

# THE MESSENGER

*The monthly newsletter of First Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

## Birthday Musings Part 2

In case you have not realized it yet, Pastor Rick and I celebrate our birthdays in the beginning of the calendar year – January and February. Last month, Pastor Rick reminisced about the different places he has celebrated his January natal day. Since it is a milestone birthday for me this February, I have been in a more contemplative mood. As I have been remembering the avocado green rotary phone that hung on the wall in our kitchen when I hold my iPhone in my hand or the quietness of the engine in my hybrid vehicle, these words keep coming to mind, “It helps now and then to step back and take the long view.” This is part of a homily written by Father Ken Untener in 1979 to honor the memory of Archbishop Oscar Romero after his assassination. I think the long view is especially important in these days of rapidly changing events and news cycles. Some birthdays nudge us more than others to think about what has changed over our lives both in the world around us and in ourselves. Such contemplation is a worthwhile task.

It can also be important for a congregation to take the long view as well. If we get stuck in what is or is not happening in the moment, we lose sight of the long view. As Christians, we are seed planters. Trusting in God’s faithfulness as we water that which has been planted. There aren’t any guarantees, simply promises and opportunities for God’s grace to enter.

Here is the piece in its entirety for your contemplation.

*"It helps now and then to step back and take the long view. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that should be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything. This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future that is not our own."*

In peace,  
Pastor Michelle

## A Message from the Co-Lead Pastors



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Prayer Ventures for February can be found:

<https://www.elca.org/Resources/Prayer-Ventures>

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world.



<http://www.elca.org>  
800-638-3522



<http://www.nebraskasynod.org>  
402-896-5311



Lutheran World Relief

<http://www.lwr.org>  
800-597-5972



LUTHERAN  
CAMPUS MINISTRY

<http://www.nelcm.com/>  
(308) 234-1828



<http://www.nlom.org>  
402-944-2544

**UPDATE**  
YOUR CONTACT INFO



It is time to update your information. Please contact the church if you have changed your email, address, phone number. It only takes a minute, and it is extremely helpful to the church office. Thank you!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Adult Forum: February 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9:50am**

On February 6, Derek Schweitzer will be conducting an adult forum in between services. The topic will cover the struggles of individuals and families as we all negotiate life after the holidays in our desire for spring's arrival. All of this while fighting the fatigue of the pandemic. Mr. Schweitzer is a Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioner and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who is a member of our congregation. He will be presenting on the Cognitive Behavioral Therapy model and how this applies to mental health. Mr. Schweitzer will be highlighting areas such as the pitfalls of cognitive distortions and the utilization of faith, hope, boundaries, coping skills, and scripture. The forum will be presented with the use of a Christ-centered lens in combating everyday life.

## **Adult Education Class: "God's Fiery Prophets—Part 2"**

Pastor Rick's Adult Education Class on God's Fiery Prophets will begin Part 2 on Sunday February 27 and continue on the first two Sundays in March. These three class sessions will focus on the prophet Elisha who was chosen by God to succeed the prophet Elijah. The class will meet in Centennial Hall at 9:50 a.m. These sessions will be recorded and posted on our church's website in case you are not able attend every class session.

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP IN CHILDRENS' MINISTRIES**

For the 2022-23 school year, FLC needs a **new FROG Coordinator!** FROG ("Fully Rely On God") is Wednesday evening programming for Pre-K through 5th grade children, running late August through late April. Our Care & Growth Committee will provide lots of support, teaching curriculum, and a pre-set calendar.

With the start of a new year, it's time to start thinking about FLC's **Vacation Bible School 2022!** It takes many hands to make this event special for our youth. We need parishioners to step-forward to sit on our VBS Planning Committee. Experience is not necessary, you can take on a small or large role, whatever fits your level of comfort.

Please email Stefani Wegner ([StefaniDWegner@gmail.com](mailto:StefaniDWegner@gmail.com)) or contact the church office for more information on either of these opportunities.

## **CALL FOR IMAGING TEAM VOLUNTEERS**

The FLC Imaging Team is an integral part of each church service: assisting in the sound booth and taking care of sound, livestream, radio broadcast, and church slides. This committee needs more members to ensure that all services are covered on Saturdays and Sundays. Volunteers can choose to help at one service once a month, and training is provided. Please contact Adam Wegner ([AdamBWegner@gmail.com](mailto:AdamBWegner@gmail.com)) or the church office for more information.

