

First Lutheran Church
309 Ninth Street North
Northwood, IA 50459

First Lutheran Church
Office Phone 324-2984
Office hours
Monday-Wednesday 9:00 a.m.-Noon, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Thursday 9:00 a.m.-Noon, 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

May 2019

Worship Schedule for May



- May 5 – Holy Communion, Pre-k through 5th grade children sing, First Communion for 5th graders
- May 12 – Choir Sunday – a service of song presented by our Choir and Bell Choir
- May 19 – Holy Communion and Baccalaureate for our High School seniors
- May 26 – ThanksLiving Sunday – an opportunity to say
THANK YOU! to everyone who has a part in the ministry and mission of First Lutheran Church.

Sunday School News

All of the **Sunday school children (pre-K through 5th grade)** will sing during the worship service on May 5th. The service begins at 9:00 a.m. Please have the children to their classrooms at 8:40 a.m. The children will sit together, sing, and then return to sit with their parents for the rest of the service.

DAY CAMP DATE

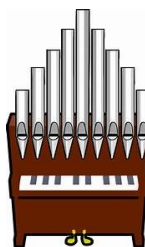
Due to N-K snow days, the last school day is now May 31st. DayCamp has been set for June 10th-14th. More details in Mark's Youth News.



SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING

A special meeting of the FLC Congregation will be held on **Sunday, May 5th** after the morning worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on the proposal by the Wicks Organ company to restore and enhance First Lutheran Church's Wicks Pipe Organ.

Please plan to attend.



From The Pastor's Desk....

Dear friends,

From a worship resource – some words to ponder:

Christians consider Easter to be the “first day.” From Easter comes the practice of worshipping on Sunday morning. It is the first day of the week. It is also the “first day” of the new creation, sometimes called the “eighth day” of the week, for on it Christ restored the image of God in the human and in so doing also brought restoration and renewal to all of creation. The Easter season proceeds from and celebrates this “first day.” *In the fifty days of Easter, Christian communities strive to worship God in a way that illustrates that the body of Christ lives now in the heavenly places and also in the gathered body in the world. (Italics – mine)*

And here is our task in this Easter season: to embody Christ for the world!

And how do we do this? I'll reuse some words from my sermon on Easter Sunday:

We are Easter people. Easter people welcome everyone – because we know the gracious gift of forgiveness and reconciliation that God has shown to us!
 Easter people listen – not only with their ears and their heads – but also with their hearts as God's compassion - through us - is seen and felt by others!
 Easter people give money to the work of the church – not because God needs our money – but because WE need to give – generously – out of gratitude for the gifts that we've been given!
 And most of all – Easter people have hope and lend that hope to others – even in the presence of our own losses and grief (and there have been many over this past year!) – we share a hope that God will use everything – even evil - for our good - and that the seemingly impossible is actually possible.

Walking with you in this Eastertide,
 Pastor Judy

THANKS - - - THANKS - - - THANKS

I am FULL of thankfulness for:

- Everyone who helped to make our Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday celebrations so wonderful –
 - ◆ Adult Choir and directors and accompanists,
 - ◆ Bell Choir members and director,
 - ◆ special musicians,
 - ◆ extra readers for lessons and monologues,
 - ◆ cantors for Holden Evening Prayer,
 - ◆ those who prepared Lenten suppers,
 - ◆ those who helped set-up and clean-up from those suppers,
 - ◆ FLC's worship committee who coordinated and arranged the lovely Easter lilies in the sanctuary,
- Generous givers who made donations to special funds and our general fund in memory or in honor of loved ones!
- God's great gift to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ!



Pastor Judy

FLC Financial Update

	<u>March 2019</u>	<u>January 1st –March 31st</u>
Income	\$18,732.26	Income \$53,756.78
Electronic Income	\$1,432.00	Electronic Income \$4,214.00
Expense	\$22,857.22	Expense \$60,605.97
End of month	(\$2,692.96)	Year to date (\$2,635.19)



PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms

No baptisms in April

Weddings

No Weddings in April

Funerals/Memorial Services

Marlene Schulte-April 8, 2019

FIRST LUTHERAN OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you need offering envelopes, please stop in or contact the church office.

YOUTH NEWS

Sr. High Youth – Wednesday 7:00—8:30

Jr. High Youth – Sunday 6:30-8:00

“Deeper” Group – Monday 5:00-??

