



# First Word

The newsletter of First Lutheran Church • Sioux Falls, South Dakota

## Confidentiality and Discernment Process

By Michael Kedik, Executive Committee, Vice President

All candidates and congregations enter the call process with the expectation that their privacy will be respected. This expectation is not unique to churches; everyone seeking a position with a new employer does so confidentially. The confidentiality expectation is founded on trust, a key element of the pastor congregation partnership. When confidentiality is violated, the willingness and ability of the candidates and the congregation to engage



in and maintain a trusting relationship are called into question. Candidates may withdraw from the call process, or the Call Committee may find it difficult to trust candidates.

It is of the highest importance that the Call Committee observe complete confidentiality throughout the execution of their corresponding responsibilities in the call process. The reason for confidentiality is to protect the candidates, the congregations they are serving, and most certainly our congregation in the call process. If a congregation currently being served by a candidate becomes aware that their pastor is seeking another call, their partnership will most likely be compromised in some way.

The problems caused by loose lips during the call process are numerous and quite frankly never end well. A breach of confidentiality has caused pastors to be forced to leave their current call as their

congregation felt that trust was broken and could not be repaired. The devastation is not limited to just the pastor and their current congregation, as the anger and disgust get shared by that congregation's members, and it is typically hurled at members of the calling congregation leaders and its members.

Confidentiality rules which are to be observed are as follows:

The Call Committee will not share information about any candidate with anyone outside of the committee (this includes family members, spouses, executive committee members, and church council members). The ONLY exception to this rule is the chosen candidate when presented to the church council.

The Church Council will not share information about the candidate recommended by the Call Committee until they decide to present the candidate to the congregation for consideration and

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# Thank you, Charles!



With gratitude, we said goodbye to Pastor Charles Berdahl who concluded his visitation ministry of First Lutheran Church on May 31.

Charles' gifts were truly a blessing to our congregation, and to many of you, over the past several months. We wish Charles the best and know God will continue to faithfully work through him and in him, in all that lies ahead!

# CALL COMMITTEE CONTINUED

ultimately a vote.

The Congregation will not seek to gain information about candidates from the Call Committee or the Church Council during the interview stage. When the Church Council recommends a candidate to the congregation for consideration for the call, confidentiality ceases, but not before.

Any member of the Call Committee who knowingly violates confidentiality will be excused from the Committee and will be replaced by an alternate. Any member of the Church Council who violates confidentiality will recuse himself/herself from further involvement in the call process. Also, any candidate who violates confidentiality shall be removed from the call process. These steps are necessary to ensure confidence in the commitment of the congregation and the candidates to confidentiality.

Beginning now, the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) will be the focus of our newly formed Call Committee. Completing and

submitting the MSP is needed for potential candidates to confidentially learn about First Lutheran and its Ministry. Prior to completing the MSP, the call committee will seek input from the congregation to ensure they can accurately represent the Church's direction going forward. One of the final questions on the MSP asks about the Discernment Process used by the Call Committee. Before starting to work on the MSP, the call committee and the entire congregation should spend time in discernment. We all should pray about our sense of Mission at this time.

Ideas to stimulate your prayer:

- Why does First Lutheran Church exist and for whom?

- What do residents of Sioux Falls and the surrounding areas need from First Lutheran?



- What is First Lutheran clearly good at and should continue?
  - What is First Lutheran clearly not good at and should cease doing?
- God's blessed mission is what occurs when we are true to our purpose and when we are using our best gifts and responding to the needs that are

before us in our community. Ministry that attempts to "do as much as possible" but barely touches one or two key needs of the community will not serve our congregation or community well. Truly, your prayerful discernment is key to getting this right. In my heart, I just know we will be led!

## June Special Offering: Church on the Street

By Rosie, Linsner,  
Evangelism &  
Outreach Board  
Member



For a church "without walls," Church on the Street (COTS) is a "sturdy" ministry that

we at First Lutheran are called to serve this month. As posted on their website, "Church on the Street moves to suit the needs of the people. After all, the people are the Church. As we are out on the streets sharing the Good News, we feel so much support from the Greater Church of the ELCA and local congregations who are asking why, spreading the word, and

inviting their congregations to be a part of this powerful Ministry." This month we are answering the call to be a part of supporting COTS through our Special Offering.