# MISSION OUTREACH



*Now I lay me down to Sleep  
I pray the Lord my soul to Keep  
Angels watch me through the Night  
And wake me with the morning Light  
Amen*

Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep,

Many of us are familiar with this prayer that we learned as children from our parents, as we snuggled into bed at night. But sometimes, for a variety of reasons, children and adults do not have that bed to snuggle into.

People often ask what item is most commonly requested through Care Portal, a technology platform designed to connected children and families in crisis to churches and people who want to help. Across the 20 U.S. states that Care Portal is active in, and within Buffalo County, the answer is clear: beds and cribs.

Reasons for needing a bed vary, but some include: poverty, escape from circumstances without the ability to bring belongings, insect infestation, or unexpected addition of a family member. Sometimes, providing a bed for each family member is a requirement for children to be reunified with parents, or for a family member to care for a child, so they are not placed with others.

So, the Mission Outreach Team of First Lutheran Church has designated this as the Lenten Project for this year. There are different ways that you can help:

- **Donate** to the collection boxes located at the Welcome Stations in the narthex.
- **Volunteer** to build basic beds that are ready to meet those requests.
- **Volunteer** to deliver a bed to a family in need.
- **Pray** for families in need, and for the staff at agencies that serve them.

“I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.” (Psalm 4:8, KJV)

“I lay down and slept, yet I woke up in safety, for the LORD was watching over me.” (Psalm 3:5)

## HELPING OTHERS

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Dinner will be held on February 8, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church.

Anyone who has volunteered for Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity in the last year is invited to attend.

### JUBILEE CENTER NEWS

The Kearney Jubilee Center **Food Pantry needs:** Tuna, noodles, sauces, baby food items.

The **Thrift Shop needs:** pots, pans, towels (any size), dishes, silverware, bed sheets, small appliances, baby items, t-shirts, hoodies, spring seasonal items, home decorations, men's jeans/pants, household items.

Thank you!



The S.A.F.E. Center is the Spouse/Sexual Abuse Family Education Center. The S.A.F.E. Center's mission is to provide free and confidential services for those affected by dating violence, domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual assault, and stalking while bringing awareness and prevention efforts to all individuals across South Central Nebraska.

*Donation  
Item of the*

**MONTH**  
**February**

..... ❖ .....

**Personal Hygiene Items**

### **Personal Hygiene Items:**

**Shampoo (adult/baby)**

**Conditioner**

**Deodorant**

**Body Wash**

**Lotion**

**Hand Soap**

**Hair Products**

**Toothpaste**

**Please place items on the  
“Sharing Shelf” in the  
narthex. Thanks!**



# OFFICE UPDATES



## FLC STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

### Church Office

office@firstlutheranearney.org

### Pastor Rick Carlson

*Co-Lead Pastor*

rcarlson@firstlutheranearney.org

### Pastor Michelle Carlson

*Co-Lead Pastor*

mcarlson@firstlutheranearney.org

### Pastor Elisabeth Himmelman

*Assoc. Pastor for Youth & Young Adults*

ehimmelman@firstlutheranearney.org

### Kandy Bacon

*Administrative Assistant*

kbacon@firstlutheranearney.org

### Marti Brockmeier

*Bookkeeper*

martibrockmeier@firstlutheranearney.org

### Natalie Radcliffe

*Worship Music Coordinator*

natalieradcliffe@firstlutheranearney.org

### Adam Eilers

*Maintenance Coordinator*

aeilers@firstlutheranearney.org

## DECEMBER FINANCE REPORT

Ministry Budget:	Dec 2021	YTD '21-'22'	YTD '20-'21
Budget Supporting Revenue	\$ 68,579	\$ 351,634	\$ 346,242
Budget Related Expenditures	\$ (58,289)	\$ (411,847)	\$ (397,582)

Total 2021-2022 Ministry Budget: \$788,736.95

Facilities Budget:	Dec 2021	YTD '21-'22	YTD '20-'21
Revenue	\$ 8,830	\$ 48,448	\$ 49,284
Expenditures	\$ (3,912)	\$ (20,519)	\$ (18,536)

Total 2021-2022 Facilities Budget: \$30,000

## USE OF OFFERING ENVELOPES

Thank you for all those who regularly make use of the weekly offering envelopes. It may not be possible to keep an accurate recording of your contributions if you do not use your envelopes. If you choose to contribute by check without using the envelopes, please write your offering envelope number on your check. This will enable us to record your contributions accurately. Any loose checks that are received without an envelope number may not be reflected on your contribution statement.

