



Moment of Contact

First Lutheran Church
3939 Cheyenne Blvd.
Sioux City, IA 51104
(712-239-3942)



April 2019 Contact

Volume 48, Issue 4

March 28, 2019

Pastor's Message

I remember as a young girl the mystery and awe of Holy Week. The children gathering on Palm Sunday to parade around the neighborhood with banners and palm branches, then coming into the sanctuary to sing our children's song.

I remember the solemnness of Maundy Thursday. Hearing the scripture read at the Last Supper and realizing this was the same language we heard every first Sunday of the month. I was in awe when I made the connection of the importance of this meal with Jesus' death.

Good Friday in our small town included an ecumenical service. All of the various church choirs would sing, the pastors would read scripture or preach, and the people of our town would come and go from their various responsibilities throughout the *extra long* service. My family always stayed for the whole thing. Every song, every scripture, every word preached. To be honest I came away from the experience with a tangible understanding of the length of time Jesus was reported to have been hanging on the cross.

Then we waited....and waited...and waited until sunrise on Easter Day.

My mother always made my sister and me a new Easter dress, and it would be the first time in the spring where we could wear our new white shoes, even if there was still snow on the ground!

We would rise early, still in the dark, and make our way to church. Mom and dad sang in the choir so my siblings and I would wait in the dark of the sanctuary. You knew something was different.... you could smell it.... lilies everywhere. Finally, the service would begin. A single candle entered the sanctuary reminding me of my baptism....Jesus is the light. Then suddenly and dramatically the lights go up, the trumpet sounds and everyone is on their feet. Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!

Whatever your memories of Easter may be....come and join fellow worshipers at First Lutheran as we gather to make our way through Holy Week. We will take in the sights, experience the emotion and wait with joy the resurrection of our Lord.

Pastor Kristine

UPCOMING

PROGRAMMING EVENTS

Confirmation Together

Confirmation students will gather together with our ELCA Sioux City congregations for "Confirmation Together" on **Wednesday, April 24, 2019**. We will meet at church at **5:30 pm** and carpool to St John Lutheran where we will share a meal and worship under the theme "Creation."



Inside this issue:

Gifts Needed

Upcoming Events

Tech News

Holy Week Info

Life Passages

Council & Communication Summary/Report

Finance Update

**First Lutheran Church
3939 Cheyenne Blvd
Sioux City, IA 51104**

Office Phone: 712-239-3942
Website: <http://firstlutheransc.org>

First Lutheran Staff

Pastor Kristine Stedje
flcpastor3939@gmail.com
612-408-6692
Carla Flores, Admin. Assistant
firstlutheransecretary3939@gmail.com
Cindy Lippke, Faith Formation
cindy.lippke@gmail.com
Orlando R. Morales, Custodian

First Lutheran Church Council

Jim Lippke, President
jlippke@cableone.net
712-239-4024, 712-898-0140
Alison Hertenstein, Vice President
alison.hertenstein@hintonschool.com
712-223-1364
Enola Peters, Secretary
epeters@cableone.net
712-258-5210
Nate Frein, Treasurer
freinnate@gmail.com
712-330-5745
Chris Taylor, Worship and Music
rrrtaylorview@aol.com
712-574-9111
Tom Bertram, Operations
Ttbertram@adi701.com
712-258-7066
Julie Thiele, Faith Formation
teesfive@gmail.com
712-898-0190
Jennifer Denne, Youth and Recreation
jenndenne@yahoo.com
712-239-4935, 712-251-3069
Candy Johnson, Mission
jgary706@aol.com
712-251-9411
Lori McClaren, Mission
lori@northeast.edu
712-253-2322



