

# **FIRST LUTHERAN**

## **THE AMBASSADOR**

Volume 21 Issue 11

November 2021

### **NEWS FROM OUR PASTOR**

“Blessed to be a Blessing” will be the theme of our Winter Financial In-Gathering for 2022. The focus of this appeal will be our Life Center, and we are looking to raise an extra \$390,000 during 2022 to pay off its debt in January 2023. Our hope is that we can all move First Lutheran Church to the top of our giving lists for 2022 to complete this obligation.

Every year our congregation shares its blessings with over 40 different ministries and organizations that provide essential services and help to people in Blair, Washington County, Nebraska, the United States, and all across the world. The blessings we receive from God are given to bless others in the work of God’s mission they do. We desire to continue to be a blessing to others as well as fund the Life Center appeal.

We understand that such a wish asks us to make a commitment over and above our regular donations and offerings to First Lutheran; however, we believe this last, one-time, 14-month appeal can accomplish our goal of a debt-free congregation. “Blessed to be a Blessing” begins December 15, 2021 through January 15, 2022. Videos throughout the year will highlight First Lutheran’s ministry partners, and how we can continue to share our blessings with others. Please keep our congregation in your prayers as we seek to complete this important project.

#### **Blessed to be a Blessing**

- Final Life Center appeal to become debt-free
- Maintain our current level of financial support to First Lutheran ministries
  - Continue to be a blessing to others

We will share more information in the coming weeks. Blessings always.

--Pastor Scott



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**FLC** strongly recommends  
that the following people wear  
masks while in the building:



unvaccinated,  
children under 12  
and immunocompromised.

We believe  
this is the  
safest way  
to keep  
people  
healthy as  
they  
participate in  
the ministries  
of the  
congregation.



*The Christian Growth Board would like to remind members of FLC to consider including the Christian Growth Fund in your estate planning.*



**WE REMEMBER IN  
OUR PRAYERS**-Please keep these  
people in your  
thoughts and prayers

✠Family of Dick Vercruysse  
✠Family of Kenneth Wilson (father of Melody Dubon)  
✠Family of Curt Pederson (Jill Graber's brother)  
✠Family of Don Andersen  
✠Family of Darvid Quist  
✠Family of Patricia Hunsche  
✠Family of John Tess  
✠Lorraine Hansen - healing  
✠Heather - healing  
✠Dale Mruz - healing  
✠Melissa Templar - healing  
✠Clark Jenson - prayers and healing  
✠Martin Kuhr - prayers and healing  
✠Nicole Schmidt - prayers and healing  
✠Riley  
✠Wayne (father of Deb Henson) - prayers for healing  
✠Pat Bentsen - prayers for healing  
✠Jeff Gunderson - healing  
✠Georgia (great niece of Debbie Katt) -prayers & healing  
✠Barb  
✠Rod  
✠Kyler Reed - healing  
✠Arland Gross (father of Jerry Gross) - prayers & healing  
✠Justin Roberts-healing  
✠Malachi Chrans-surgery & healing  
✠Gary Ford-prayers & healing  
✠Clyde Johnson - healing & prayers  
✠Scott & Katie Abrams - prayers & healing  
✠Kay Melby (Angela Ulven and Kari Hernandez's mother) - healing  
✠Mr. S. Akot - healing  
✠Patrick McKinnis - continued healing  
✠Stacy Thompson Green (daughter of Marcy Botorff) - prayers & healing  
✠Lisa Garcia - strength & healing  
✠Larry Kastrup - healing  
✠Leo Aguilar-Hicks - healing for Leukemia  
✠Lekura Parish  
✠ELCA World Hunger, Women's Thankoffering, and all those we name in our hearts.



**NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS****MWM****MID WEEK MEAL****Pickup or Delivery**

We are serving our meal in the east parking lot  
2146 Wright St.

**Wednesdays 5:30-6:30pm**

**For Planning**

Text # of meals to 402-533-0918

NOT REQUIRED

**For Delivery**

Text name & address & # of meals

402-533-0918

**Volunteers STILL Needed!!****Cooks**

You join a group of folks to cook the meal on  
Wednesdays 1pm-3:30pm

**Servers**

You join a group of folks to serve the meal into to-go  
containers on Wednesday 4:30-6:30pm

**Delivery Drivers**

You deliver meals to about 6 locations Wednesdays 5:30-  
6:30pm

Please contact Erika if you can volunteer!!  
All times are flexible—weekly, biweekly,  
monthly, whenever it fits into your schedule!

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS

# FLC Children's Service Projects!



Care packages for Lutheran Volunteer Corps  
Kindness Rocks to spread thru Blair  
Fall greeting cards for area nursing homes  
God's Global Barnyard Collection Boxes



## Holiday Greenery

FLC Youth are selling evergreen wreaths, swags, & more!!