Contributions to the Ministry Budget and Facilities Budget can be combined in one check.

If you are not receiving offering envelopes and would like some, please contact Marti in the church office. Thank you for your help!

## FLC Veteran's Memorial Wall

Efforts are underway to refurbish the FLC Veteran's Memorial. Stacy Bean, Meressa Bayley, Wayne Karschner and Mike Rafferty are over seeing this endeavor. There are paper copies by the Memorial Wall or you can sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/sTtqcp77btY4XJSz6>.

Once all the information has been gathered the work can begin. Thank you!

# COUNCIL UPDATE

Greetings from Church Council,

One of my wife's favorite shows is "This Is Us." Essentially, it's a show about family. It focuses on the challenges, the hardships and the complexities of family life. It also focuses on the joys, the triumphs and the beauty of family life. There are a variety of characters and they all bring a unique life experience to the family. Through all of the peaks and valleys of life, they somehow make the family unit work. Strong families have a commitment to one another. Family is their common denominator.

A church is a family. A church will experience challenges, hardships and complexities. It will also experience joys, triumphs and beauty. We all bring our own unique life experiences to First Lutheran to make it the family that it is. So, what does our family at First Lutheran look like? Our church family is active, not passive. Our family is praising, serving and ministering. First Lutheran is not just about the pastors. It's about all of us. First Lutheran is not just about the church council. It's about all of us. First Lutheran is not just about the committee chairs and members. It's about all of us. Ultimately, First Lutheran is not just about some. It's about all. First Lutheran is us! We all experience life a little bit differently. Yet, we all have one thing in common. We are all members of First Lutheran and we all have a part to play in the direction of our church family. What is your part? What is your role?

The church council recently had its annual retreat. The focus of the retreat was to update the mission statement of First Lutheran. It was a very productive meeting with some awesome discussions. The council looks forward to sharing those ideas with you in the near future.

Peace to All,  
Dave Zimmer, Council President



## CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Dave Zimmer  
*President*

Miranda Obermeier  
*Vice President*

Lee Fritson  
*Treasurer*

Judy Henning  
*Secretary*

Mark Kottmeyer

Rachel Leach

Michael Rafferty

Kelly Russman

Kyle Means

### Have questions?

If you want to speak to a council member, please contact the office or find their information in the Narthex on the wall.

## The Election of a New Bishop for the Nebraska Synod

At the next Nebraska Synod Assembly (June 2-4, 2022 in Kearney), there will be an election for a new Bishop to serve a six-year term. First Lutheran will have eight delegates at this Assembly (our three pastors and five lay delegates to be elected by the Congregation Council). In advance of the Synod Assembly, each Conference of the Nebraska Synod will gather on February 5<sup>th</sup> for a meeting to nominate potential candidates for the Office of Bishop. The delegates who attend this advanced nominating meeting are to be the same delegates who attend the June Synod Assembly. At its January 2022 meeting, our Congregation Council elected the lay delegates from First Lutheran. **Your lay delegates are: Adam Akerson, Judy Henning, Lori McArthur, Myron Riddle, and Deb Schauer. Christine Fisher is the alternate in the event that one of the delegates can't fulfill their duties. Thank you!**

# WORSHIP THEMES

**February 6, 2022**

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPHIPHANY

ISAIAH 6:1-8 [9-13]; PSALM 138; 1  
CORINTHIANS 15:1-11; LUKE 5:1-11

The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that what we are also called.

**February 13, 2022**

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JEREMIAH 17:5-10; PSALM 1; 1 CORINTHIANS  
15:12-20; LUKE 6:17-26

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the "blessed are" and the "woe tos" are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

**February 20, 2022**

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPHIPHANY

GENESIS 45:3-11, 15; PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40; 1  
CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50; LUKE 6:27-38

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

**February 27, 2022**

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD;  
LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

EXODUS 34:29-35; PSALM 99; 2  
CORINTHIANS 3:12-4:2; LUKE 9:28-36 [37-43a]

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.





# WITHIN OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY HERE AT FIRST



## Prayers of Peace and Comfort...

for the family and friends of Deb Baumgartner on her death.

Janiene Rewerts, Pam Epley and Randy Hinrichs on the death of their aunt, Dorene Hinrichs.

Greg & Linda Sue Jensen on the death of Linda's cousin, Robert Meyer.

