

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

**Office hours**

Monday-Wednesday, 9am – 3:30pm  
Thursday, 9am- 12pm, Fridays, closed  
**[www.flcnorthwood.org](http://www.flcnorthwood.org)**

**Office Phone:** 641-324-2984

**E-mail:** [flc@flcnorthwood.org](mailto:flc@flcnorthwood.org)

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# First Lutheran Focus

# January 2021

Address Service Requested



*Troy Bachtle - Building manager,  
painting the second tier of the Sanctuary walls*

We can't wait for the day when we will be able to worship in person again. If nothing else, this time of virtual worship services have allowed for Troy to set up scaffolding in the Sanctuary to paint the balcony and second tier of the church walls a light tan color. The last paint job was done in 1952 with a pale green color that almost looked white after all these years.

# PASTOR'S PAGE

A few years ago I spent New Year's Eve with a friend and her family. Their tradition was to look back over their calendars and remember together all the events of the past year. Each year brings lots of events. Fun celebrations. Maybe a trip or two. Picnics, parties, routine weeks of work, school, volunteering, gathering for prayer, attending Bible study, gathering for worship. Looking back at my planner for 2020 is a stark reminder of change. I use my planner to know what's coming but also to remember what I have done. Well, starting mid-March there are many things crossed out and empty pages. That does change in July with our move to Northwood, but what has filled my days in the past have been replaced by the word Zoom.

Part of my work in the early months of transition beyond the practical tending to the tasks of ministry is learning the story of First Lutheran. A key has been listening and reading what is available. It's amazing to look back and see all the places where God has blessed us as a congregation. And it is exciting to wonder and explore where God is leading in these next months and years.

Tending to our spiritual health and wholeness is very important to me. I appreciate hearing where God is at work in your life, what calms you and encourages you. Also, what wakes you up and challenges you. I would like to challenge you to take up the practice of dwelling in the word. There are websites and books dedicated to teaching about this practice. But what I am suggesting is quite simple. In addition to your daily devotional life, I suggest that you pick a piece of scripture that you dwell with or live with for days or weeks or maybe even months. Commit the passage to memory so that when you wake up you can mentally turn to it and keep returning to it throughout the day. How does the passage speak to you, call you and lead you?

## **Here are a couple of ideas:**

Jeremiah 29:11 -For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope

Philippians 4:4-7 -Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 118:24 -This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2021 is here! God is here! And so are we! Let's do it!

Peace,

Pastor Becky Sogge

## Donations & Memorials

### Donations:

Meals on Wheels \$305.43  
 Caring Tree \$625  
 Manna \$355.42  
 Heifer International \$50  
 Youth Fund \$50

### In Memory Of:

**Ian Husske** Youth Fund \$1,850  
**Chris Mielke** Youth Fund \$25  
**Arlyn McHenry** Youth Fund \$15 General Fund \$90  
**Ronald Shovan, Fred & Stella Stehn** General Fund \$400  
**Gilman & Oletta Anderson,  
 Marvin Anderson, A.J. Anderson,  
 Donnie Hage, Steve & Merle Aase** General Fund \$50

### First Lutheran Mission

#### January 1– December 31, 2020

Bremwood	\$ 150.00
Operation Christmas Child	\$ 546.86
Youth Fund (Bibles & Catechisms)	\$ 2,390.00
Caring Tree	\$ 1,072.86
Meals on Wheels	\$ 511.91
Manna	\$ 2,028.89
Heifer International	\$ 757.79
Lutheran World Relief (Trust Fund)	\$ 7,000.00
Riverside Bible Camp	\$ 139.95
Camperships	\$ 45.00
Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 1,058.55
Lutheran Services	\$ 143.32
Lutheran Disaster Relief –Iowa Storm	\$ 200.00
Day Springs	\$ 230.00
Northern Lights Shelter	\$ 100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 13,124.28</b>

### First Lutheran Financial Update

#### November 2020

Income	-	\$11,277.72
Electronic Income		\$2,755.94
Expense		(\$18,190.77)
End of Month		(\$4,157.11)
<b><u>YTD as of Nov. 30</u></b>		
Income		\$223,094.98
Electronic Income		\$27,050.38
Expense		-\$245,185.71
End of Month		\$4,959.65