COTS has been a leading member in worship to bring our church mission to our neighbors and community beyond



the walls of First Lutheran. They answer the call to be a "church in all places" for those in our community struggling

with poverty and homelessness. It is their mission to "take the gifts of the Church out to the people who, for whatever reason, cannot come inside." They reach out to this community many times a week and bring members together for worship once monthly. Additionally, COTS missions include Laundry with Love, Undercover Closet, Fruits of the Freezer, Partners in Christ, and Health and Healing. They also offer hospital visits, Word and Sacrament (baptisms, funerals, weddings), and pastoral care to those who are incarcerated or in addiction/behavioral treatment facilities.

Please consider supporting our neighbors in Christ beyond the walls of First Lutheran with your Special Offering gift this month. You may use the Special Offering envelope and add a note on the memo line of your check. You may also give through the Church Center app or online, [flcsf.org/give](http://flcsf.org/give).

# COMMUNITY AND OUTREACH

## Meals on Wheels

By Jean Eidsness, Care and Health Board Member

Have you ever felt isolated, helpless, alone, or depressed about not being able to go out of your home for even basic necessities for days or weeks on end? Many of us experienced these emotions during the worst of



COVID 19. Fortunately, most of us have put that behind us and we are now getting on with our pre-COVID lives in one way or another.

But for many seniors (60 and older) and disabled in our community, these are permanent conditions. They live alone, are homebound for medical or social reasons, perhaps unable to prepare healthy meals for themselves. Can you imagine the joy and relief that comes five day a week when a friendly face delivers a hot, nutritious noon meal and maybe a minute or two of

conversation—perhaps about our crazy weather or more personally how they are doing.

First Lutheran is privileged to deliver these meals with a human touch through the Meals on Wheels program. Currently, 31 members (and often their “sidekicks”) drive and deliver meals to 12-16 homebound seniors living in the northwest part of Sioux Falls. Members commit to drive one weekday a month (about two hours), and a list of substitutes will volunteer to take the route if something comes up or a scheduled driver is unable to make deliveries.

Seniors need the services of Meals on Wheels for many reasons—some permanently but others just to get over a “rough patch” in their lives like a fall, a recent health issue or treatment, loss of a spouse or a disabled spouse needing extra care, chronic debilitating health concerns, or any number of situations making it difficult or impossible to get out for groceries or other necessities. And, some are able to stay in their homes only with the help of Meals on Wheels.

Joyfully, the members of First Lutheran Church give—bringing a needed hot

nutritional meal, a day brightener, and a little social interaction at each of their stops. Usually these drivers and/ or their helpers are the only person these homebound seniors see every day, so they look forward to that welcome knock on the door Monday through Friday.

But it is not just the recipients of these meal who benefit. Indeed, the volunteers “are blessed to be a blessing,” and they receive joy and a “warm, fuzzy” feeling as they make their deliveries to doors that open with a smile and a word of thanks. To quote the nutrition director of Active Generations where meals are prepared and packaged, “People think it’s just delivering meals, but really it changes your heart.” A volunteer driver for nearly 20 years puts it this way: “When I get done delivering the meals, I feel so good. It’s good for them, but I feel so uplifted. Jesus says those who are merciful receive mercy. That’s what happens each time I deliver.”

If you have two hours a month to donate to this worthwhile ministry, please call the church and leave your name and contact info with the receptionist. You will be blessed beyond measure.

## FLC App Seminar

The Communication and Media team will be hosting a seminar for our church center app. We'll cover how to install and interact with the app, and answer any questions you may have! This is open to our congregation and no registration is required.

Join us June 6 at 3:30 p.m. and June 22 at 11 a.m. in the Gathering Room.



