



First Word

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

Bazaar 2022...Full Steam Ahead!

The 2022 Bazaar, "Blessed to be a Blessing," is being held Saturday, November 5. Volunteers are needed for craft shops, as well as set-up and clean-up of shops and Reformation Hall. Many hands are needed to accomplish this great mission event. All of the proceeds support missions.

Volunteers are Needed

Saturday, 11/5:

- Craft shops
- Setup and cleanup of shops
- Setup and cleanup of Reformation Hall
- Dishwashers
- Runners
- Shop cashiers

Wednesday, 11/2; and Friday, 11/4:

- Romegrot
- Ris crème
- Fruit soup

Please help spread the word to your family, friends, and neighbors, as we all are "Blessed to be a Blessing."



*Blessed
to be a Blessing*

Committee Updates

Hope for the Holidays



*Donna Jahr,
Care & Health Board*

We have flipped the calendar and November is here. We all know that means the holiday season is fast approaching.

Thanksgiving will

be here in three short weeks with family gatherings and tables full of turkey and all the trimmings. A month later, after rushing around shopping, decorating and baking, we will celebrate the birth of baby Jesus. More family times with gifts galore and happy conversations. These are

very important family times where special memories are made. For some families, however, the holiday season will not be “normal.” They have suffered the loss of a loved one and are struggling to settle into new traditions. There’s a void in the family.

If you and your family have experienced a loss and are struggling as you prepare for the holidays, the Board of Care & Health Ministries invites you to a Holiday Grief Service, held on Saturday, November 12, at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary followed by a time for fellowship with others going through these same feelings of loss. The worship service is not limited to persons who lost a loved one in 2022 since

there is no timeline on grief. It is for all persons who want to come together to remember a loved one. Hopefully, the Holiday Grief Service will be a calming time for everyone to reflect on memories and prepare for changes in the upcoming holiday celebrations.

If you are interested in attending, please sign up *by Wednesday, November 9*, at flcsf.org/holidaygrief or by calling the office, (605) 336-3734. We will have a ceremony lighting candles in memory of the loved ones, and reservations will help the board prepare for our time together.

God’s blessings to you and your family as you prepare for the holidays.

*Hope for the
Holidays*

a hope-filled holiday grief event

Saturday, November 12 • 10-11a

Pr. Katherine Olson and musicians Larry Olson and Karol Baer lead a time of worship in the Sanctuary. Refreshments to follow. Advent devotional booklets given to all participants.

This event is free, but registration is requested. Read more in the Church Center App or at flcsf.org/holidaygrief. Or, Call the church office, 605-336-3734

Call Committee Update

On behalf of the senior pastor call committee, we once again write with a sense of optimism that God’s hand is at work in the future of First Lutheran Church. The call committee has listened

to hundreds of sermons; vetted multiple interested candidates; and spent time in Bible study, interviews, and discussion with several outstanding pastors; and we’re getting close to finalizing our

recommendation to the congregation. We are grateful for your continued prayers for both the work of the call committee as well as the pastors considering our call.

November Special Offering



*Dan Lindquist,
Evangelism &
Outreach Board*

This month's special offering supports Pueblo de Dios and Vecinos Unidos—Spanish faith communities in Sioux Falls.

Pueblo de Dios, translated “People, or Community, of God,” is a mission ministry developed under the SD Synod of the ELCA. This congregation is the first Spanish-speaking Lutheran congregation in Sioux Falls with members who have come from Mexico as well as Central and South America.

While you may recognize **Pueblo de Dios** as the organization that occasionally sells tamales, they are so much more! Pueblo de Dios was birthed at First

Lutheran Church, then moved to share space with Augustana Lutheran in the Cathedral historic neighborhood. Pastor Maria Cabello Solomon currently serves as the full-time pastor of Pueblo de Dios. The congregation meets weekly to worship together in Spanish and is a positive presence in supporting the Latinx community in Sioux Falls. You are always invited to attend a festive worship at 12:30 p.m. each Sunday at Augustana Lutheran (235 North Prairie Avenue).

Amidst all of the celebrations, activities, and food, the principal mission of Pueblo de Dios is to share the love that Christ shows us and teach people to be disciples of Jesus Christ like we learn from the gospel of Matthew.

Vecinos Unidos (VU), formerly Ayuda, translated as “Neighbors United,” is a closely related initiative and is a partnership supported by the ELCA congregations of Sioux Falls. The VU

group helps to establish relationships between the people of Pueblo de Dios and the other predominantly Anglo-Lutheran churches in Sioux Falls. In addition to selling tamales, volunteers are encouraged to help with the Logos program at Pueblo, which is their version of church school on Wednesday nights. They also have a language partners program where an English-speaking person is paired with a Spanish-speaking person, and they learn each other's language.

