

Moment of Contact

First Lutheran Church
3939 Cheyenne Blvd.
Sioux City, IA 51104
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February 2020 Contact

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Pastor's Message

Why Should I Attend the Annual Meeting?

Back in the days before I was a pastor, I would attend annual meetings with a feeling of dread. Why would I want to go to a meeting where there were boring reports, long winded leaders who explained their projects and why they did not get accomplished this year, disagreements over \$100 items in the budget, or detailed financial reports that made my head hurt and my eyes blur. What is the point of sitting there waiting for the election of officers, the most eventful part of the meeting, so I could cast my vote for a list of people already decided by a nominating committee?

That was then, this is now! Back then I realize I was not actively engaged in how the church was run, what the important priorities of the congregation could be for the future year, or what I hoped the leaders would tackle in their term of office. In short, I had high expectations for a meeting that I did not come prepared to actively participate in or support. No wonder I dreaded the "annual meeting this year."

Annual meetings are more than a time to take a look back and a look forward. Annual meetings do more than mark the time and provide a benchmark for accomplishments, progress and assessment. Annual meetings do give details

of the past, happen in the present, and look to the future but they require participation, active participation, in order to be effective, exciting and eventful. Annual meetings are for the people, God's people, who see their mission as learning, living and sharing the love of God.

I am personally asking you to attend the annual meeting on **Sunday, February 2, 2020**, following worship. We will gather at tables for a time of discussion of your hopes and dreams (come prepared to share them). We will give reports (short and sweet). We will look at financial data (it's looking great this year, thanks to your generosity). We will discuss plans for our future as prepare to welcome our new Director of Music Ministry, give thanks to volunteers (like you), encourage staff and committees (who on your behalf create and continue their work), bless the nominating committee's work in identifying, asking and encouraging members to step up and serve.

Why should you attend the annual meeting? Because this is God's church and we are the caretakers of it. Because your gifts of time and talent are needed and wanted. Because we are a Christian community called by God to respond to God's gift of grace as servants to the world (in case you forgot, that's our mission statement!). See you on the 2nd!

Pastor Kristine

COUNCIL ACTIONS

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on **Sunday, February 2, 2020**, following worship. All active members are encouraged to attend to hear from council representatives reports of the past year's programs and ministries.

Following the annual meeting, the council will gather for a council retreat, to discuss the congregation's priorities for 2020. The council will be installed during worship on **Sunday, February 23rd**.



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SEASONAL WORSHIP

Throughout the past year the Worship and Music committee has continued its work in identifying and providing beauty and creativeness within worship. In the past you have noticed a new banner gracing the narthex. Now you will see a new banner in the lobby, welcoming all to First Lutheran, and a new processional cross.

Our cross is a Coptic Cross with origins in Egypt. In the book of the Acts of the Apostles Philip, an apostle of Jesus, encounters an Ethiopian Christian. He is a man from Africa. He is a man of power and authority who was curious to know more about Jesus. Our new cross is from Ethiopia and will lead the procession into our worship reminding us all of our unity in Christ, our diversity in gifts and talents and our curiosity to know more about Jesus. Just as Philip engaged with the Ethiopian he met along the way, we are called to welcome all who gather in this place, where Jesus is our host.

UPCOMING PROGRAMMING EVENTS

First Lutheran will host the Siouxland ELCA congregations "Confirmation Together" gathering on **Wednesday, February 19, 2020**. Confirmation Together provides an opportunity to learn about the seasons of the year in a group setting. This program year we have scheduled three gatherings of confirmation students and this month we will focus on Holy Week. High school youth will participate as leaders as we make the journey from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We anticipate 55-60 confirmands gathering to learn. If you would like to help at this gathering please contact Pastor Kristine, we could use your help!

LOOKING AHEAD

Mark your calendars for the Lenten season which begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 26**. We will gather for evening prayer on the Wednesdays in Lent. Plan on making Lent a time you set aside for prayer and meditation in preparation for the Holiest Week of the year.



'EMPTY BOWLS'

Food Bank of Siouxland is having their annual Fundraiser called, 'Empty Bowls' on **February 7, 2020**. Dinner is served at **6:00 PM** at the Delta Hotels Center (Formerly Marina Inn Conference Center).

This is a Hunger Awareness event in which soup is served.

