense		(\$19,073.24)
End of Month		(\$5,466.84)
<b><u>YTD as of Feb. 28</u></b>		
Income		\$36,000.00
Electronic Income		\$6,380.93
Expense		(\$36,869.70)
End of Month		\$5,511.23

### February General Budget Expenses

PAYROLL:	\$	13,125.02
E-GIVING EXPENSE	\$	70.92
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	\$	124.75
UTILITES	\$	2,183.34
TELEPHONE	\$	214.92
OFFICE EXPENSE	\$	474.62
MISC. EXPENSE	\$	157.54
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 19,073.24
INCOME		\$ 13,606.39
NET		(\$ 5,466.85)

## Donations & Memorials

### Donations

Good Samaritan - \$125, Lutheran Services - \$25

### Memorials

Russ Hickman - \$10	- Youth
Bob Reeder - \$100	- Youth
- \$200	- Sunday School
- \$200	- Bibles & Catechisms

### April Share Shoppe

JULIA Circle will be taking the month of April and SARAH Circle will be moved to June.

\*Share Shoppe on April 3<sup>rd</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



In memory of family and friends - Given by David and Sharron Petznick

In memory of Merle and Steve Aase - Given by Aase families

In memory of Hellen Holstad - First Lutheran Altar Guild

In memory of Grandpa and Grandma Toft - Given by Toft family

In memory of Ronald Severson - Given by Troy & Dawn Bachtle

In memory of parents, Robert and Louise & brother Bob - Given by Pastor Becky and family

In memory of Gerry Thein - Given Duane and Jan Thompson

In memory of Gary Bachtle - Given by Molly Bachtle and family

In memory of my aunt, Idella Hinds and other loved ones - Given by Larry Klitzke

In memory of Chuck Lehman- Given by Avis Lehman

In memory of Lyle Bestul and Donna Bestul - Given by Brian, Suzie, Becky and Bryn

In memory of my mother, Elaine Hill - my brother, Kevin Klitzke - my sister, Kathleen Klitzke - my father, Kenneth Klitzke - Given by Larry Klitzke

In memory of Margret and Howard Rupert & Omer and Delores Johnson - Given by Janelle and Dennis Johnson

In memory of Thelma Krull, Ian Husske, Arthur Kalvig and Bob Reeder - Given by Conner Colonial Chapel

You may take your Easter Lily after the 10:30am Easter service

# First Lutheran Church Council

## Regular Meeting February 14, 2021

### We Assemble in God's Name

- Members Present: Pastor Becky Sogge, Jan Thompson, Matt Johnson, Janelle Johnson, Nikkole Koenig, Megan Ott, Tim Knutson, MaryJo Senne, Mariah Ballantyne, Kris Kenison, Doug Fallgatter
- Dwelling in the Word Mark 1: 14-20, Mark 1: 21-28
  - What captured your attention?
  - What might God be up to in this passage?
  - What question might we ask a biblical scholar?

### We Celebrate our Past

- Presidential Correspondence
  - CJ Maricle-building use request to resume TaeKwondo classes
  - **MMSP to approve resuming classes in Fellowship hall following necessary social distancing guidelines. (Mariah, MaryJo)**
- Secretary's Report
  - No changes
- Treasurer's Report
  - Jan
  - No changes
  - Explored second round of PPP loans. Did not meet criteria to qualify for this loan
- Pastor's Report
  - Seeking information on planning help with memory work with confirmation students
  - Pastor Becky has been doing continuing education through Princeton.
  - Looking forward to meeting people in person and getting to know the whole congregation
- **MMSP to approve all reports (MaryJo, Mariah)**

### We Present Our Offering

- Stewardship--Mary Jo
  - A meeting was supposed to be held Feb 11, but did not occur
- Worship--Tim Knutson
  - Much discussion was held at the Feb 2 meeting around plans to resume in person worship, choir, bells, etc
  - Discussion on decisions to resume in-person worship
    - ☐ Those who are comfortable and ready to come to church will do so
    - ☐ The decision to remain open will be monitored on a daily/weekly basis as rates change
    - ☐ Continue options for online worship even when the church is open
- Youth--Hayden
  - No report
- Education--Mariah
  - Committee needs to meet to determine when and how often to hold Sunday school
    - ☐ Had discussed 1st and 3rd Sundays, in Fellowship hall, with social distancing
    - ☐ Need to schedule volunteers, and materials once they determine when and how often to meet
- Finance--Jan, Matt
  - Nothing more to report rather than budget and PPP loan
- Property--Doug
  - No recent meetings

