



The Messenger

Vol. 6, No. 11 ~ A Monthly Publication of First Lutheran Church of Fremont ~ December 2011

A place to belong . . . a place to become . . .

Reflections

From the Associate Pastor...

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Welcome to the season of Advent, a time to intently prepare ourselves for the coming of the Messiah; Jesus Christ! This is a season that can easily consume us with busyness and 'to-do' lists. It will be important for all of us to stay focused on the joy of this season that is ultimately found in the birth of Christ on Christmas day.

To help us all on this journey, First Lutheran has prepared a beautiful season of Advent worship. See this as your invitation to be diligent about your attendance at worship as you and your family prepare for Christmas. Come, celebrate these words of anticipation from the prophet Isaiah:

Sunday, November 27 – *There Will Be Light!*
The Morning's Scripture: Isaiah 2:1-5
Isaiah summons God's people to walk in God's light!

Sunday, December 4 – *There Will Be Peace!*
The Morning's Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10
Isaiah summons the world to find rest in the Lord!

Sunday, December 11 – *There Will Be Singing!*
The Morning's Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10
Isaiah summons God's people to sing out with joy!

Sunday, December 18 – *God Will Be With Us!*
The Morning's Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-16
Isaiah points to the newborn Christ: *Immanuel!*

After these glorious celebrations we will be properly prepared for the celebration of Christmas! Please join us for a wonderful season of Advent. See you at worship!

God Bless,
Pastor Matt



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RON YOUNG Maintenance Engineer	#30
KAREN MUNDY Preschool Director/Teacher	#14
KATHY DENKER, SHERIE EBERS & HELEN EINSPAHR Preschool Assistants	
BRUCE BARTELS / LAURIE BARTELS Senior Choir Director/Accompanist	
BARB HANEN, RACHEL SAMUELSON & SARA SPEICHER Children's Choir Assistants	
NANCY RIX Bell Choir Director	
LEANNA CALLAWAY Nursery Coordinator	
Bill MILLER & MILT HAVEKOST Maintenance	
COLLEEN DILLEY, JANET LARSEN, PAM SPEVAK, MARTIN TRAUTRIMAS, & GRADY WELLS Parish Lay Visitors	

Radio Broadcast KHUB 1340 AM
Sundays at 11:00 am
TV Broadcasts Channel 13
Mondays at 10:30am & 6:00 pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 2:00 pm
WEB site www.flc-ne.org
Follow us on Twitter: @flcfremont



Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 4
Blood Pressure Checks
2nd Sunday of Advent
8:00 & 9:30 am - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 11
3rd Sunday of Advent
Lessons and Carols
New Members Received
8:00 & 9:30 am - Traditional Worship
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 18
4th Sunday of Advent
8:00 & 9:30 am - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
9:30 and 11:00 - Sunday School Programs during worship
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Saturday, December 24
Christmas Eve
4:00 & 10:00 pm - Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 25
Christmas Day
9:00 & 10:30 am - Worship

Postmaster: Dated Material

Return Service Requested

3200 E. Military Ave. Fremont, NE 68025-5977

firstlutheran
CHURCH



Christian Fellowship will meet on December 2 at 12:00 noon. Ham and cheesy potatoes provided. Bring a dish to share—vegetable, salad or dessert. Guest speaker will be Amy Christensen on our Christian puppetry. A collection of canned and paper products for the Pantry at Low Income Ministry will be collected.

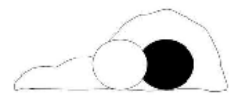
Second Monday Men & Women meet on the second Monday of the month (December 12). Both groups meet at 9:00 am for coffee and then tackle some of the tasks needing to be done here at the church. Both groups always welcome newcomers.

SOLOs (Fellowship for singles or those widowed) meet at 11:45 am each Sunday for dinner at a variety of places:

December Calendar

4	KFC
11	Pizza Hut
18	Hy-Vee
25	No Solos

L.I.F.T. (Lutherans in Fellowship Together) Potluck Group will meet on Thursday, December 22, at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Bring a dish to share and stay for games and fellowship after the meal.



