

THE MESSENGER

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

Reflections on the 2024 Nebraska Synod Assembly by Preston Russman First Lutheran Church Youth Member

The Nebraska ELCA Lutheran Synod was held in Kearney, Nebraska on June 1-2, 2024. On Saturday, June 1, we began with a worship service lead by Bishop Scott Johnson to prepare our hearts and minds for the long decision-making weekend ahead. Then after proposed revisions, we were able to begin the decision-making part of the day. We began with elections for members who were running for a spot on various councils throughout the Synod. The positions were on the Synod Council, the Disciplinary Committee, the Consultation Committee, and more. Then, we had the first keynote session of the day from Rev. Jeff Chu. One of the main messages from this keynote session was “spiritual composting,” which relates to the idea of letting regrets and resentments free, as well as anything else that is weighing us down, ultimately making us feel lighter and more pure in our lives. Next, there was lunch.

After lunch, we had a brief budget report and presentation, which included the proposed budget announcement for the upcoming year. Then, we had a visit from an ELCA Churchwide Representative, where she talked about various things going on within the ELCA and various organizations and projects you can donate to. After a quick break, we attended two workshops. The first workshop was about the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans which I’ll be attending and it provided me with a lot of useful information.

I also attended a workshop how to incorporate contemporary music in the church services. While it provided information and useful resources, especially for struggling congregations, I didn’t enjoy it as much as I could have due to my personal preference of sticking with the more “classical” music, as the leader continued to say. Then, we got the election results back right before supper. (Unfortunately, Pastor John Gosswein wasn’t voted into any committees.)

cont’d.

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After supper, we had the next keynote session, with Rev. Jeff Chu. This time, it was about blessings of our everyday lives and ways to reflect on our own lives, as well as prayers of reflection and healing. The next day was more uneventful. We began by voting on the budget, which was passed very quickly. There really wasn't any questions at all and was pretty straightforward. (From what Pastor Rick has said, there is usually many more objections.) Then, we went into the Bishop's report of the past year, and talked about the great things that have been going on within the Synod and all the congregations. We were ahead of schedule so we had an open forum for comments and questions from leaders within congregations. A lot of positive and uplifting stories were told.

We ended with another worship service, this time lead by Rev. Jeff Chu. And with that, the assembly was over.

The assembly was a great experience to help me further understand the logistics of the Lutheran Church. I was able to vote on decisions, and hear from leaders within the Lutheran Church. I am glad I was able to be a part of this assembly and would love to be a part again in the future.

Sincerely,

Preston Russman

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Prayer Ventures for this month 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
	
www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response 800-638-3522	http://www.nlom.org 402-944-2544



summer worship times

SATURDAY, 6:00 PM
 SUNDAY, 8:45 AM
 SUNDAY, 10:30 AM

Service Time change

Late service returns to 11:00 am on Sunday, August 18th

WITHIN OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY



Prayers of Comfort and Peace for...

- Evan and Ashley Lewandowski on the death of Ashley's father, Jerome Fritz.
- Karen Bigelow on the death of her husband, Brad Bigelow.
- Della Wallace's family on her death.
- Arlene Loschen on the death of her husband, Gerry.
- Greg and Linda Sue Jensen on behalf of their friends, Dennis and Flora Peterson on the death of their son, Eric.
- Craig and Tamera Chamberlin on the death of Tamera's dad, Dennis Allen.
- Shirley Tesmer on the death of her brother, Edward Axmann.
- Lane Nansel on the death of his brother-in-law, Edward Axmann.
- Kari Anderson on the death of her husband, Tom Anderson.
- Jim and Twila Anderson on the death of Jim's brother, Tom Anderson.
- David Anderson, on the death of his uncle, Tom Anderson.
- Kim and Sue Wright on the death of Kim's brother, Stephen Wright



Habitat for Humanity needs help with:

- Painting interior of house 1
- Garden Shed work
- Painting exterior of house
- Siding on House 3
- Soffit and fascia
- Pour driveways and sidewalk
- Rototill and level dirt

We don't know what the weather will bring, but there are specific jobs that each person can do.