YOUR GIFTS ARE NEEDED DURING HOLY WEEK

If you are willing to be of service to the faith community during Holy Week, there are several opportunities to give your gifts. We will need greeters and ushers at all five worship services, Palm/Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, on Easter morning at 7:30 am and the 10 am Easter services. We also need communion ministers, readers, crucifers, processional and banner corp members. Can you bring special music to one of the services or will you give by helping to beautify and prepare the worship space? As they say, many hands make light work. Please consider offering to serve during this memorable week we call holy. Contact Pastor Kristine at flcpastor3939@gmail.com to share your gifts! Thank you!!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday, June 23 – Thursday, June 27, 2019

First is joining with other Sioux City ELCA churches to host Vacation Bible School week for children and their parents. Lutheran Lakeside Bible Camp counselors will serve as team leads providing learning opportunities for children grades one through five. Confirmation and high school students are also invited to serve as helpers throughout the week. Please mark your calendars for this important gathering and plan to support our efforts to be church together, forming faith in our children.

FIRST LUTHERAN TECHNOLOGY

Watch for a new website and facebook updates!

During the month of April we will launch a new **website**. We have received a gift from Morningside College student, DJ Flores (Carla's daughter) to create a website for us as a school project. DJ has been gathering information and sorting it all into neat categories and accessible information. Mark Walz has offered to assist the office and staff with his technical expertise as needs arise. Ben Hertenstein is our new facebook administrator. We are thankful for our technology partners who will help us to communicate in new and exciting ways as we seek to keep you informed and current in what is happening at First!

HOLY WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."

As spring arrives in our northern climate, we will embark on a series of worship services for Holy Week and Easter. This takes on special meaning in the life



of the church year. Beginning on **Palm Sunday, April 14 at 10 am**, we recall Jesus' entry into Jerusalem where he was greeted with waving palm branches and the shouts and cheers of the crowd. But the parade did not last long. It headed into "the valley of the shadow of death."

On **Maundy Thursday, April 18 at 7 pm**, we gather to remember the love Jesus had for his disciples. We will wash one another's feet and participate in the Last Supper which Jesus instituted as Holy Communion.



Betrayed and arrested, Jesus was taken before Jewish and Roman authorities, condemned, and sent to the cross for execution. On **Good Friday, April 19 at 7 pm**, we gather again, now



to reflect on Jesus' passion, and remember his words from the cross. As we sit in silence, gazing at the cross, lighting a candle in remembrance, we are reminded of the apostles' creed which tells of Jesus death with magnificent understatement: "for our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried."

With this as a prelude to the "feast of feasts," The Resurrection of Our Lord, we gather on **Easter Sunday, April 21 at**



7:30 am and 10 am, to hear the words of the angel at the empty tomb: "He is not here, but has risen." With alleluias we will celebrate the victory of God over all that opposes the Lord of Life. We celebrate Holy Communion to receive the Risen Lord even as we sing, and pray, and remember. The Three Days concludes, but it is only the beginning of the 50 days of our joyful Easter season – and what a beginning it is!

Join us at these services so that together we might make a pilgrimage to the cross, and beyond it to the joy of Easter.

Holy Week: The Three Days From Darkness into Light Celebrating the Three Days

Each and every Sunday in worship the church celebrates the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. On several key days at the center of the church year, however, this worship takes a unique shape. These central days have come to be known as the Three Days, recalling Jesus' own words to his disciples that he would be handed over to death, and that "after three days he will rise again." The Three Days encompass the time from Maundy Thursday evening through the evening of Easter Day. The services – or more accurately, one continuous service – of these days unfolds in a single movement. The shape of this single liturgy which continues over a period of days parallels the passion events in Jerusalem, with significant periods of time spent in recess to attend to individual prayer and the tasks of daily life. With those tasks completed, the community reassembles to continue its Three Days celebration.

"We, beloved, will celebrate, as we ought, Christ's death and his holy resurrection that gives us life and gave the world salvation: which may we all receive through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and through his grace and kindness. Glory, worship, and honor are his due."

