



The Messenger

Vol. 6, No. 11 ~ A Monthly Publication of First Lutheran Church of Fremont ~ January 2012

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

Reflections

From the Senior Pastor...

Charlie's Chatter

**"I will keep thy law continually,
forever and ever."**

Constitutional Law

During the past few years we have made a number of changes to The First Lutheran Church Constitution ranging from continuing resolutions regarding human sexuality to constitutional changes in the downsizing of the church council. Constitution law expert William L. Biggs has reviewed our constitution and approved everything with the exception of two changes made well over a decade ago. I am sure these changes seemed very important at the time, but now have little function.

I will quote Mr. Biggs: "All of the changes I noted in my letter of June 3, 2011, were made. I thank you for that. There is one additional change that will need to be made, only because you can't have a bylaw that conflicts with a provision of the constitution. The constitution governs all cases. If it's in the constitution, it controls. Chapter 16 deals with bylaw changes. It indicates generally that the congregation can adopt bylaws, but no bylaw may conflict with the constitution."

"You currently have two bylaws which are in conflict with that. They are B17.01 and B17.02. Your bylaw indicates that bylaws can be proposed by at least ten percent of the voting members of the church council. The constitution provides that any voting member (of the church council) can propose a bylaw change. That is a conflict and the constitution governs. The two bylaw sections that you have are both in conflict with the constitution and thus need to be eliminated. Your bylaw requires that there needs to be a two-thirds majority of those voting members present and voting (at a congregational meeting) to approve a bylaw. The constitutional provision indicates that it's only a simple majority, not two-thirds of those voting members present and voting. These two sections of your bylaws simply cannot stand and must be stricken."

The proposal at the Annual Meeting on January 24, 2012, will be to strike bylaws B17.01 and B17.02.

In Christ,
Pastor Charlie

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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	
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, January 1
New Year's Day
9:00 & 10:30 am - Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 8
8:00 & 9:30 am - Traditional Worship
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 15
8:00 & 9:30 am - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 22
8:00 & 9:30 am - Traditional Worship
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 29
8:00 & 9:30 am - Traditional Worship
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Postmaster: Dated Material

Return Service Requested

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



First Lutheran Church | 3200 E. Military Ave | Fremont, NE 68025 | 402-721-2959

Website: www.FLC-NE.org | E-mail address: contact@flc-ne.org

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THE MESSENGER is published monthly by First Lutheran Church of Fremont.
Deadline for the February Messenger is Monday, January 23. Contact Becky Poppe,
Editor, with submissions or comments at 402.721.2959 or beckyp@flc-ne.org

Christian Fellowship will meet on January 6 at 12:00 noon. Sally Ganem, Nebraska's First Lady, will be the guest speaker.

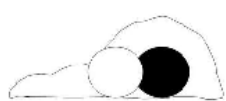
Second Monday Men & Women meet on the second Monday of the month (January 9). Both groups meet at 9:00 am for coffee and then tackle some of the tasks needing to be done here at the church. Both groups always welcome newcomers.


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


January Calendar

1	Noon Lunch at Norma Lindgren's
8	Pizza Hut
15	KFC
22	Gringos
29	Applebees

L.I.F.T. (Lutherans in Fellowship Together) Potluck Group will meet on Thursday, January 26, at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Bring a dish to share and stay for games and fellowship after the meal.

 **Resurrection Project:** A special team of people have volunteered to begin planning 2012 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!


 **Tuesday Travelers** do not have any trips scheduled at this time for the winter months.


 **Star Crosses:** We will keep our star crosses lit until Ash Wednesday (February 22). Please bring them to the church office and fill out the repair form if your star cross has 5 or more lights out. You will be called when the repairs are done.

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!

Youth for Christ, starting in the Fremont area, would like you to pray about giving the gift of time - to a young mom in the coming year. If the Holy Spirit moves you, please call Susan at 402-719-6652.

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.

 The **Radio Broadcast** and **Altar Flower** charts for 2012 are posted near the reception desk. Flowers are \$35 and Radio Broadcast is \$150. There are lots of openings for January.

 January is National Donor Month. Please consider giving the Perfect Gift during this Christmas season at the Red Cross Blood Mobile which will be at First Lutheran Sunday, January 8 from 7:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. Double donors will also be accepted. Please schedule an appointment time at the Ministry Center or call Lucy at 402-478-5406, Judi at 402-727-1405, or Colleen at 402-721-0463. Blood is always needed, but the need is especially critical after the holidays and during the winter months. Please consider giving one hour of your time and donating blood. It is a Perfect Gift.

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.caroljoyholling.org Just select the Events & Retreats button and choose "Tanzania Fabric, Fun & Facts."

Synod Information: The Nominating Committee of the Nebraska Synod is requesting nominees for Synod Council, Synod Boards and Committees, and delegates to the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to be held August 12-18 in Pittsburgh, PA. Those who would like to nominate someone or would be interested in serving themselves should contact the church office for the necessary forms. Also available are Resolution Submittal Forms for the 2012 Assembly of the Nebraska Synod. All forms must be received by the Nebraska Synod Office by March 2, 2012.