Resurrection Project: Thank you to everyone who participated in a Resurrection Project this year! Our community and church was blessed by your willingness to serve. At the end of the 2011 season we participated in 6 projects ranging from yard work, to home-cleaning, to leaf-raking. It was a very successful first year. We will start up again with our 2012 projects in the spring. A special team of people have volunteered to begin planning next year's projects. They include: Garry Tomasek, Diane Stevens, Joy Horn, and Colleen Dilley. If you have any project ideas, or need help yourself, please let these team members know and they will put you on the calendar right away. The first project of 2012 is already being planned: you are welcome to help us paint LaVonne Nelson's home on May 5! See you then! More updates in the spring!

Mission Trip: Are you interested in serving on a mission trip to spend time with orphanage children living in Mexico? Please prayerfully consider joining the mission team that will be traveling to Tijuana June 22 – July 1, 2012. An introductory meeting will be held on Sunday, December 4, at 1:30 pm; all details of the trip will be presented then. Direct immediate questions to Pastor Matt.



Tuesday Travelers on Tuesday, December 6, will travel to Omaha to the Durham Museum's *Christmas at Union Station*. This beautiful holiday tradition began in the 1930's when Union Pacific would decorate and display large evergreens from the Pacific Northwest for Union Station travelers to enjoy. Today, this cherished tradition continues with the region's largest indoor Christmas trees. Bus leaves at 1:00. We will visit the station, have an early dinner at a traditional Italian Omaha steak house (Casio's) before viewing Christmas lights on our return to Fremont. Dinner will be on your own. Cost is \$18 (includes bus fee, Durham fees, driver and guide expenses).



Save your Pringles cans for Operation Shield. They will be sending cookies to the soldiers again. The Pringles cans help protect the cookies during shipping. Leave them under the Operation Shield display table. Need by December 3.

Church Calendar Items: If you need to put something on the church calendar, please contact Jill Norenberg. She will be able to tell you if the day and space you want to use is available.

Tanzania: Fabric, Fun & Facts Workshop

Sunday, February 26 -Tuesday, February 28, 2012
Carol Joy Holling Center - Ashland, NE

This year's feature project will be a "Square within a Square" quilt with ladder sashing. Table runners, placemats or tote bags will also be an option for those wanting a faster project. Kits of 36 six-inch squares of Tanzanian fabric can be purchased at the retreat for \$35. Besides our quilting fun, we'll gather for morning and evening devotions, great food with a Tanzania flair and lots of photos and facts about Tanzania! Bring a friend or come alone. You are sure to leave with great new friendships. Registration is now open online at www.caroljoyholing.org Just select the Events & Retreats button and choose "Tanzania Fabric, Fun & Facts."

Billy McLaughlin, award winning composer and musician, will be presenting an Advent concert at Saint Michael Lutheran Church, 132nd and Blondo, on Saturday, December 3, at 7:30 pm along with his musical ensemble SimpleGifts. Along with his music awards, Billy has been recognized by the Neurological Foundation for his work as a spokesperson for the fight against focal dystonia, a disease that has reshaped Billy's own musical styling. Check his website billymclaughlin.com to see more of his amazing story. Contact Saint Michael, 402-493-2871 for ticket information. This is an outstanding musical treat.

First Lutheran Youth (FLYs) meet each Wednesday from 7:30 - 9:00 pm in the youth room. All high school age youth are welcome to come. Bible Study, fellowship and games fill the time. Come join in the fun!

December Schedule

7	Caroling
14	Why Jesus #3
21	FLY Christmas Party (bring a gift for exchange, \$5 limit)
30	New Years Eve Eve Traveling Lock-in

Upcoming Events

- Cookies 4 Soldiers Event**
Sunday, Dec 4, 1-4pm
- Mexico Mission Trip Meeting**
Sunday Dec 4, 1:30pm
- Box Packing at Low Income**
Saturday Dec 10, 9:00am

KFC - Middle School Youth - Kids For Christ
See our website under Youth/Middle School for registration information

Lock-In at the YMCA December 17 10 pm—6:30 am	Middle School Gathering December 28-29 in Lincoln
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The Radio Broadcast and Altar Flower charts for 2012 will be up on December 4.