--- fourth century



LIFE PASSAGES

Death

Whether we live or whether we die we are the Lord's

Gloria Lundgren, January 30, 1924 –
March 19, 2019

FLC Finance Update

Needed weekly per budget \$4,903.85 / for the month of March \$24,519.25. Actual income as of 3-25 is \$23,537.60 for March.



First Lutheran Church Council Report, March 19, 2019

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 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, March 19, 2019**. The highlights of the meeting were as follows:

- ◆ The Council is reading the book Ask, Think, Tell. At each meeting we are reviewing a portion of the book to assist us in planning for the future of First Lutheran Church.
- ◆ The Treasurer's Report can be summarized by stating that our offering remains stable and our expenses are being very carefully monitored. This has allowed us to maintain a "healthy" general fund so that our expenses can be met on a timely basis. We continue to be debt free.
- ◆ The Council members assisted in the response to the Congregation Report which must be completed for the Synod. These results will be used to help the Synod get a general overview of the "state of the synod".
- ◆ Council reaffirmed our priorities for the 2019 year. The major categories for our priorities will be Mission, Vision and Operation.
- ◆ Pastor Kristine announced that the Children's School is closing at the end of May.
- ◆ Council reviewed the agenda in preparation for the upcoming Congregation Meeting on Sunday, March 24th. The Constitution acceptance will be voted upon at this meeting.
- ◆ New members Nate, Maryn and Nora Frein have been accepted. Nate's wife, Dawn, and her children are already members of the First Lutheran Church. Welcome to all. We will also be welcoming new members in the next month or so. Some of our new members are coming as a transfer from Immanuel Lutheran. Gloria Lundgren and her daughter, Diane Baker have expressed interest in joining. Gloria passed away on March 19th, and her funeral will be conducted at First Lutheran Church.
- ◆ Nate Frein, a new member, expressed a willingness to serve as our Treasurer. The Council moved, seconded and approved the appointment of Nate Frein as our Treasurer. Thank you!
- ◆ A Famous Dave's event will be held on April 7th, the Explorers Game Night is July 3rd, and the Annual Picnic will again be held in August.
- ◆ The youth may participate in a fundraising activity along with the Siouxland Food Bank in preparation for next year's Empty Bowls dinner. This has the potential of being an intergenerational event.
- ◆ Two youth volunteers are needed to serve at the Soup Kitchen on April 25th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.
- ◆ Four members of First Lutheran will be attending a Get Acquainted Meeting with other Siouxland ELCA congregations on Saturday morning, March 30th. Those attending are Jim Lippke, Alison Hertenstein, Enola Peters and Pastor Kristine.
- ◆ A discussion at the Council meeting and communication among the Council members the day after the Council meeting resulted in the decision to have two services on Easter Sunday.

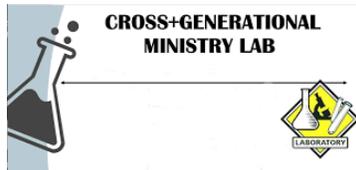


CROSS+GENERATIONAL MINISTRY

Building Relationships between all Ages and Across all Generations

Pastor Kristine and I recently had the opportunity to attend a workshop titled *Cross+Generational Ministry Lab* at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Sioux City. There were approximately seventy people (from age 5—87!) in attendance from Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska. This workshop was sponsored by the Western Iowa Synod, and Nebraska Synod, *Faith Incubators, The Generosity Project—ELCA, GenOn Ministries, and Thrivent*. Also in attendance were representatives from Lutheran Lakeside Camp and folks involved with the LOGOS program from St. Paul Lutheran in Holstein. Not only did we learn from the various speakers, we also had the opportunity to actually participate in an intergenerational activity including working in small groups and experiencing a LOGOS style meal. Speaker *Emily Dalen* from Omaha presented on how her congregation has taken steps over the years to change the church culture in her congregation to becoming Cross+Generational.

