

### NEWS FROM OUR PASTOR

Change. Transformation. Transfiguration. Adaptation. Modification. Flux. Revision. Whatever you want to call it we are in it for sure. In all probability, we have always been in it, but as we come out of this pandemic change is obvious. What is the biggest change you have noticed in your life from 2019 until now? What is the biggest change in our world that you have experienced in the last two or three years?

A change I have noticed, especially as it was something I did quite a lot of back before 2020: shaking hands. You may never have been a “hand-shaker,” (“hugging” was an option to for some), but I am (or was), and it was a regular part of my job. Many of you have shaken hands with me over the years after worship, in the narthex, at a meeting, or even if we met at Family Fare. I often led with a handshake. I guess it was how I was taught.

But not anymore. Literally I have learned that shaking hands can be the death of someone. (Again, that was always true, but it took a pandemic for me to realize that outcome.) Nowadays when I offer a hand to shake, I am doing the math in my head on my chances of getting someone sick, and the person responds doing the same math. Some, literally shake their heads and decline the invitation to shake. Of course, when I am so worried about the hand-shaking I neglect the whole reason I said “Hi” to the person in the first place, I have defeated the purpose of saying “Hi.” So, I don’t shake hands much anymore.

That changes the way I greet people, and at the age of 60 the last thing you want to do is re-learn something you learned when you were 5. It probably took a while to learn back then, and it might take a while to learn now, but this is where change has landed us hand-shakers these days. I am comforted by the assurance that God loves me now, even hand-shake free, just as God loved me when I stood at the back of the congregation shaking hands after worship. God’s eternal love, steadfast mercy is my anchor to endure change.

Jesus Christ and his death and resurrection changed the world, opened us to a mercy of God that buries itself deep into our lives. Once our hearts and minds are imprinted with God’s love, the change on the outside is just that: change. It’s weird, it’s sometime uncomfortable, it’s often annoying, but no change can defeat God’s love for us. That’s why we worship God.

---Pastor Scott



## ***Inside this issue:***

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**First Lutheran Church  
Mask Policy.  
Please see message below:**

**At FLC, we strongly  
recommend  
all individuals wear a facial  
mask while inside  
our building.**



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

✚ Family of John Eriksen  
✚ Family of Rhoda Schjodt  
✚ Family of Andrew "Butch" Hansen  
✚ Family of Mary Main  
✚ Family of Warren Hunsche  
✚ Jenae Hays - healing  
✚ Amy Dishman - healing  
✚ Tim Jensen - healing  
✚ Debbie Kempcke - cancer - healing  
✚ Vaughn Christensen  
✚ Kenny Truhlsen  
✚ Dick Shaw  
✚ 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  
✚ Jeff Gunderson - healing  
✚ Georgia (great niece of Debbie Katt) -prayers & healing  
✚ Kyler Reed - healing  
✚ Justin Roberts-healing  
✚ 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 Bottorff) – prayers & healing  
✚ Lisa Garcia – strength & healing  
✚ Larry Kastrup – healing  
✚ Leo Aguilar-Hicks – healing for Leukemia  
✚ Lekura Parish  
✚ Lutheran Disaster Response and all those we name in our hearts.

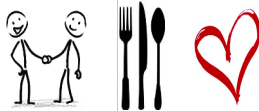
**Baptized at our Font:**  
Crew Appel

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

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS

# MWM

## MID WEEK MEAL



### Pickup or Delivery

We serve 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 4:45-6:30pm

#### Delivery Drivers

You deliver meals to about 6 locations on  
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!

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS



**ATTENTION** High School Seniors and College Students: The Christian Growth Board is accepting scholarship applications for the 2022-2023 school year for post-secondary education. Any member of FLC that is currently a high school senior or college student may apply. Any member of FLC that is currently a high school senior or college student may apply. Applications are available on the church website or by the Welcome Center. If you have any questions please call the church office at (402) 426-4073.

