

THE MESSENGER

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

Bishops

I first encountered bishops in fifth grade, but my initial experience with bishops was not in church. It was in my elementary school, or after school to be more exact. My fifth-grade teacher, Mr. Dowler, loved to play chess. One winter day he announced that he would teach anyone in our class how to play chess if they were interested. The next week about a half dozen of us started staying after school to learn all about chess. Mr. Dowler started by teaching us the chess pieces, their alignment on the chess board, and how they could (or couldn't) move. So I first learned that bishops were those chess pieces that had a round top with a little knob on them, and they could only move diagonally across the chess board. Only later did I learn that the bishop in chess actually represents the medieval church.

Bishops have been part of the Christian church since New Testament times. The Greek word for bishop (which is *episkopos*) appears five times in the New Testament. In 1 Peter 2:25, Christ is called an *episkopos* while in Acts 20:28; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:2; and Titus 1:7 the word is used to refer to human members of the church. The Greek word itself means “overseer” and would refer to someone who exercise oversight and protect care. Early Christians adopted this term (as well as the term “elder”) to apply to leaders in a given congregation who provided some level of oversight or care for its members though we do not know the specifics of their responsibilities or even how they came to be appointed as “bishops.” It also seems that in New Testament times congregations had more than one bishop, possibly indicating that different bishops had different leadership responsibilities in a given congregation.

By the early second century, bishops were elected leaders of Christian congregations though some congregations had multiple bishops while elsewhere there was one bishop overseeing the ministry in a single city. By the end of the second century, however, it seems that the office of bishop evolved so that one bishop exercised oversight over a broader area. Why the shift? During this time, semi-Christian sects started to arise which claimed to have secret knowledge about God and Christ not found in the New Testament or the traditional teaching of the church. To combat such sects, the church turned to key leaders both to defend and to represent the widely held, orthodox beliefs and teachings of Christianity.

In the fourth through eighth centuries, councils of hundreds of bishops were convened by Roman emperors to debate and settle matters of theological differences and debates between various Christian groups. The most famous of these was the first such council, the Council of Nicaea from which came the Nicene Creed which we still confess today. Thus, in many ways during these years, bishops were not only important leaders in the church, but they were the major theologians of the church. By the end of this period, the two major bishops overseeing Christianity were the Bishop of Constantinople (who was the Patriarch of the churches in the eastern empire) and the Bishop of Rome (who was the Pope overseeing churches in the western empire and according to their tradition there existed a continuous succession of popes which stretched all the way back to the Apostle Peter).

In medieval times, bishops came to hold political as well as religious power, and an issue of contention involved who appointed bishops: the Pope or a given king? As a result, the later Lutheran reformers declared that the office of bishop was strictly an ecclesiastical office and that bishops were not to exercise or interfere with secular authorities.

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Prayer Ventures for September 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



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



www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response
800-638-3522



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

In the ELCA, each of the sixty-five synods of our church has a bishop elect by a synod assembly. All the bishops are pastors of the church who both carry out and oversee the pastoral duties of preaching the gospel and administering the sacraments. Likewise, our bishops provide pastoral care and leadership for the synod and its rostered ministers. A primary responsibility is to exercise our church's power to ordain approved candidate for the office of Word and Sacrament (pastors) and the office of Word and Service (deacons). The bishop also oversees and administers the work of their synod. As of September 1, 33 of the ELCA bishops are women and 32 are men. In addition to our synodical bishops, the ELCA has a presiding bishop who provides leadership for the life and witness of our denomination.

The office of bishop has a long and distinguished (though at times also tarnished) history in the church of Jesus Christ. In June, Reverend Scott Johnson was elected to serve as the next bishop of the Nebraska Synod. He will be installed as our synod's bishop at a worship service to held here at First Lutheran Church in Kearney on Saturday September 24 at 1:00 p.m. To host the installation service of our new bishop is quite an honor for our congregation, and we are quite excited about the service and most excited about our partnership in ministry with Bishop Johnson.

