

# THE DECEMBER MESSENGER

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

As we approach this Advent season, we want to thank you for being a part of our family. We hope you find meaningful opportunities to participate and worship with us this month.

Let us wait for God together this season, and be ready to receive the light and life He brings.

## *Fear Not!*

**Advent Services  
Wednesday Evenings  
6:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
December 3, 10, and 17**

Join us during Advent Services as we reflect on the hope, peace, joy, and love He offers the world.

Our Blue Christmas Service is for those carrying grief or heavy emotions during the holiday season.

## **JOIN US FOR A BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE**



**Sunday, December 21, 2:00 pm  
First Lutheran Church Sanctuary**

*A reflective worship gathering for anyone carrying grief or heavy emotions during the holiday season. We'll offer quiet music, prayer, and a space for comfort and hope.*

## **Christmas Eve Services**

**December 24th  
5:00 pm - Family Friendly  
7:00 pm - Candlelight Service  
11:00 pm Candlelight Service**

Join us for our Christmas Eve services as we celebrate together through powerful music and a message of hope.

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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.

## RESOURCES

**ELCA: [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
800-638-3522**

**Nebraska Synod: [www.nebraskasynod.org](http://www.nebraskasynod.org)  
402-896-5311**

**Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry:  
[www.nelcm.com](http://www.nelcm.com) 402-391-1144**

**Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries:  
[www.nlom.org](http://www.nlom.org) 402-944-2544**

**Lutheran World Relief: [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org)  
800-597-5972**

**Lutheran Disaster Response:  
[www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response](http://www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response)  
800-638-3522**



## **Prayers of Comfort and Peace for...**

- Steve and Judy Fisher and family on the death of Steve's aunt, Helen Buckles
- Christine Fisher on the death of her great aunt, Helen Buckles
- Ella Honeywell's family on her death
- Kim and Sue Wright on the death of Kim's sister, Barb Hodges
- Jim Crick's family on his death
- Sharon Liljehorn and family on the death of her son, Josh Liljehorn
- Betty Heggemeyer and family on the death of Betty's niece, Julie Bond

## MISSION OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:

### S.A.F.E. Center Donations for December: *Cleaning Products*



Please set items on  
the sharing shelf in  
the narthex.



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 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

**After a fire forced us to close the doors of our emergency shelter in April, the S.A.F.E. Center never stopped showing up. We continued to answer calls, placed families in safe spaces, and provided the support survivors deserved. Now, through our S.A.F.E. Tomorrow Campaign, we're preparing to purchase a new emergency shelter: a secure, healing space where survivors can take their next step forward.**



Scan, Click, or Give:

[safecenter.org/shelter-campaign](https://safecenter.org/shelter-campaign)

Mail: 620 E 25<sup>th</sup> STE 14, Kearney, NE

Visit: The S.A.F.E. Center

**A Safe Tomorrow Starts Today**



## MISSION OUTREACH

### Jubilee Meals for January

January 8<sup>th</sup> and January 22<sup>nd</sup>

First Lutheran Volunteers  
will supply food

Please sign up in the Narthex  
to bring food or help.

Confirmation Students  
will help serve the  
Jubilee Meals. Please  
check your emails for  
the link to sign up!

This holiday season, give a gift that makes a real difference in the world. Through ELCA Good Gifts, you can provide someone with goats, feed a refugee family or support an ELCA missionary. Visit [ELCA.org/GoodGifts](http://ELCA.org/GoodGifts), pick up a donation from our Good Gifts Tree, or **write a check to ELCA Good Gifts** and deposit it in the Good Gifts box on the welcome station.



The First Lutheran Mission Outreach Team has designated “Warm Meals at a Feeding Ministry” as their donation drive this year. **Endowments will match all funds up to \$3,000!**

**\$20 Serves 10 at a feeding ministry.**  
**\$100 Serves 50 at a feeding ministry.**

Whether people are looking for refuge from the streets or a little extra help to get by, a warm meal can go a long way. Your gifts help support feeding ministries across the country as they serve up meals to people in need.