Here at First Lutheran, we are working hard towards becoming *intentionally intergenerational* through our intergenerational events and programs. We have developed a mentoring program for our confirmation students, we include all ages in worship and we have sponsored several intergeneration events this past year. As we continue to foster intergenerational relationships and engage all generations to learn together, we are looking forward to continuing to build on the foundation we have established thus far.



UPCOMING DATES:



APRIL 2019

- Sunday, April 14: Palm Sunday-Youth sing in worship
- Thursday, April 18: Maundy Thursday
- Friday, April 19: Good Friday
- Sunday, April 21: Easter—No Sunday School
- Wednesday, April 24: Confirmation Together (required Grades 6-8) St. John’s

MAY 2019

- Sunday, May 5: Senior Recognition
- Wednesday, May 15: Confirmation Student/Mentors—Visit to Funeral Home
- Sunday, May 19: Last Day of Sunday School/Year End Program/Ice Cream Party/Kids sing in Worship
- Wednesday, May 22: Last night Confirmation/Party (Grades 6-8)

Looking ahead to May...

We will recognize our three graduating high school youth on Sunday, May 5. Those students are:



- Matthew Hagan**
- Nick Opsahl**
- Cole Reinhardt**



April 2019



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| | 1 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 6:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Co-Dep. in FR | 2 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH 6:30 Exec FR | 3 9-12 Food Pantry 12:00 Lenten Noon Worship in FR 1:00 WELCA in ? 6:00 Youth & Conf. in YR 7:00 Lenten Worship | 4 10:00 Book Study in FR 4:00 WW in FH 4:00 Mission in FR 6:30 Worship & Music in FR 7:00 Boy Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep. In SS | 5 9:00 Quilters in FH 7:00 AA in FH | 6 |
| 7 <i>Lent 5</i> 8:50 Choir 9:00 CE 10:Worship 11:15 Adult Forum "What's so holy about Holy Week?" | 8 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 6:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Co-Dep. in FR | 9 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH 6:00 House & Grounds 6:30 Council in FR | 10 9-12 Food Pantry 12:00 Lenten Noon Worship in FR 6:00 Youth & Conf. in YR 7:00 Lenten Worship | 11 10:00 Book Study in FR 4:00 WW in FH 7:00 Boy Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep. in FR | 12 9:00 Quilters in FH 7:00 AA in FH | 13 10:00 - 4:00 Boy Scouts in FH |
| 14 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8:50 Choir 9:00 CE 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee | 15 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 6:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Co-Dep. in FR 6:30 Mary Circle | 16 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH | 17 9-12 Food Pantry 12:00 Staff Mtg. in FR | 18 <i>Mundy Thursday</i> 10:00 Book Study in FR 12:30 Rachel Circle 4:00 WW in FH 7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 Boy Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep. in FR | 19 <i>Good Friday</i> 9:00 Quilters in FH 7:00 Good Friday Worship 7:00 AA in FH | 20 |
| 21 <i>Easter</i> 7:30 Early Worship 8:30 Easter Breakfast 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee <i>Happy Easter</i> | 22 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> Contact Deadline 6:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Co-Dep. in FR | 23 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH | 24 9-12 Food Pantry 12:00 Staff Mtg. in FR 1:00 Lydia Circle 5:30 Confirmation Together at St. John's | 25 10:00 Book Study in FR 4:00 WW in FH 5:00 - 7:00 Soup Kitchen 7:00 Boy Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep. in FR | 26 9:00 Quilters in FH 5:30 - Rehearsal 7:00 AA in FH | 27 4:00 Vaudt/Sudbeck Wedding |
| 28 8:50 Choir 9:00 CE 10:00 Worship 11:00 | 29 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 6:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Co-Dep in FR | 30 10:30 Pastor's Text Study | | | | Key FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room YR = Youth Room CR = Choir Room SS = Sunday School Room |