**OCTOBER 27th – NOVEMBER 19th**  
**Pickup begins November 24th after 12pm**  
(items located inside Fellowship Hall east doors)

All funds raised will support:

- FLC Youth Fund
- 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering Fund

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS



## 30-Day Bible Scripture CHALLENGE

<b>Day 1</b> <b>Colossians 4:2</b> "Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving."	<b>Day 2</b> <b>2 Corinthians 9:15</b> "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"	<b>Day 3</b> <b>1 Thessalonians 5:18</b> "...in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."	<b>Day 4</b> <b>1 Chronicles 16:34</b> "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."	<b>Day 5</b> <b>1 Corinthians 15:57</b> "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."	<b>Day 6</b> <b>Psalms 106:1</b> "Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."
<b>Day 7</b> <b>Colossians 3:15</b> "In You, O Lord, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed. Deliver me in Your righteousness."	<b>Day 8</b> <b>Psalms 100:4</b> "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."	<b>Day 9</b> <b>Psalms 107:21</b> "Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!"	<b>Day 10</b> <b>Colossians 1:12</b> "...giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light."	<b>Day 11</b> <b>Psalms 79:13</b> "So we, Your people and sheep of Your pasture, Will give You thanks forever; We will show forth Your praise to all generations."	<b>Day 12</b> <b>Luke 2:38</b> "And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem."
<b>Day 13</b> <b>Leviticus 22:29</b> "And when you offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord, offer it of your own free will."	<b>Day 14</b> <b>Psalms 30:4</b> "Sing praise to the Lord, you saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name."	<b>Day 15</b> <b>Psalms 35:18</b> "I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people."	<b>Day 16</b> <b>Psalms 69:30</b> "I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving."	<b>Day 17</b> <b>Psalms 26:7</b> "That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Your wondrous works."	<b>Day 18</b> <b>Psalms 95:2</b> "Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms."
<b>Day 19</b> <b>1 Chronicles 16:8</b> "Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!"	<b>Day 20</b> <b>Hebrews 13:15</b> "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name."	<b>Day 21</b> <b>Psalms 140:13</b> "Surely the righteous shall give thanks to Your name; The upright shall dwell in Your presence."	<b>Day 22</b> <b>Mark 14:23</b> "Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it."	<b>Day 23</b> <b>Luke 17:16</b> "...and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan."	<b>Day 24</b> <b>Ephesians 5:20</b> "...giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ..."
<b>Day 25</b> <b>Philippians 4:6</b> "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."	<b>Day 26</b> <b>Matthew 15:36</b> "And He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples, and the disciples gave to the multitude."	<b>Day 27</b> <b>2 Corinthians 2:14</b> "Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place."	<b>Day 28</b> <b>2 Corinthians 4:15</b> "For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God."	<b>Day 29</b> <b>Colossians 2:6-7</b> "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."	<b>Day 30</b> <b>2 Thessalonians 2:13</b> "But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth..."

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS

**Would you provide a Sunday night meal  
for our 9 to 12 Youth Group?**

A batch of chili? Some tater tot casserole? A donation for pizza?  
Please contact Erika if you would help feed our high schoolers  
while they attend Youth Group each Sunday night. Thank you!!

**ELCA Youth Gathering 2022  
Minneapolis, MN  
July 23rd—28th**

Please pray for this group as we prepare  
for our trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in  
July of 2022. We are learning about God's  
boundless love in our monthly meetings,  
and we are anxious to share his boundless  
love with our congregation throughout this  
time of preparation and following our  
amazing experience next summer.

I want you to know all about Christ's love,  
although it is too wonderful to be  
measured. Then your lives will be filled  
with all that God is. Ephesians 3:19 CEV



**FLC CHILDREN PRESENT:  
A CHRISTMAS PROMISE**



**SUNDAY, DEC 19 @ 10:15AM**

**FLU SHOT CLINIC**

GET YOUR FLU SHOT  
PROTECT YOURSELF



**FACE MASKS REQUIRED**

**Blair First Lutheran Church  
11/14/2021**

**7:30AM-11:30AM**

**Quadrivalent flu vaccine 6 months and up  
Will bill all major insurance  
\$30 private pay**

**For more information  
contact, Sara Forsberg  
402-704-2247**





### November Lessons

- Nov 3:** Gratitude at Thanksgiving  
**Nov 10:** Manger Tales—Doug the Donkey  
**Nov 17:** Manger Tales—Clara the Cow  
**Nov 24:** NO CLASS

### Children's Offering in October/November/December

The weekly children's offering is shared with the following:

- **FLC LIFE Night Supplies & Curriculum**
- **Completely Kids**—a non-profit group that works to help kids and families overcome barriers to their success (in Omaha area)



The 2nd group is a rotation of local and global charities chosen by the Children's Ministries Team. Please let us know if you have a charity you would like to highlight!



Thank you, Gracious God, for all our blessings from you. Help us remember to share those blessings with our neighbors, both near and far. Amen.

### Volunteer of the Month!!



**Sara Lierman**  
1st Grade Teacher

**Favorite Bible story:** Jesus Feeds the Crowd

**Favorite food:** Shrimp Tacos

**Favorite part of FLC:** The great youth program for kids

**Favorite Tgiving activity:** Spending time with family & helping my mom prepare Tgiving Dinner

### FLC CHILDREN PRESENT: A CHRISTMAS PROMISE



**SUNDAY, DEC 19 @ 10:15AM**

## FLC YOUTH News!!



2022 ELCA  
YOUTH GATHERING  
**boundless**  
GOD BEYOND MEASURE

### ELCA Youth Gathering Sunday, November 21st @ 7pm Youth Room

This meeting is required.  
We're working on our Gathering  
curriculum. DINNER TOO!!  
This meeting is for participants, only.