First Lutheran Church Work Day

Saturday, August 3rd | 8:00 AM

Marlatt Subdivision

Please sign up in the Narthex

Drop off lunch at 11:30 AM

We look forward to your help with these volunteer opportunities on August 3rd.

See the sign up board in the Narthex.

ELECTION RESULTS

A special “THANKS” to those who were able to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 30th and place their votes.

Election Results

Church Council

Christine Fisher
Lisa Parish
Tyler Schwartz

Endowment

Lori McArthur

Nominating Committee

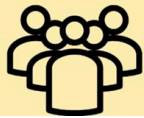
Christie Behle
Eileen Kottmeyer
Rachel Leach
Melanie Young (fill 1 year vacancy)

Preschool Board

Michelle Garth
Heidi Straka
Peggy Townsend

New Congregational Council Leadership :

President: Lee Fritson
Vice President: PJ Bartels
Secretary: Deb Schauer
Treasurer: Lisa Parish



Congregational Council Members:

Karen Emal Christine Fisher
Bill Schmidt Tyler Schwartz
Shirley Smalley
Pastor Michelle Carlson
Pastor Rick Carlson



MISSION OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:



“Sharing Shelf”

**July S.A.F.E. Center Donation:
Bath Towels, Dish Towels and Wash Cloths.
Please set donated items on the shelf in the Narthex.**

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.



**“Sharing Shelf”
August S.A.F.E. Center Donation:
Women's feminine hygiene products.
Please set donated items
on the shelf in the Narthex.**

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Counties served: Buffalo, Franklin, Harlan, Kearney, Phelps

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am - 5pm Address: 620 E. 25th Street Suite 14
Kearney, NE 68847 308-237-2599/Crisis line: 877-237-2513

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

**First Lutheran Preschool has an opening
for a Part-Time Pre-School
3 year old Head Teacher!**



If you love kids and are looking for
a part-time teaching position,
please apply at:
[https://firstlutherankearney.org
/employment-opportunities/](https://firstlutherankearney.org/employment-opportunities/)

FirstLutheranKearney.org

MISSION OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

The Mission Outreach Committee is asking for help from the congregation with the following needs:

Lutheran World Relief Coordinator needed. This volunteer coordinates volunteers, and assembles the donated items for quilts and kits to be shipped all over the world. Many of us enjoy when the quilts are all displayed in the sanctuary before they are shipped. But it may be interesting to know more about the destinations of these quilts and kits. If there is a location mentioned in the news, it is quite possible that Lutheran World Relief is involved with providing assistance. There is a map posted in the church hallway showing destinations of these LWR projects.

Who benefits from the LWR Kits?

On March 26, 2024, a cargo ship crashed into the Francis Scott Key Bridge — located just a few miles from Lutheran World Relief's headquarters in **Baltimore, Maryland**. The bridge collapsed, tragically killing six construction workers. The wreckage also trapped 10 other ships and their crews in the port for several weeks after the crash. Because they originally did not intend to stay in Baltimore more than a day or two, multiple crews did not have visas that would allow them to leave their ships, so they had to remain on board the entire time, which for some lasted for a few months. LWR provided more than 150 quilts and Personal Care kits, across 7 ships. One minister and chaplain involved in that distribution, Rev. Joshua Messick, explained, "Most seafarers are men. They usually have one towel and since fresh water is quite the commodity when you're surrounded by saltwater, their one towel doesn't get washed very often. So, their towels get really grungy. You'd think we handed them a bar of gold when we gave them the Personal Care Kits. It contained everything they needed. The towels in particular have been an incredible gift."

School kits affected students in **Tanzania**. Teachers dreaded telling children to ask their parents for school supplies, and at times, students were absent when they did not have those items to bring. Since the kits were delivered, attendance has greatly improved.

Residents of Tsyркuny, **Ukraine** were not only grateful for the quilts and rare supplies – they were touched that other people care enough to help them.

A shipment of LWR Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits, and quilts is being planned for **Lebanon**, for those who have been displaced due to the conflict in Israel and Gaza. If you, or you and a friend, are feeling called to consider this coordinator role, please contact the church office for more information.