Rosemary Miller on the death of her husband, Jerry.

Byron & Lotys Suhr on the death of their sister-in-law, Edna Suhr.

Chad & Stacy Isaacson on the death of Chad's father, Dale Isaacson.

Ashley Lewandowski on the death of her grandmother, Vernetta Fritz.

## Congratulations to our February Volunteers of the Month: Habitat for Humanity!

First Lutheran Church members who volunteer with Habitat are: Darrel Teply, Larry Merz, Delbert Sindt, Vicki Conn, Beth Forbess, Judy Fisher, Paul Bartlett, Randy Heckman and Fred Kempf. Paul Bartlett and Beth Forbess are Building Committee members.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit housing organization that works by building and improving homes in partnership with individuals and families in need of decent and affordable housing. This all depends on the applicant's level of need, their willingness to partner with Habitat, and their ability to repay a mortgage through an affordable payment plan. As part of their willingness to partner Habitat's homebuyers invest hundreds of hours of their own labor called "sweat equity." They work alongside volunteers and other Habitat homeowners. First Lutheran Church holds a workday, normally in June, where we provide lunch and help put materials together to build someone's house.

## Thank You from Our Mission Outreach Team

The Mission Outreach Team wishes to thank all the members of First Lutheran who gave donations to various projects in November and December.

The following funds were raised:

- Almost \$2,000 for ELCA Good Gifts.
- \$300 for food baskets for local families.
- \$1,000 to ELCA Disaster Relief to help families hit by tornados.

# WOMEN of the ELCA

Hello First Lutheran Church Members and Friends,

We are fortunate at First Lutheran that we have Bible studies offered at different times and days. However, you may want to expand your resources. By going to the Women of the ELCA website, you will find several types of resources for you to use. *Café*, an on-line magazine, shares stories written by bold young women who write about faith, relationships, advocacy and more. Readers and writers of *Café* include pastors, seminary and college students, and other young adult women who use *Café* as a Bible study resource individually or with a group. Daily Grace is daily devotions written by women. If you wish you can receive this as an app on your phone.

The Gather magazine which can be found on the small table by the office features short stories and a monthly Bible study. Please feel free to use as you wish.

Please plan to attend the following events. Although they are in April, you'll want to be sure to get them on your calendar. The first is the Southern Prairie Conference of Women of the ELCA which is being held on April 23rd at Spirit of Grace in Holdrege. Pastor Elisabeth will be the guest speaker.

The next event to put on your calendar is Friends and Fellowship at First on April 30th. It will be a great time to share fellowship while enjoying a salad luncheon. More details will be coming in the following months.

*"Those who are gracious to the poor lend to the Lord, and the Lord will fully repay them." Proverbs 19:17*

## Events for 2022

March 7 - 7:00 - Board Meeting - Classroom 21/22

April 23 – Southern Prairie Spring Gathering in Holdrege

April 30 - First Lutheran Spring Activity

April 29 - May 1 - Saved to Serve - Magdalene, Omaha



Ladies who are interested in joining a monthly Bible study are invited to attend a women's circle. Circles can be joined at any time during the year.

**President:**

**Deb Schauer (308) 233-2669**

**Secretary:**

**Bev Vacha (308)-468-6239**

**Treasurer:**

**Jo Smallcomb (308)-234-3053**



**ABIGAIL CIRCLE (SEPT.–MAY)**

9:00 am—3rd Monday

Co-Chairs: Joan Swanson

(308-234-2835) and Evy Kuecker

(308-237-5651)

**DEBORAH CIRCLE**

7:00 pm –3rd Monday

Co-Chairs: Deb Schauer (308-233-

2669) and Ellen Epp (308-234-5696)

**GLORIA CIRCLE**

12:00pm—3rd Thursday

Chair: Judy Workman

**NAOMI CIRCLE**

7:30pm—4th Thursday

(3rd Thurs. in Nov.)

Chair: Judy Niemann

(308)-234-4332

# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ELISABETH

Dear Adults of First Lutheran,

Did you know you are all a vital part of our high school youth ministry team? Thanks for agreeing to the challenge! Are you excited? Fear not: you do not need sleep on floors or chaperone a lock-in!

All you need to do is say, "Yay!"

"Yay!" by knowing young people's names.

*Teenagers will know they are loved by the sound of their name in your voice.*

"Yay!" by finding and affirming all that is good among the brilliant teenagers in our congregation.

