



Welcome, Pastor Jason!

A letter from First Lutheran's new Senior Pastor, Jason Burggraff



“The LORD watches over you—the LORD is your shade at your right hand, the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.”
Psalm 121:5-8

It is with prayerful discernment and hopeful excitement that I am pleased to accept your call to the position of Senior Pastor at First Lutheran Church. Erin, the kids, and I are overwhelmed by both the magnitude of transplanting our roots from Rochester to Sioux Falls and the outpouring of support and encouragement we have received from

the people of First Lutheran, as we have considered the invitation to your call. Thank you and God's peace be with you in Christ!

I write this note from Reagan National Airport in Washington DC. A group of 13 fellow travelers along with Erin and I are heading to Israel. We are excited to be on our way to see the sites and people of the land where the promise of forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ was first preached and accomplished by his own death and resurrection. As we have prepared to go, Psalm 121 has been a welcome Word that no matter how carefully we plan, it is God who watches over us and keeps us from harm whether we are coming or going. So it is for you too. In this time of transition, it is our LORD who watches over you and is your shade at your right hand.

And while the culture and geography of the Middle East is very interesting, I am

also reminded that God's promise does not depend on geography—it does not require a trip to the Holy Land of Israel to hear it. In fact, Jesus' Word goes right where the Holy Spirit brings it—wherever this Word is preached and the Sacraments are given. And that is, among many other places by God's will, right in the midst of the people of First Lutheran. This Word has come for you!

Precisely to that end, we are looking forward to joining with you in the ministry of the proclamation of this good news. You are in our prayers, and we invite you to keep us in your prayers as we prepare to come your way. Know that at the center and root of it all is Christ and his forgiveness. Through him, the Lord will watch over your life and your coming and going both now and forevermore.

In Christ,
Pastor Jason Burggraff

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, December 11

9 AM Worship: Enjoy music from the Augustana Women's Choir, "Angelus," as well as the FLC Parish Choir, Agape Ringers, and various instruments.

2 PM: The Children's Christmas Program with cookies and hot cocoa to follow. If your child (PreK-5th grade) is interested in being in the program this year please register them on the church website or Church Center App. We will have one practice on Saturday, December 10th, 10am-3pm.

4 PM: Vespers for Advent. Enjoy music from FLC Choristers and the Parish Choir

Saturday, December 24

Traditional services at 2:30 PM, 4:30 PM, 7:30 PM, and 9:30 PM

Enjoy music from various FLC choirs and musicians!

Sunday, December 25

Traditional service at 9 AM only

2022 Bazaar

Blessed to be a Blessing: Grateful, Thankful, and Blessed



By Jean Hoff
President, FLCW

With a grateful heart and deep appreciation for all the members of the congregation and others in the community, thank you for helping to make the 2022 Bazaar a huge success. The total WELCA/FLCW would like to share with you, after paying our expenses, is \$43,722. WOWSA! It takes hundreds of people to pull off the bazaar, and we are thankful for those in the congregation and community who answered the call to serve in some way. We have many who create

items during the year that they donate. How about those awesome people who bake and make items for the Food Buttik and Sweet Shoppe. Did you see the line of people wanting to buy lefse? We were sold out before 11 a.m. Attic Treasures was back this year as was the Kaffe Stua. The wonderful Norwegian treats like sweet soup, ris cream, rommegrot, and rullepolse, were especially enjoyed at the bazaar. There was plenty of food and items for the congregation to purchase on Sunday between services as well.

We also want to thank Kent Wilson, Jeff Hartnett, and Rick East for moving tables both before and after the bazaar, for hauling out all of the garbage, and for the overall cleaning that needed to be

done. You were a blessing to the bazaar, therefore, a blessing to God's people who will receive money from the bazaar proceeds. Thanks also to the staff...the bazaar cancels so many other programs here during that week. We appreciate your partnership in serving our Lord and Savior.

So whether you created items, baked, priced, made, or bought from one of the areas, the 2022 Bazaar was a success because of you and all the efforts put forth by so many people. Each of us is blessed by the gifts our Heavenly Father gives to us, and now those gifts will be a blessing to God's people here in Sioux Falls, in South Dakota, and in the world. We are Grateful, Thankful, and Blessed!





Capital Campaign Update

By Jean Hoff, Coordinator

At a meeting with the architect and the construction company, a tentative start date of November 14 was provided for the Atrium remodel to begin. You will notice all of the items normally in the Atrium have been moved. The donation boxes for Food to You and Necessities for Neighbors are located in the Gathering Room. The donation box for Church on the Street is now located outside their office.

