



# Moment of Contact

First Lutheran Church  
3939 Cheyenne Blvd.  
Sioux City, IA 51104  
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October 2019 Contact

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## Pastor's Message

### TRUST GOD'S ABUNDANCE

The prophet Malachi is probably not the kind of prophet you would invite to your next dinner party. Perhaps he would not even be someone you would consider a friend, or for that matter even an acquaintance, but Malachi does have a way with words!

Malachi lived after the rebuilding of the Jerusalem temple around 515 BCE. He is primarily concerned with the ritual practices of the Jewish people. As a prophet Malachi takes issue with the way some people are worshiping the God of Israel. Malachi's primary concern is that those who love God ought to treat God with respect, including remaining confident in God even when things appear bleak.

Malachi invites us to do the same. Malachi invites us to trust in God's abundance going so far as to say, let's put the LORD to the test. Let's ask God what God would do if we were to put all of our trust in what we have into God's hands. In chapter three, verse ten, Malachi speaks on behalf of God with total confidence, "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of

heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."

If we believe this passage, that God will provide an abundance when we bring the full tithe, are we ready to receive all that God is willing to provide? Because if we trust this passage, God is going to act. God is going to open the windows of heaven. God is going to rain down blessing upon blessing to you, to this congregation and the ministry we believe we are called to do.

Malachi believes the faithful will be rewarded. So do I! I believe God will act powerfully when we give back to God what belongs to God. That is .... all that we have, all that we are. Like Malachi exhorting the people of his time to rest assured that their faith in God is not misplaced, so we have the assurance God will be faithful and will provide all we need and more. The "more" is what we give back in thanks for what we have received.

Our stewardship campaign for 2020 invites us to **trust God's Abundance**. Can we, with Malachi, give generously what God has provided for us, our time, our treasures, our talents. As God is faithful to us, God also expects the people to be faithful as well.

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## THANK YOU

### God's Work. Our Hands.

Thank you to all who stayed following worship on Sunday, September 15 to help clean, mow, paint, write notes, organize and dust the nooks and crannies of the church building! Your efforts are much appreciated and we are thankful for your willingness to use your time and talent to beautify our church property.

As the saying goes, "many hands make light work" and that certainly was the case. Thank you to all who used their "hands" to do God's work!

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We have the opportunity to give and to receive. When the stewardship mailing comes to your home, please take the time to read through the information, see what First Lutheran has accomplished this past year, how we have served others, how we have worshiped, served and thanked God for the abundance already received. Then I trust you will carefully, prayerfully consider giving a "full tith." God is faithful. God provides. Trust in God's abundance.

*Pastor Kristine*

**SEASONAL WORSHIP**

As we head into the autumn season, the gospel of Luke is filled with parables and memorable characters. The shepherd looks for the sheep and the woman her lost coin. The dishonest steward cuts deals. The rich man pleads with Father Abraham to send Lazarus to his brothers. The widow bargains with the unjust judge. The Pharisee congratulates himself for not being like the tax collector. Week after week we will learn the cost of discipleship and the dangers of wealth.

As we worship together we will emphasize the joy that follows when those who were lost, especially those lost in their wealth, are found.

Join us in worship for the stories of Jesus where we offer our thanks and praise to the God who seeks out and saves all who are lost, not because of who we are, but because of who God is.

**Quilt Blessing**

**Sunday, October 6**

Our First Lutheran quilters gather most Friday mornings throughout the year to prepare, cut, sew, tie and create beautiful, colorful quilts. These quilts are lovingly made for those in need locally and globally. On **Sunday, October 6**, during worship we will bless the quilts made this year (at press time approximately 60), and pray that those who receive them will be reminded of the warmth, protection and loving embrace of the God who loves them.

## Stewardship Emphasis: Sept 29 – October 20

For many of us, we learned from the time we first attended Sunday School that the God who loves us, generously, abundantly provides. For four consecutive Sundays the congregation will focus on the theme **Trusting God's Abundance**. This is not a conversation about paying the bills, although that is important and necessary, but about our relationship with God and our relationship to money, wealth and our possessions.