*Teenagers tend to hear (even if it's not what's being said) what they are doing wrong.*

"Yay!" by telling young people's parents all you see that is good.

*Teenagers will know you see things their parents might not, and parents need to hear it more than you know!*

"Yay!" by telling them you lit a candle and prayed for them.

*Not all teenagers are lucky enough to know people who actually practice faith.*

"Yay!" by sharing your faith stories.

*You'll become real to a teenager when you share your stories with them.*

"Yay!" by listening to a young person's stories.

*Teenagers sure know when they are being heard!*

"Yay!" by asking for a young person's help.

*Just like all of us grown-ups, young people also need to be needed.*

Thank you for being the "Yay!" in as many ways as you can in the lives of our youth!

As our congregation's programs are, youth learn faith through people who live it. **Relationships with our adults of all ages and stages of life are essential. You provide the sticking power for faith.** Young people don't care what you know until they know you care. Young people need a church full of people who all are saying, "Yay!"

Youth ministry is much more than program ministry; it is about connecting young people to people of faith to be reminded they are beloved children of God. Sure, it's about mission trips and fundraising and goofy games, but even more it's all about relationships. With Jesus. With one another. And your "Yay's!" help those relationships stick.

Thank you for joining the youth ministry team with your love, support, prayers, and "yay's!" Thank you for helping faith stick out of love for our God who continually says yes to us.

In Christ,

Pastor Elisabeth

& on behalf of and with the brilliant teenagers of our congregation

# CAMPUS LUTHERAN



## TOILET PAPER & PAPER TOWELS NEEDED!

*Help us with hospitality  
by donating! Deliver to  
FLC labeled "Campus  
Lutheran" or contact  
Pastor Elisabeth to  
schedule drop-off at our  
building.*



## OLD & NEW

*a study on Genesis:  
belonging to God's good*

**Wednesday's @ 5:30p**

Continues through February 23  
at Campus Lutheran: 2715 9th Ave.  
all are welcome for soup & study led by  
Pastor Elisabeth

# FLY (FIRST LUTHERAN YOUTH)



## FLY February Calendar:

Sundays: February 6, 13, 20, & 27 @ 9:55am

Wednesdays: February 2, 9, 16, & 23 @ 6:45-8pm





# CHILDREN/MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

## **First Communion Classes**

Begin Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

5:45 pm to 6:25 pm

Fellowship Hall

Open to 4<sup>th</sup> graders, 5<sup>th</sup> graders, and older who have not yet taken First Communion classes

Registration Forms can be found on the Welcome Stations.



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## **Wednesday Night Schedule**

**(ending February 23<sup>rd</sup>/resuming April 20<sup>th</sup>)**

6:30 pm – 7:55 pm - FROG Fully Rely on God

6:50 pm – 8:00 pm Confirmation



# SUNDAY MORNINGS



**YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sundays at 9:55 am

**New Members' Classes**

**March 13, 20, and 27**

**9:50 am to 10:50 am**

**Fellowship Hall**

Please call the church office if you plan to attend.

Receiving New Members

April 2/3 @ all services

Reception between the services Sunday morning in Centennial Hall.



# Handel's "Messiah"

Will be presented by the Axtell Area Oratorio Society

Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Merryman Performing Arts Center



Rehearsals begin Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 2:30 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church in Axtell

**WE NEED YOU!**

## **UPDATING OUR PICTORIAL DIRECTORY**

**We need your photos!**

We are creating an updated pictorial directory for the church. We need YOUR picture in order to complete this project. This is a really helpful way for us to get to know one another.

Do you have questions? Contact Jen Puls or anyone on the Witness and Members team.

Drop off OR email pictures to the church office by  
**MARCH 31, 2022.**

**THANK YOU!**



# NOTES FROM THE PRESCHOOL:

## A MINISTRY OF FLC

Hello First Lutheran Families,

Our 3–4-year-olds just learned about the New Year, 2022. For them, this is a very big deal as they can't even remember it being anything other than 2021! This has also been a time for discussing the Three Wise men and the gifts they brought to baby Jesus. Our new year has brought new weather conditions, so we have been creative in trying to make indoor recess fun and energy releasing. We really enjoy running through an obstacle course set up around the gym.

We have been reviewing and assessing the kids individually to get ready for our parent-teacher conferences and we have been spending time on the topics of snow, mittens, and polar animals. Brrrr! The students are tracing their dot names each morning when they check in and they are attempting to write their name on each of their worksheets. Jack, the decomposing jack-o-lantern is no longer smiling; but is very sad and frowning. He looks like he has melted into the bottom of his jar.