The contractor will be working from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays,

Thursdays, and Fridays. On Wednesdays, the construction will end at 4 p.m. to get the Atrium cleaned up for Wednesday evening activities. The contractor will try to limit disruptions, but there are bound to be some along the way. People will be notified as soon as possible about any disruptions that will impact them. If a funeral is scheduled, no construction work will be done that day.

A wheel chair is located in the area as you head down to the Friendship Room with the door that leads to the outside.

The coat rack in the Atrium will be

removed by the construction company. Please use the coat racks in the Welcome Center or in Reformation Hall.

Please recognize that the construction team in the building can't change anything as they are governed by the contract with the church. The church will keep you updated to what is happening on the remodel project as we move forward.

The tuck pointing project has been completed. This was a great project that will help to protect the brick and the interior of the church.

Meet Our New Staff!

Pastor Dan DeBlock: Interim Associate Pastor



Pastor Dan and his wife, Elizabeth, are pleased to serve First Lutheran Church. They look forward to getting to know FLC members and the community.

Pastor Dan graduated from Luther Seminary

in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. His undergraduate study was at Concordia College in St. Paul, MN. Pastor Dan was the editor of the college newspaper and yearbook in college. He served his first call in Ord, Nebraska. He then entered Active Duty in the U.S. Army as a Chaplain and retired in 2003. While serving as an intentional interim in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota, he received his doctorate from Erskine Seminary in Due West, South Carolina. His doctorate involved developing and teaching Pastors to become Senior Pastors. The course was taught to pastors in Eastern North Dakota Synod and Western North Dakota in 2016-17.

His U.S. Army Chaplain travels took

him to Europe, South Korea, and many states in the United States of America. However, he has claimed the Sioux Falls area as home. As an Intentional Interim, he has served numerous congregations in Southwest Minnesota Synod, Northwest Minnesota Synod, South Dakota Synod, and Eastern North Dakota Synod.

His training during this time included: Alcohol and Drug Abuse Team Training Course, 1987; Introduction to Hospital Ministry and Pastoral Care Course, 1988; Chaplain Advanced Education, 1990;

Spouse and Child Abuse Training Menninger, 1994; Family Advocacy Staff Training (FAST) Course, 1995; Family Advocacy Staff Training (Advanced) (FAST) Course, 1995; Small Group

Instructor Training Course, 1999; Staff and Faculty Development Training Course, 1999; Systems Approach to Training (SAT), Instructor Developer; and

Training Development Middle Managers' Course, 2000.

His training after retirement from the U.S. Army Chaplaincy included courses on Intentional Interim Ministry: Intentional Interim Training, Center for Healthy Congregations,

2004; Advanced Intentional Interim Training, Luther Seminary 2004; Healthy Congregations Facilitator, 2005; Bridgebuilders, Family Systems Approach, Peter Steinke 2006; Clinical Pastoral Education 4 Quarters (CPE) Sioux Falls, South Dakota Veterans Hospital; and Communications Specialist for Sioux Falls, South Dakota Veterans Hospital 2011-12.

Over time, Pastor Dan has published numerous articles on ministry and chaplaincy. He has received numerous awards while serving the church and the Army chaplaincy.

Pastor Dan and Elizabeth have four children and five grandchildren. The children live all over the country and are often in contact. However, they claim Sioux Falls, SD, as home. They are happy to be here among you, helping the church grow in faith and concern for each other.



Renee King: Morning Receptionist



Hello everybody! My name is Renee King, and I am the new morning receptionist. I am thankful to be working here at First Lutheran Church. I was born in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and raised in Kalispell,

Montana, on a cattle ranch. I moved to Sioux Falls in 2012 after meeting my husband. I have two children: my daughter in Yankton, SD; and my son in Irene, SD. I also have a step-son here in Sioux Falls.

I have two precious grandsons who are so amazing and keep me on my toes! I enjoy knitting, cooking, reading, and growing my garden and flowers. I grow a lot of

tomatoes, and I enjoy canning my salsa every summer.

My other favorite passion is traveling. I have visited all but just five states in the USA and hope to reach the goal of visiting all 50 in the next couple of years.

I am excited to be at First Lutheran Church, and I look forward to meeting many new people.

