

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](mailto:flc@flcnorthwood.org)  
Web Site [www.flcnorthwood.org](http://www.flcnorthwood.org)

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 33

Address Service Requested

## FIRST LUTHERAN FOCUS

October 2019

### PASTOR SEARCH SURVEY



The call committee has compiled a survey to gather information to help us find our new pastor. We would appreciate everyone making the time to fill one out.

Paper copies are included in the October Focus and in the church narthex. It is also available via email, First Lutheran Church and Sunday School Facebook and church's website ([flcnorthwood.org](http://flcnorthwood.org)). If you fill out a paper copy please leave it in the drop off in the office or box in narthex

We ask that you complete and return it by October 31. Thank you for your help.

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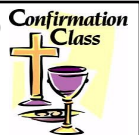
The call committee will host an informational meeting following the November 10th church service. All are invited. Please have your questions and suggestions ready. Results of the Pastor Search Survey will be available at this time.



**FLC's ANNUAL MEETING**  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17th  
10:00 am  
Fellowship Hall

*Annual Reports need to be  
in the office by October 28th.*

### CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2019



Madison Berry, Kennedy Christianson,  
Nicholas Hanson, Ian Husske,  
Nolan Senne, Joshua Stevens

Affirmation of Baptism will be on Sunday, October 27th at 9:00 am. Celebration and fellowship will be held in the front entry of the church following service.

# INTERIM PASTORS' PAGE

**Pastor Burton Everist** moved to California from Mason City when he was in the 8th grade. In San Diego he became a Lutheran and shortly afterward began studies to become a pastor. Following seminary graduation he taught at Valparaiso University and two years later was called to serve Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Detroit, the first of over 20 congregations to which he ministered as pastor or interim pastor. His longest call was to Grace Lutheran, East Dubuque, where he served twice for a total of 15 years.

Pastor Everist is married to Norma Cook Everist. Dr. Norma Cook Everist was a professor of Church and Ministry at Warburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. They have three sons: Mark, Joel, and Kirk.

Besides serving congregational interims Pastor Everist continues to study especially the Gospel according to John. His favorite saying: "Scripture is so shallow a little child can wade in it, so deep a grown person can drown in it, and it is a delight to swim around in it."

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## Rev. Dr. John "Jack" Gannett

Education:

St. Olaf College, B. A. English and Philosophy, 1962

Luther Seminary, Master of Divinity, 1966

Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Doctor of Ministry, 1991 Thesis was "Computer Communications in the Church and a Theology of the Cross"

Served as a Pastor in congregations in Whitehall, Minong, Seymour, and Bloomer in Wisconsin, and Mason City, Iowa. Then served as an Intentional Interim Pastor in seven congregations in Iowa and Minnesota. Retired after 50 years of active ministry in 2016.

### AN INTRODUCTION TO WISDOM LITERATURE IN IOWA

I became interested in what is called Wisdom Literature when I was working on my doctorate. (I really did not know much about the 3rd section of the Old Testament.) The sections are (1) Law, (2) Prophets, and (3) Writings. The writings include stories like Ruth, Jonah, and Esther, poetry in Proverbs, songs in the Psalms, and long discourses in Job and Ecclesiastes. These books are sacred writings for Jews, Christians, and Muslims. We will look at selected texts with an emphasis on what they have to do with daily life here in Iowa, and we will have conversation about the questions they raise.

Presently serving as Chaplain to Pastors in the Living Waters Conference, convenes interims monthly in the Northeast Synod of Iowa, does reading coaching at Lincoln Intermediate in Mason City, and reads the newspaper for the blind once a month on KCMR radio.

Pastor Jack and his wife Anne of 55 years live in Mason City. Anne is a retired nurse. They have 3 biological children. John and his wife Guadalupe live in Minneapolis. Their son, Alex, is attending South Dakota State. Their first daughter Kristen lives in Mason City. She has two daughters Grace, who is attending UNI, and Isabelle, a sophomore in high school. Their second daughter Sarah lives in Minneapolis. The couple also have two foster children. Tom and his wife Erin live in a Chicago suburb and have three children: Anna, Lily and Kyri. LeAnne and her husband Jorge live in Minneapolis with their 4 children: Sophie, Sam, Mya and Rosie.

Pastor Everist

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Cell phone: 1-563-564-1279

Home phone: 1-641-201-1947

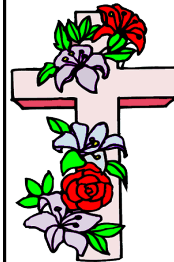
Pastor Jack

Email address: [jackgannett@live.com](mailto:jackgannett@live.com)

Cell phone: 1-641-420-0381

Home phone: 1-641-421-6852

Please contact the church or either pastor, if you or a loved one needs pastoral care or will be hospitalized.