Mission Outreach Committee Team Member – we are in need of a few more members for this committee. Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month to coordinate missionary support, seasonal funding projects, Safe Center donations, adult forums, Advent Fair, Jubilee Meals, Habitat for Humanity, and other outreach activities of First Lutheran Church. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 308-237-5544.

Thank you for considering serving others in these ways.

JULY VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

A special “THANK YOU” to our July Volunteer of the month!

July Volunteer of the Month: Judy Niemann

Judy has donated several quilts to the Carol Joy Holling Quilt Auctions. Her quilts have raised over \$1,500!



You can bid on this beautiful quilt! Details on the Carol Joy Holling Website: www.CJHCenter.org



**Quilt Auction.
Saturday, July 27, 2024
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Online bids
accepted on July 27**

Judy Niemann works “behind the scenes” to donate beautiful quilts on behalf of First Lutheran to Carol Joy Holling each year. In 2023, First Lutheran (Judy) donated two different quilts. One quilt was called Roman Stripe and was also worked on by Alice Heckman. It sold for \$1,050. Her second quilt was called Stack and Whack and sold for \$200. In 2022, a Split Nine Patch quilt was donated and sold for \$210. Pictured here is the quilt Judy donated for the 2024 CJH Quilt Auction. Online bids begin at 9am on July 27.

<https://www.cjhcenter.org/quilt-auction>

This is a work of art and love.

Thank you Judy, for donating your time, materials and talent!

AUGUST VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

**August Volunteers of the Month:
Retiring members of Church Council:**

**Judy Henning
Kyle Means
Kelly Russman**



We can't thank our outgoing council members enough for their multiple years of service. They have used their time and talents on many things, including the paperwork and decisions regarding our renovation. All three held positions on our executive team: Kyle as President, Kelly as Vice-President, and Judy as Secretary. They also represented Council on other teams such as Preschool, Care and Growth, Mission Outreach, and Personnel. We express our appreciation to all three of these outstanding individuals for being a part of our leadership team. Thank you for being so generous with your time and talents!

EVENTS

Blessing of the Backpacks



August 10 & 11
All Three Services

Service Time change

Late service returns to
11:00 am on Sunday,
August 18th

Sunday School Returns

Sunday, August 18th
9:55am - 10:55am



Registration Forms:
Welcome Stations
www.firstlutheranearney.org

TEACHER INSTALLATION

Sunday School, FROG
Confirmation Teachers

Sunday, August 18th
8:45am and 11:00am



Confirmation Orientation



August 21, 2024 6:30PM CENTENNIAL HALL
Orientation is for 6th - 8th grade students and their parents/guardians.

Handbell Exploration and Workshop Having Fun with Bells

Saturday, August 24, 2024
9:00 AM to Noon
First Lutheran Church Sanctuary



Come and give bells a try.
Or come for a technique refresher.
No commitment required.
Ability to read music not required.

Worship at Dryden Park

Sunday, August 25th at 11:00 am
Installation of Council Members

Sunday School at 9:55 am
Picnic to follow Worship



Wednesday Night Activities Return

Wednesday, August 28th

Praiser Bells - 5:15 - 5:45pm
Feeding the Flock - **for all ages** 5:30 - 6:30pm
Heavenly Treble Makers - 6:15 - 6:45pm
FROG 6:30pm - 7:55pm
Confirmation Classes 6:50pm - 8:00pm



YOUTH MINISTRY

In June, Pastor Rick took eleven FLC youth to Confirmation Camp at Carol Joy Holling. This photo is from Inspiration Point. The group was blessed to have Karson Peterson as one of their counselors. Karson is a member at First Lutheran and worked at camp this summer.



CREATED TO BE We're attending the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans!

Thanks to the FLY fundraising events over the past year, this group was able to reduce their cost to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Thank you for helping to make this trip affordable for them!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Vacation Bible School "Camp Firelight" was a huge success this year! We had over 65 children participate and raised over \$787 for Sunshine Camp! Thank you to the MANY volunteers who helped with this year's event!



FROM THE COUNCIL

Greetings First Lutheran Congregation,
Here is an update from your Church Council and the latest happenings at
First.

June was a busy month for the Staff as preparations for Budget Forum and Annual Meeting took place. The Annual Meeting was held on 6/30 and our upcoming Budget was approved as well as election of new members of Council and other committees.