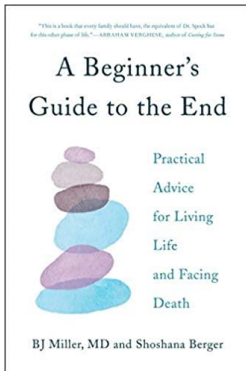
---Pastor Rick

ANNOUNCEMENTS

READING WITH PASTOR MICHELLE

Begins on October 5th @ 7:22 pm

Meets in North Hall



*A Beginner's Guide to the End: Practical Advice
for Living Life and Facing Death*

By BJ Miller, MD and Shoshana Berger



NEW MEMBERS' CLASSES

Between Services on September 11th 18th and 25th
Receiving New Members on October 2nd at all three services!

BISHOP'S INSTALLATION

The new Bishop, Scott Alan Johnson, is scheduled to have his installation here at First Lutheran Church on Saturday, September 24th. All are welcome to attend. Bishop Johnson's Installation service begins at 1:00 p.m. If you are able to help with hospitality prior to and following the installation, please contact Kandy in the church office.

CALLING ONE AND ALL SINGERS!

We at First Lutheran Church have an unusual opportunity to participate in the installation of our new Bishop. It has been requested that we provide a choir for this service. This will be a very special occasion, and we are happy to do our part in hosting this event.

The music that was chosen for this choir has a brass instrumental accompaniment, and we will be looking for all willing singers in order to present a balanced sound. The ability to read music is not required. Age or voice type does not matter. What does matter is that we raise our voices in joy and thankfulness for all God has given. Please consider being part of this joyful group on September 24. Contact the church office to sign up!

Thank you.
CJ Sabah

MISSION OUTREACH

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY UPDATE

On June 25, it was First Lutheran's workday at the Habitat for Humanity site in east Kearney. The crew worked on the second of the three houses which have been built this summer. Pastor Rick delivered devotions during the mid-morning coffee break. Lunch was also provided by First Lutheran's volunteers. We thank our members who have given of their time and energy this year for the mission of Habitat for Humanity in Kearney.



This month the board will be voting on two prospective homebuyers for 2023. Once they are approved the Building Committee will prepare the foundations for their homes. That simplifies work next spring in the event of extra cold or wet weather.

Progress continues on the three houses for 2022. If you like to paint, install cabinets, do landscaping, or other tasks, please visit the building site on Tuesday, or Thursday or Saturday mornings.

There is still a need for another member for the Family Selection Committee.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS

Please help us collect items for Lutheran World Relief Kits! First Lutheran Church takes pride in donating and assembling School Kits, Baby Care Kits, Personal Care Kits, Mission Quilts, Fabric Kits. Pens and pencils, a toothbrush, a quilt...ordinary items we take for granted become treasures in the hands of their recipients. Please give new items only, except where otherwise noted. Please do not donate items with any religious or patriotic symbols. Thank you for your partnership in putting them together.

For a complete list of items needed, visit <http://lwr.org/getinvolved/kits>. There is a donation box at First Lutheran Church in the coffee area by the pop machine.



MISSION OUTREACH

September's Donation of the Month: Cleaning Products

Suggestions: Sponges, brushes, dish soaps, toilet bowl cleaners, multi-purpose cleaners, cleaning powders, Clorox wipes.

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.

Counties we serve: Buffalo, Franklin, Harlan, Kearney, Phelps

Please place items on the "Sharing Shelf" in the narthex.

Thank you!



Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm/**Address:** 620 E. 25th Suite 14,
Kearney NE, 68847

Phone: 308-237-2599/**24 Hour Toll-Free Crisis Line:** 877-237-2513

MISSION OUTREACH



A dedicated day of service in our community.
Join us on September 11, 2022!

Areas of Opportunity

***Jubilee Center, Compass and the Safe Center**

It will be God's Work-Our Hands Sunday across the ELCA on September 11th. Many congregations will be involved in service projects both within and outside the congregations. Sunday School students at First Lutheran will assist in assembling school kits for Lutheran World Relief starting at 10 a.m. Lunch will be served to all members participating in our project. We will have projects at the Jubilee Center, Compass and the Safe Center at 1:00 p.m. Come and join this year's God's Work-Our Hands.