## PASTORAL ACTS

### Baptisms

No baptism in September

### Weddings

Samantha Stricker and Brad Haberman— September 28th

### Funerals/Memorial Services

No funerals in September

# YOUTH NEWS

Sr. High Youth – Wednesday 7:00—8:30

Jr. High Youth – Sunday 6:30-8:00

“Deeper” Group – Monday 5:00-??

Fall is upon us, the kids are back in to the routine of school and things are as busy as ever in the youth room. I was a bit nervous for this school year as we lost 7 graduates. The new Freshmen class hasn't been super great about attending each week, but am pleased to say for September we averaged about 28 students each Wednesday night, which is the highest monthly average in over four years. The underclassmen have been coming out of the woodwork to show up each week and we've all been blessed because of it. Sadly, on the other side of things, Jr. High Youth has not taken off like I had hoped it would, but each week we've got a core group of kids. Each year I honestly never know what to expect or how to prepare, but always know that God has some crazy awesome plan for it!



Over the past month we broke out some of the teens' favorite lessons. It started with “The Plan” – Jeremiah 29:11. For this lesson the students have to talk about where they see their lives going and then different things happen to them along the way. God has a plan for each of us. Thankfully, we learn to adapt to it and figure out what it is He has in store for us. We then moved on to The Crappiest Youth Ever - Deuteronomy 31:6. This particular week we talk about how it's not always easy being a Christian and sometimes it's downright crappy. Working off the lesson the week before, we learn that God uses the bad times to make us stronger. That leads right into the next lesson - The Strong Man/Woman Competition - Matthew 26:41. This lesson is all about some crazy competitions that challenge us physically and mentally, but ultimately lets us know that strength comes in many different forms. We need to lean on others and God when we're not strong enough. The end of this 4 week chunk of awesome is the Freedom lesson - 2nd Corinthians 3:17. We wound up painting our faces and a hand to represent how there is so much greatness and evil within each of us, and how God needs us to use the hand that brings greatness to the world to be stronger than the one that brings shame and evil to the world.



I've got some great lessons planned for October as well as a trip to ValleyScare planned for October 12<sup>th</sup>. We're making plans for Lifest 2020 as well, with the first \$50 of \$100 total due October 2<sup>nd</sup>. At the end of the month the Sr. High students will have a new first time experience. We're going to have normal Youth on Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> as well as a special Thursday Halloween Night Youth. The second night we'll gather for games and hanging out but also opening the doors to the youth room for any younger kids who want to come and trick or treat at the church. We did this last year and had a huge number of little kids come down! Just another way to reach out to the community. That night we'll also have our Jr. High kids out collecting food items (and a little candy for themselves too) as the “Manna Monsters”. They will be out going door to door collecting items for Manna of Worth County. It's hard for them to cover every single house in town, so if you do have food to donate, and they don't show up that night, feel free to call the church and we'll come and pick it up. There is also a tote in the main entrance of the church for Manna donations. Feel free to drop off items anytime.

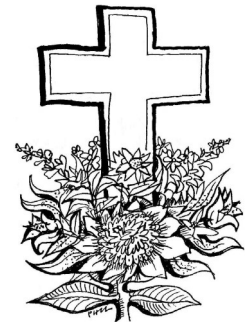


## First Lutheran Missions

October 1, 2018-September 30, 2019	
Bremwood	\$ 242.86
Operation Christmas Child	\$ 254.61
Youth Fund (Bibles & Catechisms)	\$ 290.00
Caring Tree	\$ 284.62
Lutheran World Relief	\$ 505.69
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)	\$ 1,702.82
Lutheran Services of Iowa (LSI)	\$ 216.08
Day Spring	\$ 272.37
Northern Lights Shelters	\$ 295.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,823.31</b>

## MEMORIALS

- Luane Butler  
\$20.00—General Fund  
\$5.00—Youth Fund
- Ryan Bendickson  
\$400.00—General Fund
- Lynn Watney  
\$25.00—General Fund
- David Peterson  
\$10.00—Worship (Organ) Fund  
\$10.00—Worship Fund
- Rosie Churchill  
\$25.00—Worship (Organ) Fund
- Harlan Hempen  
\$1,025.00—General Fund



## DONATIONS

\$345.00—Worship (Organ) Fund

**First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes  
August 11, 2019 10:00 AM**

4.

**WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

Opening prayer from Sharyl Nestor.

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

**WE CELEBRATE OUR PAST**

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

President - Thank-You letter from Maynard and Madelyn Midtgaard on Jimmy's memorial plaque.

Secretary - Reviewed July minutes for revisions.

Treasurer- YTD loss of \$4K. Reviewed expenses detail and comparative financials.