If you have always wanted to learn Spanish, join this amazing ministry. VU also looks to provide pathways for people seeking asylum and helps the recently emigrated find pathways to establish a life here in Sioux Falls.

Please prayerfully consider financially supporting these important local ministries. Your offering makes a difference in the lives of our Latinx neighbors.

Committee Nominations Needed: Time, Talent, and Treasure



*Barney
Brandenburg,
Nominating
Committee*

Each year at this time we consider our pledge for the upcoming church year. Many of us think of making a pledge as the commitment of

our “monetary treasure.” But let's consider how most of us arrive at this “treasure.” Usually, the compensation is based upon the consideration of how much time we spend working our talent. There is no “money tree” from which those dollars can be harvested.

While it is important for the Church to be blessed with financial support, I

would also remind everyone that we can't just throw dollars at doing the mission Jesus has called us to do. That is where TIME and TALENT become exceedingly important.

Our church structure includes eight boards and an Executive Committee. These boards are an integral part of helping to carry out our missions. Boards include: Care and Health; Education and Discipleship; Evangelism and Outreach; Finance, Administration, and Property; Stewardship and Giving; Welcome and Community; Worship and Music; and Youth and Family.

For details about the missions of these boards, please refer to the annual reports, which can be reviewed on our website. Board terms are for three years, with the ability to serve two consecutive terms before being term limited. Officers and

Executive Committee members serve one-year terms.

The Nominating Committee will be helping the boards fill their positions for the next year. If you have a talent that would be helpful for a specific board and are willing to commit the time, please let us know. You can leave a message with the church office, (605) 336-3734. You also may have a member of the nominating committee contact you because someone feels you would be a great board member. The members of the Nominating Committee are: Jody Elton, Linda Gores, Marilyn VanDemark, and Barney Brandenburg.

Please prayerfully consider how you may share your time and talent with First Lutheran. It will be an experience that I am sure you will treasure! Many thanks!

Youth & Family

Fall Milestones

3rd and 7th Grade Bibles
Sept. 25



Left: Families gather together at the front of the sanctuary as parents and the congregation fulfill their baptism promises to these children and place in their hands the Holy Scriptures.

Right: Isabella Olson receives a blessing from her grandpa, Dave Palmer.



4-year old Prayer Pillows
Oct. 2



Left: Lillian Munson (left) and Katherine Terpstra (right) spend some time choosing just the right prayer pillow. Jameson Carney (back) confers with his older sister to make sure he chose wisely.

Right: Joey Bock (left) looks through his prayer book while his buddy, Harrison Van Horn (right), adds some color to his booklet.



We are the Church
Oct. 15



Left: Stella Olinger and her mom, Hilary, prepare to bless one another with a wet cross on the forehead and the words, "You are a child of God."

Right: Jack Jensen and his mom, Nicole, reaching in the font to find his milestone pebble.