“God will bless all of the work of your hands.”

Deuteronomy 28:12

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

martibroockmeier@firstlutheranearney.org

Natalie Radcliffe

Worship Music Coordinator

natalieradcliffe@firstlutheranearney.org

Adam Eilers

Maintenance Coordinator

aeilers@firstlutheranearney.org

Amanda Lewis

Lead Teacher for the Preschool

amandalewis@firstlutheranearney.org

JUNE FINANCE REPORT

Ministry Budget:	JUNE 2022	YTD '22-'23'	YTD '21-'22
Budget Supporting Revenue	\$ 35,388	\$ 35,388	\$ 41,067
Budget Related Expenditures	\$ (59,406)	\$ (59,406)	\$ (60,509)

Total 2022-2023 Ministry Budget: \$757,672

Facilities Budget:	JUNE 2022	YTD '22-'23	YTD '21-'22
Revenue	\$ 6,414	\$ 6,414	\$ 5,687
Expenditures	\$ (5,410)	\$ (5,410)	\$ (4,684)

Total 2022-2023 Facilities Budget: \$34,100



GIVING OPTIONS

In addition to traditional giving options for your convenience First Lutheran offers electronic giving!

VANCO Faith: which allows people to make financial contributions to the church electronically in the following ways:

1. Online (just go to the First Lutheran website under the “Resources” tab), and
2. Mobile App (download the Vanco Mobile app on the iPhone or Android, create a profile and search for “First Lutheran”).

If you have any questions or would like assistance in using any of the above electronic giving options or would like to receive offering envelopes, please contact Marti in the church office.

Thank you so much for your faithful generosity to First Lutheran Church’s ministry!

COUNCIL UPDATE

Org Chart Review and a Potential New Ministry Team

Greetings First Lutheran Congregation,

Here's a brief report of the latest happenings from council. We agreed to be a charter organization for a potential new Venture Scout program. We also decided to form a special task force to review the church staff organizational chart. It's a healthy practice to review the org chart for future planning/needs of the church. A review of the org chart hasn't occurred in the last 5 or 6 years. We have an excellent staff of people who often go above-and-beyond for the church. It's important that we continue to set them up for success and adjust job responsibilities as the needs of the church evolve over time. This will be a joint effort between Council and Personnel Team.

We also discussed our Ministry Teams and the wonderful work being done by volunteers of the church. One need that has been discussed for a while is the need to be more visible in the community. As a result, we will be introducing a temporary committee that could grow into a permanent Ministry Team known as "Community Connections Team."

The Community Connections Team will plan and execute new programming and events designed to help First Lutheran Church be more visible in the wider community. Additionally, it will create content for digital media (web and social) and marketing use that will grow our reach, tell our story, and invite others to join us for worship. This committee will shine a light on the ministry of the church so that others may see our good works and glorify God. We will be looking for volunteers to fill this committee in the coming weeks. Look for more information coming soon. We are excited about the potential that a committee like this could bring to the table.

Additionally, we heard reports about preschool, children's programming, and First Lutheran Youth group. As we enter the new academic calendar, we pray that God be with the kids, teachers, parents and others involved. May God help us all learn and grow in our faith.

In peace,

Kyle Means
Council President

On behalf of: Kelly Russman, Shirley Smalley, Lee Fritson, Mark Kottmeyer, Mike Rafferty, Rachel Leach, Judy Henning, Karen Emal, Pastor Michelle, Pastor Rick, and Pastor Elisabeth.



CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Kyle Means
President

Kelly Russman
Vice President

Shirley Smalley
Treasurer

Lee Fritson
Secretary

Karen Emal

Judy Henning

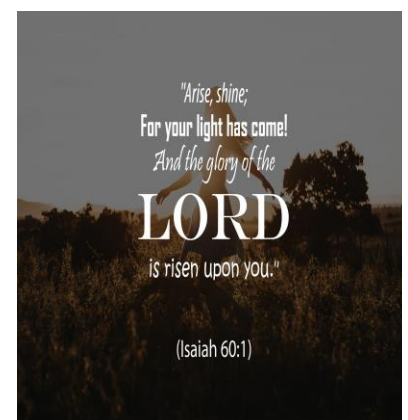
Mark Kottmeyer

Rachel Leach

Michael Rafferty

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.