Though summertime can feel like a “quiet time” for the church, there are many exciting things happening during this time of the year. I would like to focus on the happenings of the church regarding the First Lutheran Youth during the summer. In June, Pastor Rick took eleven confirmation students (in-coming 8th Graders) to Church Camp at Carol Joy Holling in Ashland. This is an important event in shaping the spiritual lives of our middle school youth. As I am writing this, our High School youth will be attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA. This is another faith shaping event in the lives of our High School youth. Also, currently, our Vacation Bible School is happening. Vacation Bible School is a tremendous faith building time for our younger members of First and the community.

In August, our youth programing starts up again with Sunday School beginning and our mid-week programing starting back up as well. On Wednesday nights our church provides a meal called “Feeding the Flock”. This is open to all regardless of age. There is a misnomer that this is for the youth attending mid-week activities. As someone who attends the Feeding the Flock Meal, I am uplifted and energized with the activity surrounding our youth.

We are very blessed that we as a church can provide these opportunities to our young people. We pray that these experiences help them grow closer to God and strengthens their faith.

Yours in Christ,

Lee Fritson
Council President



JULY WORSHIP THEMES

July 7, 2024

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

EZEKIEL 2:1-5; PSALM 123; 2
CORINTHIANS 12:2-10; MARK 6:1-13

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the “between”: between Jesus and this Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

July 14, 2024

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

AMOS 7:7-15; PSALM 85:8-13;
EPHESIANS 1:3-14; MARK 6:14-29

When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod’s fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them and to proclaim God’s saving love.

July 21, 2024

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

JEREMIAH 23:1-6; PSALM 23;
EPHESIANS 2:11-22; MARK 6:30-34, 53-
56; 2 SAMUEL 7:1-14A; PSALM 89:20-37

Mark’s gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today’s gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn’t think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers’ need. We are sent from Christ’s table to care for others and for ourselves.

July 28, 2024

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

2 KINGS 4:42-44; PSALM 145:10-18;
EPHESIANS 3:14-21; JOHN 6:1-21;
2 SAMUEL 11:1-15; PSALM 14

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus’ table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

AUGUST WORSHIP THEMES

August 4, 2024

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

EXODUS 16:2-4, 9-15; PSALM 78:23-29;
EPHESIANS 4:1-16; JOHN 6:24-35

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

August 11, 2024

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

1 KINGS 19:4-8; PSALM 34:1-8;
EPHESIANS 4:25 - 5:2; JOHN 6:35, 41-51

Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

August 18, 2024

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

PROVERBS 9:1-6; EPHESIANS 5:15-20;
JOHN 6:51-58; 1 KINGS 2:10-12; 3:3-14;
PSALM 111

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

August 25, 2024

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

JOSHUA 24:1-2a, 14-18; PSALM 34:15-22;
EPHESIANS 6:10-20; JOHN 6:56-59; 1
KINGS 8:[1,6,10-11] 22-30, 41-43

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

Pre-K

Happy Summer to All!

The month of June included cleaning and organizing the classrooms. We're looking forward to our new classes in August!

We sent out orientation letters and supply lists to our parents.

Pictured below are some items that we purchased from your January donations. (It is like Christmas in July!)

Ms. Mindy planned to be our head teacher this fall in the 3 year old classroom since she learned so much from Mrs. Lora and myself. Unfortunately she had to move away, and we are now in the search for a very talented and caring teacher that loves to work with young children.

Please reach out to me if you might know of someone who wants to work very part-time. Only 4 mornings a week and we have such a great staff to work with.

Our teachers truly care about your child, and we have lots of parents who would love to tell you about all the awesome things we do here.

We will be working on bulletin boards, organizing filing cabinets and getting our rooms ready. Construction in our bathroom is about to start, and we hope to be in our rooms early August.

Orientation night is Tuesday, Aug. 15th.

Both the Pre-K class and the 3-4 year old class will come with their families at 7pm.

We are very excited to see those faces, show them around, and get to know everyone! The cookie party after the meeting is always a big hit too!

All classrooms start on Monday, August 19th.

The 3 & 4 yr class is Monday – Thursday and the Pre-K class is Monday – Friday.