House Dedications - Habitat for Humanity will dedicate four houses on Sunday, December 4, beginning at 2:00 pm.

250 East 12th Street.

Other homes will be dedicated at approximately 30-minute intervals:

650 West 10th Street

958 North Pierce Street

106 North Maple Street

Refreshments will be served at the Maple Street location.

Please join us for this happy occasion.



Habitat For Humanity ReSale—The Fremont Area Habitat for Humanity is embarking on a new venture! You are welcome to donate your new or used home-goods to their resale shop. All items will then be sold at discounted prices to the public. All profits from the sales will go directly towards building new Habitat for Humanity homes. The shop is located at 338 W. 22nd in Fremont and they are already open and operating! Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month they are willing to pick up donations from you between 8 am – 2 pm. Simply call the Habitat for Humanity office to arrange a pick-up: 402-721-8771. Also, anyone is welcome to browse the goods and purchase items at the shop between 10 am – 2 pm. They accept all sorts of various home goods.



The adopt-a-puppet is off to a fantastic start. Lots of puppets have been ordered but now we are ...

Looking for a Few Good Arms!

Have you longed for the thrill of the stage? Yearned for the excitement of performing? ...travel?...the challenge of working with your hands while down on your knees? If so, the puppet team would like to give you the opportunity to satisfy those longings and yearnings. This ministry is for ALL ages!

For more information about puppet adoption or the puppet team, please contact Amy Christensen or Becky Poppe at the church office.

Type of Puppet	Name	Adopted by
Black Sheep	Harry	Dick & Jill Norenberg
Clownfish	Nemo	Ron & Charlotte Young
Sheep	Frank	Pastor Charlie & Linda Axness
Donkey	Greg	Kathy Moll
Non-ethnic	Sarah	Dave & Becky Poppe family
Non-ethnic	(undecided)	FLYs
Girl	Lucy	Pastor Norm
Grandpa	Ole	Duane & Judi McKenzie
Grandma	Lena	Duane & Judi McKenzie
Pink Fish	(undecided)	Virginia Gard
Frog	Oscar	Michael & Kathy Divis family
Boy	Alvin Lawrence	Marilyn Voss
Girl	Sally	Lon & Carol Bohling
Frog	Freddie	Richard & Janet Divis
Boy	(undecided)	Marilyn Freeman
Girl	(undecided)	Lydia Circle
Mouse	Pixie	Lon & Wendy Olson
Mouse	Dixie	Lon & Wendy Olson
Non-ethnic	J.W.	7th Grade Sunday School class

There are a few adoptions pending and there are still several puppets available for adoption...in memory of... in honor of... or just because. A couple more boys would be good additions to our puppet family. See the board in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks to all who have supported this new ministry so far. We look forward to introducing you to the puppets and their families after the first of the year.

Lydia Wednesday, December 14 9:30 am
Heritage Room
Hostess: Marilyn Freeman, Theresa Adams
Lesson Leader: Lucy Klocke
Chapter 4: *He Still Moves Stones*

Faith Monday, December 12 6:30 pm
Note the Date and Time change
Meet at Nancy Nielsen's home
Bring a side dish to share

Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible
Tuesday, December 20 7:00 pm
Jan Larsen's home, 2680 Park Place Drive
Bring treats to share

Bad Girls of the Bible
Friday, December 16 9:00 am
Note Change of Date and Time

First Lutheran Women's Christmas Program, "Angels among Us", will be presented Thursday, December 1, at 7:00 pm at the church by Iris Frey Doolittle. The evening will conclude with a delectable dessert bar served in a celestial atmosphere by Alotta Brownies. Contact Carol Bohling or Beth Meyer for tickets. It will be a great way to celebrate the Advent season.

Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization 2012 Winter Retreat - Take a day to life your spirit unto the Lord. Hear how God's Spirit covered the Burpo family through Colton's illness described in the book, *Heaven Is For Real*. Learn how God's spirit covers with hope Joan Naber, Ms. Wheelchair Nebraska 2010. Walk a labyrinth and practice prayer and devotional techniques to deepen your walk with the Triune God.