WORSHIP THEMES

September 4, 2022

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20; PSALM 1;
PHILEMON 1-21; LUKE 14:25-33

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life" – to chose life in God as our own.

September 11, 2022

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

EXODUS 32:7-14; PSALM 51:1-10; 1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17; LUKE 15: 1-10

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

September 18, 2022

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

AMOS 8:4-7; PSALM 113; 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-7;
LUKE 16:1-13

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, ...gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing – we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

September 25, 2022

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

AMOS 6:1a, 4-7; PSALM 146; 1 TIMOTHY 6:6-19; LUKE 16:19-31

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those "at our gate," visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold – who comes to us risen from the dead – who can free us from the death grip of greed.



WITHIN OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY HERE AT FIRST

Prayers of Peace and Comfort for...

Don & Joyce Sullwold on the death of Joyce's sister, Maryann McNary.

Todd & Carla David and family on the death of Carla's cousin, Eric Clark.

Karen & Brad Bigelow on the death of Karen's brother, Marlin Johnson.

Alan & Theress Bricker on the death of Alan's father, Vance Bricker.

Ed & Marty Wilcox on the death of their daughter, Penny.

Virgy Lund on the death of her brother.

Mike & Bridget VonSeggern on the death of Bridget's cousin/godmother, Christy Schumacher.

Brent Bartholomew & family on the death of his son, Colby.

Congratulations to our September Volunteer of the Month:

Sound Offering!

Sound Offering, under the direction of Stacy Bean, has added joyous and uplifting music to our late Sunday morning service during the school year. We thank them for their dedication to bringing worshipful music to the Contemporary service as well as Worship in the Park and a concert at Upper Room Brewery. The members of this talented team are: Mollie Akerson, Dave Behle, Luke Dutcher, Mike Epley, Derek Schweitzer, and Stacy Bean.



A Note of Thanks

To everyone at First Lutheran who has supported us following the death of our daughter, Penny Harrold de Gonzalez, we would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation. Your many prayers, kindness and sympathy continue to be a great comfort to us in our time of sorrow.

Sincerely,
Marty and Ed Wilcox

2nd Grade Bibles Sunday, October 2nd

Receive Bibles at 8:45 am
service

"How do I use my Bible?"
class with Pastor Michelle
9:55 am
(parents and 2nd graders)

WOMEN of the ELCA

In the August issue of *The Messenger*, the purpose statement of the Women of the ELCA was printed. In the coming months we will show how as an organization we help to fulfill that purpose.

The first purpose is to help women commit themselves to grow in faith. There are many opportunities to grow in faith. One of those ways is to participate in a monthly Bible Study offered by the circles. The circles are listed on the side. Feel free to join a circle which fits best into your schedule. If those don't fit into your schedule you may want to check out the Women of the ELCA website. The Women of the ELCA website has several types of resources for you to use. *Café*, is an online magazine, which 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. Daily Grace is daily devotions written by women. If you wish you can receive this as an app on your phone. There are three opportunities to grow in faith through fellowship with other women from across the state. These are Autumn Renewal, Winter Retreat and the Southern Prairie Spring Gathering. More information will be available as we receive it.

Autumn Renewal is scheduled for Saturday, October 8 from 9:00 - 3:00 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Grand Island. The day will include Bishop-Elect Scott Johnson, a guest speaker and learning about a NE Synod Serving Arm. This is open to ALL women of the church. Registration forms are located on the Women of the ELCA bulletin board by the office and are due by September 28 to the State Treasurer.

WELCA BOARD MEETING - The Board meeting will be held on Monday, September 13th in Centennial Hall. We will have a potluck starting at 6:30 prior to the meeting. Please bring a dish to share. Table service and drinks will be provided. The meeting will follow.