The preschoolers are really working hard, and we are so proud of the progress they have made!

God Bless,  
Mrs. Lora and Mrs. Lindi

Hello First Lutheran!

We hope 2022 is going very well you!

They began the year with making a fun snowman and writing the new year on the snowman's hat. We had stripe day, backwards day and inside out day! We are learning about snow, ice and water. They can tell you the difference between a solid and a liquid. We are leaving our liquid out and they will learn what happened to that liquid and what it changed into.

They have lots of new centers. They read around the room with pointers! They know many words, numbers, letters and shapes. They have a ton of wood blocks in the block center and are having a blast creating with them. They also have a music center and are making beautiful music. Some have even created parades! We also now have a Plato center where they are "pretending to cook". The kiddos are having a blast making yummy treats!

They are getting really good at making snowflakes out of coffee filters and paper. We have a pretend paper friend on the wall and we are surrounding her with snow.

Our teddy bear picnic day is coming soon! They will bring their teddy bears and have them come along with them in our busy day, we will have a picnic with them and eat pizza. Some may even want to have a tea party with them during centers!

By the time you read this our Preschool Brunch is over and I am sure it will be another fun time! Thank you for your support and coming to see what we are up to. We will also have completed our parent/teacher conferences. The 2022-2023 Preschool registration for the new school year registration should also be completed (there may be a few spots left, check with Kandy for more information).

Valentine's Day is just around the corner! Tell those family and friends how much they mean to you!

Have a blessed February!  
Mrs. Amanda & Mrs. Jane



# FEBRUARY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

**1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Weekends** – Laying on of Hands for Healing during Worship Services

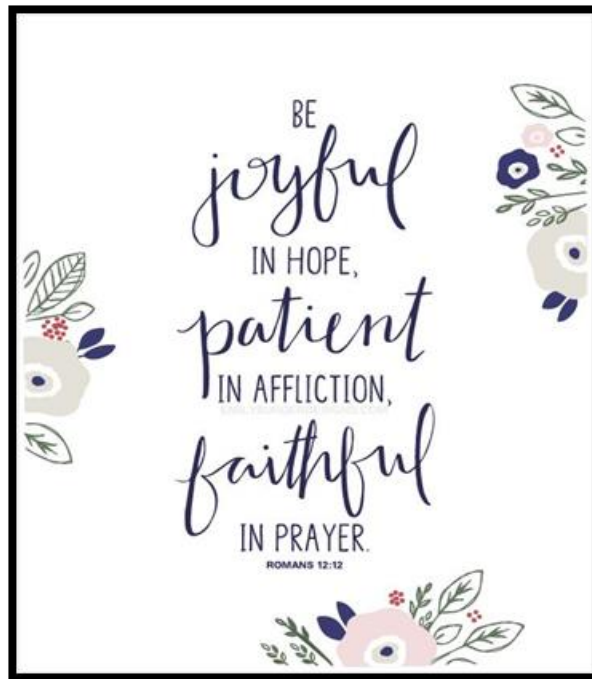
**February 5<sup>th</sup>** – Lay Delegates and Pastors will meet with the Two Rivers Cluster for Bishop Nominations

**February 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9:50 am** Adult Forum w/Derek Schweitzer

**February 15<sup>th</sup>** – Messenger deadline

**February 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Last Night of Wednesday activities before Lent

**February 27<sup>th</sup> @ 9:50 am** Adult Education w/Pastor Rick



First Lutheran Church, ELCA  
3315 G Avenue  
Kearney, Nebraska 68847-3699

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IN CHRIST

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2022

3315 G Avenue - Kearney, Nebraska 68847



**The church calendar, weekly bulletins, prayer lists, and LIVE Webstream  
Broadcasts on Sunday mornings can be found on our website:**

**<https://firstlutherankearney.org/>**

**Find us on Facebook: "First Lutheran Church-Kearney"**

**Sign Up for Weekly Email Updates: [office@firstlutherankearney.org](mailto:office@firstlutherankearney.org)**

**LIVE Radio Broadcast Sundays at 8:45am: KXPB 1460AM**

**PHONE: 308-237-5544      WEB: [www.firstlutherankearney.org](http://www.firstlutherankearney.org)**

**Office Hours: 8:30 – 4pm Monday – Friday**