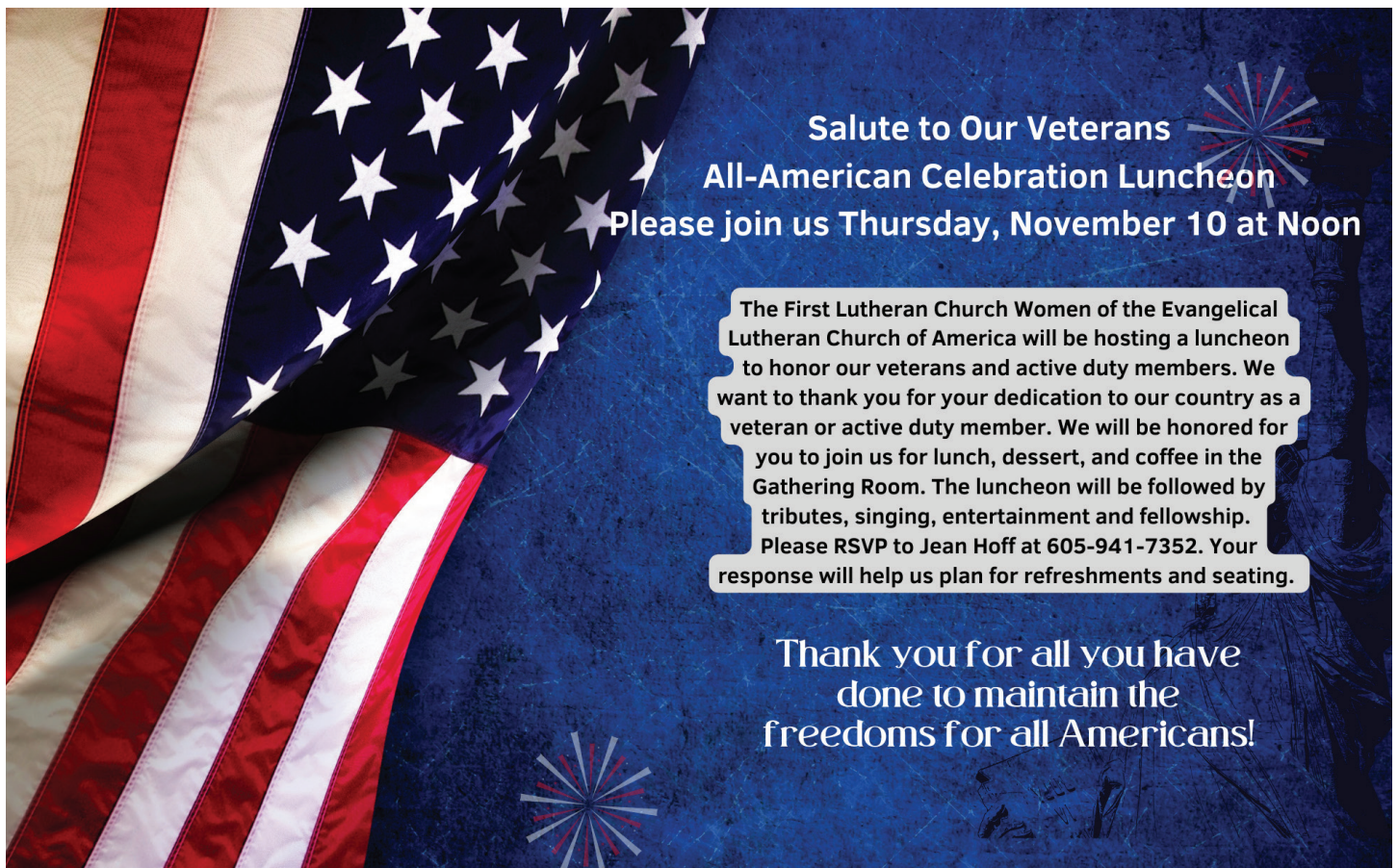


Council Highlights: September 2022

- Discussion was had regarding the atrium remodel. Some members expressed concern that the sheetrocking wasn't clear. Concern was shared in covering the brick and Gathering Room kitchen windows.
- Discussion was had on securing the main entrance throughout the week (during office hours).
- Atrium remodel bids were presented and discussed. The bid was about \$70k above the original estimate.
- The design for the new Sanctuary sound system will hopefully be received by the end of the year.
- Brunch will be served on Reformation Sunday between services.
- Pledge payments are down for the year.
- Pastor Dan DeBlock will begin as an interim Associate Pastor in October.

Hy-Vee gift cards available! Support FLC youth in raising money for summer camps and mission trips. Gift cards can be purchased at church, and 5% of money goes into general fundraising—AT NO COST TO YOU! Stop at the reception next time you're in, and a staff member can help you.

Or, contact Skylar,
(605) 339-1983 ext. 235

An American flag is shown on the left side of the image, waving. The background is a dark blue, textured surface with several stylized fireworks or starburst patterns in white and red. The text is centered and right-aligned on the right side of the image.

Salute to Our Veterans
All-American Celebration Luncheon
Please join us Thursday, November 10 at Noon

The First Lutheran Church Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America will be hosting a luncheon to honor our veterans and active duty members. We want to thank you for your dedication to our country as a veteran or active duty member. We will be honored for you to join us for lunch, dessert, and coffee in the Gathering Room. The luncheon will be followed by tributes, singing, entertainment and fellowship. Please RSVP to Jean Hoff at 605-941-7352. Your response will help us plan for refreshments and seating.

