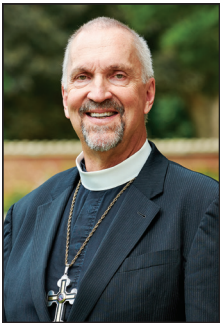




Goodbye Pastor Zellmer!

Thank you for your pastoral service and guidance as Interim Senior Pastor



I have very much enjoyed our time in worship, during the Reformation Class, Bible studies, and teaching Confirmation. On a personal note I say "Thank You" to Jean for her work on the Capital Campaign and serving as the General Contractor; Pastor Katherine and all of our visitation ministers; to Jodi, Katie, and Bev for keeping the church and office running; to Zachary, Matt, Shirley, Larry, Paul, and all the other musicians of the church; to Marnie, Val, Skylar, and Josh working with our youth and family ministries; and to Kent and Jeff in keeping the church clean. During my 41 years of serving the church, I have always appreciated serving as a parish pastor. Thank you for the opportunity to serve First Lutheran in this capacity. I will continue to hold you in my prayers as you move into a new chapter of ministry in downtown Sioux Falls.



A Note from Senior Pastor Jason Burggraff

Encouragement for the congregation as we transition into a new year



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at First Lutheran,

Here we go! The life of First Lutheran Church over the past couple of years has been one full of transitions, that's for sure. As I have imagined, experienced, and heard from you, these transitions have not been easy. Yet I want you to know that you and this whole congregation is held in the perfect promise of Christ, and because of this there is great hope. As we look ahead into

the coming year of life together in the faith of Christ, I share with you a word of hope and encouragement:

“for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.” (Colossians 3:3-4).

It may come as a surprise to hear this as good news – that you have died. Yet this is the work of God on you through baptism. For while this death of the old is necessary, God does not leave you there, but raises you up with Christ. And this is our hope. As a result, Paul later writes: “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another

in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.” (Colossians 3:16). This is the fruit of death and resurrection – that we have hope, give thanks, and share this hope together with each other and the world. No matter what else is happening in the world or our community, this Word of Christ is our greatest treasure. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may it dwell in you richly these days.

Project CAR at FLC



*Donna Jahr,
Care & Health Board*

FLC houses a hidden treasure at the bottom of the steps by the Quilt Center ... Project CAR, a special transportation system in the Sioux

Falls community.

Approximately 42 years ago, five churches (including First Lutheran) and two service agencies came together to fill a need for senior citizens in the community – transportation to worship, church activities and medical appointments. Since then, it has expanded to fifteen organizations (churches, non-profit corporations and educational institutions) and includes providing rides for adults with special needs who are employed and in need of transportation, as well as high school students attending the Avera Academy.

Project CAR owns and operates five sedan vehicles and transports clients Monday through Friday 7:00 am – 4:00 pm and Sunday mornings 7:30 am – 12:30 pm. You may have noticed the cars around the city from time to time or parked at the south end of our parking lot when not in use. The non-profit has one full-time employee, Rev. Dr. Christopher Montgomery, and over two dozen volunteers to fulfill its mission. Riders



come from all walks of life and for various reasons are no longer driving themselves to church, medical appointments or work. Rides are provided at no cost to the passengers. Routes are assigned and

volunteers can choose to drive as much or as little as time permits for them. This brief history doesn't come close to telling the story of Project CAR. The heart of this ministry is people. Driving for Project CAR is a rewarding experience. Passengers many times are willing to visit and share about their lives and health issues. Drivers are given an opportunity to spread a little light into sometimes dark corners for their passengers. Riders on the other hand are very appreciative of the assistance and enjoy interacting with their drivers.

Are you looking for a new volunteer opportunity? If so, consider driving for Project CAR. Give Christopher a call at the Project CAR office (605-332-2777) and tell him you want to be part of the team. You will make a difference!

Committee Updates

February Special Offering

Local Missions—Union Gospel Mission, Bishop Dudley House, and St. Francis House



Val Peters,
Evangelism &
Outreach Board

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” - 1 Peter 4:10

Many of our neighbors within the Sioux Falls community continue to be homeless. This includes adults and children, both sheltered and unsheltered. This month’s special offering supports three local missions within our community that provide a variety of crisis support to adults and children who are experiencing poverty, homelessness, and other conditions that create challenges for adults and children in crisis.

Union Gospel Mission

Union Gospel Mission has been present in Sioux Falls since 1900 and provides spiritual nourishment, housing, meals, clothing, and household items to individuals in need in our community. The Mission provides safe, comfortable lodging and showers for individuals who find themselves without shelter and needing a place to rest and get out of the elements. Guests might be transients passing through the area; some are people struggling as they work to get back on



their feet, and a few others are individuals that choose to join our discipleship program and become accountable in several areas of their life. Lodging is offered for up to 80 men and 48 women and children. In addition to providing three meals a day, UGM also provides daily chapel, adult learning, medical care, and more. With the recent flooding due to burst pipes, the need for volunteers and essential items has increased. Visit <https://ugmsiouxfalls.com> to learn more about this ministry and how you can volunteer.