Saturday, January 14, 2012
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
St. Paul Lutheran Church—Grand Island
Cost is \$18. Registration deadline is January 3.
Contact Beth Meyer for registration information

Prayer Shawl Ministry will not meet in December. However, yarn, needles or hooks are available if you are interested in knitting or crocheting a shawl. Call Eileen Larsen, for the yarn or Marilyn Freeman for the needles. If you know of anyone that you think would benefit from having a prayer shawl, please let the Pastors know. Long winter nights are coming, so keep those hands busy!!!

The Quilters: A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all who helped produce 307 quilts in the last year for LWF and local agencies. Displaying them on the back of the pew chairs really brightened up the sanctuary. Thanks again to the faithful for displaying the quilts and packing them for LWF.

The Quilters will continue tying quilts on Wednesday, December 19. We start at 9:30 a.m., have lunch, and finish by 2 p.m. More hands are always welcome.



We ask you to include in your prayers the following members and friends of First Lutheran who continue in active service to their country:



AMN Robert M. Blume, nephew of Scott & Bonnie Warner
Cody Carlow, son of Stan and Kathy Carlow
Mikayla Carlson, daughter of Stan and Kathy Carlow
Staff Sgt. Christopher Cerny, son of Steve & Cathy Cerny
Staff Sgt. Jeannie Soto-Cerny, daughter-in-law of Steve & Cathy Cerny
Maj. Jim & Maj. Christina Cook, nephew (and wife) of Chuck & Lorie Peterson
Lt. Stash A. Dwornicki, extended family of Jill Norenberg
SSTT Jeffrey Ebeling, nephew of Darlene Beran
Specialist Stephan A. Fahrlander, grandson of Ray & Myrna Meister
Sgt. John Ferguson, friend of Richard & Tracy Arett
Pvt. Sammi Jo Hajek, granddaughter of Jerry & Joy Horn
LCDC Keith R. Hanson, son of Jim & Mary Ann Hanson
1st Lt. Michael Harper, grandson of Mardell Weitzenkamp
S. A. Sarah Haskins, granddaughter of Larry & Mary Ann Thomas

LCPL Jarad A. Huddle, son of Debra Huddle
1st Lt. Ryan Hurt USMC, nephew of Dave & Kathy Pinkall
Pvt. Jordan Klocke, grandson of Dwayne and Lucy Klocke
Amn Jacob Kohlscheen, nephew of Rick & Deb Sammons
SFC Eldon Kuntzelman, son of Rex and Vi Kuntzelman
1st Lt. Scott Miland, brother of Heather Peterson
Lt. Col. Randall Morris, son of Diane and Paul Morris
ENFN Chase P. Nickels, grandson of Delwyn & Anita Hasemann
Tech. Sgt. Curtis Nissen, grandson of Clarence & Dee Schakat
Capt. Johanna O'Toole, granddaughter of Barbara Lanning
Sgt. Scott Peterson, son of Chuck & Lorie Peterson
Andrew Steffensmeier, nephew of Scott & Bonnie Warner
PFC Mike Warner, son of Scott & Bonnie Warner
LCPL Joshua Wells, grandson of Jerry & Joy Horn
A1-C Benjamin Andrew Wing, grandson of Roger & Shirley Wing

Registration Forms at the Ministry Center



February 11-12

the art of marriage™

A First Lutheran Church Marriage Retreat
...because your marriage deserves it.



Average Weekly Attendance through October

2010	2011
633	663



Did you know that our church sends out regular "Twitter" newsbites? Pictures of current ministries often show up on our account. You do not need a special login or password to see these "tweets." Just check out First Lutheran's home page!

NOVEMBER 1, 2011

The November, 2011 meeting of the Church Council was called to order by President Paul Johnson.