Installation of WELCA Officers will be held during services the weekend of September 17 and 18th at all services. Circle Officers, Committee Chairs and WELCA Board members are requested to come forward at one of the services for installation. Thank you all for your willingness to serve.

Events for 2022

September 12 - 6:30 pm - WELCA Board Meeting & Potluck – Centennial Hall

September 17 & 18 - Installation of WELCA Officers, Circle Officers and Committee Chairs at all services



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)

10:00 am—3rd Monday
Co-Chairs: Joan Swanson
(308-234-2835) and Evy Kuecker
(308-237-5651)

DEBORAH CIRCLE

7:00 pm—3rd Monday
Chair: Deb Schauer (308-233-2669)

GLORIA CIRCLE

12:00pm—3rd Thursday
Chair: Judy Workman
308-237-2781

NAOMI CIRCLE

7:30pm—4th Thursday
(3rd Thurs. in Nov.)
Chair: Judy Niemann
(308)-234-4332

A WORD FROM PASTOR ELISABETH

Dear parents and youth in 8-12th grade,

God is up to good things in youth ministry at First Lutheran, and I'm in awe of the youth of our congregation who are living into all of who God is creating them to be. It is a wild and holy ride. Thank you for the gift of journeying together!

Our youth group theme this year will be "shine the light" – so be ready for lots of conversation, study, retreats, and a summer mission trip all around letting Christ's light shine in and through us to give glory to God (Matthew 5:16).

Once FLY resumes our regular Wednesday night programming on August 24, our schedule will expand to make space for candlelit reflection, and we will meet from 7:00-8:30pm.

It can be hard to be human, and sometimes we need space to notice where the cracks of light are breaking through the darkness. After an hour of relationship-building each week, this extra half hour will be a time to check-in by candlelight and let the Holy Spirit mess around in us.

8th graders are invited to join us at 8:00pm after confirmation, not only as a way to get a "sneak peek" into high school youth group but also to have a brave space to process how and where the burdens of life and joys of faith that are lived out in community meet.

This also means **FLY will not meet regularly on Sunday mornings between worship services**. If you are at church and want to hang out in the basement (Sunday mornings or anytime the church is open), you are most welcome to do so! There are snacks and games at your disposal, just clean up and shut off the lights when you leave.

I look forward to continuing on this wild and holy ride with ya'll and seeing how God will work in all our lives in the year ahead!

In hope,

Pastor Elisabeth
facebook.com/flykearney
Insta @firstluthyouthkearney
cell/text: 262-349-1885

SAVE THE DATE!

8TH-12TH GRADE PARENT & YOUTH MEETING FOR 2023 SUMMER MISSION TRIP

SUNDAY, SEPT. 18 @ 9:55AM
BASEMENT YOUTH ROOM

For all youth in high school next summer (incoming 9th-graduated 12th) interested in the FLY 2023 mission trip to Nashville, TN are invited to come learn trip details and get a calendar to participate in fundraising over the coming year!

q's to Pastor Elisabeth
cell: 262.349.1885

FLY (FIRST LUTHERAN YOUTH)

FLY – First Lutheran Youth: Summer Mission Trip Reflections

When I started the trip, I didn't know what to expect. I didn't know how amazing the people would be and certainly not the impact it would have on me as a person. But as we left on the first day, I could see we were all very excited to be going. Our first activity happened to take place 40 feet in the air on the high ropes course at Camp Carol Joy Holling, and it happened to be way worse than it seems. It was our first real test to see how well we would handle each other in trying circumstances because while some of us can talk quite a bit when you get up there it all changes. We also spent time working much closer to the ground on the low ropes course and going through team-building exercises.