Vets Vs Noobs is FINALLY over! Our 6 week Lenten competition had a short lesson and game that corresponded to the theme of each week of Lent. In the Junior High version, we invited the current sixth graders to participate all six weeks. It was fun getting to know our upcoming kids. This gave them a chance to get acquainted with our youth programming that they will soon be a full part of. The “Noobs” (The kids who are newer to Youth) won the competition in Jr. High. Sr. High are tied at the time of this writing, and the winner will be determined at the next Youth meeting. One of the advantages for the Sr. High kids is they had to be attentive during the Lent services, because they knew there would be a quiz right after the service that they'd have to answer all sorts of questions from the service.



Senior High also recently had a lesson called “Beating The Bunny.” This lesson is a repeat every year where we watch a pretty cheesy video and then beat a bunny shaped piñata full of candy. The movie deals with all sorts of sexual sins but it's main focus is on pornography. While I know most churches and youth groups wouldn't touch that subject at all, in today's world, it's hugely important to make sure our teens know the true dangers that are involved in this digital world they are immersed in. One of the things I absolutely love about my job is the fact that we get to tackle really tough subjects in a very real way and match scripture with it.

With just a month left of school, we'll be pressing on with end of the year lessons. The coming weeks for Senior High will include \$10 Prom, Hot Dog Roast Night, Seniors Night, Leadership Night and Youth Olympics. I love the fact that our church has an amazing lawn (Thanks Troy for keeping it in such great shape). Now with warmer weather we're able to be outside most days of the week playing games and just hanging out. I'm excited for our beautiful red maple tree by the youth sidewalk to start growing it's leaves again so we'll be able to sit under it's shade and enjoy life!



The teens and myself have been working hard on getting ready for DayCamp 2019! We've moved the dates to June 10 – 14 from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. The theme this year is “Who Is My Neighbor”. Each day we'll talk about a specific part of the world. The information and sign up sheets will be handed out on the final day of Sunday School and will also be posted on the church website (flcnorthwood.org) soon.

Confirmation News

The final class for the Spring will be on May 8th.

The first gathering of the Fall will be Wednesday, September 4th at 6:00 p.m. – a meeting for students and parents.

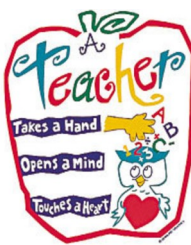
CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation Sunday) is scheduled for October 27, 2019 at the 9:00 a.m. service.


**Wings of HOsPicE
Memorial & Butterfly Release**
Saturday, June 15, 2019
1:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church
119 S Georgia Ave, Mason City, IA

Teaching Sunday School


Please consider offering your time to share God's love with our youngest members at First Lutheran! The curriculum is easy to use, and there are loads of options in each lesson. Talk to Anneke Urbatsch or Jess Perkins for more information.



MAY ALTAR FLOWERS
Altar flowers for May are given in memory of loved ones by Pat Nelson and family



ALTAR FLOWERS
If you wish to pay for Altar flowers in memory of someone or celebrating a special event, please call the church office to reserve that month. Cost is \$120.00 for 2 vases.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH TRIVIA
Starting Sunday, May 5th
Question will be in the bulletin.

**First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2019 10:15 AM**

4.

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Opening prayer by Council President Sharyl Nestor.

Present: Deb Athey, Pastor Judy Converse, Lisa Hagen, Mitch Hanson, Sharyl Nestor, Heather Rheingans, Richard Selvig and Jan Thompson. Absent: Shana Brunsvold, Ross DeArmoun and and Judy Stevens.

WE CELEBRATE OUR PAST

Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the following reports: (MMSP Rheingans / Hanson.)

- President (No report, no correspondence.)
- Secretary (Reviewed February minutes for revisions.) (MMSP Athey / Hagen.)
- Treasurer (January, February and YTD financials discussed. Profit break-even YTD.)
- Pastor -Need two Council members per week to assist Confirmation students with memory work. Dates are March 20, 27, April 3 and 10 at 6:00PM.

WE PRESENT OUR OFFERING

Education Committee (next meeting TBD)-No report.

Fellowship & Social Ministry Committees (next meeting TBD)-Another family fun event to be discussed next meeting.

Finance Committee (next meeting TBD)

- January and February financials results reviewed. *Christ in Our Homes* publication cost moved from office supplies expense to Education Fund.
- Congregation encouraged gifting of Thrivent "Choice Dollars" to First Lutheran.

Property Committee (next meeting TBD)

- Ice jam melting causing drips in Sanctuary. External heating cables to be replaced this spring.
- Fireside room remodel grant submitted and awaiting grant request reply from WCDA.
- Other projects : kitchen dishwasher, LED lighting, new sound & video system, organ refurbishment or restoration.