All classes are 8:15 am-11:45 am.

We can't wait to get this year started and discover tons of new things to learn, sing and play. The 2024-2025 school year will be the best one yet!

The 3 & 4 yr class is full with a waiting list, but we do have 3 openings in Pre-K. If you are interested in one of the openings and would like some phone numbers of parents to talk to, please email me at amandalewis@firstlutheran Kearney.org or text me at 308-240-0872.

Have a blessed August!

Mrs. Amanda Lewis
& Mrs. Sonya Vetick





Women of the ELCA



On July 15th the ladies of the church enjoyed a program by Shanna Held; a Spanish teacher by day and a Master Gardener on the weekends. She presented a very interesting program on “Edible Flowers”. She told us of the 12 edible flowers that grow well in Nebraska and the flavors they have.

A few of the edible varieties are pansies, viola, lilac, peony sunflower, narcissus, rose, and lavender. The dandelion is the healthiest weed you can eat and the best time to harvest flowers is in the morning and enjoy them that same day. She reminded us to only eat flowers that have been raised organically as you don’t know what pesticides have been used. Shanna gave us edible seeds to take home and plant in our own gardens.

Following the program a short meeting of the Women of the ELCA was held with election of officers. Elected at the meeting were Vice-President - Betty Heggemeyer and Treasurer - Jo Smallcomb. The President for next year will be Linda Fowler and Bev Vacha will serve as Secretary.

A tangible offering was taken for Lutheran World Relief for the kits that we put together. Thank you Deborah Circle for hosting the meeting tonight. The ice cream and toppings hit the spot on a very hot day.

We are still collecting items for Lutheran World Relief. School supplies will soon be going on sale so any donations you could make will definitely help put school kits together. Items we are in short supply of 4 - 70 page notebooks for each kit. We could also use black or blue ballpoint pens, and #2 unsharpened pencils with erasers, pencil sharpeners and 16/24 count of crayons.

For the personal care kits we need lightweight dark bath towels, sturdy combs, and nail clippers. You may place the donations in the box in the cafeteria area. Thank you for any help you can give.

The Saved to Serve opportunity this year will take place at LFS/Dana Village in Blair. This village is for young adults who are exiting the foster care system. The weekend will include setting up the Dana Village Pantry, making healthy snacks/meals and assembling quilts and personal care kits. Registration forms are located on the Women of the ELCA bulletin board and are due July 19.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- August 2, 6 pm - August 4, 1 pm - Saved to Serve | Dana Village in Blair
- Sept. 9 - 6:30 pm - Board Meeting & Potluck | Centennial Hall
- Sept. 14/15 - All services: Installation of Officers, Board & Circle Officers & Committee Chairpersons

DEBORAH CIRCLE
 5:00 pm – 3rd Monday
 Chair: Deb Schauer
 308-233-2669

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

NAOMI CIRCLE
 7:00pm - 4th Thursday
 (3rd Thurs. in Nov.)
 Chair: Judy Niemann
 308-234-4332

ELECTRONIC GIVING:

Please consider using VANCO Mobile Faith, as you give and donate to help us lower expenses.

You can select a one-time or recurring donation.

- Online: Visit FirstLutheranKearney.org.
- Click on the “Resources” tab, then “Make a Donation”.
- Or download the Vanco Mobile Faith app on an iPhone or Android. Search for “First Lutheran Church” at 3315 Ave G, Kearney. Create a profile.

MAY FINANCE REPORT			
Ministry Budget:	May 2024	YTD '23-'24	YTD '22-'23
Budget Supporting Revenue	\$ 80,892	\$ 728,225	\$ 731,425
Budget Related Expenditures	\$ (59,602)	\$ (748,481)	\$(748,481)
Total 2023-2024 Ministry Budget: \$759,201			
Facilities Budget:			
	May 2024	YTD '23-'24	YTD '22-'23
Revenue	\$ 4,337	\$ 59,863	\$ 83,549
Expenditures	\$ (41,741)	\$ (59,863)	\$ (83,549)
Total 2023-2024 Facilities Budget: \$44,100			