### October General Budget Expenses

PAYROLL:	\$ 11,277.72
E-GIVING EXPENSE	\$ 69.44
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	\$ 106.65
UTILITIES	\$ 1,334.81
TELEPHONE	\$ 213.29
OFFICE EXPENSE	\$ 852.81
EDUCATION EXPENSE	\$ 64.33
INSURANCE	\$ 2,673.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 18,190.77
INCOME	\$ 14,033.66
NET	\$ (4,157.11)

### 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

### January Share Shoppe

REBECCA Circle on January 2<sup>nd</sup>

## January 2021, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story



### **Raising Our Voice for Iowa Children and Families**

Families struggling without access to mental healthcare. Human services providers overworked and underpaid. Former refugees and immigrants striving to build new lives. These are all issues faced by Iowans. Help us ensure their voices are heard at the Iowa State Capitol.

This legislative session may look different from past years. But now more than ever, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) will be advocating for our community members who are so often overlooked in our society.

You can join us in this important work. Visit [LSIowa.org/advocacy](https://LSIowa.org/advocacy) and sign up for our Advocacy Alerts. Learn more about the legislative process, the issues impacting your neighbors, and your role as a citizen in helping to amplify their voices. If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

### **Compassion During Crisis**

Across the state, LSI team members work with families at risk of child abuse or neglect, connecting them to the tools and resources they need to keep their children in their homes whenever safely possible.

One of the critical programs available to parents is the Strengthening Families program. The program typically provides 14 weeks of in-person parent group work, family activities, and a family meal to enhance child development, help parents create their own support network, and reduce the likelihood of child abuse or neglect.

When COVID-19 created challenges to this in-person model, LSI did not give up on the families who relied on this important service. Instead, LSI's Behavioral Health Intervention Services team has gone virtual.

Maria, a program supervisor with LSI, has been leading a virtual version of the program this year, where families join a Zoom meeting and use "breakout rooms" for individual sessions. Meals are purchased from Hy-Vee and delivered the night of the session, so families are still able to celebrate their tradition of eating together each week.

This year has created several challenges for all of us, but LSI continues to answer the call and provide the high-quality care and services Iowa children and families deserve.



## Announcements

**“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”**

*Philippians 3:13-14*

**Sympathy to the family of Pastor Gary Lee.** He grew up in Northwood but spent most of his career working in Cresco. A memorial service will be held on July 17<sup>th</sup> with burial in Northwood.

**Thank you** for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan’s Purse in the amount of \$309.

**Thank you to the council members finishing their terms:**

Shana Brunsvold, Mitch Hanson and Heather Rheingans.

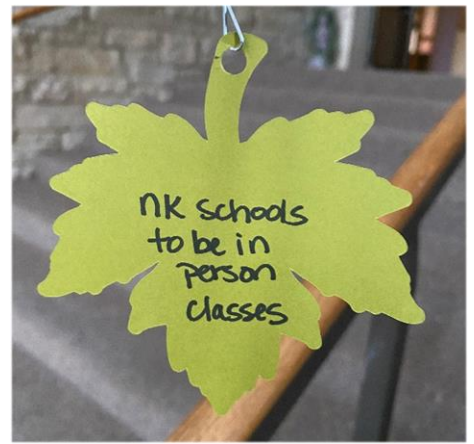
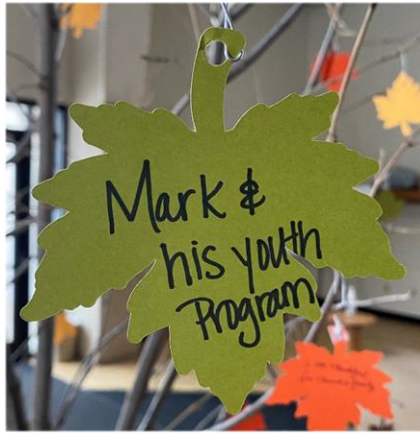
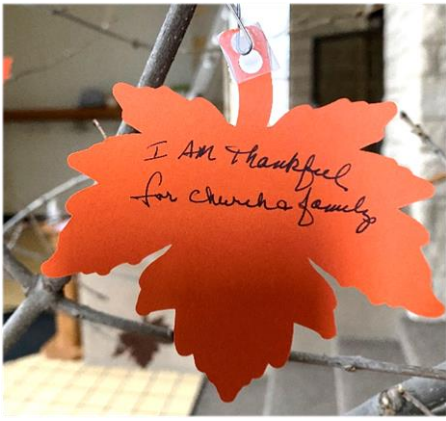
**We would like to welcome** to a 3 year term - Doug Fallgatter, Kris Kenison and Megan Ott. To a 1 year term – Nikkole Koenig and Mariah Ballantyne.