Stewardship is a way of life. We steward what we have. We give out of what we have been given. Stewardship is a way of life because it is about being generous with all God has entrusted to our care...both inside and outside the church, within our homes, among our families and friends, our abilities, gifts and talents. Stewardship is about our whole selves, not just about money.

**Trust God's Abundance** is the theme the congregation council has chosen to focus on during our Stewardship Campaign for 2020. You are invited to attend a meeting with the council to discuss the book "**Ask, Thank, Tell**" by Charles Lane. The congregation council has been reading this book and using it for council devotions throughout the year. Now, members of the council will share highlights of the book which they have found to be helpful in thinking about how we steward our money, our time and our talent. Plan to join council members for a discussion on trusting God's abundance.

### Join council members for "Ask, Thank, Tell" Discussions

**Sunday, October 6 at 11:15 am**, Fireside Room

**Sunday, October 13 at 9:00 am**, Fireside Room

Each discussion will be different, so come and gather with others for this informative conversation. The book "Ask, Thank, Tell" will be available for purchase.



### TRUST GOD'S ABUNDANCE

Chris Taylor serves on Council as the Worship and Music Committee chair.

*We give thee but thine own,  
What-e'er the gift may be.  
All that we have is thine alone  
A trust, O Lord, from thee.*

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship – hymn 686*

As a life-long Lutheran, I have sung this hymn numerous times, sometimes when the offering was being brought forward, always when it was stewardship season. I think that over the years, I allowed myself to sing the song without fully appreciating the message there-in. I have, however, had the opportunity to gain better insight into this great hymn, written by William W. How (1823-1897), while reading *Ask, Thank, Tell: Improving Stewardship Ministry in Your Congregation* by Charles R. Lane, a book being read and discussed by First Lutheran council members over the past few months.

Lane writes about what stewardship should look like

within a congregation, reminding us that *everything* we have belongs to God--talents, time, and treasure. We sometimes call these things *gifts* from God, but, Lane reminds us that the term *gift* implies ownership and that the recipient is free to do with them as he or she pleases. "That is not the way it is with God and us," he writes. "God continues to own everything." We are his stewards.

Lane explains that the word *steward* probably comes from two old English words that named the person who cared for the pigs of another. This person was called the *styworden*. The origin of this word points out two important things: the *styworden* didn't own the pigs and the *styworden* cared for the pigs.

This leads me back to the hymn lyrics at the beginning of this writing. All that we have belongs to God alone, and one day it must all be returned. What will we stewards at First Lutheran do with all that God has entrusted to us?

Watch for upcoming opportunities to discuss Lane's book and how we at First can be good stewards for God.

Chris Taylor

### Upcoming Life Passages

On **Saturday, October 19**, the wedding of Elizabeth Lippke and Brian Ganzel will held at First Lutheran. We pray God's richest blessing for Elizabeth and Brian as they begin their married life together.



### FLC Finance Update

Needed weekly per budget \$4,903.85 / for the month of September \$24,519.25. Income for September as of 9-25 \$21,238.05

### First Lutheran Church Council Report, September 17, 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, September 17, 2019**. The highlights of the meeting were as follows:

- The Council continues to review the book Ask, Thank and Tell in preparation for the upcoming Stewardship Campaign.
- Our financial reports reflect the numerous improvements and changes in the church, as well as the multiple repairs that have been completed in the last year. The congregation members are reminded to review their third quarter financial reports when they arrive in the mail soon to see if they are meeting the pledges that they had made. Our account balance continues to be favorable. Many repairs have been able to be made this year after the last few years of delays and we thank the congregation for their support so that these projects can be completed.
- Pastor Kristine shared a thoughtful, appreciative thank you that was sent to our congregation from Bishop Lorna Halaas for the installation that was held at our church in August. Our planning, work and organization was greatly appreciated by Bishop Lorna.
- We have received one response of interest in the Director of Music Ministry opening which was reposted in a publication for Lutheran Church Musicians.
- In preparation for the next Annual Meeting in February, a Nominating Committee will be formed to help recruit volunteers for the open Council positions. Pastor Kristine will lead and convene this committee.
- Work is starting on the Stewardship Campaign. All members of the Council will be expected to participate in a successful campaign which will conclude with a Stewardship Meal on November 24th. Watch your mail for information!
- Refurbishing of the grounds and facility continue. Painting continues in the Community Room and the rekeying has been completed. The Council thanks Stan Navrude for his generous donation toward the rekeying project.
- Watch for announcements regarding the Crop Walk of October 20th!
- The Boy Scouts may be using more of our downstairs space for their meetings. Council decided to allow them to use the additional space until November 1st as a trial period, and then it will be reevaluated.
- Parents of children in 6th through 12th grades have been sent personal notes regarding participating in our Youth activities which include the Youth Gathering.



## Notes from Cindy, Our Faith Formation Director



### TRUNK OR TREAT RETURNS!

We are bringing back an old favorite here at First Lutheran—Trunk or Treat! It’s been a few years since we have held this event at First. Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 27 from 5:00—6:30 p.m. We will have a meal and then gather in the parking lot for “trunk or treating” and a Halloween parade. Parents—you need to be present at this event so you can pass out candy from your trunk. You are welcome to decorate your trunk if you wish.

Parents will be asked to park in a circle in the south parking lot so the kids can go from car to car. Costumes must be “church appropriate” - no scary costumes, no weapons, no gore/blood. Bring a friend. We will also be inviting youth from other ELCA congregations to participate with us.

### Faith Formation Schedule

#### OCTOBER 2019

Wednesday, October 2:	6:30-7:45pm:	Confirmation LLC
Wednesday, October 9:	6:30-7:45 pm:	Confirmation LLC
Sunday, October 13:	Youth in Grades 1-6	sing in worship
Wednesday, October 16:	6:30-7:45 pm	Confirmation LLC
Wednesday, October 23:	Last Night LLC –	Grades 1-6 only
Thursday, October 24:	6:00-8:00 pm:	Confirmation Dinner (9 <sup>th</sup> grade families and mentors)
Sunday, October 27:	9:00 am:	Affirmation of Baptism
	11:00 am:	Reception
	5:00 – 6:30pm:	Trunk or Treat (WT event)*
Wednesday, October 30:	6:30-7:45 pm:	Confirmation



\*Working Together Event



### ANNUAL CROP HUNGER WALK

Information and donation envelopes are in the Narthex on a table. We’ll meet at Grace United Methodist Church on **October 20 at 1:00 p.m.** to begin our walk. FLC’s goal is \$1500, so come out and join in to help end hunger one step at a time!