Roll call was taken and a quorum of members was present: Pastor Charlie, Pastor Matt, Barry Benson, Daryl Brodd, Wanda Clements, Evelyn Eldridge, Stan Freeman, Marty Gifford, Paul Johnson, Dawn Koehlmoos, Sharon Landholm, Janet Lowe, Pablo McDermott, Judi McKenzie, Bill Miller, Jon Rensch, Matt Ridder, Nancy Rix, Kent Speicher and Sandy Trehearn.

Pastor Charlie presented opening devotions from Luke 12.

Secretary's report

MSC to accept the Secretary's report.

Treasurer's report

MSC to accept the Treasurer's report.

Senior Pastor's Time

1. Pastor Charlie passed out new copies of the Constitution that have been looked over and approved by Bill Biggs, a constitutional law attorney. There are no significant changes and it now complies with the Synod's guidelines.
2. Pastor Charlie reported that Lutheran Family Services will be our guests on Sunday, November 6th. Ruth Heinrichs will preach the sermon and a representative from LFS will conduct the Adult Forum at both 9:30 and 10:45 a.m.
3. Pastor Charlie also reported that the Nominating Committee has met several times and are very close to having the names ready for the ballot for next year's new Council members.

Associate Pastor's Time

Pastor Matt reported that last Sunday's sermon has generated excitement in the congregation. He received comments that the tools and the trailer will be a blessing in being able to help our church members, our community and others in both crisis and everyday kinds of repair and maintenance needs.

President's report

1. President Paul Johnson received thank you letters from the "Feed the Roots, Grow the Forest" Nebraska Synod Capital Campaign for Leadership and Youth and also from "Kids Against Hunger" for monetary contributions during October. The Trustees received a thank you from the Preschool Board for helping them take up the old and put down new mulch on the playground.
2. Paul also reported that the Feasibility Study will begin soon regarding Phase 2 of the Capital Building Campaign. The study will include sending a letter to everyone and then meeting with a select overview group of the congregation.

New Business

Barry Benson moved and Marty Gifford seconded a motion to use \$10,000 from the title of the Capital Building Fund to help meet our commitment to the "Feed the Roots, Grow the Forest" Nebraska Synod Capital Campaign. After discussion, the motion was tabled till next month.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Committee time met after adjournment of the council meeting.

Board of Stewards – nothing new on the agenda for November

Board of Deacons – nothing new on the agenda for November

Board of Trustees – nothing new on the agenda for November

MSC to adjourn.

Members of the Council concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Rix

"Make ready the way of the Lord." (Matthew 3:3)

Welcome to the Advent Season! Advent means 'coming', a time of preparation and reflection, a time of waiting as we anticipate celebrating the birth of Jesus. We celebrate Christ who CAME to us as a baby born in Bethlehem, who COMES to us today in the Word and Sacraments, and who WILL COME again in glory and power at the end of time.

Advent is a time to enrich the heart, a time for interior growth. It bids us to stop and pause, to reflect and focus on the true meaning of the season. **"Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10a)**

The Church Library has numerous Advent and Christmas books, videos and DVD's to enrich your holiday traditions. Come and browse the shelves and special Christmas display. You will find a plethora of children's books, devotionals for all ages, craft/activity books, animated videos and full-length movies. Treat yourself and your family to the special gift of knowing Christ more deeply this Advent season.



Dear First Lutheran Family,

Thank you for the Gospel Opportunities you packed this year. We at FLC Packed 319 boxes. We are down some from last year, BUT this is 319 CHILDREN'S lives that will be touched! That is an Amazing thing you have helped with! I talked to several people that are doing this for the first time this year and that is very EXCITING! I hope you are already thinking about and saving for your box/child for next year....I AM!

We here at FLC are also a Relay Center that takes in shoe boxes from other Fremont Churches and groups, individuals and the surrounding communities. They have come from Arlington, Blair, Colon, Hooper, Valley, Wahoo and one first time box from Columbus. Then we take them to Omaha for the next part of their journey.

The Relay Center (including ours) had 807 shoe boxes last year and this year we set a GOAL of 1000. As of Sunday night, with one more day to go we have --980-- and we know some of our regulars that haven't come yet. So we have FAITH that the goal set will be surpassed for GOD'S Glory!