Pastoral - No report.

**WE PRESENT OUR OFFERING**

Education Committee (next meeting TBD)

Brian and Jennifer Costello to be Confirmation class teachers this Sunday school year.

Mark Willand to be teacher for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday school class.

Fellowship & Social Ministry Committees (next meeting TBD)

Summer pool party was much fun for all who attended. Thanks Heather and Shana for pulling event together! Future family biking event under discussion.

Finance Committee (next meeting TBD)

Compilation of 2020 fiscal year budget to be discussed at September meeting.

Property Committee (next meeting TBD)

Grant monies received from WCDA for generator purchase and installation. Formal "Thank-You" to WCDA will be in future edition of Northwood Anchor.

Projects under discussion as follows:

Parsonage upkeep: New kitchen cabinetry, dishwasher, garage door and opener.

Kitchen Phase III: Under counter dishwasher, \$6K all in costs. Funding available.

Stewardship Committee (next meeting TBD)

Knowledge transfer of "Gratitude Sunday" tasks reviewed with Pastor Judy and Steve.

Planning for "Gratitude Sunday" in November discussed.

Committee in need of additional volunteers for planning of future events.

Worship & Music Committee (next meeting 08/13 5:00 PM)

Organ refurbishment proposal received from Dewey Kruger Music for consideration.

Approximately \$30K in funding exists for project before any formal fund raising campaign at First Lutheran or any WCDA grant request.

Youth Representative-No report.

**CONCERNS FOR THE PRESENT**

Audio Visual and Lighting Projects (MMSP Hagen / Athey)

LED lighting: Entire building all new quoted at \$17K from Gullickson Kruger Electric less anticipated Alliant Energy rebate of \$3K.

Sound and video: Full sound and audio visual replacement, ties into hearing loop. Quotes submitted from Frein Audio & Technology at \$89K and Sim Sound & Video, Inc. at \$94K.

Estimated duration of project is seven weeks.

Council approved to pursue WCDA grants for both projects with Gullickson and Frein respectively.

Fire-proof Cabinets

Four drawer fire proof vertical file cabinet discussed at cost of \$1,449. Approved by Council to move forward with purchase. Thrivent Choice dollars to be solicited for 50% of cost.

**WE ADJOURN TO SERVE**

Lord's Prayer

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

**August 13** Council & Pastoral Call Committee meeting with NE IA Synod, 6:00PM.

**August 18** Communion (Intinction) – DeArmoun & Selvig

**September 8** Communion (Rail) – Athey & Rheingans

**September 15** Council monthly meeting, 10:15AM

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Selvig, Secretary

# October Volunteers

## Ushers

October 6th—Dan Hendrikson, Bernie VanVeldhuizen, Mike & DeAnn Read  
 October 13th—David & Sharron Petznick, Kevin and Maeghan Petznick  
 October 20th—Jake Urbatsch, Dan Reeder, Dennis Reeder, Hal Johnson  
 October 27th—Harlan & Barb Helgson, Colton and Casson Moretz

## Greeters

October 6th—Coni Butler  
 October 13th—Troy & Linda Einertson  
 October 20th—Greg Nystuen and Nancy Amundson  
 October 27th—Wayde, Jill, Wyatt & Weston Willand

## Fellowship Time

October 6th—Ray & Wanda Hoffman and Shirley Olson  
 October 13th—Molly Bachtle, Betty Goodrich, Troy & Dawn Bachtle  
 October 20th—Maynard & Madelyn Mitgaard and Hal & Dianne Johnson  
 October 27th—Confirmation Celebration in front entry

## Acolytes

October 6th—Isaac Adams and Emma Hengesteg  
 October 13th—Colby Eskildsen and Justin Mills  
 October 20th—Koooper Julseth and Lindsey Moore  
 October 27th—Loghan Nelson and Damon Reyerson

## Lay Readers

October 6th—Patty Irons  
 October 13th—Madelyn Mitgaard  
 October 20th—Sixth Graders  
 October 27th—Larry Klitzke

## Altar Guild & Share Shoppe

Leah Circle

## Offering Collectors/Counters

October 6th—Lee & Becky Okerlund  
 October 13th—Gloria Fallgatter and Nancy Amundson  
 October 20th—David & Sharron Petznick  
 October 27th—Russ & Delores Knudson

## Assisting Ministers

October 6th—Deb Athey and Richard Selvig



## FIRST LUTHERAN WOMEN

*"Blessed are you among women" Luke 1:42*

Julia	October 7th	2:00 pm	Fireside Room, Sharyl Nestor-hostess
Leah	October 3rd	9:00 am	Jan Wilder's home, Madelyn Midtgaard-hostess
Lydia	October 2nd	1:00 pm	Nancy Amundson's home
Rebecca	October 2nd	1:30 pm	Fireside Room, Circle members-hostess
Sarah	No meeting		



## FLC Financial Update

	August 2019	January 1st –August 31st
Income	\$12,275.25	Income \$129,573.23
Electronic Income	\$1,680.00	Electronic Income \$12,628.00
Expense	\$18,685.71	Expense \$150,778.25
End of month	(\$4,730.46)	Year to date (\$8,577.02)



## OCTOBER ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers for October are given in memory of George "Flip" Lindflott by Elaine, Tom, Ron & Larry.