## "9ers" is BACK!

Wednesday nights @ 6:45-7:45pm

All freshmen are welcome to come to the Youth  
Room and hang out, do homework, play  
foosball, shoot hoops, play ping pong, have  
snacks, and just enjoy some down time.

## Youth Opps

**9 to 12**

High School Youth Group  
Sundays 6:30pm-8pm

Discussion, dinner, games, & more

**9ers**

Wednesdays 6:45pm-7:45pm

Homework, chat time, & snacks

**678**

Confirmation

Wednesdays 6:45pm-7:45pm

## Return of 9 to 12 Youth Group

Sunday nights @ 6:30-8pm  
November 7th and 14th  
Dinner first!!

**November Plans:**  
**NERF GUN WARS!!**

We'll plan and design on the 7th and shoot on the 14th!



Do justice, love  
kindness, and  
walk humbly with  
your God.  
Micah 6:8



**To Serve As Jesus Served...** *projects and events of the church, the community, and the world reported monthly by the FLC Social Concerns Committee.*

**FLC AMBASSADOR  
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE  
November 2021**

**GOD'S WORK/OUR HANDS—LUTHERAN VOLUNTEER CORPS**—A big **THANK YOU** to all who helped **PACK the PANTRY** with your donations of food, gift cards, and monetary gifts! Your gifts have been delivered to **Lutheran Volunteer Corps**, and were gratefully received and appreciated! Thank you for doing **God's Work** with **Our Hands** (and purses)!

Also, we thank all who walked or contributed to our **VIRTUAL BLAIR CROP HUNGER WALK** on **OCTOBER 10!** Together with our partners from First United Methodist Church, 17 walkers participated, and 25% of the funds raised will benefit our own **Washington County Food Pantry**. The exact totals raised are not yet complete, but we will share that information when we have it. Due to the ongoing crisis of COVID 19 and recurring natural disasters of earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, and fires, raising money for vulnerable people, both locally and around the world, is needed **now more than ever!**

**Our ELCA WORLD HUNGER EMPHASIS** will be on **November 13, 14, and 17**. We are challenged by the fact that **900 million people** around the world face chronic hunger! As members of the ELCA, one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, we are uniquely positioned to reach communities in need, and to help secure long-term sustainable change. In a previous year we helped more than **21 million** children and their families, ensuring that they can access clean water, nutritious food, and health care. Due to the ongoing threat of COVID-19 the need continues to rise. We are empowered by a God of abundance who calls us to strive for a just world where all are fed! From food pantries to health clinics, microloans to water wells, community meals to advocacy, our gifts to **ELCA World Hunger** are at work in the world because of generous people like us! We make a world of difference, and cling to the promise: **"And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work"** (2 Cor. 9:8).



Please use the **ELCA World Hunger envelopes** that you will receive together with bulletin inserts for your special offerings. Checks can be made out to **First Lutheran Church with ELCA World Hunger** on the memo line. If you are not able to be at church at one of the four services mentioned, you may drop off your envelope at the church office any time, or mail it to the church. Our LIFE Night children are busy collecting money in their coin banks also.

Watch for the **CHRISTMAS ALTERNATIVE GIFT EXHIBIT** that will appear at the **November 20<sup>th</sup> FLC Craft Fair** and throughout the **Advent Season**. It could solve your dilemma of what to buy for "the person who has everything" and help others in need—a win-win situation! Added this year will be information about **Global Missions and Global Health Ministries**.

**EQUAL EXCHANGE Fair Traded products—coffee, tea, chocolate, and nuts—**will again be offered at **First Lutheran Church on Saturday, November 20, at the Annual Craft Fair Alternative Gift Exhibit** and following weekends for **Alternative gift shopping!** These items can make great "stocking stuffers."

Stay tuned for information about our Annual **COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER** on **November 25** at **Saint Francis Borgia Catholic Church** and information regarding a possible **OUTERWEAR GATHERING** of winter garments for those in need.

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS

### **No LIFE Night**

There will be No LIFE Night on  
Wednesday, November 24th.

No Worship Lab or LIFE Night  
Classes on that night.  
There will still be the Mid Week Meal.



*We "Fall Back"  
one hour. Turn  
your clocks back  
an hour before  
going to bed on  
Saturday,  
November 6th!*

### **Mark Your Calendars!**

#### **Christmas and New Years Schedule**

Sunday, December 19th      10:15am  
Children's Christmas Program in LIFE Center

Friday, December 24th  
Christmas Eve      4pm, 6pm, & 10pm

Saturday, December 25th  
Christmas Day      10am  
No 6pm service on Christmas Day

Sunday, December 26th      9:30am

Saturday, January 1st      6pm

Sunday, January 2nd      8:15am & 10:15am



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2146 WRIGHT STREET  
BLAIR, NE 68008  
November 2021