**Please make checks payable to: ELCA Good Gifts and put in the Good Gifts boxes on the welcome station.**



## WOMEN'S ELCA

CHRISTMAS COFFEE AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH -  
DECEMBER 13, 2025, AT 9:00 A.M. FOR BREAKFAST &  
ORPHAN TRAIN PROGRAM AT 9:30 A.M.

**RSVP** by Dec 10th at FLC Hall Bulletin Board or  
call 308-237-5544 Kandy Bacon



The theme is "Angels Guiding Us". We will be rejoicing as the angels did.



Pastor Michelle Carlson will give us an update on the S.A.F.E. Center.

### **A Free Will Donation or Donated Food Items will benefit the S.A.F.E. Center**

List of needed items needed for residents at S.A.F.E. Center:

Quaker Instant Oatmeal Express Cups

Individual Ramen Noodle soup packs

Kraft Mac and Cheese | Individual Pouches of Graham Crackers

Hormel "Compleats" Microwavable Meals

Peanut Butter | Chef Boyardee Microwavable Bowls

Individually Packaged Mini Oreos, Nutter Butter Bites, Chips Ahoy!

Individual Packs of Dole sliced Peaches, Mandarin Oranges

Individual Packages of Ritz Crackers

Single Serving Applesauce Packs

Microwavable Popcorn | Granola Bars

Program  
Featuring  
Speaker:

Charlotte Endorf

A free community  
presentation on  
the Orphan Train.



WISHING YOU A CHRISTMAS BLESSED WITH OVERFLOWING JOY! JUDY W.  
REMINDER: WOMEN'S ELCA BOARD MEETING JANUARY 15, 2026, 1:00PM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL  
WINTER RETREAT: JANUARY 17, 2026, AT 9:00AM ST. PAUL LUTHERAN GI

## STEWARDSHIP

Hello First Lutheran Family,

The Stewardship Committee thanks all who have submitted their pledge cards and surveys. This year we wanted to highlight the ways God has led us in generosity, and provide a reflection opportunity for the future. Our congregation has been very blessed through the generosity of its members in their gifts and talents. Our congregation has a long history of caring for the surrounding community as well, and we are excited to discern where God is calling us next.

We hope you appreciated a behind the scenes look at the hands that participate in a regular worship service. From the oven that bakes the communion bread, to the cleaning of the pews: every part of our church happens through the involvement of many people. We applaud your commitment and are thankful for your stewardship of time and resources towards our church's witness and community.

We have started conversations with our leadership teams to hear how God has blessed their work and areas of focus. It is clear God is calling our church to Embrace the Light, and the Light seems to be coming from multiple directions! Our church sustains all its good work, community, and outreach through the dedication and support of congregation members like you. Thank you for being an important part of our church. We look forward to continuing these conversations and reflections.

Stewardship Committee;

Pastor Logan Ellis, Randy Hinrichs, Scott Darveau, CJ Sabah, Annette Schwartz, Sharon Liljehorn, Mark Kottmeyer, Pastor Rick Carlson



EMBRACING  
*the* LIGHT

## VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

A special "THANK YOU" to our  
Volunteers of the Month!

Our December Volunteers of the Month are:  
**The Chancel Choir**



Thank you for blessing us with beautiful music!

THANK YOU!

### With Gratitude

Thanks to those of you who remembered us during Pastors' Appreciation Month. We are grateful for your gifts and kind words.  
Pastor Michelle and Pastor Rick

Dear First Lutheran Church,  
Thank you so much for the beautiful fruit basket! It is so nice to you to remember us -  
Twila and Jim Anderson

Dear Office Staff of First Lutheran Church:  
Pastor Rick, Pastor Michelle, Natalie, Jen, Sarah, Stacy, Kathy & Kandy,

Thank you all for your comforting words, heartfelt condolences & uplifting prayers on the passing of Grandma Dixie. It truly means so much to Ollie & I to have such a supportive & caring church staff & church family. We appreciate you!