### **Warming Hearts with God's Love and a Good Pair of Mittens**

Far too often, children arrive at LSI's Beloit and Bremwood Residential Treatment Centers with very little in their possession.

We give thanks for Iowa congregations who faithfully respond to these needs, year after year! As winter approaches, LSI relies on your loving support to meet the demands for winter apparel for children and youth at Beloit and Bremwood. Children in residential treatment have little control over their lives, so it's important for us to give children the opportunity, when possible, to shop for their new coat or mittens. Because of this, we ask that you please not donate articles of clothing. With your generous financial donation, many children will have the simple joy of choosing their new coat, knowing that they are loved and cherished.

If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563.676.2065.

*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 LSI (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 [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

#### **“Thank You, God”**

Every week, when 8-year-old Chase met with LSI's Pastor Dennis Bauer, he would ask to pray for “the same old thing: to find a good, loving forever family.”

Chase is in third grade. But in his young life, he has already experienced trauma most of us cannot fathom. When Chase was 6, he was removed from his home and his mother's parental rights were terminated. He felt confused, terrified, and shocked. Chase struggled to cope with his anger and emotions. He acted out and became physically aggressive. Chase needed help, and LSI's Beloit Residential Treatment Center in Ames offered that help.

After arriving at Beloit, Chase quickly became involved in LSI's voluntary Spiritual Life program, where he participates in faith-based activities like art and music. Through regular meetings with Pastor Dennis, Chase says he is focusing on his faith and “trusting in God and saying prayers.”

Outside of Spiritual Life, Chase is also learning healthy skills through group therapy to help him cope on the difficult days.

Now, Chase is thriving. His confidence is building every day, and he has big plans for his future. He wants to be a surgeon when he grows up, and he dreams of learning to bake and do woodworking. And the immediate future is looking pretty bright, too: Chase is in the process of being adopted.

During a recent visit with Pastor Dennis, Chase prayed a different prayer: “Thank you, God, for giving me a family.”

# CTOBER

- 1 Randy Buehrer, Ila Jensen, Lois Meyer
- 2 Daryl Hennigar, Lisa Irons, Tyler Mills
- 3 Lane Ballandby, Phyllis Mortenson, Larry Perkins, Rachel Ritzert, Dale Sime
- 4 Janet Reeder, Ryan Wahl
- 5 Dustin Hodson, Russell Olson, Jill Willand
- 6 Harley Severson, Sandra Thoen
- 7 James Medlang
- 8 Katie Baker, Trey Gonzales, Maggie Rye
- 9 Keith Braun, Madison Eilertson, Linda Loken, Paige McClure, Daniel Reeder, Dennis Reeder
- 10 Lisa Christianson, Kary Paulson, Sharron Petznick, Judy Wangen
- 11 Gloria Fallgatter, Douglas Krull, Tayah Lande, Danneka Love
- 12 Mitchell Athey, Kimberly Helgeson, Vivian Peterson, Mark Severson
- 13 Gavin Hankins, Kelvin Hendrikson, Tony Katcher
- 14 Anthony Hauge, Ben Johnson, Reese Nielsen, Jessica Paulsen
- 15 Deanna Gentz, Michael Kuhlmann, Bryan Odegaard
- 16 Becky Logemann, Ronnie Stricker
- 17 Kenneth Schmidt
- 18 Harold Van Sabben
- 19 Lynn Schaub
- 20 Chris Thofson
- 21 Sydney Harris, Suzanne Senne
- 22 Arly Hillman
- 23 Axel Flattum, Sandra Madden
- 24 Mark Midtgaard, Lawson Perkins, Kyle Stumo
- 25 Becky Haberman
- 26 Marcia Kraft, Kaelix Iverson, Journey Thompson, Emmalee Van Sabben, Lisa Wangsness
- 27 Allix Braun, Jacob Katcher
- 28 Dwayne Wright
- 29 Sue Anderson
- 30 Candace Low
- 31 Baylor Abrams, Patricia Brekken, Damon Reyerson, Raegen Reyerson,  
Dennis Schutz, Alex Shoger, Ella Stevens, Daniel Turner, Weston Willand