ASSISTING ON SUNDAY MORNING

| | April 7 | April 14 | April 21 | April 28 | May 5 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Acolytes | Jami Denne Jacob Simons | | | Brady Wavrunek | Elliot Walz |
| Coffee Hosts | Nadine Holst | Dorothy Chauncey Karen Tagatz | Easter Breakfast | David and Janet Gross | Faith Formation Senior Recognition |
| Communion Assistants | Linda Nielsen Catherine Lippke | | TBD - Please see page 2 regarding gifts needed. | Donna Samuelson Lori McClaren | Matthew Hagan Nick Opsahl |
| Greeters | LaVonne Lundgren Karen Hollstein | Bruce Miller Onee Iverson | | Lee and Linda Bobier Mavis Schubert | Julie and Brian Thiele |
| Layreader | August Schenzel | | | | |
| Radio | The Schenzel Family | Craig and Sandie LaMaster | | Gary and Jeanne Johnson | Anonymous |
| Sacristan | David Gross | Julie Thiele | David G. - 7:30 Kaia D. - 10:00 | Chris Taylor | Kaia Downing |

Ushers Gary Hopp - Captain, Emma Gross, Brian Thiele, Marlus Mammen

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

| April 3 | April 10 | April 17 | April 24 | May 1 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ann Doellinger Dorothy Goetsch | Orville and Roberta Thiele | Chris Taylor Dorothy Chauncey | LaVonne Lundgren Karen Tagatz | Orville and Roberta Thiele |



First Lutheran Church
3939 Cheyenne Blvd.
Sioux City, IA 51104
Return Service Requested

COMMUNICATION MEETING
March 24, 2019

A Communication Meeting was held in the sanctuary of First Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 24, 2019 immediately following Worship. The meeting was called to order by President Jim Lippke.

Jim reminded those in attendance that a revision of our Constitution was presented at the Annual meeting in February as well as by mail. Our last revision of the Constitution was done in 2003. A committee of Brian Thiele, Jen Snyder and Pastor Kristine had reviewed the 2003 Constitution and presented changes to the Council for input. The Council reviewed the updates to the 2003 Constitution and presented the newly revised Constitution to the Congregation and to the Synod. Within the last week, Dan Moore also responded with changes in punctuation and numbering. The numbering system had left gaps in the numbering to allow for insertions as time goes on. Jim responded to a question asking what the major changes were to the revision to the newly proposed Constitution in comparison to the 2003 document. He explained that a number of changes were made regarding the makeup of the Council to keep current with the changing times. In the 2003 document, it called for a Council of twelve persons in addition to the Pastor. Motion Ben Hertenstein, Second by Doug Webb to approve the newly revised Constitution as distributed with Dan Moore's suggestions in numbering and punctuation. Motion carried unanimously.

The Council held a retreat in February 2019 to work on the Priorities for 2019 which fall into three categories: Mission, Vision and Operations. Jim also announced that our Congregation will be

meeting with the other ELCA churches in the Sioux City community to discuss joining together to share resources. There are currently three congregations who either have or will soon be losing their pastor.

Information items shared included:

- ◇ The Children's School will be closing at the end of May.
- ◇ The rekeying of the church will take place soon. The project has been lessened in expense from an originally estimated cost of \$3000 to approximately \$300. Keypads are not going to be used. Instead, traditional keys will be closely monitored.
- ◇ Two applicants have been received for the Director of Music Ministry. No interest in the position exists at this time.
- ◇ The monthly record of giving will be in the bulletin. The numbers that will be reflected in those reports will include the amount received in offering as compared to the amount needed to meet the budget.
- ◇ The daughter of Carla Flores has been working on a website for First Lutheran Church as part of her studies at Morningside College. Mark Walz has offered his assistance in maintaining the website. Ben Hertenstein has offered to keep our Facebook page up to date.

At this point, Jim asked those present if anyone had further questions. Seeing no questions, a motion to adjourn was made by Doug Webb and seconded by Julie Thiele. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Enola G. Peters, Council Secretary