



Moment of Contact

First Lutheran Church
3939 Cheyenne Blvd.
Sioux City, IA 51104
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January 2021 Contact

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December 29, 2020

Pastor's Message

As we begin a new year some will make new year's resolutions. Any resolution I have ever made quickly disappeared early in the month of January! So rather than a resolution, perhaps this new year we could focus what is our purpose as the people of God at First Lutheran.

Looking back at 2020, we did so many things we would never have dreamed of doing before the pandemic. Would you have imagined yourself on Sunday mornings settling in front of a screen to participate in worship? Listen by way of radio, maybe, once in a while, but now you are a faithful Sunday morning armchair worshipper! Would you have appreciated how much you would miss fellowship in Fireside, catching up with friends, deciding where to go for lunch? Would you have learned zoom, or cleaned a closet, discovered an old friend, apologized or let go of a grudge if it had not been for the time spent at home, sheltered in place?

As we await a vaccine, new government leadership, winter chill followed by spring rain, what will be our purpose? What are the possibilities that await us in the year 2021? As we continue to shelter we may be limited by our movement, but we don't need to be limited by the possibilities of what we could accomplish!

My hope for this congregation as we move into the future is that we move with purpose. As we worship God in word and deed, as we form faith to keep us steadfast for the future, as we serve and care for our neighbor, our baptismal call remains the same, shedding light in darkness. As our mission statement affirms, we are a Christian community called by God to respond to God's gift of grace as servants to the world.

Let us begin to envision what God might accomplish through us. We have everything we need, our spiritual gifts, our financial resources, our insight and common purpose, to accomplish God's vision for this faith community in the new year. As we explore what ways can we embody Christ to our neighbor, we explore what God has envisioned for us. As we gather this new year may the gift of our vision inspire us to renew our purpose in the coming days.

Pastor Kristine

Communication Meeting, January 17 following worship

Join First Lutheran Congregation Council members as they provide an update on what has been happening at First and plans for the future of the congregation. Following worship on **Sunday, January 17**, we will broadcast a Facebook livestream and Zoom Conference Call. Information for attending our upcoming Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 7th, will be discussed. We hope you will plan to join us for this informative meeting.

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Thank You

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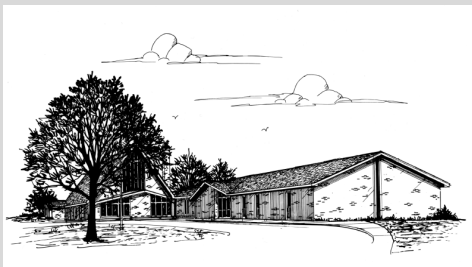
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Worship in the Time of Pandemic

After thoughtful consideration the congregation council at its December meeting discussed the continuation of suspending in-person worship and programming activities until further notice. Their hope is to resume in-person worship in mid-January, after the potential Christmas holiday "spike" in positive covid testing might occur. Facebook Livestream and radio broadcast for 45 minutes each Sunday will continue. Stay tuned for more information as the council re-evaluates its "until further notice" decision.

Worship and Music

Our thanks to the many volunteers who contributed to making the Christmas season bright at First. Those who decorated trees and sanctuaries. Those who gathered as a Christmas Eve Choir to rehearse and tape their portions of the Christmas Eve Video in December. As we begin to resume in-person worship in the coming weeks, there are opportunities to serve as a worship leader. If you would like to be a reader, assist with the prayers of intercession, or give voice to a quiet song please contact Pastor Kristine. Your gifts are wanted and needed during this time.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

This weekly offering continues at **11 am every Thursday morning in January at 11 am**. We gather on Zoom to discuss a variety of Psalms. If you are interested in being part of the conversation, please let Pastor Kristine know, she will provide you with the zoom link. Come once or every week. All are welcome!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

This year our annual meeting will look different! Please mark your calendar for **Sunday, February 7**, following worship to attend **First Lutheran's Annual Meeting**. More information about how the annual meeting will be held safely for all who wish to attend will be provided soon. In order to hold the meeting and conduct our business, we need of quorum of 50 people. We have plans in the works to gather for the meeting in multiple ways! We will be able to vote by way of "text," utilize "chat" for your questions, and more! In the meantime, plan on attending the annual meeting as we gather on the first Sunday in February.

Life Passages

Whether we live or whether we die, we are the LORD's

Frank Seitzinger, November 25, 2020



FLC Finance Update

Needed weekly per budget \$5,442.31 / for the month of December \$21,769.24. As of 12/21 income is \$17,007.00.