# YOUTH & FAMILY

## Senior Recognition Day

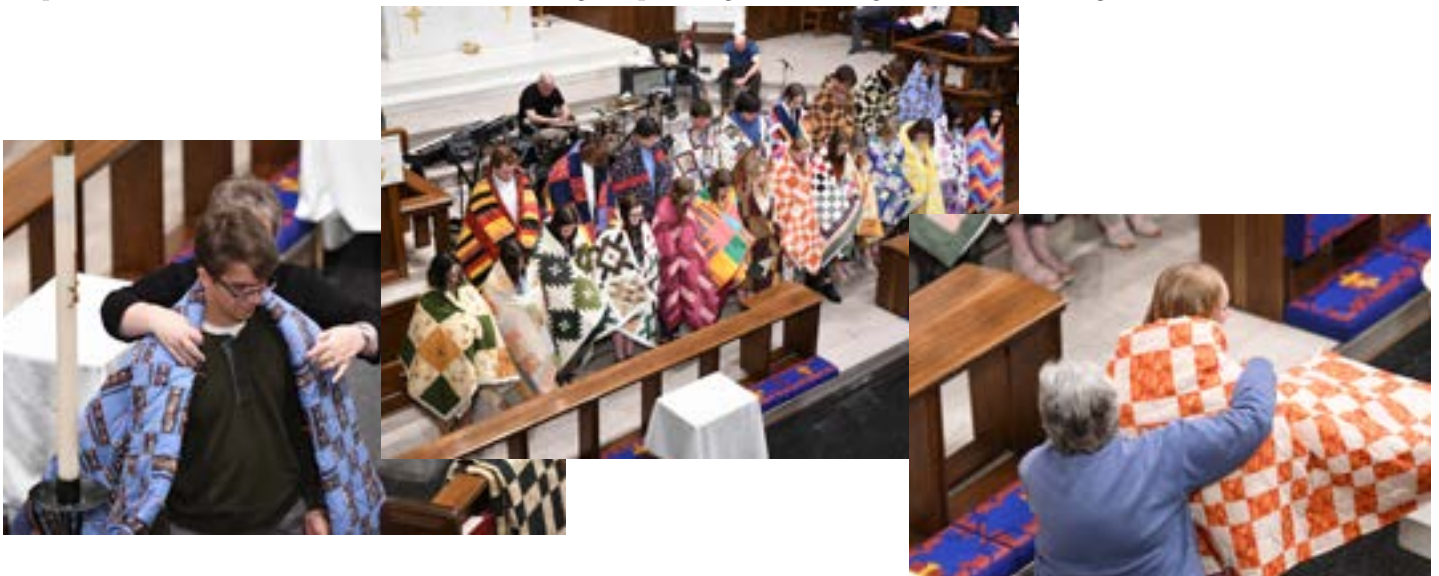
By Marnie Dahle Backer, Youth and Family Director



On Sunday, May 1, we recognized our amazing high school seniors with their milestone breakfast and celebration followed by the 11 a.m. worship service and the presentation of the quilts. What a beautiful day it was. If you haven't been there for the quilts before, it looks like this: the seniors sit in the front pews (girls on one side and boys on the other), Skylar and I read their names and one by one they come to the front of the sanctuary where they are met by one of our FLC Quilters. Nine times out of ten, the senior has to make themselves a bit shorter so our quilters can reach their shoulders and

wrap the quilt around them. Then you watch as they whisper a quick blessing in their ear. It's so lovely. And for me (and hopefully our quilters) this was a little extra sweet this year because the last two years they were not able to do this final piece of the presentation. COVID, of course. But if COVID taught us anything, it was to not take things for granted—even things you have done every year for the last 15+ years. Small gestures like placing a quilt around an 18-year-old's shoulders and squeezing them with the same kind of love our grandparents give. Watching the

seniors look at their quilts and finding all the ways that quilt fits their personality, and hearing stories of older siblings who have also received quilts and what a treasure it remains for them. This is the beauty of the church my friends, of gathering God's people together to share their gifts, and to share their blessings with young adults preparing to go out into the big wide world knowing that they have a God who loves them and clings so very tightly to them that nothing will separate them. God bless our FLC Quilters and God bless our high school seniors.



Please add the seniors to our prayers:

- Ryan Amundson
- Alexis Brady
- Paige Breuer
- Mollie Brown
- Elizabeth Crawford
- Claire Daniel
- Al Deak
- Ellie Dewitz
- Ashli Elyea
- Luke Glanzer
- Grace Glover
- Berkley Halstenson
- Alyssa Hangman
- Sofia Hein
- Alexis Kraft
- Josh Leiseth
- Justice Lloyd
- Ty Long
- Sophia Lunn
- Mya Rogers
- Tristan Schlechter
- Elijah Schramm
- Blake Stark
- Donnie Stoltz
- Ella Van Veldhuizen
- Gabrielle Van Veldhuizen
- Damen Visscher
- Quinn Wessel
- Mila Wollman
- Easton Zueger