**The deadline to submit an application is**  
**April 15, 2022.**

# HAPPY SPRING!

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS

Torn: Shredding the Fabric of Our Lies

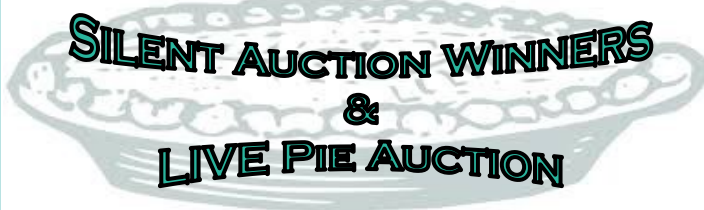
Lent 2022

The season of Lent begins on March 2 with Ash Wednesday and the imposition of ashes as a reminder of our mortality and Christ's gift of life everlasting. This year we are exploring "lies we tell ourselves," and how the in-breaking of God into our lives exposes those lies, and reveals the truth of God's love and care for us. Join us Wednesday evenings at 6:15 pm for **Torn: Shredding the Fabric of Our Lies**.

### Lent 2022 Schedule

|          |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 10 | <b>Palm Sunday</b>     | Begin Holy Week with a worship experience that Commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem<br>7 pm <b>Reading of the Passion</b> Hear the story of Jesus' final week read in Reader's Theater style |
| April 14 | <b>Maundy Thursday</b> | 11am Senior Citizen Worship and Lunch<br>7 pm Worship with First Communion and the "Stripping of the Altar"                                                                                                |
| April 15 | <b>Good Friday</b>     | 12:05 pm Washington County Ministerial Tenebrae (First United Methodist, Blair)<br>7 pm FLC Tenebrae worship Experience                                                                                    |
| April 16 | <b>Easter Vigil</b>    | 5 pm Worship with Readings and Holy Communion                                                                                                                                                              |
| April 17 | <b>Easter Sunday</b>   | 6:45 am Sunrise Worship (Fellowship Hall)<br>9:30 am Easter ONE Worship (Sanctuary & Life Center)                                                                                                          |

### FLC YOUTH TO CHICAGO



**SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD**  
**7PM**  
**LIFE CENTER**

LIVE Pie Auction  
Silent auction winners announced  
Bidding ends April 3rd

## CONFIRMATION

21 eighth graders will be confirmed at FLC on Sunday, May 1st. Please congratulate these students, and pray for them as they enter a new phase of their faith journeys.

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Jaydyn Backman   | Kenna Nielsen    |
| Jaxson Burns     | Ruby Petersen    |
| Hayden Daggett   | Ella Pike        |
| Trevor Furchert  | Lexi Polzin      |
| Charlie Gutzmann | Maxwell Rump     |
| Colton Jenson    | Lydia Schaapveld |
| Sophia Kempcke   | Jacy Schueth     |
| Abby Leggott     | Quinn Thompson   |
| Owen Mann        | Brady Wolff      |
| Diane Mitchell   | Brady Work       |
| Maelie Nelson    |                  |

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS



**June 20-24, 2022**

**Mark your calendars now!!**

**And, we need YOUR help!!**

- Shepherds
- Teachers/Leaders
- Music Helpers
- Classroom Helpers
- Donate Art Supplies
- Decorating team to prepare for the week
- Plan behind the scenes in weeks prior to VBS
- First Aid/Nurse
- Kitchen Staff

**Please consider being a part of our exciting week!**



*We will be using Easter lilies to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 17th. If you would like to honor a special person in your life, give a lily in memory of a loved one, or just help out in this way to beautify the church, please complete the information requested below, and drop this slip in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. Your free-will monetary offering may be included with this form to help cover the cost of the lilies. As we are tax-exempt, we will not be publishing a set "cost" for the lilies and therefore view them as a gift to First Lutheran to help decorate our worship space and at the same time honor or memorialize our loved ones.*

Check below if you wish to order a lily. Checks should be made payable to First Lutheran Church.

***Orders must be received by April 10th.***

**Your Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am giving \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be used to purchase lilies to decorate the church for Easter.

All Lilies given to decorate our church will be delivered to a shut-in. If you know of someone who would benefit from receiving one of the lilies, please include their name(s) here:

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ lilies in honor of:

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ lilies in memory of:

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS



# Plant Sale

**May 5th**

**9am-7pm**

**& May 6th**

**9am-7pm**

*Held in the Fellowship Hall of:  
First Lutheran Church  
2146 Wright Street • Blair  
402-426-4073*

## FLC Kids Singing Again!!



**PALM SUNDAY**

Come hear our FLC kids sing!  
Palm Sunday @ 10:15am!!

## Butter Braid Pickup!!



Pick yours up at church  
anytime April 12th on!!

### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH SENIOR CITIZEN WORSHIP AND LUNCH

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
**April 14, 2022**

**11am**—Worship with  
Holy Communion  
followed by lunch

Please call the church office at 426-4073  
to RSVP by Friday, April 8th



## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS

We are now livestreaming our worship services on Facebook Live.

Please join [www.facebook.com/flcblair](https://www.facebook.com/flcblair) to be alerted whenever a live video begins.

This is a real-time, virtual worship experience, and we invite you to join us if you can't be with us in person. Each live video will begin as the regularly scheduled worship time.

### Cookies, Cookies, Cookies

Please help FLC and the Blair Community  
We need more people to sign up for April and May

### We are in need of Cookies for the Mid Week Meal!

PLEASE, if you're able to provide 3 dozen cookies/bars for a meal. You can sign up with Erika, please call or text her at (402) 533-0918.

Thank you for helping us  
continue to serve our  
community (200-250  
individuals) every week.

Thank you!

### Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed  
Monday, April 18th—the day after  
Easter.

### **Voting Members to Synod Assembly!**

Our congregation can send up to six voting members of the upcoming Synod Assembly. This year we will have an ELECTION of the Bishop, an important event for the future of our Synod. If you want to be part of this process please contact Pastor Scott

The 2022 Nebraska Synod Assembly will gather in person this year! Voting members from congregations across the state will gather to engage in conversation concerning the election of a Bishop. All participants will have opportunities for continued learning, fellowship, and learn more about the ministries of the Nebraska Synod.

When: June 3-4, 2022

Where: Kearney, NE

First Lutheran covers the costs for all Voting Members to the Synod Assembly





### April Lessons

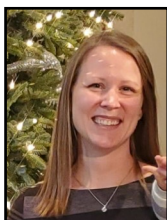
April 6: Easter Lesson, part 2  
 April 13: NO CLASS—Holy Week  
 April 20: LAST LIFE NIGHT  
 Family Scavenger Hunt!!

### Palm Sunday Singing!!

Sunday, April 10th @ 10:15am  
 Please bring children to Sanctuary @ 9:45am  
 Children will parade into worship with palms and  
 sing 1-2 songs.  
 Then they will sit with their families.

### Volunteer of the Month!!

Nicole Sok  
 3rd Grade Teacher

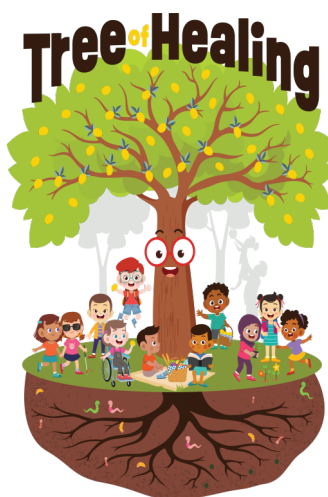


**Favorite Bible story:** The Walls of Jericho—the power of music!

**Favorite food:** Chips and dip

**Favorite part of FLC:** The welcoming community and THE KIDS!

**Favorite spring activity:** Planting seeds



# VBS 2022

Mark your  
calendars!!

June 20—24, 2022  
 9am—12pm

Email Erika for Google  
 Registration Form!!

### Children's Offering in April

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

- **FLC LIFE Night Supplies**
- **Mid Week Meal** – our meal ministry at FLC that serves 240 individuals in the Blair area each Wednesday evening.

## 1st Communion for 3rd graders

Maundy Thursday Worship Service  
 April 14th @ 7pm

### Classes:

Sunday, April 3rd at 2:30pm  
 OR

Saturday, April 9th at 10:30am

Please contact Erika to sign up for one class.

## FLC YOUTH News!!



Do justice, love  
kindness, and  
walk humbly with  
your God.

Micah 6:8



# VBS 2022



Do you love little kids?  
Join us for VBS! Bring a friend!  
Contact Erika if you'd like to help out!

June 20-24, 9am -12pm



### Confirmation Schedule

**April 20th:** Last class  
**April 27th:** 8th Grade Banquet,  
Rehearsal & Photos  
**May 1st:** Confirmation Service  
2pm

## 9 to 12 Youth Group

Sunday Meetings  
**6:30pm**

**April 3rd:** No meeting  
**April 10th:** Passion Reading @ 7pm  
**April 17th:** No meeting (Easter)  
**April 24th:** Gaga Ball & Nachos!!

Please watch Facebook, texts, emails for info!!