We had a pretty quiet day 2 meeting new people and getting to watch the royals win 4-2 over the Rays. In the process of learning about everyone else we also learned a lot about the people, we traveled with. One person we learned a lot about that night was Keith who was only allowed to sleep in our room for one night due to the snoring that kept some of us up. But after a long night, we got up for our third day of the trip but our first day of service projects. I had the privilege to get to work with Project Cure, a medical distribution group that gives medical supplies to places around the world, but only after they have been asked, which means Project Cure won't send supplies or show up where they aren't invited. I personally packaged up bed frames for Ukraine, and others sorted medical supplies.

But the cool thing with their warehouse in Kansas City was that it's located underground. We then finished up our night with an escape room once again getting better at working together as a team and getting out of our room with hardly any time left. Getting up on day four we all had slept much better than the previous night (thanks, Keith) but it was once again a service day. We loaded up the van and headed to Kansas to work at the Police Athletic League. While there, we tended to their garden and participated in some boxing. We ate supper out at a lake after going swimming and then went back home to have some time to really focus together. We had a conversation about God, and sat in silence.

You could hear tears from some but still, no one said a word. For people that may not have been all too close before leaving you could tell none of that mattered. Even when I sat down with Reed, we both knew we didn't have to say a word but both knew we were there for each other. Even looking back at it now it still amazes me how a group that talks that much was quiet for that long. Even I surprised myself with that. But of course, the trip did have to come to an end but that doesn't mean we had to go out not having fun as we spent the last day at Worlds of Fun going on rollercoasters. But after we rode most of the rides we ran out of time and had to go home. This part took more work than it should have as well as we found out the church bus had broken down but we made it back right on time regardless, thanks to a few parents who drove to Omaha to pick us up. At the end of the day, this has been one of the most eye-opening trips I have been on.

By Mitchell Brandt

FLY (FIRST LUTHERAN YOUTH)

FLY – First Lutheran Youth: Summer Mission Trip Reflections (cont.)

Our mission trip to Kansas City was a lot of fun, filled with ups and downs. It started out great on the drive down along with a huge rope course 4 stories above the ground and the day finished with a pool night. The next morning, we drove from Omaha to Kansas City and went to a Royals baseball game. After that, we went to camp and met a bunch of other cool kids from Wisconsin. My first service project was going underground to help load supplies for medical supply packages being sent to Ukraine. It was so awesome being in Kansas City's underground warehouse district. We had mini church services every night, and got to connect with lots of different people. The next day my group went to a community garden and helped pick weeds and feed the chickens. We also got to go inside the community building and box with our friends. Later that night we had fun trying to beat an escape room. The next morning, we said goodbye to all the friends we made, ate at Waffle House, and drove home. It was a great trip where I made friends from far away, and connected with some new friends in Kearney too.

By Karson Peterson

CONFIRMATION & FLY WORKDAY

Come and join us on Saturday, September 17th at 9:00 a.m. We will have a work day and get things cleaned up and looking top notch! All hands are welcome!



FLY MISSION TRIP/FLY WORK DAY



KANSAS CITY MISSION TRIP 2022



FLY MISSION TRIP

FLY SUMMER MISSION TRIP PHOTOS



HIGH ROPES
2022



CAMPUS LUTHERAN



**A FUNDRAISER FOR THE MINISTRY OF
CAMPUS LUTHERAN
2715 9TH AVE. KEARNEY, NE 68845**

Join us to raise your spirits and
raise funds for our ministry! Evening includes appetizers and
wine tasting by The Alley Rose, live and silent auction, student
stories, live music, and tour our remodeled kitchen.

**TICKETS:
\$50/PERSON
\$300/TABLE OF 6**

**RSVP:
GIVEBUTTER.COM/RAISINGSPIRITS22**



NOTES FROM THE PRESCHOOL: A MINISTRY OF FLC

Hello First Lutheran Parishioners,

As always, our summer went by too quickly, but we are excited to start another new year at preschool. Our 3- & 4-year-old class is full, and we have a wonderful bunch of new students that includes several siblings of prior students. We are excited to welcome our new assistant teacher, Ms. Mindy Ackermann, who comes with lots of preschool teaching experience. We know this is going to be a fantastic year!