**Thank you for all you have
done to maintain the
freedoms for all Americans!**

September Gifts and Memorials

Media Ministry

In memory of Vivian Bauer

Doug & Carol Uthe

In memory of Dean Everetts

Patty Haugen

In memory of Terry Roisum

Dr. Milton Mutch, Dr. Paul & Cori

Bunkers

In memory of Robert Richmond

Joan Kotschevar

In memory of Denny King

Nancy Olson

In memory of Lance Stormo

Stephen Johnson

In memory of Jane Vequist

Stephen Johnson, Bob Doescher,

Tom & Martha Nelson, Jim &

Deann Clark

In memory of Alfred Lorenz

D.R. Wallin

In memory of Jennifer Lane

Eunice Mansfield

Lowell Ministry

In memory of Vivian Bauer

Jeffrey & Sarah Herbert

FLC Foundation

In memory of Dean Everetts

Stephen Johnson

Organ Fund

In memory of Daniel Brockhoff

Robert & Marilyn Van Demark

Thank You, September Media Sponsors

September 11, 2022

- The telecast on KSFY was sponsored in memory of former First Lutheran choir members Howard Hagen, LaVonne McElroy, Julia Simons, and Wally & Alicemae Steele, through the memorial gifts of family and friends.

- The broadcast on KELO-FM was sponsored by a gift to the First Lutheran Church Foundation from the late Jake and Norma Hofer in appreciation of their three children—Terry, Roger, and Debra.

September 25, 2022

- The broadcast on KELO-FM was sponsored by Steve Johnson in memory of his wife Julie, whose birthday would have been September 30, and in celebration of his birthday on September 25.



"Christmas with C.S. Lewis"

Performance by Rev. Jonathan Swenson—A Washington Pavilion Event!



Rev. Jonathan is the founding Director of Paraphrase Theatre. He travels the United States to churches,

retreats, and conferences sharing the stories of God's radical love! He visited First Lutheran Church during Lent in 2020, where he performed his piece, "Witnesses."

To learn more about Jonathan and his performance, visit his website, paraphrasetheatre.com.

This holiday season he will perform a story of author C.S. Lewis and his journey from Atheism to Christianity after his encounter with friend, J.R.R. Tolkien. Learn more about this story and buy your tickets online! Use the discount code DAVID at checkout for additional savings!

AROUND THE CHURCH



In August, 96 pastors and lay leaders in Monrovia, Liberia, were treated to a three-day Pastoral Care seminar hosted by Abraham Gayetaye, a member of First Lutheran Church. Special guests (via Zoom) included Pastor Katherine Olson, Pastor Heidi Binstock from Westside Lutheran, and CPE Supervisor Roger Cauthon.

Gayetaye wishes to thank the church for generous support of this seminar. He is especially grateful to the Board of Care and Health, who supported this endeavor with funds granted by the First Lutheran Church Foundation.



Baptisms:

September 25: Sarah Alice Margarit, daughter of Elizabeth & Ted Margarit
Tripp Blake Wilcoxon, son of Melissa & Blake Wilcoxon

Adoptions:

September 27: Linda Marie Bordeaux Olson, daughter of Rev. Lars and Rev. Katherine Olson

Deaths:

September 21: Michael Atkins
September 23: Marlys Muller

Welcome, New Members!

October 8-9, we welcomed eight new members to our congregation. Please join us in making them feel welcome!

- Patrick Branco
- Vicki Branco
- Linda Burmood
- Charlene Kelly
- Marilyn Plooster
- Helen Steiger
- Daniel Tlustos
- Melanie Weigandt

Youth Summer 2023

Can you believe it's November and we're already thinking about next summer?! Well...we are and we want to plant some seeds with you all too! On Sunday, November 13, we will have Summer Camp Announcement day.

Get all the details and sign up your campers! And if you're itching to go—you can sign up now for the Peru Mission Trip. It's an amazing experience for adults and current high school juniors and seniors. Join us and see how God is alive through Corazon de Esperanza!

First Lutheran Church
327 S Dakota Ave
Sioux Falls SD 57104

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Food to You Distribution

Thur, 11/10
Messiah New Hope
Sign up: flcsf.org/now



November Events

- **First Fridays Book Club:** Friday, Nov. 4; 5- 7 p.m.; R Wine Bar and Kitchen
- **2022 Bazaar: Blessed to be a Blessing:** Saturday Nov. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- **Affirmation of Baptism Service:** Sunday, Nov. 6, 2 p.m.
- **Baby's First Christmas Milestone:** Saturday, Nov. 12, 10 a.m.
- **Holiday Grief Event:** Saturday, Nov. 12, 10 a.m.
- **Thanksgiving Eve Worship:** Wednesday, Nov. 23, 6:30 p.m.
- **FLC offices closed** Thursday-Friday, Nov. 24-25
- **Midweek Advent Worship:** Wednesday, Nov. 30, 6:30 p.m.