## April Gifts and Memorials

### Gifts to Media Ministry

Shirley Drobny

Mary A. Hohman

Hazel Wek

In memory of John Burren

Phyllis Day, Eunice Mansfield, Barb Matson

In memory of Barney Friesth

Carol Borman, Phyllis Day, Shirley Drobney, Catherine Knock, Nancy Nervig

In memory of Doris Hamilton

Jack Hamilton

In memory of Wanda Hernes

Larry & Marilyn Anderson, Lillian Carlson, Jim & Dorothy Christopherson, Jerry Holter, Pr. Franklin Pudas

In memory of Glenice Johnson

Sandy Holleman, Allen & Karen Kasperson

In memory of John Kittelson

Arlis Alberts, Dennis Knutson, Mike &

Gloria Simpson, Tom & Martha Nelson

In memory of Joane Lorenze

Larry & Marilyn Anderson

In memory of Thelma McElhaney

Gene & Ladonna Ashmore, Jim & DeAnn Clark, Steve & Marilyn Haddorf, Juanda Jensen, Stan & Carol Jensen, Dennis & Jane King, Eunice Mansfield, Karen Martin, Barb Matson, Dwight & Patricia McElhaney, Dorothy Peterson, Carmen Reinholt

In memory of Anndrea Olson

Larry & Betty Olson

In memory of Vi Peterson

Gaylen Backus

In memory of Aggie Schlump

Mary A. Hohman, Barb Matson

In memory of Lance Stormo

Keith & Wauthena Brooks

### Handbells

In memory of Barney Friesth

Tracie Osthus

In honor of Jeff Backer

Tracie Osthus

### Lowell Project

In memory of John Kittelson

Jeff & Sarah Herbert

### Gifts to Music Ministry

In memory of John Kittelson

Sig & Charlotte Miller

### Gifts to Organ Fund

In memory of John Kittelson

Lyle & Jean Eidsness, Don & Judy Erickson, Mary A. Hohman, James & Mindy Moore, LaMoyne & Karyn Pederson, Bob & Marilyn Van Demark

### Woodshop

In memory of Mel Anderson

Karen Lidel

In memory of Wanda Hernes

Lyle & Jean Eidsness

### Gifts to Easter Garden 2022

Patricia Bruget

# CROSSROADS CONFERENCE

## Crossroads Conference Gathering at First Lutheran

By Jean Hoff, WELCA President



The Women of the ELCA from churches that are part of the Crossroads Conference gathered together on Saturday, April 23, at First Lutheran Church. The gathering started with registration at 8:30 a.m. The morning began in the Sanctuary with a welcome, a wonderful devotion and encouraging words from Pastor David Zellmer. We had tables of information from Lutherans Outdoors, Lake Shetek, and Lutheran Social Services. There was

a table that gave information on the kits that Lutheran World Relief requests, a table from Renner Lutheran where they make plastic mats for Church on the Street, a table showing dresses made from pillowcases by FLC member Elizabeth Wood, as well as an area where you could purchase items from the non-profit, Sharing the Dream, in Guatemala.

We had a delicious luncheon, wonderful speakers, and time to visit the vendors present as well as with each other. The afternoon brought Becky Rasmussen from Call to Freedom to discuss human trafficking as well as labor trafficking. We heard from the camps as well as from Lutheran Planned Giving. First Lutheran had 19 women attend the conference and an additional 12 women help with food and room preparations. It was a wonderful day, and the Women of the ELCA Crossroads Conference thank First Lutheran for hosting to our custodial staff for all their assistance.