Committee Updates

December Special Offering



*By Maria Neely,
Evangelism &
Outreach Board
Member*

This month's special offering supports The Furniture Mission, The Banquet, and Center of Hope.

The Furniture Mission's purpose is to demonstrate the love of Christ by doing his will in providing those in need with gently used furniture and household items. A comfortable home provides dignity, security, and a better environment in which to raise a family. Each person or family who receives furniture is referred by a social service agency, school, church, or hospital. Pre-qualifying assures we are serving those truly in need. This mission is composed of mostly volunteers who carry out the day-to-day operations of pick-up/delivery, necessary cleaning/repair, warehouse organization, and clerical work. A Board of Directors volunteers their time and expertise to assure the mission

stays true to its calling to be an effective, efficient, and accountable organization. Each household receiving furniture also receives a copy of the Holy Bible along with information about study groups and an invitation to attend.

The Banquet's mission is to provide a welcoming place where people in the community can gather, receive nourishment, and feed the body and spirit. This ministry provides assistance to volunteers from Sioux Falls and surrounding areas in providing food and fellowship to those served. The Banquet meal ministry was founded in 1985 starting with just one meal per week. It now serves 16 meals per week at two locations in Sioux Falls and is a volunteer-based ministry, which means the meals are paid for, prepared by, and served by volunteer groups.

Center of Hope's mission is to walk alongside people, bringing them spiritual and physical health, and ultimately changing our community one life at a time. Their philosophy is to help people help themselves, encouraging them

through their struggles and celebrating their victories. This mission is in need of prayer, winter and seasonal clothing, volunteers, and financial assistance to move people from dependency to self-sufficiency. Center of Hope provides computers for job searches and applications, phones for long-distance calls, bicycles to qualifying families and individuals for transportation and recreation, faith-based nursing care, pastoral care, and Bible studies for men and women.

Please consider volunteering and/or providing financial support for these important ministries within our community. You may donate online at flcsf.org/give or by writing a check written out to First Lutheran Church with one or all of these ministries written in the memo line. Remember these ministries in your prayers and thank you for your support.

December Awareness: Human Trafficking and How You Can Help



*By Jason VanRuler,
Care & Health Board
Member*

This December the Care and Health Board is focusing on the care and support of persons who have been affected by human trafficking.

Although human trafficking may seem like a problem that occurs far from our doorstep, the reality is that human trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry and affects every nation, including the US. Human trafficking is defined as "the illegal trade of human

beings, mainly for the purposes of forced labor and sex trafficking," and has been steadily increasing in recent years.

Presently, there are more slaves in the world than at any other point in history, and it is estimated that every 30 seconds someone becomes a victim of human trafficking. Unfortunately, many survivors of human trafficking lack access to services and specialized care, but thankfully, Sioux Falls is home to Call to Freedom, which acts as a resource for survivors.

"Call to Freedom provides supportive

services for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation by creating a strong network of front line providers who offer safe housing, counseling, medical assistance, transportation, and other supportive services."



Call To
Freedom

First Lutheran Church is grateful for the opportunity to support this organization through a donation from the Care and Health Board. If you are interested in helping or supporting Call to Freedom, you can find more information at their website, calltofreedom.org.

Youth & Family

Confirmation 2022

Affirmation of Baptism was celebrated on Sunday, November 6, with 21 sophomores hearing these words for their laying on of hands blessing: Father in Heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in these

children the gift of your Holy Spirit, confirm their faith, guide their life, empower them in their serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life. Amen.

Please continue to pray for these high school students, that they might feel God's love and mercy holding tight to them—no matter what.



(Left to Right) Back Row: Marnie Dable Backer, Noah Glau, Carter Misterek, Corbin Laue, Quintin Hernes, Gabe Long, Ty Raymond, Addyson Elton, Valerie Pherson; *Middle Row:* Skylar Schwab, Taylor Halstenson, Makenzie Nelson, Charlotte Crawford, Avery Lloyd, Elliott Visscher, Kelsie Goembel, Stella Sonnichsen, Sadie Dewitz; *Front Row:* Pr. Katherine Olson, Natalie Dillon, Ava Brown, Eyan Glover, Isabel Johnson, Sasha Van Veldhuizen, Brenna McElroy, Pr. Dave Zellmer



Natalie Dillon with her parents Craig & Kristy and the pastoral staff bless her with the laying on of hands.



Stella Sonnichsen reads the second lesson for the worship service

Baby's First Christmas Milestone: Saturday, November 12



Sophia Guthmiller with big sister Anna and Baby Jesus.