**Council Leadership for 2021:** President – Janelle Johnson, Vice President – Doug Fallgatter, Secretary – Nikkole Koenig, Treasurer – Matt Johnson



# First Lutheran Church and Sunday School







## *Poinsettias*

*In Memory of Gary Bachtle,  
given by Molly Bachtle & Family*

*In Memory of Chuck Lehman,  
given by Avis Lehman*

*In Memory of Ronald Severson,  
given by Troy & Dawn Bachtle*

*In Memory of Lowell Gangstad,  
given by the Gangstad Family*

*In Memory of Lonnie Harris,  
given by Myra Harris & Family*

*In Memory of Merle & Steve Aase,  
given by the Aase Families*

*In Memory of Peter Andrew Selvig,  
given by Richard Selvig*

*In Memory of Bill & Lynn Whatney,  
given by Lucille Whatney & Family*

*In Memory of Hellen Holstad,  
given by First Lutheran Altar Guild*

*In Memory of Family Members,  
given by Russell & Delores Knudson*

*In Memory of Our Family Members who have passed,  
given by Ray & Wanda Hoffman*

*In Memory of Mary Chinnock,  
given by Shana, Brad, Piper and Callan Brunsvold*

*In Memory of Doris Quam  
given by Kenneth Quam*

*In Memory of our parents, brothers and sisters  
given by Jerry & Bonnie Bakken*







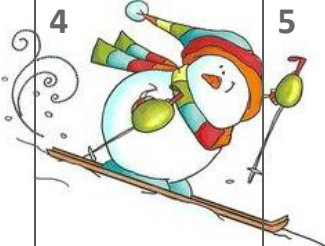




- 1) Isaac Adams, Gretchen Hengesteg, Eric Roerish, Grady Walk
- 2) Ethan Binnebose, Tristan Hanson, Shelby Mattern, Sawyer Ogea, Diane Ubben
- 3) Michael Read
- 4) Chase Boyden
- 5) Arlene Van Sabben, Michelle Schulz
- 6) Bryck Abrams, Kristen Eilertson
- 7) Charles Barr, Stephanie Harmon
- 8) CherAmi Barr
- 9) Sandra Sime
- 10)
- 11) Amy Hennigar, Justin Nerlien
- 12) Roger Odegaard, Joann Ogea
- 13) Jayson Olson
- 14)
- 15) Connie Fett, Eldora Stehn
- 16) Brian Costello, Dayna Steinman, Landen Nelson, Michelle Petznick, Nolan Senne, Blake Stevens
- 17) Zachary Costello, Edna Turvold
- 18) Marlene Schulte
- 19) Gary Flatness, Bonnie Roppe, Jason Solberg
- 20) Collin Houg
- 21) Shana Brunsvold, Carl Dralla, Olivia Urbatsch
- 22) Charles Hengesteg, Travis Johnson
- 23) Josh Mattern
- 24) Chad Nelson, Loghan Nelson, Judy Stevens
- 25) Hallie Hanson, Jason Hanson, Dianne Johnson, Emersyn Wahl, Nate Wilder
- 26) Josie Einertson, Sonya Medlang, Michele Schaefer, Matthew Tufte
- 27) Megan Gentz
- 28) Barnes Toresdahl
- 29) John Midtgaard, Galen Pixley, Karen Pixley, Thomas Watts
- 30) Sally Aase
- 31) Douglas Fallgatter, Tanya Olson, Ward Willand



# JANUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			30	31	1 	2
<b>3</b> <u>Christmas 2</u> 9:00am -Virtual Service	<b>4</b> 10am: Staff Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 5:45pm: J.H. Confirmation	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> <u>Baptism of our Lord</u> 9:00am -Virtual Service 10:00am – Council MTG	<b>11</b> 10am: Staff Meeting	<b>12</b> 	<b>13</b> 5:45pm: J.H. Confirmation	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <u>Epiphany 2</u> 9:00am -Virtual Service	<b>18</b> 10am: Staff Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 5:45pm: J.H. Confirmation	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 
<b>24</b> <u>Epiphany 3</u> 9:00am -Virtual Service	<b>25</b> 10am: Staff Meeting	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 5:45pm: J.H. Confirmation	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <u>Epiphany 4</u> 9:00am -Virtual Service	1	2	3	4 	5	6