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

### Chicago Group

**Silent Auction Winners &  
LIVE Pie Auction!**  
**April 3rd @ 7pm**

Attendance required  
Let's tell our congregation  
**THANK YOU!!**

## High School Seniors!!

**It's almost time!!**

### Graduate Recognition @ Worship

Sunday, May 8th @ 10:15am

**Needed:** Senior photo & Baby photo

### Graduate Interviews

Posted the week following Graduation  
Please watch for a text/email from Erika



## WOMEN'S NEWS



**Ladies, Metro East Spring Gathering will be at First Lutheran in Blair Saturday, April 2nd.**

You will not want to miss out on this faith filled day. This will be a meaningful event and an opportunity to learn about some of the things that Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization (NSWO) supports. Be sure to mark this special day on your calendar. Let's have a good turnout of our church women.

Rev. Linda Walz will lead the Bible study based on our theme verse Phillippians 4:12-13, "Gather Gladly for Strength".

Rev. Paula Lawhead and Rev. Amalia Spruth-Janssen will enlighten us on how God gave them strength and helped them grow in their Pastoral calls.

There will be displays from Thrivent, Saved to Serve, Project Hope, Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries and a few more who will share information about their projects.

The closing worship will be led by Pastor Scott Frederickson, PH.D

Tangible offerings will be for Kountze Food Pantry. Items requested are hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, body wash, deodorant, feminine products and nonperishable food.

Looking forward to seeing you and renewing our faith after not being able to meet in person for the last couple of years.

Information and registration forms will be on the Women's Table in the hallway by the Life Center. Registration fee is \$20, due by March 26th. If you have any questions, you can call Emily Rasmussen, 402-426-4869.

### Health Kit Items

**Reminder:** You can donate items for the Health Kits that the Women put together. Please see a list of items to donate below:

**Bath Towels, Ivory Soap, Nail Clippers, and Toothbrushes**

If you would like to donate these items you can donate by dropping off at the church office. Thank you!



**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  
April 2022**

**THANK YOU to ALL who helped staff the WASHINGTON COUNTY RECYCLING CENTER on February 26.** We had a great turnout---one of the best ever! **And many thanks to all of our members who staff the Recycling Center every week!** Do you take the opportunity to recycle? If you would like to learn more about the process and how to get started, and the great things our local facility does, please visit the center's website at <http://www.recyclewashingtoncounty.org/>. You can also check out their Facebook page under the group name: Washington County Recycling Association.



**Have you contributed to our LENTEN INGATHERING sponsored by LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES for REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT yet?** If you receive this newsletter before **March 31** there is still time for you to bring items for our **"Bathroom Shower,"** such as bath towels, shampoo, soap, individual toothbrushes, tooth paste, and deodorant. **You** can be a part of resettling 100 refugee families as part of your **"Lenten almsgiving."** If it is too late to catch the "Bathroom Shower," you can mail a check directly to **Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, 124 South 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 230, Omaha, NE 68102.**

**EQUAL EXCHANGE Products**—coffee, tea, nuts and chocolate bars—will again be available for purchase at our **Saturday night worship service on April 2, and at the Sunday, April 3 worship Services.** These products will again be available every first weekend of the month. What a wonderful way this is to support third world farmers, so they can sell directly to consumers, providing them with a fair income that will help them care for their families and improve their communities!

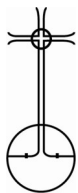
**EASTER is soon coming when we joyfully celebrate the resurrection of our Lord—and Mothers' Day is not far behind!** You might want to start thinking of how you would like to help **mothers** who are in crisis situations. Our **MOTHERS' DAY INGATHERING** for our local **Crisis Center** will begin on **May 7/8** and extend through **May 31.**

**FLC Social Concerns Committee is seeking new members!** Come join a busy team that works to help others in the community and around the globe, and who truly desire to "Serve as Jesus Served." If that sounds like you, please contact Lynette Jennings (402-278-0164), John Mark Nielsen (402-427-4443), Jim Peterson (402-426-2716), or Trudy Hutton (402-426-4358) for more information. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, April 18 at 7:00 P.M. in the church library. Please contact one of the above persons if you desire more details.

**An ONGOING WAY IN WHICH YOU CAN BENEFIT OTHERS!**

.. Bring your Family Fare receipts to the Food Donation Box in the narthex which, when turned in to Joseph's Coat, benefits the **Washington County Food Pantry.**





FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2146 WRIGHT STREET  
BLAIR, NE 68008  
April 2022