- First Lutheran is a distribution site for the Food Bank of Siouxland.
- Please attend the fund raiser, eat soup, and help others by bidding on items in the live and silent auction.
- **Tickets are \$50 per person.** Contact Lori McClaren, 712-253-2322 to reserve your spot.
- The event includes a dinner of lovely soups from area restaurants and chefs, bread and dessert, along with a handcrafted bowl to keep as a reminder that there is hunger in our community.
- **5 p.m.** – Silent Auction, Music, Coated Kernels Popcorn Bar
- **6 p.m.** – Soup Dinner followed by Program & Live Auction



Director of Music Ministry

Mallorie Egbers

On **Tuesday, February 18th**, we will welcome Mallorie Egbers, our new part-time staff member. I first spoke with Mallorie last August when we began our long conversation about the possibility of her joining our staff.

Mallorie is a native Iowan. She graduated from Augustana College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in May of 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education. She was a music teacher and vocal director in the West Central School District in Hartford, South Dakota for three years. In 2009 she returned to Sioux Falls and began her work as a Lay Evangelical Leader at Springdale Lutheran Church, where she also served as their organist. During her time at Springdale she attended Sioux Falls Seminary (Luther House of Study). She served her year of pastoral internship at Christ the King Lutheran in New Ulm, Minnesota, and graduated with a Master of Divinity degree in May of 2015.

Through a time of discernment, Mallorie chose to pursue her call through music. Mallorie has served as an interim minister at Salem Lutheran Church in Mendon, Illinois, and is a private piano instructor.

Mallorie is married to Scott, who has been called to serve as pastor to Trinity Lutheran on Jackson Street. They have two children, Elizabeth and Jonathan. They will be moving to Sioux City and living in the neighborhood.

On **Sunday, February 23rd**, following worship we will have an opportunity to meet Mallorie during coffee fellowship in the Fireside Room. The following **Sunday, March 1st**, join Mallorie again after worship where she will introduce herself more formally and tell you about her hopes and dreams for this position and what excited her about coming to First to serve as our Director of Music Ministry.

We give thanks to God, for answering our prayer and bringing Mallorie and her family to serve among us.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP, Thank you to Terry Brooks

Sunday, February 16

Join Terry Brooks, our pianist, who has served us for two plus years. When we needed a musician to play for worship, Terry stepped up to serve. As his time with us draws to a close, we are thankful for his musical abilities which brought jazz and joy to our Sunday mornings! Terry has agreed to help out an accompanist as needed in the future. Coffee fellowship on **Sunday, February 16**, is in his honor. Cards are welcome, coffee and cake will be served! Thank you, Terry!

LIFE PASSAGES

Death

Whether we live or whether we die we are the Lord's
Annie Bentson, December 15, 2019

FLC Finance Update

Needed weekly per budget
\$5442.31 / for the month of January
\$21,769.24. Actual income for January
\$22,935.00.



First Lutheran Church Council Report, January 21, 2020

President:	Jim Lippke	Vice President:	Alison Hertenstein
Secretary:	Enola Peters	Treasurer:	Nate Frein
Worship & Music:	Chris Taylor	Faith Formation:	Julie Thiele
Youth:	Jenny Denne	Mission:	Lori McClaren
Mission:	Candy Noonan	Operations:	Tom Bertram
	Pastor Kristine		

The Council of First Lutheran Church met **Tuesday, January 21, 2020**. The highlights of the meeting were as follows:

- * The Council is invited to attend the next Working Together meeting on February 8th at St. John's Lutheran Church along with the Councils of the other ELCA congregations in Sioux City. These meetings are giving us an opportunity to join together to accomplish numerous tasks together.
- * We are looking forward to welcoming our new Director of Music Ministry on February 18th. Mallorie Egbers will be playing the organ and directing the Adult Choir and from there, she will develop a music program. She will lead the Adult Forum on March 1st.
- * We will have a thank you coffee honoring Terry Brooks on February 16th after worship. Cards, gifts, kind words, and appreciation can be shared with Terry at this time. He will continue to substitute as he is needed.
- * On February 23rd, we will welcome Mallorie Egbers with a coffee in her honor following worship. Watch for more details on this event as the Worship and Music Committee plans this celebration.
- * The remainder of the meeting was spent in preparation for the Annual meeting which will be held on February 2nd following worship. Pete Hawkinson will be preparing casseroles and the Council will provide the side dishes. Come hungry and ready to help us plan for the year and YEARS ahead for this congregation.
- * Volunteers are requested to help with the projects of the Mission (Social Concerns) team. If you would be willing to serve at the Soup Kitchen, please contact Candy Noonan-Johnson.
- * At the closing of the meeting, Jim Lippke was thanked for his two years of service as President of the Council. In turn, Jim thanked the Council persons for their dedication to the service and faith foundation at First Lutheran Church.