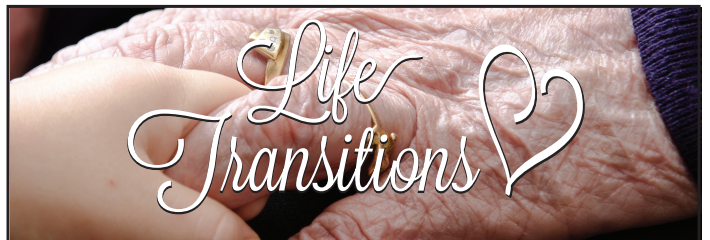
James "Jim Jim" (as his siblings call him) Terpstra all ready for Christmas with his baby Jesus.



left to right: Emmitt Nielsen, Sophia Guthmiller, Everett Belben, James Terpstra, Deklan May, Sarah Margarit

Reminders from Youth & Family

- Summer camp 2023 registrations are now OPEN! Visit flcsf.org/camp for more information!
- Make music at FLC: First Lutheran Church Choir School 2023 spring registration is open through January 9! Students can join choirs, handbells, and take piano lessons for FREE! Visit flcsf.org/choirschool or contact Director Matt Tylutki at mtylutki@flcsf.org



Baptisms:

October 9: Caleb Ahlers, son of Emily Law & Travis Ahlers
Daniel Tllustos, adult baptism

Deaths:

October 3: Harry "Gene" Jones
 October 11: Robert Albrecht
 October 24: John Odney
 October 25: Oliver "Larry" Andersen
 October 30: Lee Peterson

Council Highlights: October 2022

- The call committee has recommended Pr. Jason Burggraaf as the next senior pastor of FLC. Pr. Jason will visit Wednesday, November 2.
- Two new members were approved: Mitchell and Kristen Peterson.
- Budget congress will be held at the November council meeting as council prepares for 2023.
- The worship and music board briefly discussed the return of News Notes. The board believed the congregation needs to better be made aware of the change from News Notes to FLC Now. The ushers will help direct congregants to these documents (located outside all sanctuary and chapel entrances) at worship.
- The welcome and community board will be returning a new, improved pew pad to the pews. They are also creating a guest center to better identify guests in worship.
- All boards have board member openings. Council members were asked to give suggested names to Barney Brandenburg and the nominating committee.
- YTD revenue is down about \$48k, YTD expenses are down about \$138k. Overall, revenue still exceeds expenses, so finances are good overall.
- The contract for deed was paid off as of October.
- Atrium construction will begin Monday, November 14.

First Lutheran Church
327 S Dakota Ave
Sioux Falls SD 57104

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

October Gifts & Memorials

FLC Shop

In memory of Larry Andersen

Lyle & Jean Eidsness, Bob & Carolyn Bauman

Foundation

In memory of John Odney

Lyle & Jean Eidsness

Media Ministry

In memory of Chuck Osthus

Tracie Osthus

In memory of John Odney

Stanley & Sandra Christopherson, David Heckenlively, Bill, Peggy, Jeff & Brad Toft, Brian & Denise Aamlid, Bob & Karen Hemre, Barb Matson, Stephen Johnson, Mary Eich

In memory of Larry Andersen

Stanley & Sandra Christopherson, Bob & Karen Hemre, Barb Matson

In memory of Mary Osthus

Ardis Johnson

In memory of Scott Olson

Donald & La Vonne Wolf

In memory of Gene Jones

Barb Matson, Julie Nelson, William & Nancy Olson, Sandra Holleman, Michael & Gloria Simpson, Karen Van Bockern

In memory of Alfred Lorenz

Barb Matson

In memory of Tammie Schwebach

Kim Wiertzema, Frontier Bank

In memory of Shirley Headrick

Kim Wiertzema, Frontier Bank

Music Ministry

In memory of Terry Roisum

Donald & LaVonne Wolf

Senior Luncheons Return!

**Mark your calendars:
Tuesday January 24, 2023
11:30 AM**

More information coming in January First Word.

Thank You, October Media Sponsors

October 16, 2022

- The broadcast on KELO-FM was sponsored in memory of parents Leo & Ingrid Knutson and Adolph & Lucile Quail; and brothers, Butch Quail and Leonard Quail; by Allan and Phyllis Knutson.

October 30, 2022

- The telecast on KSFY was sponsored by gifts made in memory of Dennis King by his family and friends.