God's Blessings to you All,  
Michelle & Ollie Garth



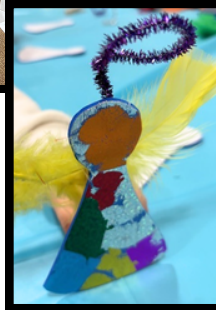
# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## Advent Fair

Advent is a season of hope, a time to nurture peace, and experience joy in anticipation for the love that is made incarnate with the birth of Jesus.

The Advent Fair is an annual event for people of all ages to make and take projects that will prepare their hearts and homes for the first week of Advent. We made crafts, enjoyed a hot cocoa bar, decorated cookies, and more.

Thank you Bridget Von Seggern and family, all the volunteers, and all who purchased supplies to make this event possible!



## YOUTH MINISTRY - FLY



Hello First Lutheran Family!

FLY is preparing for the upcoming Sunday FLY Brunch and Silent Auction. We are looking forward to our partnership with the Cantata to have great music and great food. We are thankful for everyone who shares their passions and gifts, and those who support FLY through their purchases and donations. We are hoping to use these funds towards future mission trips and the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. I hope as the date draws closer, you will be able to see and appreciate the wonderful auction items for a good cause!

This month we have had several great activities. We invited Presbyterians from several denominations for our Crossroad Conversations. It was a great discussion with several topics such as salvation, predestination, church polity, and even sports preferences.

We also created prayer beads for the pre-K students, and had an excellent discussion with Campus Lutheran students and staff about relevant topics such as the relationship between schools and church. You will soon notice a more festive Centennial Hall as we bring out the holiday decorations.

December will have some great programming opportunities. We have invited speakers from the Newman Center and the local Orthodox church to have a CrossRoads Conversation of the three main branches of Christianity: Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox. We also plan to help a local community partner in mission, and bond over some holiday themed activities as Advent comes closer and closer.

-Pastor Logan



**FLY Brunch & Silent Auction**  
 Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am - 11:00 am

**Silent Auction Donations Needed!**

New or handmade items welcome.  
 All proceeds support our High School Youth Group.

Please bring items to the church office between  
 November 16 - December 7

### Youth Programs Resume

- F.R.O.G. & Confirmation Resumes January 7th
- Sunday School Resumes January 11
- FLY - Check your emails for meeting dates





## MUSIC MINISTRY

### Community Bell Concert



Featuring:  
Gloria Dei Bells, First Presbyterian Church  
Chancel Bells, First Lutheran Church  
Acclamation Bells, First United Methodist Church

Saturday, December 6, 4:00pm  
Merryman Performing Arts Center  
Cookie Reception to Follow  
Free Will Offering will be shared among the bell choirs

### Preschool Christmas Program

Everyone is welcome!

- Thursday
- December 11
- 6:30pm
- Sanctuary



### Chancel Choir Cantata



Cantata will be presented at all three services  
the weekend of December 13/14, 2025.

### Children's Christmas Program

- Saturday, December 20 at 6:00pm Service
- Sunday, December 21 at 8:45am Service
- A few songs at the beginning of Sunday, December 21 at 11:00am Service



### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE SCHEDULE

- Sun. November 30th 2-3pm - Cast only  
3-4pm - All Preschool - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Wed. December 3<sup>rd</sup> 7-8pm - Cast Only after Advent Service
- Sun. December 7th 2-3pm - Cast only  
3-4pm - All Preschool - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Wed. December 10<sup>th</sup> 7-8pm - Cast Only after Advent Service
- Sun. December 14th 2-3pm - Full Dress Rehearsal for Cast  
3-4pm - All Preschool - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Wed. December 17<sup>th</sup> 7-8pm - Cast Only after Advent Service  
- Design team puts up the set

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

- Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm - Arrive at 5:45pm in Room 9
  - Sunday, December 21 at 8:45am - arrive at 8:30am in room 9. We'll have a party in the gym between services.
  - Sunday, December 21 - 11:00 am service - We'll sing a few songs at the beginning of service, then head out or stay for service.
- Questions? Call or text Amanda Lewis at 308-240-0872. Thanks!



## Three & Four Year Old Class

Hello from the 3-4-year-old preschool class, November was a month full of activities where we learned about the beauty of Nature and the wonderful story of the first Thanksgiving.

We had a fantastic time with our dads and grandfathers that were able to attend our Donuts with Dad. Everyone had a great time introducing their dads to their friends and making beautiful Nature boxes with them. And of course, eating delicious donuts.

We talked about all we are thankful for and why we celebrate Thanksgiving. Our preschoolers also helped "Turkey" hide from Farmer Jake, so he wouldn't be served for Thanksgiving dinner. We all enjoyed our Thanksgiving Feast that the children prepared and decorated for. We also spent time learning about the many habitats in which animals live.

We focused on learning to write and recognize the letters D, E, and V. We worked on writing and counting the numbers 12, 13, and 14.

We are here for only a few weeks in December, but it will be very busy. We will be focusing on the true meaning of Christmas and talking about how gift giving is even better than receiving gifts! Our preschool families will be helping to decorate at Yanney Park for the Holiday Light Festival. We hope all of you can make it out to see the beautiful light displays December 4-14 at Yanney Park.

We will be celebrating our own Christmas with a book gift exchange in our classroom and performing for our families at our Christmas Program on **Thursday, December 11 at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome!**

We will also be learning to write and recognize the letter G and count items to 16.

We wish Everyone a Very Merry Christmas!

Blessings,

Ms. Marissa, Mrs. Sonya, Mrs. Deb, Mrs. Kelly, and Mrs. Linda





## PreSchool

Happy December!

We have been busy learning our letters, letter sounds, words and even what a sentence looks like. We've learned about insects, sea creatures, land creatures, Veterans, Native Americans and Thanksgiving. We have been reading our letter books: Hippo Hop, Katy the Kangaroo and Jungle Jim.

They love exploring the science center and art center. They are learning to juggle balloons and balance bean bags. They hammered golf tees into a big pumpkin, explored insects, sea creature books and land animals.

It's been fun seeing how much they love our art center! They are cutting, gluing, drawing, writing words and creating so many beautiful things! I have been assessing students during centers on their letters and sounds. They know so much and in fact, most know all or close to all of them!

We had our first parent/teacher conferences on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> and it went very well. We had 100% attendance and the parents are really happy with how well it is going and the progress they are making.

We loved our late September field trip to Dmilaco. The students had a blast making their own t-shirts and were able to wear them before we left. They sang some songs to the staff and Denny sang a couple songs to us!

We went to Trails and Rails in October and loved learning so much about life in the 1800s. Our last field trip for 2025 was at the Police Station and we had a ton of fun! Sargent Smalls and other officers were great and we got some cool collectible police cards!

We've had a couple of parent "speakers of the month" tell us about their jobs! They are learning all the cool things they can do when they get big!

Mrs. Shawna, from the library, comes to see us each month and reads great books to us!

Chapel is always amazing with Pastor Rick and Pastor Michelle!

We are preparing for our Christmas Program which is Thursday, **Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome** to come see these cute faces tell about Jesus's birth.

Have a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Mrs. Amanda & Mrs. Sonya



## EVENTS

### *Fear Not!*

**Advent Services  
Wednesday Evenings  
6:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
December 3, 10, and 17**

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ in his incarnation.

Charlotte Endorf is a nationally known author. What a unique opportunity to learn about the Orphan Train!

Free will or food donations will go to the S.A.F.E. Center.

### **Join us for the Women's ELCA Christmas Coffee**

**December 13th | Centennial Hall  
9:00am Breakfast | 9:30am Program**

Pastor Michelle will share about the S.A.F.E. Center, and author Charlotte Endorf will present "Excess Baggage: Riding The Orphan Train"



Visit the FLC website for items to bring for the S.A.F.E. center

**RSVP**

Before December 10 by signing up on the Women's ELCA Board, or call the First Lutheran Church office at 308.237.5544

### **Chancel Choir Cantata**

**Go Sing It  
on the  
Mountain**

Pepper Choplin

Cantata will be presented at all three services the weekend of December 13/14, 2025

Join us for a special weekend of music, fellowship and great food!

### **FLY Brunch & Silent Auction**

**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 am - 11:00 am**

Donated items for the silent auction can be delivered to the church office November 16<sup>th</sup> through December 7<sup>th</sup>

*Proceeds will go towards the FLY Mission Trip.*



## EVENTS

On the first Christmas, those who were frightened and in desperate need of good news and great joy were addressed directly.

In Luke 2:10-11 the angel responded, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born...”

This Christmas, we have the opportunity to introduce those who are hurting to the same Savior. We can invite people to a place where they can meet the God who acknowledges their greatest fears, sees their deepest longings and sent His Son to save us.

Whether someone comes to church out of curiosity, a willingness to try something new, or desperation for a Savior, it could be **your invitation** that leads someone to meet Jesus!

### Children's Christmas Program

- Saturday, December 20 at 6:00pm Service
- Sunday, December 21 at 8:45am Service
- A few songs at the beginning of Sunday, December 21 at 11:00am Service



### Christmas Eve *Services* December 24th

5:00 pm - Family Friendly  
7:00 pm - Candlelight Service  
11:00 pm Candlelight Service



### JOIN US FOR A BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

*A Blue Christmas service is a reflective worship gathering for anyone carrying grief or heavy emotions during the holiday season. It offers quiet music, prayer, and a space for comfort and hope.*

Sunday, December 21, 2025  
2:00 p.m.

First Lutheran Church, ELCA  
3315 G Ave



## WORSHIP THEMES

### DECEMBER 7, 2025 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ISAIAH 11:1-10; PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19;  
ROMANS 15:4-13; MATTHEW 3:1-12

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

### DECEMBER 14, 2025 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PSALM 35:1-10; PSALM 146:5-10;  
LUKE 1:46b – 55; JAMES 5:7-10;  
MATTHEW 11:2-11

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflections and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

### DECEMBER 21, 2025 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ISAIAH 7:10-16; PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19;  
ROMANS 1:1-7; MATTHEW 1:18-25

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel. God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.



### DECEMBER 28, 2025 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

ISAIAH 63:7-9; PSALM 148;  
HEBREWS 2:10-18; MATTHEW 2:13-23

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lifts us up, and carry us as in days of old.

## FROM THE COUNCIL

Greetings First Lutheran Congregation,

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Congregation voted unanimously to authorize the Council to sell the 3206 H Avenue property. At the November 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, the Council voted to engage Rusty Rhynalds Auction services to conduct an online auction of this property. The online auction will begin during December, and it is anticipated that the property will be sold by mid-January.

The Council approved two endowment requests, the first from the Care and Growth Committee in the amount of \$2,625 to help fund Confirmation Camp for seven students that will be attending Camp during June, 2026. The second request was from the Mission Outreach Team for up to \$3,000 for the ELCA Good Gifts Ministry as a match for the Advent funds received.

The Council voted to designate the Thanksgiving offerings received to be donated to the Jubilee Center to help fund their food bank.

An update regarding the Capital Campaign Pledges: Of the \$1,029,114 pledges received, \$966,544 has been received, with \$62,570 remaining to be received.

### **Important Dates:**

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup> - Mid Week Advent Services

December 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> - Cantata

December 14<sup>th</sup> - FLY Brunch and Silent Auction

December 20<sup>th</sup> /21<sup>st</sup> - The Children's Christmas Program will be presented

December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve Services: 5pm; 7pm and 11pm

As we begin the Advent season, may we all anxiously await the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,  
P. J. Bartels  
Council President

On behalf of Scott Darveau (VP), Deb Schauer (Secretary), Lisa Parish (Treasurer), Christine Fisher, Jay Kuecker, Shirley Smalley, Tyler Schwartz, Terry Volker, Pastor Rick Carlson and Pastor Michelle Carlson





## FINANCIALS:

OCTOBER FINANCE REPORT			
<b>Ministry Budget:</b>	OCT 2025	YTD '25-'26	YTD '24-'25
Budget Supporting Revenue	\$ 52,221	\$ 265,660	\$ 235,246
Budget Related Expenditures	\$ (60,367)	\$(319,954)	\$(294,401)
Total 2025-2026 Ministry Budget: \$790,816			
<b>Facilities Budget:</b>	OCT 2025	YTD '25-'26	YTD '24-'25
Revenue	\$ 6,855	\$ 25,060	\$ 24,747
Expenditures	\$ (2,786)	\$ (15,821)	\$ (4,292)
Total 2025-2026 Facilities Budget: \$28,100			

### YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

As the end of 2025 approaches, please make note of our policy regarding year-end contributions:

In order to be recorded on your contribution statement for the year 2025, contributions **MUST** be received in the church office **BEFORE** 12:00 NOON on Wednesday, December 31.

If mailing contributions in, they must be clearly marked "Attn. Stacy Seim" and post-marked on or before December 31.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Please review the calendar on our website for updates.**

**Laying on of Hands at First and Third weekends**

### **December upcoming Events**

Wed/December 3	6:30 pm - Advent Service
Sat. December 6	4:00 pm Bell Concert   Merryman Arts Center
Sat/Sun, Dec 6/7 Sunday	Worship Sat. 6 pm   Sun. 8:45 am and 11:00 am 2:00 pm - Brookestone Gardens Worship Service
Wed/December 10	6:30 pm - Advent Service
Thur/December 11	6:30 pm - Preschool Christmas Program - Sanctuary
Sat. December 13	9:00 am - Women's ELCA Christmas Coffee/Breakfast-CH
Sat/Sun, December 13/14 Sunday	Worship Sat. 6 pm   Sun. 8:45 am and 11:00 am Christmas Cantata - all services 9:30 am - FLY Brunch / Silent Auction - Centennial Hall
Wed/December 17	6:30 pm - Advent Service
Sat/Sun, December 20/21 Sunday	Worship Sat. 6 pm   Sun. 8:45 am and 11:00 am Children's Christmas Program 2:00 pm - Blue Christmas Service - Sanctuary
Wed/December 24	5:00 pm - Christmas Service (Children's) 7:00 pm & 11:00 pm - Christmas Candlelight Service
Thur/Fri, December 25/26	Church office closed for Christmas.
Sat/Sun, December 27/28	Worship Sat. 6 pm   Sun. 8:45 am and 11:00 am
Thur/January 1	Church office closed for New Year's Day FROG & Confirmation resume January 7th. Sunday School Resumes January 11th



**Church Office** [office@firstlutheran Kearney.org](mailto:office@firstlutheran Kearney.org)

**PASTORS:**

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Co-Lead Pastor

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**Pastor Michelle Holley Carlson**

Co-Lead Pastor

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**CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

President

PJ Bartels

Vice President

Scott Darveau

Treasurer

Lisa Parish

Secretary

Deb Schauer

Members:

Christine Fisher

Jay Kuecker

Tyler Schwartz

Shirley Smalley

Terry Volker

Pastor Michelle

Pastor Rick



**2025-2026 OFFICERS**

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Stacy Darveau 308-627-5546

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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA  
3315 G AVENUE  
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA 68847-3699

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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](mailto: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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