- Nothing new to report
- Social Ministry--Kris
  - Approved same missions as previous year
- Fellowship--Megan
  - Nothing new to report at this time
  - No Lenten meals at this time

#### Concerns for the Present

- 2020 Audit Complete, noted in FOCUS
- Training for Sound System for backup helpers 1. Randy Buehrer 2. Nikkole Koenig
- 2nd phase of Sound System grant through WCDA was applied for Jan 15.
- Developing consistent Guidelines for weather
  - Discussed keeping church open during winter weather (encouraging people to use good judgement and use online services as needed).
  - Youth will make their own determination
  - Sunday School will make their own determination
  - **MMSP to allow Pastor Becky and staff and Sunday school to make determination as to whether to open/close due to weather (MaryJo, Tim)**
- Developing guidelines for Covid closure
  - Continue to use 10% positivity as the benchmark for closure, and Pastor Becky, staff, and Council President will make decisions
- White binders for each council member are available at church office. Pick up at your convenience.
- Organ discussion
  - History review of organ committee for benefit of Pastor Becky and new council members up to speed-- Current organ at FLC was installed in 1966. Celebrated 50 years of that organ in 2015. A committee was appointed to investigate restoration options for organ. Members began meeting in 2017. Lowell G, Tim K, Lisa H, Larry K, Loraine M, Jan M. They received proposals from 3 companies--Dewey Kruger, Wicks, and Grandall and Engen. The committee visited organs from each of these companies and traveled to Boone, Rochester and Minneapolis. Grandall and Engen--\$150,000 (restore pipes), Dewey Kruger--\$150,000 (augment most pipes with digital equivalent), Wicks gave 3 proposals--restoration with no changes \$150,000, \$185,000 with some enhancements, \$250,000 to do complete restoration, enhancements, and visual appearance enhancements. Wicks organs that the committee had heard and seen were by far preferred by the committee. Committee proposed to Council their recommendation for the top Wicks proposal. Council approved the recommendation. Also approved purchase of a used 3 console manual for the organ through Wicks.
  - Meetings to hear proposals and vote on the organ restoration had been scheduled for March 2020 and were cancelled due to COVID closures
  - Will need to reschedule these meetings when we are able to meet in person again. Perhaps early summer when we can meet indoor or outdoor as needed. Also need to reintroduce the topics to the congregation of the organ restoration committee process and next steps for Meeting 1: hearing the proposals from Kruger (20 min presentation and 10 min Q&A) and Wicks (20 min presentation and 10 min Q&A), Meeting 2: vote on Wicks proposal, Meeting 3: if needed, vote on Kruger proposal.
- We Go out in God's Name
  - Lord's Prayer
  - **MMSP to adjourn Doug, Kris**

**Next Council Meeting: March 14 10am ZOOM**

# Announcements

**Pastor Becky will be on vacation from April 5-11, 2021.**

**Congratulations** to Joshua and Alyssa Iverson on the baptism of their daughter, Braxlee Georgia Iverson. Her sponsors are Trent & Shelby Akemann, Jessica Iverson and Jessica Paulson.

**Congratulations to Tyler and Katelyn** Thofson on the baptism of their son, Calvin Lee Thofson. His sponsors are Kael Julseth and Mason Thofson.

**Thank you** for your financial support throughout these challenging times.

*Heifer International*

**Recently, the quilters of FLC** donated 10 quilts to the Veterans from Marshalltown. Thank you quilters for all you do!

**Volunteers Needed-** Put your knitting and crocheting skills to use by helping make Baptism Blankets. Contact the office for more information 324-2984

**If you or someone in your family** is hospitalized and would like to be put on our prayer list, please notify the office at [flc@flcnorthwood.org](mailto:flc@flcnorthwood.org) or call 641-324-2984.

**Sunday School will meet in the basement from 10-10:45am on the following days:** April 11, 18, 25 and May 12, 19.

## Thanks to those who participated in the Lenten services and The Passion of Our Lord According to Mark:

Lauren Severson, Russ Knudson, Pastor Becky Sogge, Kimberly Anderson, Loraine Mix and Delores Knudson.