Our goal for the beginning of the year is to make sure our students are comfortable and at ease in this new environment. We will try to have as much fun as possible while teaching them how to follow directions and respect their fellow classmates. We will start off talking about Noah's Ark and all the animals that went on board and about how "God Made Me Special".

September is also a great month to talk about bugs so we will have an insect themed week and then we will wrap up the month with the always popular fire safety week in which we have a visit from some real firefighters!

We appreciate all the prayers and support our preschool gets from our First Lutheran Family! Thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lora and Ms. Mindy

Hello First Lutheran Church!

We have been busy finalizing our new assistant teachers. We are so blessed and excited to announce that Mrs. Sonya Vetick will be in Pre-K and Ms. Mindy Ackermann will be in the 3-4-year preschool room. They have accepted our invitation to help the wonderful children and parents at First Lutheran Church Preschool.

We also have been continually working on bulletin boards, organizing filing cabinets and getting our rooms equipped. We now are going to be stuffing folders for our Orientation Night and getting everything ready for that first day of school!

Orientation night was Tuesday, Aug. 16th. The Mon./Wed. class of Mrs. Lora's and my Pre-K class came at 5:30pm. Lora's Tues./Thurs. class came at 7pm. We were very excited to see those faces and get to know everyone!

The 3-4 year old classroom's first days were August 22nd (Mon./Wed. class) and 23rd (Tues./Thurs. class) from 8:15-11:45am. Pre-K's first day was Aug. 22nd. The Pre-K class is also from 8:15-11:45am; but is now Mon. – Fri. Our goal is to start our all-day program in two years. We want to take our time and get our facility the way it needs to be. We can't wait to get this year started and discover tons of new things to learn, sing and play. The 2022-2023 school year will be the best one yet!

Have a blessed August!
Mrs. Amanda Lewis & Mrs. Sonya

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

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

Sat./Sun., 3/4th - Worship @ 6pm, 8:45 am, 11:00 am

Sunday School 9:55 am

Worship @ Brookstone Gardens w/Sister Ruth Ellen 1 pm

Fantasy Football Draft Centennial Hall 6:00 pm

Potluck (bring sides)

Monday, 5th – Labor Day – Office Closed

Wednesday, 7th – Evening Programming: Feeding the Flock, FLY, FROG,
Confirmation, Praiser Bells, Heavenly Treble Makers

Sat./Sun., 10th/11th - Worship @ 6 pm, 8:45 am, 11:00 am

Sunday School/ New Member's Class between services

God's Work Our Hands – Lunch

God's Work Our Hands Service Day

Wednesday, 14th – Evening Programming: Feeding the Flock, FLY, FROG,
Confirmation, Praiser Bells, Heavenly Treble Makers

Saturday, 17th – Confirmation & FLY Workday 9 am – 1:00 pm

Sat./Sun., 17th/18th - Worship @ 6pm, 8:45am, 11:00am

Installation of Women's ELCA Officers (All 3 services)

Parent Planning Meeting FLY Mission Trip 9:55 am

New Member's Classes 9:55 am

Building Renovation Presentation 9:55 am (Sanctuary)

Sunday School 9:55 am

Wednesday, 21st – Evening Programming: Feeding the Flock, FLY, FROG,
Confirmation, Praiser Bells, Heavenly Treble Makers

Saturday, 24th – Installation of the New Bishop begins at 1:00 pm

No Saturday evening service

Reception following Installation

FLY after party for Synod Youth Basement

Sunday, Sept 25th - Worship @ 8:45am, 11:00am

New Members Classes 9:55 am/Sunday School 9:55 am

Monday, Sept 26th – Church Office Closed

Wednesday, Sept 28th – Evening Programming: Feeding the Flock, FLY, FROG,
Confirmation, Praiser Bells, Heavenly Treble Makers

First Lutheran Church, ELCA
3315 G Avenue
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OUR MISSION:

Growing in God's grace, reflecting Christ's love, and living in the Spirit.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 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

LIVE Radio Broadcast Sundays at 8:45am: KXPN 1460AM

PHONE: 308-237-5544 WEB: www.firstlutherankearney.org

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