Bishop Dudley Hospitality House

Bishop Dudley Hospitality House is an ecumenical ministry in Sioux Falls that provides a central, first-stop resource for those in crisis. Bishop Dudley Hospitality House offers daytime and overnight emergency shelter for those who find



themselves homeless and vulnerable, providing housing for 80 men, 20 women, and 7 families nightly, their programming serves the holistic needs of the individual. The Bishop Dudley Hospitality House offers a warm, safe, secure place to start the road back to a more stable, long-term way of living. Please visit <https://www.bdhh.org> to learn more about this ministry, as well as explore volunteer opportunities and donation needs.

St. Francis House

St. Francis House (SFH), with a mission to move people from homelessness to

hope, began as an ecumenical partnership between First Lutheran Church and the Sioux Falls Catholic Diocese in 1987. SFH is an emergency and transitional housing program for up to 120 men and women and seven families. Providing housing for those in need, SFH also provides three meals each day as well as case management services to assist



guests with obtaining and maintaining employment, attending treatment classes, rebuilding their relationships with family, and paying off their debts to society. SFH requires guests to obtain and maintain employment. Guests are required to place every paycheck into a savings account. While at the House, guests must remain alcohol, substance, and gambling free; perform household chores; and attend two self-improvement classes each week. SFH provides guests with shelter, food, debt management, basic essentials, case management, and HOPE! Visit <https://www.stfrancishouse.com> to learn more about this mission, their donation needs, and ways that you can volunteer.

As you keep these local missions in your prayers, please consider financial support of these ministries by using the Special offering envelopes, which are included with your regular offering envelopes. If you do not have one, bring your donation to the Information Desk at church, using “February Local Missions” on the memo line of your check, or visit flcsf.org/give to donate online.

Youth & Family

Anniversary of Baptism



*Valerie Pherson,
Youth & Family*

On January 8th we celebrated Jesus' baptism and lifted up all the baptisms from the previous year. We love welcoming children into the family of God! During worship we had a special prayer of blessing for all 24 of our 2022 baptisms! As a congregation we make a promise to support each family as they

nurture the baptized member in the Christian faith and live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church. We do this by praying for their new life in Christ, sending them baptism cards on their anniversary, and encouraging them to attend worship and church events.

This year we added another reminder of this promise made by God and the church for those baptized in 2022. The congregation put their fingerprints, in ink, on a piece of artwork that included a cross and water drop. The hope is that when this is seen, they are reminded of

God's unbreakable promise to them as well as they are a member of a church who cares for them deeply. Mark 16:16 tells us that "The one who believes and is baptized will be saved", FLC believes this promise to be true. Our Y&F ministries are designed to encourage baptized believers to learn God's Word and live out a life of Faith. We do this through programs like Sunday School, Milestones, Summer Camps, Worship, and Confirmation class. It is our hope that through these opportunities they are able to establish their confession in Christ and articulate it with confidence.



Left: Parents Tara and Ethan May baptized their son Deklan in March.



Right: Parents Kersten and Sterling Nielsen baptized their son Emmitt in April.

Here are some of the 2022 baptisms that took place at FLC last year.



Left: Parents Kim and Jeffrey Belben baptized their son Everett in April.



Right: Parents Amy and Aaron Sehr baptized their daughter Marlie in July.



Join us in Reformation Hall where we will be enjoying pancakes on the eve of Ash Wednesday! Available for kids will be balloon animals, carnival games, a photo booth, and face painting! All ages are welcome!

Goodbye and Godspeed, Pastor Katherine!



Pastor Katherine Olson ended her time as Visitation Minister and Coordinator of Visitation Ministry on January 19th. When she announced her intention to resign, she stated “I am completely grateful for my time spent with you in this congregation—first as a member, then as a called pastor, then again as a member, and finally as a visitation pastor! I am leaving with a lot of love and gratitude for all of you in my heart.” The congregation expresses its thankfulness for her ministry and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

December Gifts and Memorials

Media Ministry

In memory of Mary Ann Hohman

Jim & Deann Clark, Conrad & Helen Price, Mary Eich, Betty Gednalske, Leroy & Janet Halstenson, Karen Lidel, Marlene Linton, Marilyn Moseson, Joan & Constance Muns, Mila & Mark Ode, Franklin Pudas, Kathleen Stelzer, FLC Women of the ELCA.