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up"
Galatians 6:9

~Charlotte Young




The holidays are a time to celebrate, give thanks, and reflect. They are also a time to pay special attention to your health. Give the gift of health and safety to yourself and others by following these holiday tips from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- **Wash your hands often.** Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Wash your hands with soap and running water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based product.
- **Stay warm.** Cold temperatures can cause serious health problems, especially for infants and older adults. Stay dry, and dress warmly in several layers of loose fitting, tightly-woven clothing.
- **Manage stress.** Keep check on over commitment and over spending. Balance work, home, and play. Keep a relaxed and positive outlook.
- **Travel safely.** Wear a seat belt every time you drive or ride in a motor vehicle. Do not drink and drive. Do not text while driving.
- **Be smoke free.** Avoid smoking and breathing other people's smoke.
- **Prevent injuries.** Injuries can occur anywhere and some often occur around the holidays. Use step stools instead of furniture when hanging decorations. Never leave fireplaces, stoves, or candles unattended.
- **Handle and prepare food safely.** Wash hands and surfaces often. Avoid cross-contamination by keeping raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs away from ready-to-eat foods and eating surfaces. Cook foods to the proper temperature. Refrigerate promptly. Do not leave perishable foods out for more than two hours.
- **Eat healthy and be active.** Choose fresh fruit as a festive and sweet substitute for candy. Select just one or two of your favorites from the host of tempting foods. Find fun ways to stay active.

Remember the reason for the season.

Celebrate and give thanks for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



 Letters
What You're Saying to Us

Pastors Charlie, Norm, and Matt would like to thank the congregation for the wonderful outpouring of thanks from the church during clergy appreciation month. We, the pastors, are blessed by your thoughtfulness. Thank you!

Thank you for the pastors' visits, the prayers, the cards, and the calls following my stroke and during my stay at Immanuel and my recovery at my home. It has meant a lot to me. ~ *Harold Hanen*

I would like to extend a large thank you to all who participated in the Wednesday evening Bible study on the Book of Revelation. It was wonderful to be able to explore God's Word with you! Remember, there are still 2 sessions left. It is never too late to join! We meet for 1 hour beginning at 6:15 pm. All are welcome! ~ *Pastor Matt*


We want to thank you for the delicious meal that was prepared for us. It is so nice not to have to think about what you want to fix or even cook. Thank you also for the thoughts, prayers and good wishes. Pastor Matt, we thank you for coming by, it was such a nice visit. ~ *Butch & Joni Scott*

It is surprising how a bouquet of flowers from church friends can lift your spirit when you are not feeling well. Thanks so much! ~ *Alyce Wilke*

Thank you to the pastors for the visits at the hospital and Nye Legacy. Thank you also for the altar flowers. I appreciated all the people who visited me. ~ *Cherie Schultz*

Thank-you to the First Lutheran Youth and others that helped to rake my lawn. You all did a wonderful job. Bless you. ~ *Linda Wiese*

I appreciate both pastors visiting me during my hospital stay. The prayers were comforting. Thank you for the delicious meal and the beautiful flowers. I feel blessed to be a member of this congregation. ~ *Wendy Payeur*

 Members
Baptisms, Deaths, Marriages

The Ministry of Healing

Please remember to let our church office know when you are facing a health concern or hospitalization so that our pastoral staff might be in touch with you and you can provide information to share with our whole faith community. When you request, a prayer chain will also be activated. First Lutheran members known to have had health concerns last month included:

Helen Bauermeister, Karl Engdahl, Lisa Poppe, Butch Scott, Madison Smutz, Linda Wiese

Deaths

Our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Verna Andersen
Mardell Bokowski
Virginia Wagner, on the death of her sister, *Anna Bell Geu*

Baptisms

Wyatt Thomas DeKeuster October 30, 2011
Parents: Craig DeKeuster and Leslie Schelling
Sponsors: Tammy & Jon Rensch and Steve Schelling

 Prayers
Remembering...