JUNE FINANCE REPORT			
Ministry Budget:	June 2024	YTD '24-'25	YTD '23-'24
Budget Supporting Revenue	\$ 38,808	\$ 38,808	\$ 49,514
Budget Related Expenditures	\$ (54,265)	\$ (54,265)	\$ (53,993)
Total 2024-2025 Ministry Budget: \$768,954			
Facilities Budget:			
	June 2024	YTD '24-'25	YTD '23-'24
Revenue	\$ 4,589	\$ 4,589	\$ 4,845
Expenditures	\$ (1,048)	\$ (1,048)	\$ (1,569)
Total 2024-2025 Facilities Budget: \$44,100			

OFFERING ENVELOPES:

Thank you to all those who regularly use 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're unable to contribute 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 noted might 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 Stacy in the church office. Thank you for your help!

If you have any questions or need assistance using the electronic giving options or need offering envelopes, please contact Stacy Seim in the church office:

(308)237-5544 or SSeim@FirstLutheranKearney.org

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

Church Office

office@firstlutheranearney.org

Pastor Rick Carlson

Co-Pastor

rcarlson@firstlutheranearney.org

Pastor Michelle Holley Carlson

Co-Pastor

mcarlson@firstlutheranearney.org

Kandy Bacon

Administrative Assistant

kbacon@firstlutheranearney.org

Kathy Benne

Director of Communications and Events

kbenne@firstlutheranearney.org

Sarah Schweitzer

Volunteer Ministry Coordinator

Volunteers@firstlutheranearney.org

Stacy Seim

Bookkeeper

sseim@firstlutheranearney.org

Natalie Radcliffe

Music Coordinator

natalieradcliffe@firstlutheranearney.org

Amanda Lewis

Lead Teacher for the Preschool

amandalewis@firstlutheranearney.org

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Lee Fritson

President

PJ Bartels

Vice President

Lisa Parish

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BEV VACHA

TREASURER:

JO SMALLCOMB

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please view the calendar on our website for updates.

Sat/Sun, July 13/14	Worship - Sat. 6:00 pm, Sun. 8:45 am and 10:30 am
Sat/Sun, July 20/21	Worship - Sat. 6:00 pm, Sun. 8:45 am and 10:30 am
Sat/Sun, July 27/28	Worship - Sat. 6:00 pm, Sun. 8:45 am and 10:30 am One of the Pastors at Family of Christ
Sat/Sun, August 3/4	Worship - Sat. 6:00 pm, Sun. 8:45 am and 10:30 am Laying on of Hands at all services
Sat/Sun, August 10/11	Worship - Sat. 6:00 pm, Sun. 8:45 am and 10:30 am Blessing of the Backpacks
Tues. August 15	Preschool Orientation Night
Sat/Sun, August 17/18	Worship - Sat. 6:00 pm, Sun. 8:45 am and 11:00 am Sunday second service returns to 11:00 am Sunday School returns Teacher Installation Laying on of Hands at all services
Mon. August 19	Preschool Classes resume
Wed. August 21	Confirmation Orientation
Sat. August 24 Sat, August 24	Handbell Exploration & Workshop 9am - 12noon Worship - 6:00 pm
Sun, August 25	Sunday School - 9:55 am Worship - 11:00 am - ONE SERVICE at Dryden Park Installation of Church Council Church Picnic - bring a dessert or side to share Bring a lawn chair!
Sat/Sun, August 31/Sept. 1	Worship - Sat. 6:00 pm, Sun. 8:45 am and 11:00 am Laying on of Hands at all services.

Early September Upcoming Events:

Mon, Sept 2 - Labor Day | Church Office closed | No preschool

Sun, Sept. 8 God's Work, Our Hands | New member Class

Church Picnic at Dryden Park

- Sunday, August 25th
- Following Outdoor Worship (around 12:00pm)
- Hot Dogs and Lemonade provided
- Bring a side or dessert to share and your own table settings.
- Bring your own seating

Worship at Dryden Park

Sunday, August 25th at 11:00 am
Installation of Council Members

Sunday School at 9:55 am
Picnic to follow Worship



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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 8:45 a.m. | KXPN 1460AM

PHONE: 308-237-5544 WEB: <https://firstlutherankearney.org>

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday

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