

**NEWS FROM  
OUR PASTOR**

You've heard me talk about "repentance" as a way to turn around, to re-focus on what God desires for our lives, to return our ways of thinking and living to ways that help our neighbor rather than our own egos. Since repentance does ask of us some change from our current behaviors and attitudes to different ones more aligned with God, the word often scares people. But there is nothing to fear from being more kind, compassionate, and loving with your neighbor, yourself, and your God. Those are good things, and we should embrace repentance with all our hearts, souls, and minds.

Ash Wednesday (March 2) begins the season of Lent, and this year we are going to talk about how God tears into our reality to help us see where we can turn to see the wonder and beauty of God. God enters our world rather violently at times, even the birth of Jesus is a bit of violence if taken from the view of his mother. Welcomed violence for sure, but still not without pain and blood. God tears at our reality to show God's preferred future for us.

"Torn: Shredding the Fabric of our Lies" will spend six weeks helping us to see where God breaks into our reality in order to turn us away from lies we tell about ourselves and our world, and open to us God's reality of peace and joy. Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 pm in the LIFE Center or on our Livestream through Facebook starting March 2. Life will be torn, we will open our hearts and minds to God rending us from the lies to reveal a new way to live and be.

--Pastor Scott



*For God so loved the world  
that He gave His only  
begotten Son  
That whoever believes in Him  
shall not perish  
but shall have eternal life*

*John 3:16*



***Inside this issue:***

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Pastor's Message          | 1         |
| Notes, Dates, & Reminders | 2, 3, & 4 |
| Children's Ministries     | 5         |
| Youth News                | 6         |
| Social Concerns           | 7         |
| Thank you's               | 8         |

**Effective immediately, All individuals attending activities at First Lutheran Church are required to wear a facial mask covering mouth and nose thru January 30th.**

**This mandate is instituted for the following reasons:**

- 1. to avoid a temporary closing of the church**
- 2. to support our neighbors in the education and healthcare fields**

**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. To 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!



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

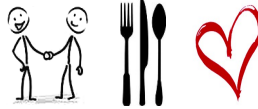
- ✝ Family of Andrew "Butch" Hansen
- ✝ Family of Mary Main
- ✝ Family of Warren Hunsche
- ✝ Family of Phil Larsen
- ✝ Family of Jerry Miller (father of Amy Lueders)
- ✝ Family of Shane Reeh
- ✝ Amy Dishman - healing
- ✝ Tim Jensen - healing
- ✝ Debbie Kempcke - cancer - healing
- ✝ Vaughn Christensen
- ✝ 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
- ✝ Pat Bentsen - prayers for healing
- ✝ Jeff Gunderson - healing
- ✝ Georgia (great niece of Debbie Katt) -prayers & healing
- ✝ Kyler Reed - healing
- ✝ Justin Roberts-healing
- ✝ Gary Ford-prayers & 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.



## 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!

# Confirmation Care Kits

We are building Valentine Care Kits on our Service Night in February!!  
The kits will be given to patients at Children's Hospital and  
women receiving assistance from The Bridge.

### ***Would you be willing to donate to help offset our costs?***

We're purchasing hot wheels, coloring books, and other treats for the kids.  
We're purchasing Valentine candy, fuzzy socks, and other treats  
for the moms.

Please write "Confirmation Care Kits" in your check memo line or  
contact Erika if you'd like to help out. Thank you!!

## NOTES ♦ DATES ♦ REMINDERS



### 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.**

### 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

**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!!

**We are now livestreaming our worship services on Facebook Live.**

**Please join [www.facebook.com/flclair](https://www.facebook.com/flclair) 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.**

---

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

---





♥ Happy Valentines Day ♥

**February Lessons**

**Feb 2:**                    **Paul & Silas in Prison**  
**Kit Kat**  
 Even when things are “breaking apart”, God takes care of us!

**Feb 9 & 16:**            **The Call of Abram**  
**Milky Way**  
 God has BIG plans for us!!  
 Bigger than the universe!!

**Feb 23 & Mar 2:**      **Jesus is Anointed**  
**Butterfinger**  
 God’s touch brings us forgiveness and love—we want God’s finger on us!!

**Volunteer of the Month!!**

**Teresa Preister**  
**PreK Teacher (previously 1st Grade)**



**Favorite Bible story:** The Woman at the Well because it teaches acceptance

**Favorite food:** El Vallarta chicken & steak fajitas


**Favorite part of FLC:** The PEOPLE!! I love the feeling of community at FLC!

**Favorite Winter Activity:** Reading

**Children’s Offering in February**

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

- **FLC LIFE Night Supplies**
- **WA County Food Pantry** –In an average month WCFP feeds 141 families and 353 individuals.