First Lutheran staff prays for five member families at their meeting each week. If you have a specific prayer request for your family, please call the church office to let us know of your concern. The following members and their families being prayed for throughout **December** are:

Wendy Payeur, Duane & Anna Pedersen, Evelyn Perry, Faith Perry, Kari Perry, Susan Perry, Courtney Petersen, Heather & Micah Petersen, Kathryn Petersen, Chuck & Lorie Peterson, Kelly Peterson, Ken & Brittney Phares, Steve & Cynthia Pike, David & Kathy Pinkall, Marvin & LaRae Plessing, Erin Poe, Stan & Ione Popken, Dave & Becky Poppe, Dwayne & Amy Prazan, Nick & Valerie Prenzlou

 Stewardship
Financial Giving

	General Fund Pledged Receipts			Building Fund Receipts		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
January	49,293.50	60,553.50	81,706.75	5,514.50	8,808.85	31,417.50
February	56,074.00	49,049.50	49,379.50	17,528.50	2,444.50	17,831.92
March	69,420.91	55,058.50	56,324.25	10,675.50	2,384.50	16,027.50
April	53,784.50	54,138.50	51,404.00	8,251.50	17,988.49	34,446.50
May	57,751.00	55,536.50	63,807.00	16,103.50	78,395.50	8,540.50
June	47,087.50	43,720.50	44,914.25	6,717.50	32,495.60	11,205.50
July	56,191.50	48,696.50	55,418.00	6,113.25	21,029.83	16,879.50
August	56,833.50	54,800.50	43,807.25	6,286.29	9,302.50	15,007.50
September	49,990.50	50,320.50	42,828.50	4,203.50	13,145.50	22,397.00
October	<u>54,353.50</u>	<u>59,286.50</u>	<u>59,751.25</u>	<u>5,725.50</u>	<u>17,947.50</u>	<u>17,166.50</u>
Total to Date	550,780.41	531,161.00	547,840.75	87,119.54	203,942.77	190,919.92

	2011 General Fund			2010 General Fund		
	Receipts	Expenses	Net Loss	Receipts	Expenses	Net Loss
October	73,857.24	60,450.63	13,406.61	66,689.95	69,287.62	(2,597.67)
Total to Date	613,170.97	599,089.41	14,081.56	595,742.13	613,564.44	(17,822.31)

Nothing like a five-Sunday month following a record low month! Sure makes the finances look a lot better! October was a good month for pledged giving, third highest month of the year! We are "back in the black" and should be able to increase that surplus the rest of the year. Through ten months, I have not seen any real surprises in expenses and revenues are slightly up. Looking good! Consecration Sunday will be completed by the time you read this, so I want to thank you for your pledge. If you haven't made a pledge, please do, as it really helps in our budget process. Sincerely, Kent Speicher, Church Treasurer.

The Starlight Project - Let your light shine!

As a First Lutheran member, you've received this star-cross as a visual reminder to celebrate Christ's light throughout our community.

We ask that you hang it in a prominent place on your house where others who pass by will see it.

Please light your star-cross:

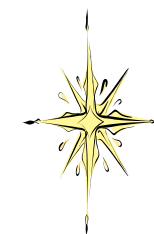
Starting on the First Sunday of Advent, (four weeks before Christmas) - beginning November 27, 2011

During the Twelve Days of Christmas, (December 25 – January 5)

And throughout Epiphany. (January 6 until Ash Wednesday)

On Ash Wednesday, please unplug it—and leave it unlit but in place during the Forty Days of Lent—a quiet, somber time of repentance.

After Lent, light it up again: Starting on Easter Sunday morning and for the Fifty Days of Easter (until Pentecost Sunday, sometime in late May or early June)



During Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, the light represents the bright Star of Bethlehem that led the magi to the Christ Child.

During the Fifty Days of Easter, the light represents the victorious Cross of Christ that defeated sin, death and the devil.



Imagine what an impact we can have on our community, as others (many who do not know Christ) drive around town and see throughout our neighborhoods a regular reminder of the light of Christ shining in our homes, our families and our hearts!

If your star cross is in need of repair, please bring it to the church office so it can be repaired.