First Lutheran Church Council Report, December 15, 2020

President:	Alison Hertenstein	Vice President:	Lori McClaren
Secretary:	Enola Peters	Treasurer:	Jen Snyder
Worship & Music:	Chris Taylor	Faith Formation:	Julie Thiele
Youth:	Jenny Denne	Mission:	Candy Johnson
Operations:	Lee Knop	Pastor Kristine	

The Council of First Lutheran Church met **Tuesday, December 15, 2020**. The highlights of the meeting were as follows:

- ♦ Our finances are looking quite favorable at this time regardless of the pandemic but the members of the Congregation need to be reminded to return their commitment cards so that a budget can be calculated for the upcoming year. Reminders of the need to return those cards will be sent out next week by the office.
- ♦ Numerous groups are requesting the use of the building again but the Council said that all groups must complete their own cleaning and sanitizing (including the restrooms) following the use of the building and the limitations of the Governor must be followed.
- ♦ The preparation of the Christmas video is going well and will be ready for viewing by noon on December 24th. The Radio Broadcasts will occur at both 5:00 and 11:00 PM on Christmas Eve.
- ♦ Both Pastor Kristine and Carla Flores will be taking some well deserved time off during the holidays.
- ♦ Treat bags which will include service information will be distributed to the clients of the Food Pantry.
- ♦ Plans are being made for the Annual Meeting of February 7th, 2021.
- ♦ Donations continue to arrive for the Pack the Pantry efforts. The Caring Callers are also placing phone calls to some of our shut in members.
- ♦ The Faith Formation distributed Advent Kits to the families of the children of First Lutheran and they have been very well received.


Merry Christmas to all members and friends of First Lutheran Church!





January 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Key FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room YR = Youth Room SS = Sunday School Room CR = Comm. Rm					1 Office Closed 	2
3 10:00 Worship -FB Live/Radio	4 Pastor's Day Off 5:00 - 6:30 Rising Stars in Gym 7:00 Scouts in FH	5 5:00 - 6:30 Rising Stars in Gym	6 Epiphany 9-11:30 Food Pantry 6:00 Faith Formation Mtg. via Zoom TBD - Confirmation via Zoom	7 11:00 Bible Study via Zoom 6:30 Worship & Music Mtg. in FR	8	9
10 10:00 Worship -FB Live/Radio	11 Pastor's Day Off 5:00 - 6:30 Rising Stars in Gym 7:00 Scouts in FH	12 5:00 First Responder Support Mtg. in CR 5:00 - 6:30 Rising Stars in Gym 6:30 Exec in FR	13 9-11:30 Food Pantry TBD - Confirmation via Zoom	14 11:00 Bible Study via Zoom	15	16
17 10:00 Worship/FB Live/Radio	18 Pastor's Day Off 5:00 - 6:30 Rising Stars in Gym 7:00 Scouts in FH	19 5:00 - 6:30 Rising Stars in Gym 6:30 Council Mtg. in FH	20 9-11:30 Food Pantry TBD - Confirmation via Zoom	21 11:00 Bible Study via Zoom	22	23
24 10:00 Worship/FB Live/Radio	25 Pastor's Day Off 5:00 - 6:30 Rising Stars in Gym 7:00 Scouts in FH	26 5:00 - 6:30 Rising Stars in Gym	28 9-11:30 Food Pantry TBD - Confirmation via Zoom	29 11:00 Bible Study via Zoom	30	31

DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The deadline for submitting your report for the annual meeting year report is **Friday, January 15th**. Send your copy ready paragraph to Carla (firstlutheransecretary3939@gmail.com). We understand that this year's reports will look different, perhaps shorter in length, but we do want to capture what the year 2020 looked like and how much we really accomplished during the year of the pandemic.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONFIRMATION

Parents of confirmands will receive information by email as we resume **Confirmation** for grades 6 through 9. Dan Moore and Pastor Kristine will gather with the confirmands for conversation, study and discussion about Jesus. It's a big topic and we have lots to learn. See you on Wednesday nights!

FAITH FORMATION

With the suspension of in-person worship, Sunday School was suspended in November and December as well. As we begin the new year, we will be in contact with parents of grade school aged children with more information on what we are planning to help you form faith in your child.



2021 giving envelopes are ready for you to pick up and there are new numbers for most.

2021 dates **available** to sponsor a radio broadcast. Please call the church office to reserve between 9 – 1 pm Monday through Friday.



Holy Family Food Pantry

Thank you for "Packing the Pantry" this Christmas season. Your gifts, monetary to purchase more food and food items dropped off, for the community who come each Wednesday morning are appreciated. During the month of January the food pantry would like to be able to give away jelly. Can you help? When you pick up your own groceries consider purchasing and dropping off a jar of jelly for someone to enjoy. Those who hunger will appreciate your gift.

thank you

HELPING IN THE HOLY FAMILY FOOD PANTRY

January 5, 12, 19, 26

Cassandra & Catrina Tounjian preparing bags for Wednesday distribution.

January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27	February 3
Mary McCoy LaVonne Lundgren August Schenzel	Ann Doellinger Chris Taylor August Schenzel	Orville and Diane Kenowith August Schenzel	Katherine Henshaw Dorothy Chauncey August Schenzel	LaVonne Lundgren Dorothy Goettsch August Schenzel



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Return Service Requested