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

**Mark your 2022 Calendars**

**March 16th:**            **NO CLASS**  
**Spring Break**

**April 6th:**              **NO CLASS**  
**Holy Week**


**April 20th:**            **End of Year**  
**FAMILY PARTY!!**






**678 Movie Night!!**

Thursday, February 10th @ 7pm in  
LIFE Ctr  
PJs and a Movie!  
Friends welcome—masks required



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

2022 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

**boundless**  
GOD BEYOND MEASURE

**ELCA Youth Gathering**  
Sunday, February 20th @ 2-8pm  
Fellowship Hall

Service project, games, tying quilts to donate in Minneapolis, catered dinner, and FUN!!  
*Parents attend at 7:30pm to finalize "Dessert and Silent Auction" fundraiser*

**These meetings are required.**

**Upcoming Activities!**

**Feb 6th @ 6:30pm: Dinner & Board Games**  
All different games—maybe a type of tournament  
Text Erika your favorite board games to make sure they're an option!!

**Feb 13th @ 6:30pm: Dinner & Valentines :)**  
Celebrate Valentine's Day with a service project and some "lovely" :) games and activities

**Feb 27th @ 6:30pm: Dinner & NERF GUN WAR**  
Bring your own Nerf guns and ammunition  
We'll do wars all over the church just like last time.



**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  
February 2022**



**OUR 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL “HAVE A HEART FOR HUNGER”** campaign will kick off on **February 1** and continue through the end of the month in support of the **Washington County Food Pantry**.

This is another opportunity for **FLC** to assist with making sure that no one in the community goes

**Hungry!** We will be involving the community again this year with a special collection day at **Family Fare** on **Saturday, February 12, 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.** When you come that day during those hours you will be greeted by a friendly face or two who will hand you a flyer that notes the most urgent items needed by our **Washington County Food Pantry**. For a “heads up” note the list below:

- |                 |                      |                  |                        |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| cereal          | boxed potatoes       | tuna             | condiments:            |
| pancake mix     | jelly                | hamburger helper | salad dressings, mayo  |
| oatmeal packets | canned corn          | Manwich          | barbeque sauce         |
| (individual)    | other canned veggies | Shake and bake   | ketchup, mustard, etc. |

As you proceed with your shopping you will notice signs at the items above to grab your attention. Then, when you get through the check-out counters, you will notice more happy faces collecting the items which you have purchased specifically for the **Washington County Food Pantry**, and packing them for later delivery to the **Food Pantry**. You may also donate cash or checks there which will be gratefully received since the **Pantry** is able to buy food at wholesale prices and can make your shopping dollars go further. Our goal for this collection is **1,500 pounds**.

For your convenience we will also be collecting food at **FLC** throughout the month. Here are the guidelines we are targeting for that food ingathering:

- Week 1 Box Week**
- Week 2 Bag and Package Week**
- Week 3 Cans, Jars, and Containers Week**
- Week 4 Miscellaneous Toiletries Week** (individual toothbrushes, bar soap, toilet tissue)

We will have a grocery cart and/or plastic bins available at a convenient location to collect these items, which will be delivered to **W.C.F.P.** and weighed after each weekend collection. Our goal for this collection is **600 pounds**. Monetary gifts are also invited, which can be taken to the office.

Did you know that the **Washington County Food Pantry** serves on average **101 families, 265 individuals,** and **5,556 meals** each month? Thus, it is clear that the agency is filling a huge need in our community!

**Let’s all give some really good VALENTINES to our neighbors in need during this very important annual service project!**





*Thank You Notes*

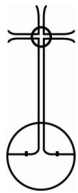
Thank you First Lutheran Family for the beautiful rose for my 97th birthday in January. Thanks to Rod Hansen for the nice visit and for bringing the lovely rose.

God's Blessings,  
Betty Megrue

Dear members of First Lutheran Church and the Worship & Music Committee,

Thank you so much for all you did to make the worship service and reception on January 9th so very nice. It was a joy to direct so many in the choir once again. The flowers, cake, gift of the beautiful cross, and kind words made me feel special and appreciated. FLC has a long history of beautiful choral music, and it is my hope that God has touched your life through the music our choirs have shared.

To God be the Glory -  
Kay Dickinson



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