Notes from Cindy, Our Faith Formation Director

TEACHING OUR CHILDREN TO BE BIBLICALLY LITERATE... HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE BIBLE?

One of the challenges we face in our faith formation program is helping our youth become biblically literate. Teaching the Bible stories is central to our Faith Formation curriculum and an on-going portion of our teaching in both Sunday school and LLC. However, it is also important that our children learn how to use their Bibles and how the Bible is put together. During our winter session of LLC we are focusing on the Bible, not just the stories, but actually teaching them HOW to use their Bibles as well as other information about their Bibles. We begin with a very simple concept – the Bible is divided into two sections – the Old Testament and the New Testament. Then we go from there! The kids are surprised to find that the Bible is the bestselling book of all time – with an estimated five billion copies printed! That’s a staggering number! The Bible has also been translated into over 2000 languages around the world - again, a staggering number!

All children receive a Bible when they enter our preschool program (a story Bible) and again in first grade when they receive a “real Bible” just like the grown-ups use! Our youth are encouraged to bring their Bibles every Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. They become familiar with how to use their Bibles when they look up stories and readings.

Here are a few more things we will be teaching in our Bible Unit. See how many you are familiar with!

The Bible is a collection of books written by dozens of authors across 1,600 years.

The Bible is filled with stories, historical accounts, laws, letters, poetry and songs of God’s people.

Each book of the Bible tells a part of God’s big story.

The Old Testament is full of stories about God’s chosen people, called Israel.

We learn about God’s faithfulness through the generations. God is faithful even when we are not.

The New Testament is the beginning of something new: God came to earth in the form of a baby named Jesus. Jesus expanded the kingdom of God to include all people.

The Old Testament is broken down into five parts: The Pentateuch, Historical books, Writings and Prophets.

The New Testament contains the Gospels and Acts, the Letters of Paul and General Letters and Revelation.

The *Whirl* Bible, designed to go with the *Whirl* curriculum we use with our youth, is full of interesting facts, maps and other helpful material. Check it out – there is a lot of interesting information in the front of your child’s Bible. So what are you waiting for? Start reading!

CONFIRMATION/ LLC INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



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We hope it won’t be necessary, but you never know when a snowstorm will roar into our area on a Wednesday evening, and we may need to cancel Confirmation/LLC classes. Here are our guidelines: If Sioux City schools are dismissed early due to bad weather, our evening classes are also cancelled. If school is not dismissed early, but weather conditions deteriorate in the late afternoon, please call ahead. We will attempt to send out emails and/or texts if we must cancel. If school in Sioux City has been closed for the day, we will not have LLC classes that evening.

FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday, February 2:

Wednesday, February 5:

Sunday, February 9:

Wednesday, February 12:

Wednesday, February 19:

Wednesday, February 26:

Annual Meeting

Confirmation/Mentor Meeting (Gr. 6-8)