Stewardship Committee (next meeting 03/14 7PM)

- 2018 pledging campaign to be discussed.
- *Thanks-Living* Sunday format to be discussed (event in May).

Worship & Music Committee (next meeting 03/12 5PM)

- May 12th will be spring Choir Sunday concert.
- *Holden Evening Prayer* liturgy with "Am I Guilty" monologues during Lenten services.
- Worship coverage of Choir directors and service staffing discussed. Pastor to discuss with three current directors the status of Choir program.
- Allix Braun served as director at last month's children's singing worship service. Thanks to Allix for her service.

Youth Representative-No report.

CONCERNS FOR THE PRESENT

FLC representation role with Lutheran Retirement Home

- Ron Christianson serving as current LRH board committee member.
- Letter from Ron outlining responsibilities and needs shared with Council.
- LRH annual meeting is March 26th. FLC members welcome to attend.

Communion registration concerns

- Voting member is defined as a confirmed member who have communed and made a donation of record over an annual period.

Mutual Ministry Committee (MMSP Athey / Hagen)

- Members are appointed by Council. Four candidates have been identified of which Council members will recruit.

Sabbatical Policy

- Pastoral sabbatical policy reviewed as endorsed by NE Iowa Synod of ELCA.
- Sabbatical allows pastor time away from ministerial responsibilities to pursue both professional growth and personal renewal. Intent is to sharpen recipient's skills and to refresh both the spiritual life and sense of calling of pastor and the congregation.
- Guidelines (eligibility, duration) and financial parameters reviewed.

Recipient designation for Lenten offerings

- "Feed My Starving Children" fall event and Lutheran Retirement Home organization chosen by Council to receive Lenten offerings on a 50/50 % ratio.

Making a meal for Lent

- Council will prepare Lent supper meal on April 10.

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Lord's Prayer

We Adjourn to Serve (upcoming dates) (MMSP Hagen /Athey)

March 17 Communion (Intinction) – Mitch Hanson & Sharyl Nestor

March 31 Communion (Intinction) – Lisa Hagen & Richard Selvig

April 7 Communion (Rail) – Deb Athey & TBD

April 7 Council monthly meeting, 10:15AM

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

Respectfully submitted, Richard Selvig (in behalf of Judy Stevens), Secretary

May Volunteers

Ushers

May 5th—Jake Urbatsch, Dan Reeder, Dennis Reeder, Hal Johnson
May 12th—Harlan & Barb Helgeson, Colton Moretz, Casson Moretz
May 19th—Brian Costello, Richard Butler, Landon Perkins, Matt Johnson
May 26th—Eric Foss, Austin Foss, Tom Stevens, Josh Stevens, Cade Hengesteg

Greeters

May 5th—Eric, Val, Jackson, Austin & Taylor Foss
May 12th—Thelma Krull-Boutelle and Shirley Olson
May 19th—Harlan & Barb Helgeson
May 26th—Stuart & Kimberly Anderson

Fellowship Time

May 5th—Maynard & Madelyn Midtgaard and Hal & Dianne Johnson
May 12th—Patty Irons and Avis Lehman
May 19th—Graduation Celebration in Front Entry
May 26th—Memorial Day Weekend

Acolytes

May 5th—Joshua Stevens and Peyton Wilder
May 12th—Chloe Costello
May 19th—Jackson Foss
May 26th—Madison Berry

Lay Readers

May 5th—Sixth Graders
May 12th—Heather Rheingans
May 19th—Leila Gangstad
May 26th—Doug Krull

Altar Guild & Share Shoppe

Lydia Circle

Offering Collectors/Counters

May 5th—Russ & Delores Knudson
May 12th—Mike & Judy Stevens
May 19th—Lee & Becky Okerlund
May 26th—Gloria Fallgatter and Nancy Amundson

Assisting Ministers

May 5th—Peyton Pangburn
May 19th—Wyatt Willand



FIRST LUTHERAN WOMEN

"Blessed are you among women" Luke 1:42

Julia	May 6th	2:00 pm	Becky Hickman's home
Leah	May 2nd	9:00 am	Jan Wilder's home, Shirley Meyer-hostess
Lydia	May 1st	1:00 pm	Lois Hogen's home
Rebecca	May 1st	1:30 pm	Maple Court, Iola Bakken-hostess
Sarah	No meeting		



Love OFFERING

ATTENTION: FIRST LUTHERAN WOMEN

Love Offering Donations are taken in the month of May from all the women of First Lutheran. This years Love Offering has been designated to the Organ Restoration Fund. You may bring your donation to your circle meeting or put it in the FLW Treasurer's box in the entry way by the church offices. Please write it to First Lutheran Women Love Offering. Lets show how the women of First Lutheran can step forward.



Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the strong, loving women in your life. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we see thousands of Iowa moms through their journey to build the brightest future for their children.

We see moms turning to LSI's Mental Health or Behavioral Health Intervention Services to ensure their child is receiving the coping skills and behavioral supports they need to thrive. In our Early Childhood Services, we see first-time moms who are eager to join our parenting education classes and support groups. In 2018, LSI's Early Childhood programs provided support to 1,158 parents of young children. We are so inspired to hear their stories and see their hard work pay off as they raise our next generation.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember how many Iowa moms are being empowered because of your support. If you are looking for a way to honor your mother this year, please consider giving a gift in her name at LSIowa.org.

Thank you for standing alongside Iowa families.

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.

It's Worth Every Second

Nova and Brian always knew they wanted to become foster parents.

With their two oldest daughters growing up and entering high school, they decided to take the leap and open up their home to more children in need. Over the course of four years, they have successfully fostered 16 children and adopted four into their forever family.

Through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, the couple has wrapped their arms around sibling groups in need of a home where they can stay together, and the family is also a Cherokee Nation foster home, keeping children connected to their culture and heritage.

Nova encourages more Iowa families to consider foster care, as every child deserves and needs a safe space, regardless of how long that child may stay in your home.

"Foster care in Iowa is such a needed thing, and it's important to extend grace to parents of children in foster care and give them a chance to grow and heal," she says. "There aren't a whole lot of accolades for foster parenting, but it's worth it. It's worth the heartache, and it's worth the love and the smiles you see from these kids."

First Lutheran Missions	
October 1, 2018-September 30, 2019	
Bremwood	\$ 242.86
Operation Christmas Child	\$ 184.61
Youth Fund (Bibles & Catechisms)	\$ 75.00
Caring Tree	\$ 75.00
Lutheran World Relief	\$ 120.00
Caring Tree	\$ 84.62
Meals on Wheels	\$ 244.77
Manna	\$ 169.77
Heifer International	\$ 693.08
Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 261.15
Riverside Bible Camp	\$ 127.82
Camperships	\$ 203.02
Operation Smile (SS & Fair Trade)	\$ 917.67
Lutheran Services of Iowa (LSI)	\$ 216.08
Day Springs	\$ 100.00
Total	\$ 3,699.45

MEMORIALS	
Elaine Hill	\$10.00—General Fund
	\$110.00—Worship (Organ) Fund
Mary (Bloomingtondale) Chinnock	\$60.00—General Fund
	\$35.00—Worship (Organ) Fund
	\$100.00—Youth Fund
Marlene Schulte	\$10.00—General Fund
	\$10.00—Worship (Organ) Fund
Donnie Hagen	\$10.00—General Fund
Doris Johnson	\$25.00—Worship (Organ) Fund
Louise Haugebak	\$25.00—Worship (Organ) Fund
Mariel Patzloff	\$10.00—Worship (Organ) Fund
DONATIONS	
	\$200.00—Worship (Organ) Fund
	\$400.00—Property (Expansion Tanks) Fund

*When someone you love
becomes a*
MEMORY,
*the memory
becomes a*
Treasure

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1. Andrew Husske, Makayla Reyerson, James Tanner, Clifford Zipse
2. Kash Hickle, Justin Mills, Bruce Rheinfels
3. Dana Borcharding
- 4.
5. Rhonda Tufte, Lucille Watney
6. Angela Gaskill, Terran Haberman, Eric Otis, Michael Otis, Taylor Otis, Trey Waldemar
7. Lee Nelson
8. James Krull, Brock Nelson
9. Tyler Husske, Cambria Schreiber, Silas Waller, Robyn Wilder
10. Michael Bachtle, 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
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
18. Eunice Bendickson, Jerry Hopperstad, Julia Quisley, Briar Tenold, Ashley Thompson
19. Mikaela Butler, Patricia Nelson, Bernon VanVeldhuizen, 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, Pamela Williamson
25. Roy Welch
26. Richard Gores, Barbara Helgeson, Dylan Hengesteg, Patricia Irons, Duane Thompson
27. Heather Rheingans, Michael Weisert
28. Gloria George, Kimberly Hengesteg, Colton Moretz
29. Breanne Lombard
30. Courtney Meyer, Aaron Stevens
31. Lois Hogen, Marlys Johnson, June Nerlien, Eric Thron

