

THE JULY MESSENGER

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

Snowball Mountain Challenge invites kids to an event where they become Challengers in exciting winter sports: gearing up for frosty games, snowy surprises, and hands-on lessons about resilience and faith. As children face their challenges and discover their strength in God, you'll hear them say, "Challenge accepted – with God I am strong."

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 13 - 16 & 19

WEEKDAYS 6PM - 8PM
CHECK-IN & MEAL 5:15-5:50PM

SUNDAY, JULY 19 9:45AM
VBS TAKE-OVER; LUNCH & PARTY AFTER

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH KEARNEY



TABLE OF CONTENTS AND RESOURCES

Inside this issue:

ANNUAL MEETINGS 1
TABLE OF CONTENTS,
RESOURCES & PRAYERS 2
A LETTER FROM PASTOR 3
MISSION OUTREACH 4-6
LUTHERAN WORLD RELF 7
THANK YOU 8
ELECTION RESULTS 9
SPOTLIGHT 10
YOUTH MINISTRY 11
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY 12
PRESCHOOL 13
WOMEN ELCA 14
COUNCIL 15
FINANCES 16
SCRIPTURE 17
CALENDAR 18
LEADERSHIP 19

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
800-638-3522**

**Nebraska Synod: www.nebraskasynod.org
402-896-5311**

**Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry:
www.nelcm.com 402-391-1144**

**Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries:
www.nlom.org 402-944-2544**

**Lutheran World Relief: www.lwr.org
800-597-5972**

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

Prayers of Comfort and Peace for...



- Pastor Sylvia High Karlsson on the death of her husband, Lynn McPheron.
- Greg & Linda Sue Jensen on the death of their friend, Nancy Olson.
- For the friends and family of Larry Giddings on his death.
- Ruth Sajevic's family and friends on her death.
- Scott & Stacy Darveau and family on the death of Scott's father, Jim Darvea.

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear First Lutheran,

It is an exciting time at First Lutheran as we prepare to welcome an intern. A few years ago, First Lutheran hosted an intern (Vicar Liz Radtke, 2005-2006) and now we are doing it again. Our intern will be starting her year with us on August 1st. Her name is Libby Florian, and she is a second career seminarian who lives with her husband in Hastings from where she will commute. I will let her introduce herself after she begins.

Internship is an important part of the formation for future ELCA Pastors and Deacons. Students learn not only how to do the tasks of ministry, but also how to embody the office of ministry to which they are being called. The purpose of internship as defined by Wartburg Theological Seminary where Libby is a student:

The purpose of internship is for students to develop their pastoral skills and pastoral imagination through an experience of practicing ministry and reflecting upon that experience. It is an action-reflection style of learning. Interns grow in their pastoral identity, spiritual development, theological reflection, practical skills, emotional maturity, stewardship leadership, and missional leadership.

Since Libby is a student learning to become a pastor, her title will be “Vicar”. By calling her “Vicar Libby”, we are clarifying that she is a student and not an ordained pastor. The vicar receives a monthly stipend, and there are some seminary fees as well. All of this has been covered by a First Lutheran Endowment grant, so there will be no impact to the church ministry budget. I will be her internship supervisor so there is a clear understanding of who will be working with her and doing her evaluations. Kyle Means has agreed to chair the “Internship Committee” which will be a group of members from our congregation who provide feedback and encouragement to Vicar Libby throughout her year here.

Now that we have ample, usable office space, we look forward to welcoming Vicar Libby to the office suite, and her office will be the prior Stephen Ministry Training room. Please help her feel welcome!

God's peace,
Pastor Michelle

MISSION OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:

S.A.F.E. Center Donations for July:

**NEW ITEMS
ONLY
PLEASE**

- *Household Items*
- *Kitchen Items*
- *Cooking Utensils*
- *Crockpots*
- *Silverware*

Please set items on the sharing shelf in the narthex.



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



Jubilee Center

Two More Fun Days Ahead:

July 11th – Hot Wheels Rally

August 8th – Bubble Friendly Day

In June Jubilee Center was blessed with extra amounts of bakery goods. There were plenty of buns for burgers and hot dogs for summer meals and bread for toast and sandwiches. We also received almost 150 hot dogs and buns from the Shriners' weekend. Thank you to every organization and group who finds a good place for their extra food or extra items that we can sell in our Thrift Store.

The Summer Reading Program is underway. Each reader receives a punch card with one punch for each book read. Small rewards for the different number of books read. Details at the Thrift Store or on the church bulletin board.

The Annex will close any time the temperature in the building reaches 90 degrees and the volunteers will work in the Thrift Store.

Our Thursday evening meals are over for now. Jubilee Center Board members will be providing and serving dinner on August 13th and 27th. There is a Sign-Up Genius app ready for any organization or church that is willing to cook up a meal this fall. The individuals who come for dinner enjoy the fellowship as much as the meal.

Thank you to everyone at First Lutheran who helped in January by preparing or serving a meal.

MISSION OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:



Carol Joy Holling Camp, Conference & Retreat Center

Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 25, 2026

Join us for one of our most beloved traditions the 38th annual Quilt Auction!

Enjoy a day at Carol Joy Holling Camp, connecting with the camp community and our 2026 Summer Ministry team. There will be hundreds of beautiful quilts, a delicious lunch, and activities for all ages throughout the day.

Every dollar raised helps ensure all campers can experience the positive impact of camp, regardless of financial barriers.



Scan the QR Code to view the schedule and preview quilts.



Judy Niemann's quilt will be donated to the CJH Quilt auction. If you'd like a closet up view, it is currently hanging in the sanctuary.



Mission Trip

SEPTEMBER 19-25 2027

Asheville, NC



Hurricane Helene brought historic flooding to Asheville in 2024 causing more than \$53 billion in damage across North Carolina. Our First Lutheran Mission Team of 19 individuals coordinated with Lutheran Disaster Relief to aide in the recovery efforts at the one year anniversary in 2025.

We assisted in multiple locations with painting, decking, insulation work, drywall, and helped in donation centers. It was so rewarding to help the people of Asheville, but our work is not over. The relationships we built, the projects we started, and the lives we touched continue to matter. Come back with us as we continue helping families rebuild and communities recover. Asheville still needs volunteers willing to build, serve, encourage, and love. Will you join us?

More information will be at the Adult Forum on October 18th.

MISSION OUTREACH



Last week we had another beautiful day at the Habitat! Forty-one volunteers helped frame #4 including a group of Kearney High School teachers and their son/daughter who offered amazing support for one of their own, Heather's house #103! Sidewalk and drive-way forms were set, sand filled at #103 for the cement fill next week, we rounded the flat curb allowing wheelchairs and mobilized vehicles to enter for the disabled. Indoor progress was made on the flooring, cabinets, fixtures, and tile in the bathroom. Dana Ghorashy and Beth Forbess hosted coffee, donuts, and Beth shared the devotion. Our thanks to Daylight Donuts who provide their sweets for our group every Saturday. The Knights of Columbus provided an appetizers, burgers, hotdogs, and sides.



August 15th is First Lutheran Day at Habitat for Humanity

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Cleanliness may not be next to godliness, but it certainly helps a person feel more human. When families find their homes destroyed or must flee for safety reasons, soap and a towel usually don't make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp they are dirty from travel. The items in the Personal Care kit provide much needed self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amid situations of fear and uncertainty.

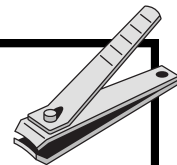
Items in the Personal Care kits are lightweight bath towels, toothbrush, sturdy comb and metal nail clippers.

We are most in need of bath towels and nail clippers. If you would like to donate money then we could use the money to purchase in bulk.

You could leave it in the office marked LWR.



PERSONAL CARE KITS



SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

- ONE** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE** adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging*
- ONE** sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ONE** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

* Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

HOW TO PACK YOUR PERSONAL CARE KITS

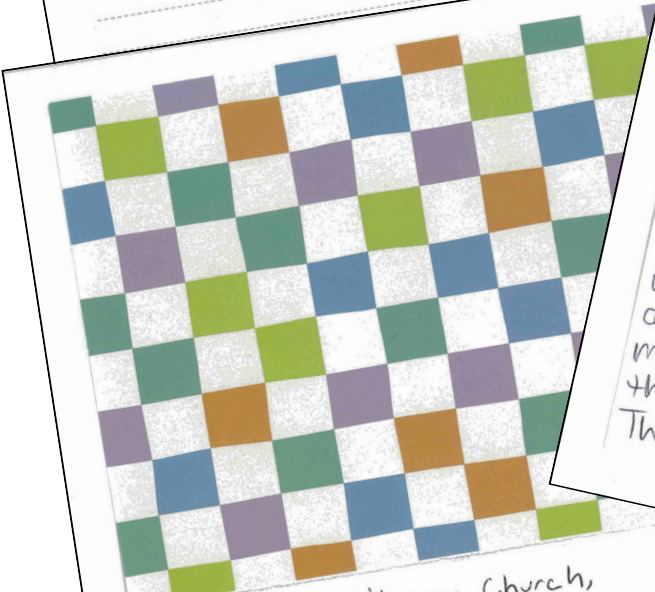
- Fold the towel in half. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.
- Pack completed Kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents

THANK YOU

6/2026
Dear First Lutheran church
AND
→ Kathy ←
Thank you for hosting Troop 140
for our overnight as we head
west. We are so Thankful for
you!
Tyler Emerick



Dear Kathy and First Lutheran,
Thank you all so, so much for hosting
the Illini 4000 team once again during our
cross-country ride for cancer research
and patient support. We have been honored
to receive such love and generosity from
your beautiful community. The food donations
were incredibly thoughtful and greatly
appreciated by the entire team! Our
mission would not be possible without
the kindness of people like you all.
Thank you again!
Tailwinds,
Illini4000



Dear First Lutheran Church,

Thank you for paying for most of my
time at Ranch Camp. It was a very fun experience
that I am very grateful for. Thank you for providing
for my unique and exciting experience.

Thank you
Laura Behrhorst

ELECTION RESULTS

“THANK YOU” for attending the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 28TH and placing your votes!

ELECTION RESULTS

Church Council

President - PJ Bartels

Vice President - Scott Darveau

Treasurer - Tyler Schwartz

Secretary - Lisa Reece-Parish

Current Council Members:

Christine Fisher, Jay Kuecker, Deb Schauer, Shirley Smalley, Terry Volker, Pastor Rick Carlson, and Pastor Michelle Holley Carlson

Endowment Committee:

Elected to serve: Dennis Gorr, Barry Sandstrom, Wendell Wessels

Current Members: Lori McArthur, Annette Schwartz,

Council Representative: PJ Bartels,

Pastor Representative: Pastor Rick Carlson

Nominating Committee

Elected to serve: Suzette Eppler, Sandy Erpelding

Current Members: Mollie Akerson, Cindy Wessels, Renae Zimmer

Pastor Representative: Pastor Rick Carlson

Preschool Board

Elected to serve: Deb Beerman, Denis Gorr, Rachel Leach

Current Members: Blair Peterson, Michelle Garth,

Jane Ziebarth-Bovill, Heidi Straka, Peggy Townsend

Council Representative: Christine Fisher,

Pastor Representative: Pastor Michelle Holley Carlson



SPOTLIGHT



The FLC Radio Broadcast Needs You!

The Every Sunday Worship Radio Broadcast is solely sponsored by you, our members. People from all over central Nebraska tune in to the 8:30 a.m. broadcast to listen. Maybe they are searching for a second opinion on a theological question or just maybe they are being fed by what they hear in God's Word.

People are listening!

Lately, sponsorships have been sparse. We need your support! If you would like to sponsor a Sunday near an important anniversary, birthday, or other event, please contact the church office (237-5544). Each Sunday broadcast is \$165.00 but we will gladly accept whatever gift you graciously give.

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

July Volunteers of the Month:



**Sarah Haack
and Stephanie Todd**



THANK YOU,

SARAH AND STEPHANIE,

**FOR YOUR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE ON THE
PRESCHOOL BOARD!**

Sarah and Stephanie both served two terms and held leadership positions on the Preschool Board.

YOUTH MINISTRY

In June, Pastor Rick had the privilege of taking our youth to Confirmation Camp for a week of faith, fellowship and fun at Carol Joy Holling.



Our campers spent time on the high ropes course



Human Knots



Co-Op time teaches valuable life skills and how to work with others.



Leather Stamping



Horses, horses, and more horses!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Calling all fun-loving volunteers! 📣

Vacation Bible School is one of the most exciting weeks of the summer, and we'd love for YOU to be part of it! Help with games, crafts, snacks, music, decorating, group leaders, or behind-the-scenes support.

There's a spot for every talent and every energy level! Come make memories, build faith, and help kids experience the love of Jesus in a BIG way this summer

Snowball Mountain Challenge invites kids to an event where they become Challengers in an exciting winter sports event: gearing up for frosty games, snowy surprises, and hands-on lessons about resilience and faith. As children face their challenges and discover their strength in God, you'll hear them say,

“Challenge accepted – with God I am strong.”

Our campers will experience a fun, welcoming, high-energy VBS through bible lessons, music, storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and snacks. REGISTER TODAY!

VBS Donation Requests Board is in the Narthex
Please take a square and leave the donated item(s) in the below box or gift cards/monetary item(s) drop off in the Office by July 10th

Thank you for your support!

SCAN HERE

Short on time?
shop and ship
craft/science
items from our
Amazon registry

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 13-16 6PM-8PM
Check-in & Meal 5:15-5:50pm
SUNDAY, JULY 19 9:45AM
VBS Take-over & party after

SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE
FINE YOUR INSIDES WITH GOD

First Lutheran Church
REGISTER VOLUNTEER

**Direct links to register can be found at:
FirstLutheranKearney.org**

PRESCHOOL



Hello Church Family!

Happy July to All!

The month of June has been about cleaning, organizing and preparing for all next year. We look forward to both of our new classes in August! Our first letter and supply list will go out towards the end of the second week in July. We will have our Orientation Night on Thursday, August 13th, 2026. All classes will come at 7pm. We are excited to meet these new faces, show them around our classrooms and talk about so many amazing things we do here at First Lutheran Church Preschool.

The 3 & 4 yr class is full with a waiting list, but we do have a 3 openings in Pre-K. The 3 & 4 yr class is Monday – Thursday 8am – 11:45 and the Pre-K class is Monday – Friday from 8am – 3pm.

Ms. Arianna will be our new lead teacher in the 3 & 4 year old classroom. It will be in my six year teaching Pre-K and Mrs. Sonya Vetick's fifth year. This year she will be assisting in both classrooms and we are so blessed with volunteers who help support these wonderful kids and teachers. I truly love working with these ladies!

Our teachers genuinely care about your child and we have lots of parents who would love to tell you about all the awesome things we do here. If you would like some phone numbers of parents to talk to please email me at amandalewis@firstlutherankearney.org or text me at 308-240-0872.

God's blessings,
Mrs. Amanda



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

July 2026 Messenger - Happy 250th USA!

Greetings First Lutheran Congregation

The FLC WELCA Board Meeting - June 18, 2026, at 5:15 pm in Fellowship Hall had a wonderful Potluck dinner. In Attendance: Judy Workman, Deb Schauer, Beth Jochen, Diane Londer, Sherryl Wilke.

WELCA BOARD MEETING - Call to order by President Judy Workman at 5:32 pm - The purpose statement read by all.

Devotion - In God We Trust - Why the penny is so special. Judy read the devotion.

1. Minutes - Judy Workman read the minutes. Two spelling corrected to: Beth Jochen and Beth Forbess. Motion to approve minutes with corrections by Beth Jochen, seconded by Deb Schauer. Motion passed.

2. Treasurer's Report - Read by Judy Workman. Balance of \$1600.70. No income or outstanding bills were presented. Beth Jochen moved to accept the Treasurer's report as read. Diane Londer seconded. Motion carried.

a. Committee Reports: Mission Action: involved with World Relief. Deb Schauer will work with Amy Berhorst to update guidelines for Lutheran World Relief kits.

b. Mission Community: involved with New Members, Beth Jochen, No Report

c. Helping Hands: Beth Jochen reported she is responsible for the table cloths.

No reports for Mission Growth and Hospitality. No Old Business.

3. New Business: Judy reported Jo Smallcomb not continuing and Secretary Stacy Darveau gave a letter stating she is able to be Secretary/Treasurer.

Deb Schauer discussed to go ahead and have the election of officers at the June 18, 2026 Board meeting rather than have a July meeting, which is the normal time of the year that it is done. The regular July 9th meeting will be cancelled. The slate of WELCA Officers nominated for election for the 2026-2027 year were: President - Judy Workman; President Elect - Sherryl Wilke; Secretary/Treasurer - Stacy Darveau

It was discussed to have Treasurer and Secretary combined

Deb Schauer made the motion to accept the slate of officers for election of the 2026-2027 year, as well as combine the Secretary/Treasurer jobs. Beth Jochen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Installation of officers will be at the discretion of the Pastors sometime in September. The date will be in the next Messenger.

a. Judy Workman will organize the WELCA booklets and wants to have them done by July 30. She needs all the prayer groups to submit their information ASAP.

Beth Jochen will be the contact person for new members. Beth Jochen and Deb Schauer will contact Judy Nieman to get other contact corrections/additions.

Meeting was adjourned with reciting the Lord's Prayer. 6:31 pm.

Upcoming Events: NO JULY 9, 2026 WELCA BOARD MEETING - ELECTIONS COMPLETED

Reminder- JULY 16-19, 2026 - TRIENNIAL National in Des Moines, Iowa.

SAVE TO SERVE -Midland University, Fremont, NE - August 14-16, 2026. Registration is due August 1, 2026. See FLC WELCA bulletin board, Or tinyurl.com/nebraskawelca

FIRST LUTHERAN KEARNEY - Host Church 2027 SOUTHERN PRAIRE EVENT

Respectfully submitted by Sherryl Wilke Secretary Pro Tem for Stacy Darveau

FROM THE COUNCIL

Greetings First Lutheran Congregation

Here is an update from your Church Council:

The Council has scheduled a retreat for July 11th in preparation for the new fiscal year. On January 16, 2027 all council members will hold a retreat and planning session.

The job description for the Director of Music and Worship was approved and is advertised on our website. Please share!

Discussion was held on the volunteer driver program, the signage project, as well as an update on Pre-School.

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

Employment Opportunity:



**Part-Time Position Open:
Director of Music and Worship**

Please share!

**Applicants can apply on our website:
FirstLutheranKearney.org/Employment-Opportunities
or on Indeed.**

FINANCIALS:

MAY FINANCE REPORT			
Ministry Budget:	MAY 2026	YTD '25-'26	YTD '24-'25
Budget Supporting Revenue	\$ 63,104	\$ 701,773	\$ 701,984
Budget Related Expenditures	\$ (62,242)	\$(769,628)	\$(752,272)
Total 2026-2026 Ministry Budget: \$790,816			
Facilities Budget:	MAY 2026	YTD '25-'26	YTD '24-'25
Revenue	\$ 4,100	\$ 60,068	\$ 59,816
Expenditures	\$ (224)	\$ (28,419)	\$ (25,234)
Total 2025-2026 Facilities Budget: \$28,100			

USE OF OFFERING ENVELOPES

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

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

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

Stacy Seim
Bookkeeper
308.237.5544



SCRIPTURE

JULY 5, 2026

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

ZECHARIAH 9:9-12; PSALM 145:8-14; PSALM 145:8-14; ROMANS 7:15-25a;
MATTHEW 11:16-19, 25-30; GENESIS 24:24-38, 42-49, 58-67; PSALM 45:10-17;
SONG OF SONGS 2:8-13

The mystery of God's way is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desire and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

JULY 12, 2026

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

ISAIAH 55:10-13; PSALM 65 [1-8] 9-13; ROMANS 8:1-11; MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23;
GENESIS 25:19-34; PSALM 119:105-112

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seeds indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

JULY 19, 2026

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

ISAIAH 44:6-8; WISDOM 12:13, 16-19; PSALM 86:11-17; ROMANS 8:12-25; MATTHEW 13-24-30, 36-43, GENESIS 28:10-19a; PSALM 139:1-12, 23-24

It is an age old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day when all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering.

Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

JULY 26, 2026

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

1 KINGS 3:5-12; PSALM 119:129-136; ROMANS 8:26-39; MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52;
GENESIS 29:15-28; PSALM 105:1-11, 45b, PSALM 128

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the region of God:

a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please review the calendar at FirstLutheranKearney.org for updates.

JULY 2026

- Sat/Sun - July 4/5** Worship at 6:00pm and 9:45am
Laying on of Hands during all services
- Sat/Sun July 11/12** Worship at 6:00pm and 9:45am
- Mon/Thurs. July 13-16** Vacation Bible School
6:00pm – 8:00pm nightly
- Sat/Sun - July 18/19** Worship at 6:00pm and 9:45am
Laying on of Hands during all services
- Sun** VBS Takeover
- Sat/Sun - July 25/26** Worship at 6:00pm and 9:45am

AUGUST 2026

- Sat/Sun August 1/2** Worship at 6:00pm and 9:45am
Laying on of Hands during all services
Brookestone Garden Worship at 2:00pm
- Sat/Sun August 8/9** Worship at 6:00pm and 9:45am
- Sat/Sun August 15/16** Worship at 6:00pm and 9:45am
Laying on of Hands during all services
- Sunday, August 15th** Habitat for Humanity
First Lutheran Church Workday
- Sat/Sun August 22/23** Worship at 6:00pm and 9:45am
- Wed/August 26** Wednesday evening activities return
- Sat/Sun August 29/30** Worship at 6:00pm and 11:00am –
Worship in the Park *no 8:45am service

Sunday, September 13th - Sunday School Returns!

Church Office office@firstlutheran Kearney.org 308.237.5544

PASTORS:

Pastor Rick Carlson

Co-Lead Pastor

Pastor Michelle Holley Carlson

Co-Lead Pastor

STAFF:

Kandy Bacon

Administrative Assistant

Amy Behrhorst

Administrative Assistant

Kathy Benne

Director of Communications and Events

Pastor Logan Ellis

Director of Engagement: Youth, Congregation and Community

Amanda Lewis

Preschool Director

Jen Puls

Records Management

Natalie Radcliffe

Music Coordinator

Sarah Schweitzer

Volunteer Ministry Coordinator

Stacy Seim

Bookkeeper

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President

PJ Bartels

Vice President

Scott Darveau

Treasurer

Tyler Schwartz

Secretary

Lisa Reece-Parish

Council Members:

Christine Fisher

Jay Kuecker

Deb Schauer

Shirley Smalley

Terry Volker

Pastor Michelle

Pastor Rick



2026-2027 OFFICERS

President: Judy Workman

President Elect: Sherryl Wilke

Secretary/Treasurer: Stacy Darveau

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
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: <https://firstlutherankearney.org>

Office Hours: 8:30am - 4:00pm Monday - Friday

- If your email address has changed recently, please contact the church office.
- To save the church postage costs by picking up a hard copy of "The Messenger" from the welcome station, instead of it being mailed, please call or email the church office. *Mailings generally take up to two weeks for delivery.*