Narrator-Janelle Johnson, Jesus-Monte DeArmoun, Peter-Stu Anderson, High Priest-Larry Klitzke, Servant-Pam Perkins, Pilate-Dennis Johnson, Witness-Addie Rugland, People-Congregation

**Bell Choir:** Camryn Rheingans, Pam Perkins, Heather Rheingans, Gina Solberg, Shana Brunsvold, Nikkole Koenig, Megan Ott, Weston Willand, Pastor Becky Sogge, , Emy Wahl and Russell Knudson

**And all those in the Senior Choir**

## Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

**Worship on Sunday April 25 at 9:00 am.**




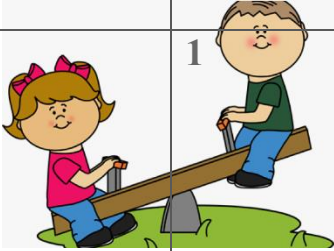
We celebrate with our confirmands: Chloe Costello, Jackson Foss, Haddie Hanson, Madalynn Hanson, Emma Hengesteg, Justin Mills, Lindsey Moore, Damon Reyerson, Mallory Rheingans, Reese Wahl, and Peyton Wilder.



- 1 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
- 4
- 5 Bradley Christianson, Jill Schutz
- 6 DeAnn Read, Ashlynn Van Sabben
- 7 Diane Hanson, Amy Petry, Kandie Shupe
- 8 DuWayne Bottleman
- 9 Irl Madsen, Todd Moore, Emelia Nelson, Arlyn Rustad
- 10 Season Anderson, Vivienne Vandell, Braxlee Iverson
- 11 Riley King
- 12
- 13 Brian Bestul, Judale Mills, Jamie Nelson
- 14 Clay Carter, Larry Gentz, Elizabeth Kenison
- 15 Douglas Hall, Robert Hengesteg, Mary Reyerson, Tristan Rothove, Dirk VanRyswyk
- 16 Mackenzie Costello, Levi Eilertson,
- 17 MaryJo Senne, Kyle Waller, Harris Waller
- 18 Brady Christianson, Amber Vogelgesang, Jordan Wright-Thofson, Westlynn Reinartz
- 19 Coni Butler, Misty Hakes, Corey Haberman
- 20 Koen Bachtle
- 21 Danielle Lickteig, Angela Senne, Jayne Wheeler
- 22 Renee Hartman
- 23 Rick Hanson
- 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, Cambry Schulz, Jacob Urbatsch
- 30 Kyle Baker, Eric Trenhaile



# APRIL 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Group 7:00pm: <b>Maundy Thursday Service</b>	<b>2</b> 7:00pm: <b>Good Friday Service</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Pastor Becky will be on vacation from April 5-11</b>						
<b>4</b> <b><u>Easter</u></b> 9:00am- Service with HC 10:30am- Service with HC 6:30pm- JH. Youth	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:00pm: Worship Mtng. 7:30pm: AA – Al-Anon	<b>7</b> 6:00pm: Bell Practice 7:00pm: Senior Choir 7:00pm: SH. Youth	<b>8</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Group 6:30pm: Taekwondo	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 
<b>11</b> <b><u>Easter 2</u></b> 9:00am- Service with Noisy Offering 10:00am- Sunday School 10:00am- Council Mtng. 6:30pm- JH. Youth	<b>12</b> 11am: Staff Mtng.	<b>13</b> 7:30pm: AA – Al-Anon	<b>14</b> 6:00pm: Bell Practice 7:00pm: Senior Choir 7:00pm: SH. Youth	<b>15</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Group 6:30pm: Taekwondo	<b>16</b> 	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b><u>Easter 3</u></b> 9:00am- Service with Holy Communion 10:00am- Sunday School 6:30pm- JH. Youth	<b>19</b> 11am: Staff Mtng.	<b>20</b> 7:00pm: Mutual Ministry 7:30pm: AA – Al-Anon	<b>21</b> 2:00pm: Senior Communion 5:45: 7-8 Grade Confirmation 7:00pm: Senior Choir 7:00pm: SH. Youth	<b>22</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Group 6:30pm: Taekwondo 7:00pm: <i>Listening to God and to One Another</i>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b><u>Easter 4</u></b> 9:00am- <u>Confirmation Day</u> with Noisy Offering 10:00am- Sunday School 6:30pm- JH. Youth	<b>26</b> 11am: Staff Mtng.	<b>27</b> 7:30pm: AA – Al-Anon	<b>28</b> 5:45: 7-8 Grade Confirmation 6:00pm: Bell Practice 7:00pm: Senior Choir	<b>29</b> 8:30am: Quilting 9:00am: Prayer Group 6:30pm: Taekwondo	<b>30</b> 	<b>1</b>