# October 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 9:00 First Blooms 10:30 Pastor's Text Study  5:00 Rising Stars in Gym	<b>2</b> 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. 1:00 WELCA in FR  6:30 Confirmation in Comm. Rm 6:30 LLC in FH	<b>3</b> 10:00 Book Study in FR  7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.	<b>4</b> 9:00 Quilters in FH  7:00 AA in FH	<b>5</b> 10:00 - 12:00 Youth Working on Cans/ Bottles
	<b>6</b> 9:00 CE 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship in FR 11:15 Ask, Thank, Tell Discussion in FR Cindy Gone	<b>7</b> Pastor's Day Off  5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Boy/Cub Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.	<b>8</b> 10:30 Pastor's Text Study 5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH 6:00 House & Grounds 6:30 Exec in FR	<b>9</b> 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. in FR  6:30 Confirmation in Comm. Rm 7:45 Youth in YR 6:30 LLC in FH	<b>10</b> 10:00 Book Study in FR  7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.	<b>11</b> 9:00 Quilters in FH  7:00 AA in FH
<b>13</b> 8:50 Adult Choir 9:00 Ask, Thank, Tell Discussion in FR 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship in FR 11:15 Faith Formation Mtg. in FH	<b>14</b> Pastor's Day Off  5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Boy/Cub Scouts in FH 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.	<b>15</b> 10:30 Pastor's Text Study  5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH 6:30 Council in FR	<b>16</b> 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. in FR  6:30 Confirmation in Comm. Rm 6:30 LLC in FH	<b>17</b> 10:00 Book Study in FR 12:30 Rachel Circle  7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.	<b>18</b> 9:00 Quilters in FH  5:30 Ganzel-Lippke Rehearsal 7:00 AA in FH	<b>19</b> 2:00 - 6:00 Ganzel-Lippke Wedding
<b>20</b> 8:50 Adult Choir 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Fellowship in FR 1:00 Crop Walk - Meet at Grace United Methodist  Cindy Gone	<b>21</b> 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.	<b>22</b> 10:30 Pastor's Text Study at FLC  5:00 Rising Stars in Gym 6:00 Girl Scouts in FH	<b>23</b> 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. in FR 1:00 Lydia Circle 6:30 Confirmation in Comm. Rm 7:45 Youth in YR 6:30 LLC in FH	<b>24</b> <b>Contact Deadline</b> 10:00 Book Study in FR  5:00 - 7:00 Soup Kitchen 6:00 Confirmation Dinner in FH 7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.	<b>25</b> 9:00 Quilters in FH  7:00 AA in FH	<b>26</b> 11:00 - 7:00 Miriam Enockson Bday Celebration in FH
<b>27</b> 8:50 Adult Choir 9:00 CE 10:00 Worship/Affirmation of Baptism 11:00 Coffee Fellowship in FR  5:00 - 6:30 Trunk or Treat	<b>28</b> Pastor's Day Off  5:00 Rising Stars in Gym  7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.	<b>29</b> 10:30 Pastor's Text Study  5:00 Rising Stars in Gym	<b>30</b> 9-11:30 Food Pantry 11:00 Adult Bible Study in FR 12:45 Staff Mtg. in FR  6:30 Confirmation in Comm. Rm 6:30 Youth in YR	<b>31</b> 10:00 Book Study in FR    7:00 Co-Dep in Comm. Rm.		<b>Key</b> FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room YR = Youth Room CR = Choir Room SS = Sunday School Room Comm. Rm = Community Room

# ASSISTING ON SUNDAY MORNING

	October 6	October 13	October 20	October 27	November 3
<b>Acolytes</b>	Elliot Walz	Brady Wavrunek	Michael Toben	Confirmands	Ian Hertenstein
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	Nadine Holst Cheryl Joslin	Mary McCoy	Katherine Henshaw Pastor Kristine	Faith Formation Team	David and Janet Gross
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Marlus Mammen Angie Reinhardt	Jenny and Jami Denne	Chris Taylor Jason Denne	David and Janet Gross Dan Moore (AM)	Jim Lippke Linda Nielsen
<b>Greeters</b>	Lee Knop LaVonne Lundgren	Onee Iverson Ann Doellinger	Carole Heider Marlus Mammen	Confirmands	Bruce Miller Karen Hollstein
<b>Layreader</b>	Mike Mahaney	Enola Peters	Bruce Miller	Cindy Lippke	Chris Taylor
<b>Radio</b>	Craig and Sandie LaMaster	Mike and Tammy Mahaney	Gary and Candy Johnson	Dawn Woodford	Brian and Julie Thiele
<b>Sacristan</b>	David Gross	Julie Thiele	Kaia Downing	Chris Taylor	David Gross

**Ushers** Jay Schenzel - Captain, Larry LeClair, Joe Peters, August Schenzel

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

October 2	October 9	October 16	October 23	October 30
Ann Doellinger Dorothy Goetsch	Orville and Roberta Thiele	Dorothy Chauncey Katherine Henshaw	LaVonne Lundgren Karen Tagatz	Orville and Roberta Thiele



**First Lutheran Church**  
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**Return Service Requested**

**Simply Giving**

If you've found yourself out of town this fall on Sundays 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**



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