In memory of John Odney

Leroy & Janet Halstenson, Marilyn Johnson, Larry Satterlee

In memory of Darlene Hovel

Ruthann & Hugh Venrick

In memory Faith Christiansen

Barb Matson

In memory of Gloria Norgaard

Karen Lidel

In memory of Larry Anderson

Betty Pfeifle

In memory of Lee Peterson

Ruthann & Hugh Venrick

In memory of Marjorie Brandsma

FLC Women of the ELCA

In memory of Marlys Muller

FLC Women of the ELCA

In memory of Vivian Bauer

FLC Women of the ELCA

Music Ministry

In memory of Mary Ann Hohman

James & Sandra Fink, Frances Kilen, Jane King, Barb Matson, Dorothy Mayeske, Marilyn McLeod, Tom & Martha Nelson, Nancy Nervig, Rosaaen Olson, Lois Peterson, Mary Ryrholm, Eric Severson, James & Elaine Tatge, Donna Willadsen

In memory of Sarah Olson

Gary Earl, Vance & Sherry Goldammer, Carl & Janet Naessig, Rosaaen Olson

Caring Ministry

In memory of LaVonne McElroy

Carol & John Nordaune

Youth Ministry

In memory of Mary Ann Hohman

Betty Pfeifle

Hand Bells

In memory of Charles Osthus

Betty Wolf

Men in Mission

In memory of John Odney

James & Sandra Fink

Thank You, December Media Sponsors

December 11, 2022

- The telecast on KSFY was sponsored in memory of parents, Ernest & Emma Tiede and John & Clarice Yttreness, by Don & Karen Tiede.

December 18, 2022

- The telecast on KSFY was sponsored in memory of Margaret Doescher by her family.

December 24, 2022

- The Christmas Eve telecast on CW was sponsored by Lori & David Melemseter.

December 25, 2022

- The Christmas Day telecast and closed captioning on KSFY was sponsored by Judy Jasper, in memory of her parents, Jack and Mabel Jasper.

Life Transitions 

Baptisms:

December 10: Brandon Hasner, Jamie Krsak, Navaeh Hasner

Deaths:

December 13: Faith Christianson
December 17: Pearl DeLorenzo

LENT AT FIRST LUTHERAN



"Marriage, Martyrs, and Mysteries of the Faith:
Echoes of the Reformation in 1523, 500 Years Later"

Lenten Midweek Services

Feb. 22, Ash Wednesday-"Dust to Dust: Still Sinning, Still Forgiven"

March 1-"Escaped Nuns and the Beauty of Marriage"

March 8-"Martyrs for the Faith: the 1st Lutheran Martyrs"

March 15-"Baptismal Gold: Luther's Teaching on Baptism"

March 22-"The Birth of Lutheran Hymnody"

March 29-"The First Five: Luther begins Translating the Old Testament"

Holy Week Services April 2-9

Palm Sunday: 9am and 11am

Maundy Thursday: 11:15am and 6:30pm (Communion is served)

Good Friday: 11:15am and 6:30pm

Easter Vigil: 5pm

Easter Sunday: 7, 9, and 11am services (Communion is served)

1517 was a banner year for the Lutheran Reformation – it was the year that Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenberg, and after this dramatic act, the world was never the same. But this wasn't the only story of the Reformation, not even close. This Lent at First Lutheran, we will take a look and a listen into a few of the dramatic slices of the Reformation story from 1523, 500 years ago. And we will share how these stories help affect our own culture and proclamation of the Gospel, 500 years later. Join us on Wednesdays at 11:15am and 6:30pm as we worship with Holden Evening Prayer, Scripture, preaching, and slices of the Reformation story that speak to our day. -Pr. Jason Burggraaf

Council Highlights: December 2022

- Discussion continues on updates to the constitution and bylaws. The proposal is to go back to the previous description of the Senior Pastor (removing the role of the Executive Pastor). The proposal would also include co-terminus calls. When making any changes to a church's constitution and bylaws, churches are then also required to bring verbiage up to date with the most current revisions from Churchwide. This motion has been tabled for now.
- Discussion surrounded the use of funds designated for media ministry, specifically to ensure those designated contributions are allocated accordingly.
- Feedback continues to come in regarding the covering of the windows in the Atrium and why this was included in council summaries. No information was intentionally hidden; nothing nefarious is happening.
- Finances are on track for 2022, but we are currently budgeted to be behind in 2023. The stewardship board will be making calls to gain additional pledge commitments.
- Pr. Dave shared that he's been with us for just over a year. He mentioned appreciation for Pr. Katherine and what she is doing with visitation. He noted that Avera has changed the way they ask about church affiliation. Ultimately, we lose the ability at times to know who is there.
- Security cameras are here and will be installed soon.
- Approximately \$5200 remains in an E&O budget dedicated to Pr. Paulson at Luther House, and he is now working elsewhere. A proposal was made to utilize funds for Lutheran seminary in Magagna and Lutheran World Relief (for Ukraine).
- Painting in the Atrium should be done next week, and carpet will be laid the following week.

First Lutheran Church
327 S Dakota Ave
Sioux Falls SD 57104

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

February Events

February 5-2nd grade milestone: Confession and Forgiveness

February 11-Dementia/Alzheimer's Support group 9 a.m.

February 20-President's Day, FLC Offices
CLOSED

February 21-Shrove Tuesday 5-7 p.m.

February 22-Ash Wednesday, 11:15 a.m.
and 6:30 p.m. services *See page 7 for full
Lent schedule*

February 28-Senior Luncheon 11:30 a.m.