Adult Study Opportunities beginning in January 2012!

New Adult Book Study: Wednesday Nights in 2012! You are invited to join a new small group book study that is forming on Wednesday nights starting in 2012. There is one group for men and another group for women; both groups meet at FLC on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 - 7:15 pm beginning on January 4. All are welcome!

MEN: The men's group will be studying from the book called "Wild at Heart" by John Eldredge. God designed men to be dangerous, says John Eldredge. Simply look at the dreams and desires written in the heart of every boy: To be a hero, to be a warrior, to live a life of adventure and risk. Sadly, most men abandon those dreams and desires-aided by a Christianity that feels like nothing more than pressure to be a "nice guy." It is no wonder that many men avoid church, and those who go are often passive and bored to death. In this provocative book, Eldredge gives women a look inside the true heart of a man and gives men permission to be what God designed them to be-dangerous, passionate, alive, and free.

WOMEN: What *Wild at Heart* does for men, *Captivating* is doing for women. Setting their hearts free. This groundbreaking book shows readers the glorious design of women before the fall, describes how the feminine heart can be restored, and casts a vision for the power, freedom, and beauty of a woman released to be all she was meant to be.

2012 Sunday Morning Adult Education Study: The Prayer of Jabez - Adult Forums meet in the Heritage Room at 9:30 and 10:45 am.

If you have not joined a class at First Lutheran yet, now is the time. Many who participate in the classes will share with you their appreciation for the ways in which the classes help form their faith. We try our best at First Lutheran to offer the church a wide variety of Christian perspective in our studies. We just finished a wonderful study by Francis Chan called "Crazy Love". No matter the theology, all of our studies have challenged us to shape and mold our own beliefs. Now, for 2012, we are excited to offer something completely different from our last study: *The Prayer of Jabez*. *The Prayer of Jabez* has had a vast impact in the publishing world, reaching a noteworthy position on the "New York Time's Best Sellers List". Come study and examine for yourself what *The Prayer of Jabez* has to offer. From critics to praise, *The Prayer of Jabez* has been impactful in Christian and secular circles. The group will begin meeting on Sunday, January 8th.

Please consider purchasing the books ahead of time and joining these intriguing conversations that will prove to be worthy of your time.



The adopt-a-puppet is off to a fantastic start. The list below are additions since the December newsletter. A few of the puppets made their first appearance during the children's Christmas programs on December 18. Watch for more opportunities to meet the puppets in January!

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 at the church office.

Type of Puppet	Name	Adopted by
Girl	Kay Frances	Marilyn Voss (in honor of her mother)
Grandpa	Gpa	Dwayne & Niki Jesse family in honor of Carson Day
Grandma	Gma	Dwayne & Niki Jesse family in honor of Alice Day
Girl	Lydia	Lydia Circle in memory of Esther Freund
Boy	Nico	Church Council and Bell Choir
Boy	Handy Dandy Don	Keith & Diane Paseka in memory of Don Paseka
Boy	Paulie Boy	Paul & Beulah Larsen
Girl	Hanny	Jim & Sherie Ebers in honor of their granddaughters, Abby and Hannah
Boy	Uncle Sam	Operation Shield in honor of our service men and women
Girl	Faith	Faith Circle
Girl		Adult Choir



Thank you for all the wonderful help from First Lutheran Members with costumes for the Sunday School Christmas Program. Tammy Newill, Roxanne Botic, Evelyn Eldridge, Sue Strong, Kay Voss, Sue Wilt, Diane Paseka, and Sherry Kriete. Also a thank you to Marilyn Freeman for all the wonderful fabric she donated and all those who supplied us with pillowcases. ~ Amy Christensen

First Lutheran Preschool will begin taking registrations for the 2012-13 school year on January 3, 2012, for current students and families of First Lutheran members. Registrations will open to the public on January 9. Classes for 3 year olds are on Tuesday/Thursday from 9:00-11:30 am. Classes for 4/5 year olds are on Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9:00-11:30 am and 12:00-2:30 pm.



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 November

2010	2011
632	668



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!

Lydia Wednesday, January 11 9:30 am
Heritage Room
Hostess: Eileen Thornburg
Chapter 5: *He Still Moves Stones*

Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible
Lesson 1 of new study
Friday, January 27 9:30 am

Faith Thursday, January 12 7:00 pm
Conference Room
Hostess: Trudy Tamke
Lesson Leader: Evelyn Eldridge

Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization 2012 Winter Retreat - Take a day to lift 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

Really Bad Girls of the Bible
Lesson 1 of new study
Tuesday, January 17 7:00 pm

The Quilters: Beside shipping quilts to LWR, The Quilters delivered 47 quilts and 9 small children's quilts to five local agencies. They were very appreciative. Our cupboards are empty so we need to keep busy....cutting, sewing, tying, etc. We are in need of flat sheets and blanket sheets to use as fillers in the quilts. So if you are going through closets this winter and find you have more sheets and fabric than you can use, bring them to church. They will be put to good use. Thanks to everyone who has helped us make 307 quilts in 2011. That is the most The Quilters have ever made in one year.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will start the new year by meeting on Tuesday, January 3, at 9:30 a.m. Please bring any shawls or items you have made to church before then so they can be blessed. If you need yarn, it is available. If you like to crochet small children's blankets using scrap yarn, we have a lot to be used. Call Marilyn to get yarn. Thanks to everyone who did great work last year.