### WORSHIP SERVICES

- Sat. 5PM** Traditional, Sanctuary  
**Sun. 8AM** Radio—rebroadcast of previous week on KELO-FM (101.9)  
**Sun. 9AM** Traditional, Sanctuary  
 Watch live at [youtube.com/flcsf](https://www.youtube.com/flcsf)  
**Sun. 11AM** Contemporary, Sanctuary  
 Watch live at [youtube.com/flcsf](https://www.youtube.com/flcsf)  
**Sun. 11AM** Traditional broadcast, KSFY Sioux Falls, KPRY Pierre, KABY Aberdeen

### Baptisms:

- Apr. 9: Everett Jeffery  
 Belben son of Jeffery & Kimberly Belben  
 Apr. 10: Emmitt Sterling  
 Nielsen son of Sterling & Kersten Nielsen  
 Apr. 23: Rowen Jason  
 Allen Munch son of

Ron Munch & Haley Johnson

### Deaths:

- Apr. 11: Jerry Drake  
 Apr. 27: Aggie Marie Schlump  
 Apr. 27: Terry Linn Nelson

# SUMMER AT FIRST LUTHERAN

**See what's happening at FLC this summer!**

## DISCOVERING GOD



LOVE • TREASURE • PROMISE

Registration still open! Join us for 3 days of exploring Luke 15 with crafts, games, songs, and stories. Each day will feature a parable (from Luke 15) as we Discover God's Love, God's Treasure, and God's Promise. For children pre-K-5th grade.

- June 6-8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., \$50 per camper
- Childcare before and after camp provided for an additional \$10/day
- Snacks and drinks will be provided; please bring lunch

## PIANO CLASS

**PRACTICAL SKILLS  
TO START PLAYING**

FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS  
AND ADULTS OF ANY AGE

WEDNESDAYS 11:00 AM  
OR THURSDAYS 6:00 PM  
JUNE 1-30, FLC PIANO LAB

REGISTRATION \$50 FOR 5 SESSIONS



SIGN UP

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THIS MINISTRY?  
CONTACT MATT, MTYLUTKI@FLCSF.ORG

# WORSHIP in the PARK

**Jun 19 • Jul 10 • Aug 21  
11am**

## Council Highlights: April 28, 2022

If First Lutheran members wish to add items to an upcoming Council meeting agenda, please contact Jodi Hoyt, [jhoyt@flcsf.org](mailto:jhoyt@flcsf.org). Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month. Church members are welcome to visit meetings.

- The call committee membership was affirmed, and the committee will be installed at the 9 o'clock service on May 15. Micah Aberson and Denise Aamlid will serve as co-chairs.
- Synod assembly is June 3-4 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Delegates need to register by May 19.
- Janet Borchard has been helping to fill the financial administrator position temporarily. Personnel expenses are running a bit high. Custodians have been getting a fair amount of overtime to cover security. Overall, we are in good shape financially.
- Pr. Dave thanked the staff and volunteers for a successful Holy Week. He mentioned that we continue to work on finding an interim associate pastor. He and Pr. Katherine interviewed a candidate for visitation ministry this afternoon. Pr. Katherine has done a good job coordinating visitation ministry.
- Pr. Jeff thanked everyone for an amazing weekend on his final time in the pulpit at FLC. Pr. Jeff has been working with Pr. Dave and Leslee Barness on what needs coverage in his absence.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## Become a Media Ministry Sponsor

Thank you for your generous support. The continuing pandemic has shown how critical our Media Ministry is to our extended congregation outside the walls of First Lutheran Church.

To learn about sponsoring, please visit [flcsf.org/media-ministry](http://flcsf.org/media-ministry) or call the church at (605) 336-3734. Sponsor opportunities include weekly worship:

- KSFY telecast
- Closed captioning
- KELO-FM radio
- YouTube live stream

Additional opportunities include church holiday worship and special events. General Media Ministry donations are always welcome.

## Thank You, April Sponsors

### April 3, 2022

The telecast on KSFY was sponsored in memory of Shirley Messner by Bob Messner and family. Shirley's birthday would have been April 5.

### April 10, 2022

The broadcast on KELO-FM was sponsored in memory of Orville and Sadie Doescher and James & Evelyn Williams by the Bob Doescher family.

### April 17, 2022

The broadcast on KELO-FM was sponsored in honor of Elaine Johnson, Mary Ellen Lantis, and Rick & Judy Berdahl and their families by Mike & Gloria Simpson.

The telecast on KSFY was sponsored in honor of Dottie and the late Min Paulson's 100th birthdays on April 23 and May 11 by their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

### April 24, 2022

The broadcast on KELO-FM was sponsored in memory of Cora Boneff through earnings from a bequest she made to the First Lutheran Church Foundation.

The telecast on KSFY was sponsored by Jack and Amanda Leaders through a special gift to the First Lutheran Church Foundation.