Youth sing in worship

Last night of LLC – Grades 1-5

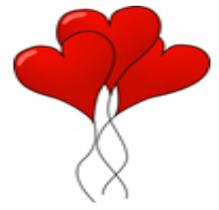
Confirmation Together @ FLC 5:30-7:45

Ash Wednesday





February 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Key FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room YR = Youth Room CR = Choir Room SS = Sunday School Room Comm. Rm = Community Room</p>						<p>1 10:00 - 12:00 Youth making Subs in FH</p>
<p>2 8:50 Adult Choir 9:00 Christian Ed 10:00 Worship 11:15 Annual Meeting in FH Pick up Subs</p>	<p>3 Pastor's Day Off 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Boy/Cub Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.</p>	<p>4 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH</p>	<p>5 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. in FR 6:30 LLC in FH 6:30 Confirmation w/ Mentors in Comm. Rm 6:30 Youth in YR</p>	<p>6 10:00 Book Study in FR 12:00 PEO Mtg. in FR 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.</p>	<p>7 9:00 Quilters in FH 7:00 AA in FH</p>	<p>8 9:00 - 11:00 Working Together at St. John's Lutheran</p>
<p>9 8:50 Adult Choir 9:00 Christian Ed 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship in FR; Faith Formation Comm. Mtg. in FH</p>	<p>10 Pastor's Day Off 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Boy/Cub Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.</p>	<p>11 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 5:00 First Responders Support Group in SS Rm 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH</p>	<p>12 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. in FR 6:30 LLC in FH 6:30 Confirmation in Comm. Rm</p>	<p>13 10:00 Book Study in FR 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.</p>	<p>14 Contact Deadline 9:00 Quilters in FH 7:00 AA in FH</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 8:50 Adult Choir 9:00 Christian Ed 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship in FR in honor of Terry Brooks</p>	<p>17 Pastor's Day Off 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Boy/Cub Scouts in FH 6:30 Mary Circle 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.</p>	<p>18 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH 6:30 Council in FR</p>	<p>19 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. 5:30 Confirmation Together at FLC</p>	<p>20 10:00 Book Study in FR 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.</p>	<p>21 9:00 Quilters in FH 7:00 AA in FH</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 8:50 Adult Choir 9:00 Christian Ed 10:00 Worship/ Installation of Council 11:00 Coffee Fellowship in FR in honor of Mallorie Egbers</p>	<p>24 Pastor's Day Off Carla Vacation all Week 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Boy/Cub Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.</p>	<p>25 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH</p>	<p>26 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. in FR 1:00 Lydia Circle 7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>27 10:00 Book Study in FR 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.</p>	<p>28 9:00 Quilters in FH 7:00 AA in FH</p>	<p>29</p>

ASSISTING ON SUNDAY MORNING

	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23, Transfiguration	February 26, Ash Wednesday
Crucifer	Rylie Hermelbracht	Tyler Hagan	Nissa Downing	Ian Hertenstein	n/a
Coffee Hosts	Annual Meeting	Mary McCoy	Katherine Henshaw Pastor Kristine	Joe and Enola Peters	n/a
Communion Assistants	Bruce Miller Chris Taylor	Tim and Sheila Geary	Angie Reinhardt Jeanne Thune	Catherine Lippke Jim Lippke	Sacristans
Greeters	Hillard Knutson Lee and Linda Bobier	Liz Draisey Jim and Nancy McKenzie	Lee Knop David Gross Julie Thiele	Bruce Miller Karen Hollstein Onee Iverson	Gary and Candy Johnson
Layreader	Janet Gross	Chris Taylor	Tammy Mahaney	Katherine Henshaw	Lori McClaren
Radio	Gary and Marcia Hopp	Craig and Sandie LaMaster	David and Larayne Olson	Liz Draisey	n/a
Sacristan	Julie Thiele	David Gross	Kaia Downing	Chris Taylor	TBD

Ushers Jay Schenzel, August Schenzel, Brad Downing, Jami Denne

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please find a replacement and let Carla know ASAP so the weekly bulletin is correct. Thank you.

HELP NEEDED WITH OUR FOOD BANK MISSION

The first need we have is for someone with a pickup truck to go the Food Bank approximately once every 3 - 4 weeks to pick up the order for our pantry. The time for pick up is flexible and it does not have to be the same person every time.

Our second need is for there to be at least three people scheduled for the food distribution day (Wednesday mornings) instead of two since these volunteers are now also bagging the food as well. A few new faces and bodies are needed for this time!

Please contact Randy Burnight at 251-4955, Candy Noonan-Johnson at 251-9411, or Carla in the office if you have any questions or think you might be able to help out.



FOOD PANTRY

HELPING IN THE HOLY FAMILY FOOD PANTRY

February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26	March 4
Dorothy Chauncey Nadine Holst	Dorothy Goetsch Ann Doellinger	Orville and Diane Kenowith	Dorothy Chauncey Nadine Holst	Mary McCoy Karen Tagatz



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Return Service Requested

Simply Giving

If you are planning to head south for the winter months consider *Simply Giving*. Through this offering program you will never miss the opportunity to give to the congregation's ministries even when you are gone for the weekend. *Simply Giving* forms are available in the narthex or from the office.

The **Simply Giving® Program**
endorsed by
 **THRIVENT**
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION®