

THE SEPTEMBER MESSENGER

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



On August 15th, volunteers from First Lutheran worked on homes for Habitat for Humanity. They finished flooring, installed doors, and added more lighting and fans at Cazbi's house. Outside, the crew cleared weeds around the foundation and cleaned out the garden shed. At the warehouse, Cazbi and friends painted her closet doors while other volunteers built walls for Nery's house.

At Jessica's house, the rain made it impossible to continue siding, so volunteers focused on cleanup and working through the puddles and standing water around the site. Despite the muddy conditions, they jumped in and helped wherever they were needed.



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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
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...



- Judy Samuelson's family and friends on her death.
- Karen Emal on the death of her brother, Larry Junker.
- Doug & Deb Hinze and Derek & Sarah Schweitzer on the death of Doug's mother and Sarah's grandmother, Norma Hinze.
- Martha Tiede on the death of her brother, Fred Tiede.
- Tom & Sue Bokenkamp on the death of their grandson, Jackson Bokenkamp.

MESSAGE FROM VICAR LIBBY



Hello First Lutheran Family!

For those of you who may not have heard, my name is Libby Florian and I will be working at First for the next year as a seminary student intern. It is an unbelievable opportunity and I am looking forward to joining you in ministry during my time here.

I am a native Texan, born and raised in Austin along with my sister and two brothers. I attended college at the University of Texas at Austin and at San Antonio, and at St. Mary's University, graduating with a BS in Business from UT and an MS in Computer Science from St. Mary's. During my computer career, I wrote mainframe and small server programs, designed and managed databases, and built computer networks at USAA in San Antonio and at Mary Lanning Hospital in Hastings, Nebraska.

I moved to Nebraska in 1999 after meeting Bruce, my future husband, while snow skiing in Colorado. Having been raised in the hot south in a big city, I love the winters here (yes, even the snow) as well as the relaxed pace of life in Nebraska's small towns.

If you find yourself at the church during the week, please pop in and see me! I am off on Mondays but would welcome a visit any other day.

-Vicar Libby



MISSION OUTREACH

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



Paper Products

- *Kleenexes*
- *Paper Plates*
- *Paper Towels*
- *Toilet Paper*

Please set items on the sharing shelf in the narthex.



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

Join The S.A.F.E. Center for a FREE Community Movie Night featuring Dead Poets Society at The World Theatre!

Tuesday, September 29 🎬 Movie begins at 7:00 PM 📍 The World Theatre
📺 FREE admission • Everyone is welcome

This special community screening is presented as part of The S.A.F.E. Center's Green Dot Prevention Program, with support from the Arthur Klinkacek Foundation. **Green Dot is The S.A.F.E. Center's evidence-based prevention training program** focused on giving everyday people practical ways to step in, speak up, and help create safer communities. Dead Poets Society invites us to think about courage, connection, finding our voice, and the impact our choices can have on the people around us.

Want to help while you're here? We'll be accepting freewill donations benefiting our Drive Hope Home Campaign, helping The S.A.F.E. Center purchase a newer, reliable vehicle to support survivor services, outreach, and prevention work throughout our five-county service area.

We'll also be collecting paper products for The S.A.F.E. Center, including toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, disposable plates, cups, and other everyday paper goods. Donations are completely optional. No donation is required to attend. Come enjoy a great film, bring a friend, and spend an evening with us.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Sunday School Classes will be packing LWR Kits for “God’s Work, Our Hands” on Sunday, September 13th.

If possible, please drop your donations off before then.

Items will continue to be collected after that date.

Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. Lutheran World Relief School Kits contain essential supplies to help children — and in some cases, adults — continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

STEWARDSHIP/ VOLUNTEERS

Stewardship is proud to share our Stewardship theme of "Hands that Serve, Hearts that Give". This year we want to highlight the volunteers and committees that allow our church to cast a wide net of ministry. You can expect to see some highlight videos of the great work our committees do, and opportunities to reflect on where the church is, and where we want to see the church be in the future. Our church has not experienced operating with a full staff and full engagement in ministry for quite some time, so we are excited to reflect on this new experience with you! We hope you will join us on this journey to see how we can serve God with our hearts and hands this year in a flourishing church family.

-Stewardship Committee

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



Over the past several months, these volunteers have dedicated countless hours to improving and maintaining our property. Their work has included the North Kitchen updates, steeple repairs, fascia repairs, and several other maintenance projects.

Their willingness to give their time, skills, and effort has made a real difference. The projects they completed have improved our facilities, helped address needed repairs, and reduced costs through volunteer service.

Team members include: Todd Athy, Dana Ernst, Kim Deyo, Gary Forbess, Ken Tracy, Kimra Schipporeit, Pam Epley, David Bohm, Chuck Meyer, Council Rep. Shirley Smalley, Pastor Rep. Rick Carlson, and Staff Rep. Kathy Benne

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's ELCA Meeting / Potluck

- Thursday, September 3
- 5:30 pm
- Fellowship Hall
- ALL women of First Lutheran are invited!
- Bring a friend!



Please sign up on the WELCA Bulletin Board located outside the church office.

ALL ladies are invited to attend the Women's ELCA Meeting / Potluck on Thursday, September 3rd at 5:30pm.



September 5/6 Worship Times return to



at 6:00 pm



at 8:45 am



at 11:00 am



The Sunday 8:45am and 11:00am Worship Services resume September 6th.



Teacher Installation



September 12 & 13
at all services.

ALL Teachers:

- Sunday School
- F.R.O.G.
- Preschool
- Confirmation

♥
**TEACHING IS A
WORK OF HEART**

ALL Teachers will be asked to come forward as they are installed during the September 12th & 13th services.



Adult Forum with Bishop Emeritus Brian Maas

Vice President for Mission and Spiritual Care



- Sunday, September 13
- Centennial Hall
- 9:50 am

Join us for an Adult Forum with Bishop Emeritus Brian Maas on Sunday, September 13th at 9:50am



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday School Resumes
Sunday, September 13th
9:50am-10:50am

IN EVERYTHING
GIVE THANKS

REGISTER NOW!
on our website

Sunday School returns
 September 13th at 9:50am!
 Please register on our website.

Sunday, September 13th
 God's work. Our hands.

Join us for a day of service!

Lunch: 12noon - 1pm
Service Work: 1pm - 3pm

"God's Work. Our Hands." is a day
 of serving throughout the
 community. Sign up sheets are in
 the Narthex.

Grace Bible Study meets the
2nd Monday of each month
The September 14th Meeting will be held off-site.
Please call Marty Wilcox for details.
402-469-7065 - (please leave a message)

- Beginning October 12th
- 7:00pm in Classroom 17
- Group Led
- Informal
- All women are welcome!
- Inspiring materials chosen by members

Grace Bible Study will meet
 September 14th off-site. Please
 contact Marty Wilcox for details
 and leave a message on her
 phone. Beginning October 12th,
 they'll meet the 2nd Monday of
 each month in Classroom 17.

Installation of Women's
ELCA Officers

- **September 19th & 20th**
- **All Services**

*Officers: Please come forward when called
 at the end of the announcements.*

The Women of the ELCA Officers
 will be installed September 19th
 and 20th at all services.

Become Part of Our Church Family

Curious about what we believe?
 Looking for a church to call
 home, or know someone who is?

First Lutheran Church might be the perfect fit !
 We're a church where people know each other, care
 for one another, and grow together in faith.

New Members' Class

- Sundays | 10:00am | Fellowship Hall
- September 20, 27, October 4
- Welcome Reception October 11

Would you like to become a new
 member of First Lutheran or do
 you need to re-instate your
 membership? Attend the first
 class on September 20th for more
 information.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Praising God through music!

The choirs practice weekly during the academic year.

Anyone is welcome to join!

Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. High School through adults are welcome. Rehearsals begin September 9th. Join us anytime! CJ Sabah - Director

Chancel Bells rehearses on Tuesdays from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. This choir is open to high schoolers through adults. Rehearsals begin September 8th. Join us anytime! Natalie Radcliffe - Director

Sound Offering Praise Band rehearsals vary. If interested, contact Stacy Bean - Director

Praiser Bells rehearses on Wednesdays from 5:15pm to 5:45pm. This choir is for 3rd grade through 8th grade. Rehearsals begin September 9th. Join us anytime! Angela Wright - Director

Heavenly Treble Makers rehearses on Wednesdays from 6:15pm to 6:45 pm. This is a vocal choir for middle schoolers. Rehearsals begin September 9th. Join us anytime! Angela Wright - Director

Children's Choir rehearses on Sunday mornings during Sunday School and Wednesday evenings during F.R.O.G. All children are welcome. Amanda Lewis - Director



JOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR

- Everyone is welcome
- Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 pm
- Rehearsals begin September 9th

JOIN HEAVENLY TREBLE MAKERS MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR



- Everyone is welcome
- Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6:15-6:45 pm
- Rehearsals begin September 9th

JOIN PRASER BELLS

3RD THROUGH 8TH GRADE
HANDBELL CHOIR

- Everyone is welcome
- Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 5:15 to 5:45 pm
- Rehearsals begin September 9th



YOUTH MINISTRY



Greetings from Pastor Logan and FLY!

We are excited to begin another year of fellowship, conversations, service, and fun! This year we are focusing on making intentional connections with other youth groups, and strengthening bonds we have forged last year with others.

Our first meeting is August 26th to establish some of the wonderful opportunities we have this year such as a regional youth gathering in Lexington, to a national gathering in Minneapolis in the summer. Then in September we will help the Jubilee Center, visit with a member of the Synod staff, reconnect with our Methodist friends at First United, and take a trip to the Centennial Park for some Frisbee Golf!

If you have a youth or friend who would like to join or learn more about FLY, feel free to connect with Pastor Logan by contacting the church office.

We are looking forward to all the experiences and adventures this year will bring!

-Pastor Logan



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Mark your calendar with these important events!



As the sun sets on our VBS Snowball Mountain Challenge, join us for future adventures at First Lutheran Church!

SCAN ME



Visit Our Website to Learn More

-  **Worship in the Park - Sunday Aug. 30**
11:00am at Dryden Park (Lunch after)
-  **Sunday School begins Sept. 13**
Preschool-5th Grade & Middle School
-  **Trunk or Treat - Sunday Oct. 25**
Follows after 11:00am worship/lunch
-  **Advent Fair - Sunday Nov. 22**
9:30-11:00am crafts, treats, hot cocoa
-  **FLY - High School**
Activities vary, please contact the church office for more info. PH: 308-237-5544

We're excited to see you again!
Sunday School resumes September 13th at 9:50am.

Sunday School Resumes
Sunday, September 13th
9:50am-10:50am

IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS

REGISTER NOW!
on our website



The grand total raised from VBS for Special Olympics this summer was \$810.20 (our goal was \$700).

Jenn Behlmann from Kearney Special Olympics sent along this photo and said, "Thank you so much for the donation! This was our competition in our new uniforms!!!"

PRESCHOOL



Hello First Lutheran Church!

We have been busy cleaning rooms and getting materials ready for our Orientation Night. We are so blessed to have another year of amazing staff this year! It is going to be an awesome year with wonderful families!

We have Ms. Arianna Ruiz as our Lead teacher in the 3 year old class for her first year. She started assisting at Sonshine World and now is going to do a great job leading!

Our returning super cook, is Emily Bacon. She is our cook for the Pre-K classroom and brings a lot of passion for cooking. She loves these kids! We will be eating healthy snacks and lunches.

Lastly, Sonya Vetick has been my assistant for 5 years and is fulltime. She has been helping in both classrooms. Sonya does an outstanding job thinking ahead and is so organized.

Again, we are truly blessed with all these people that care about kids!

Orientation night was Thursday, Aug. 13th. Both classes had their meeting and got to know the facility at 7pm. We were very excited to see those faces and get to know everyone!

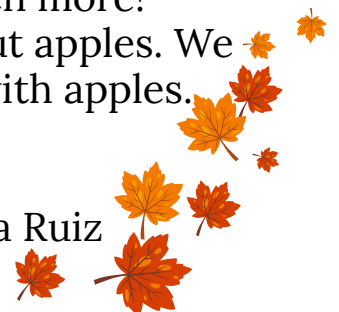
The 3 Year Old Class and Pre-K Class had their first day of school on August 17th. Our goal this year was to match the 2026/2027 school calendar as close to Kearney Public Schools as possible. We have added more preschool days to match their calendar and are off to an excellent start. Again, many thanks to the church staff and preschool board for their help and support!

We started the school year by getting to know each other, getting used to a schedule, classroom and rules. We learned each other's names, sang new songs, played with toys, played outside, and learned what it looks and sounds like to listen to a teacher or a fellow classmate. Each week we'll be getting our hands dirty and exploring too! Pre-K is having lots of extra new fun with having afternoons to rest and grow with experiments, crafts, games and so much more!

The second week, we learned the letter A and lots about apples. We had a blast tasting, touching, smelling and even painting with apples. We have so much to share next month!

Have a blessed September!

Mrs. Amanda Lewis, Mrs. Sonya Vetick and Miss Arianna Ruiz



PRESCHOOL CONT'D



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

September Messenger 2026  First Lutheran Church WELCA

Fall Blessings to all – As we begin the busy Autumn Season FLC WELCA and other activities fill our calendars. The invitation to attend is extended to all women of First Lutheran Church. It is important to remember that the Circle and Prayer Groups are all a part of activities at First Lutheran Church and we need to have a venue to communicate what we are doing and how to help each other. Please plan to attend the meeting below to enjoy an evening together.

WELCA MEETING – A brief Board meeting with Potluck dinner and fun to follow will be held September 3, 2026 in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. Please sign up on the WELCA Bulletin Board in the Hallway outside of church offices to plan for the dinner count.

Installation of WELCA Officers will be during the beginning of services on **September 19 & 20** The Circle, Prayer Group and Women of the ELCA which includes all First Lutheran Church who support the work of ELCA.

WELCA AUTUMN RENEWAL EVENT – Saturday, October 10, 2026 – St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1515 South Harrison, Grand Island – Registration at 9:00 a.m. – Program 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. "God Doesn't Make Junk" - theme is based on Psalm 139:14 - *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made....* The program features Nebraska Synod Bishop Scott Johnson and "Excess Baggage" Riding the Orphan Train" and many more activities. The registration forms are posted on the WELCA bulletin board outside hallway next to church offices.

Deadline to register is Wednesday, September 30, 2026

The Triennial National WELCA Convention was held July 16-19, 2026, resulted in changes to the by-laws and constitution. You can find information on the Nebraska Synod website.

2026-2027 WELCA - booklets containing Circle and Prayer Group updates will be given to members in Circle and Prayer Group Chairman to share. If you would like a copy please contact Kandy Bacon at church to get one. The dates for events at FLC and WELCA Synod such as Thanksgiving, Spring Gatherings, Board meetings etc. will be listed if available.

MISSION GROUPS the date of the Annual Packing Day is yet to be determined. The Mission Groups are still collecting items for the upcoming school kits, personal care kits, Baby kits, etc. and the listings have been updated. Bring your items in asap for those packing to know what needs to be purchased if not supplied. Items are listed on the bulletin board in the narthex.

SAVE TO SERVE - Midland University, Fremont, NE – The event was held on August 14-16, 2026. FLC will be transporting donations for the University event provided by Gloria Circle. Members were not able to attend. A summary of the event will be in the next Expressions Newsletter to be shared by Circle and Prayer group chairs, sent out by the NSWO.

FIRST LUTHERAN KEARNEY - Host Church 2027 SOUTHERN PRAIRE SPRING GATHERING will be held April 10, 2027. Registration is at 9:00 am and program will start at 9:30 am. More information to come. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Judy Workman or Deb Schauer.

FROM THE COUNCIL

Here is the latest update from your Church Council.

The Council recently approved a new approach to sharing giving, expenses, and budget information with the congregation. Our goal is to provide greater transparency and a clearer picture of our congregation's financial health. We will continue to report total giving each week, as we have in the past. In addition, we will share monthly giving totals. At the end of each quarter, we will provide a more complete financial update that includes total giving, total expenses, our position relative to the budget, and any surplus or deficit for both the quarter and the year to date. We hope these reports will provide a helpful snapshot of our financial position. Look for these updated reports soon.

The Council also approved the hiring of Stacy Bean as our new Director of Music and Worship, along with the salary for that position. We are deeply grateful to Natalie for her many years of faithful service and for the countless ways she has enriched our worship life through our many musical groups and ministries. As Natalie moves toward retirement, we are excited to welcome Stacy into this role and look forward to this next chapter in our music and worship ministry.

The Council continues to support Keith Powell as he completes his work at seminary, and we look forward to accompanying him as he continues this journey.

During our Council retreat, we adopted three goals for the coming year. This month, we spent time discussing the first goal: expanding our awareness of and support for members who use their time and talents both within the congregation and throughout our community. You will soon see this goal reflected in several ways, including our Stewardship Campaign, a greater focus on the work our ministry teams are doing within the church, and stories highlighting the many ways our members serve the wider community.

In the coming months, we will turn our attention to our other two goals: strengthening and engaging in our Wednesday night programming, including FLY and FROG, and reaching out to both new and existing members through a new podcast ministry.

As fall approaches, we are excited to see the return of confirmation classes, Sunday School, FROG, and the many other music, service, fellowship, and worship activities that bring life to our congregation. Our two-service Sunday worship schedule, at 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., resumes September 6.

"God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday is September 13 and the first day of Sunday School. We will install our teachers for F.R.O.G. and Sunday School, along with Confirmation small group leaders during worship services that weekend. Join us at 9:50am in Centennial Hall for a word from Bishop Emeritus Brian Maas.

We are grateful for the many ways you participate in the life and ministry of our congregation, and we look forward to an active and meaningful fall together.

Yours in Christ,

Scott Darveau, Council Vice President

On behalf of PJ Bartels (President), Lisa Reese Parish (Secretary), Tyler Schwartz (Treasurer), Christine Fisher, Jay Kuecker, Deb Schauer, Shirley Smalley, Terry Volker, Pastor Rick Carlson, and Pastor Michelle Carlson

SCRIPTURE

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 | TIME AFTER PENTECOST

EZEKIEL 33:7-11; PSALM 119:33-40; ROMANS 13:8-14; MATTHEW 18:15-20; EXODUS 12:1-14; PSALM 149

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 | TIME AFTER PENTECOST

GENESIS 50:15-21; PSALM 103:[1-7] 8-13; ROMANS 14:1-12; MATTHEW 18:21-35; EXODUS 14:19-31; PSALM 114; EXODUS 15:1b-11, 20-21

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | TIME AFTER PENTECOST

JONAH 3:10-4:11; PSALM 145:1-8; PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30; MATTHEW 20:1-16; EXODUS 16:2-15; PSALM 105:1-6, 37-45

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 | TIME AFTER PENTECOST

EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-32; PSALM 25:1-9; PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13; MATTHEW 21:23-32; EXODUS 17:1-7; PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

FINANCIALS:

JULY FINANCE REPORT			
Ministry Budget:	JULY 2026	YTD '26-'27	YTD '25-'26
Budget Supporting Revenue	\$ 60,400	\$ 102,696	\$ 96,752
Budget Related Expenditures	\$ (46,650)	\$(105,617)	\$(127,470)
Total 2026-2027 Ministry Budget: \$854,157			
Facilities Budget:	JULY 2026	YTD '26-'27	YTD '25-'26
Revenue	\$ 7,962	\$ 8,567	\$ 8,973
Expenditures	\$ (2,873)	\$ (3,753)	\$ (7,892)
Total 2026-2027 Facilities Budget: \$29,000			

Thank You for Your Generosity!

Every gift makes a difference, and we are so grateful for the generosity of our church family. Your offerings help support the ministries, programs, staff, outreach, and mission of our church throughout the year.

We also want to say thank you for using your offering envelopes. When you use your envelope, it helps us accurately record your giving and makes it easier for our office to keep our financial records organized. It also helps ensure that your contributions are properly credited to you.

Whether you give through an offering envelope, online, or another way, please know how much your generosity is appreciated. Thank you for giving faithfully and for being an important part of the ministry God is doing through our church!

Your generosity truly makes a difference!

If you have any questions regarding your donations or statements, please reach out to Stacy Seim, First Lutheran Church Bookkeeper.
308.237.5544



DATES TO REMEMBER

Please review the calendar at FirstLutheranKearney.org for updates.

September 2026

Sat/Sun September 5/6 – Worship at 6pm, 8:45am and 11:00am

Laying on of Hands during all services

Brookestone Garden Worship at 2:00pm

Monday September 7 - church office closed in observance of Labor Day

Sat/Sun September 12/13 – Worship at 6pm, 8:45am and 11:00am

Teacher's Installation at all services

Sunday School/FLY 9:50am

Adult Forum at 9:50am w/Bishop Emeritus Brian Mass - Centennial Hall

God's Work Our Hands Lunch at Noon in Centennial Hall

God's Work Our Hands workday

Sat/Sun September 19/20 – Worship at 6pm, 8:45am and 11:00am

Laying on of Hands during all services

Sunday School/FLY 9:50am

New Member's Class 10:00am Fellowship Hall

Installation of Women's ELCA Officers during all services

Sat/Sun September 26/27 – Worship at 6:00pm, 8:45am and 11:00am

Sunday School/FLY 9:50am

New Member's Class 10:00am Fellowship Hall

October 2026

Sat/Sun October 3/4 – Worship at 6pm, 8:45am and 11:00am

Laying on of Hands during all services

Second Grade Bibles presented 8:45am

Sunday School/FLY 9:50am

New Member's Class 10:00am Fellowship Hall

Animal Blessing 1:00pm South Parking Lot

Brookestone Garden Worship at 2:00pm

Sat/Sun October 10/11 – Worship at 6pm, 8:45am and 11:00am

Sunday School/FLY 9:50am

New Member's Reception 10:00am Centennial Hall

*Animal Blessing Rain date

Sat/Sun October 17/18 – Worship at 6pm, 8:45am and 11:00am

Laying on of Hands during all services

Sunday School/FLY 9:50am

Sat/Sun Oct 24/25 – Worship at 6pm and 11:00am (Reformation Sunday)

Saturday Oct 24th – Directory photos Centennial Hall before/after 6:00pm worship

Sunday Oct 25th – Directory Photos Centennial Hall before/after worship services

Sunday School/FLY 9:50am

Fall Unity Lunch following 11:00am service in Centennial Hall

Trunk or Treat – South Parking Lot 1:00pm to 2:30pm

Church Office Email: office@firstlutheran Kearney.org

Phone: 308.237.5544

PASTORS:

Pastor Rick Carlson

Co-Lead Pastor

Pastor Michelle Holley Carlson

Co-Lead Pastor

STAFF:

Kandy Bacon

Amy Behrhorst

Administrative Assistants

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

Stacy Bean

Music Coordinators

Sarah Schweitzer

Volunteer Ministry Coordinator

Stacy Seim

Bookkeeper

Vicar Libby Florian

Intern

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President

PJ Bartels

Vice President

Scott Darveau

Treasurer

Tyler Schwartz

Secretary

Lisa Reese 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.