Join us on Wednesday, January 18, at 9:30. Lunch is potluck!!



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
SPC Dave Buller, extended family of Phyllis & Jerry Leaver
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
Ann 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

DECEMBER 6, 2011
7:00 P.M.

The December 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, Connie Elliott, Stan Freeman, Marty Gifford, Paul Johnson, Sharon Landholm, Janet Lowe, Pablo McDermott, Kathy Moll, Chuck Peterson, Nancy Rix, Kevin Smith, Rick Spalding, Kent Speicher and Sandy Trehearn.

Pastor Charlie presented opening devotions from 1 John 3:17-19.

Secretary's report

MSC to accept the Secretary's report.

Treasurer's report

1. MSC to accept the Treasurer's report.
2. Kent Speicher also presented the Proposed Budget for 2012. MSC

Senior Pastor's Time

Pastor Charlie reported that 20 new members are joining First Lutheran Church on December 11, 2011.

Pastor Charlie thanked the Trustees for putting up the snow fence and the Christmas decorations.

Pastor Charlie also reported the receipt of a donation that would be adequate to pay in full our commitment to the "Feed the Roots, Grow the Forest" Nebraska Synod Capital Campaign. When we make the payment, we will specify that the amount be used towards Campus ministries and NLOM Outdoor ministries in honor of the donor.

The Nominating Committee has submitted the following names for the ballot for next year's new Council members. Pablo McDermott made a motion to approve the nominations for the 2012 Ballot and Chuck Peterson seconded the motion. Wanda Clements and Rick Spalding were thanked for working with the Nominating Committee.

Vice President: Dave Grimm and Doug Kriete

Trustees: Teresa Johnson, Diane Paseka, Kurt Pafford and Nancy Watters

Deacons: Laurie Bartels, Paula Conrad, Kay Fitzke and Sherry Slagle

Stewards: Erica Kirchman and Michelle McManigal

Endowment Board: Trisha Rohlfis and Steve Schmidt

Nominating Committee: Tom Brune, Rita Christianson, Lori Dravland, Rita Goree, Michelle Mathison and Barrett Schmidt

Constitutional Law...Upon review a constitutional law attorney determined we have two bylaws (B17.01 and B17.02) which are in conflict with the First Lutheran Church Constitution and need to be removed. Rick Spalding made a motion and Kathy Moll seconded the motion to bring the matter to the annual meeting in January, 2012 and propose that the two bylaws be struck down. MSC

Associate Pastor's Time

Pastor Matt reported that the 12-week Bible Study on Revelation would be done on December 7th. He thanked the people who attended the Bible Study, and the Council, in turn, thanked Pastor Matt with a round of applause for leading the study.

President's report

President Paul Johnson received thank you letters from Lutheran Family Services for monetary contributions and also from Luther Seminary for our gift in honor of Rev. Nathan Strong.

Paul also reported that Jon Wilson has turned in his resignation as a member of the Council.

New Business

Rick Spalding from the Executive Building Team (EBT) reported that the Feasibility Study received positive results from their meetings and survey regarding Phase 2 of our building project.

Old Business

In response to Pastor Charlie's report of the receipt of a donation for the balance of our commitment to the "Feed the Roots, Grow the Forest" Nebraska Synod Capital Campaign, Barry Benson withdrew last month's proposal regarding a designation of \$10,000 to be sent to them from the tithes of the Capital Building Fund. Pablo McDermott also withdrew his second to the motion from our last meeting.

Committee time met after adjournment of the council meeting.

Board of Stewards – nothing new on the agenda for December

Board of Deacons – nothing new on the agenda for December

Board of Trustees – nothing new on the agenda for December

MSC to adjourn.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Rix

Dear friends at First Lutheran,

Merry Christmas to all. Just thought you might appreciate this recent exchange with Seth Kitange and Pastor Sifuel Macha of our sister parish in Mowo, Tanzania. They have just come through another time of drought, hardship, and food shortages in eastern Africa, which makes it difficult for parents to pay the approximately \$60.00 tuition for each child to attend the kindergarten that FLC has been helping them to build. The \$60.00 covers such things as uniforms, a meal at school, cost of teachers, etc. They plan to enroll over 100 children in Kindergarten at the beginning of 2012, so this timely gift will ensure that all the children will be able to attend in 2012. The bottom floor is completed and that is where classes are now taking place. One of the two new kindergarten teacher's training at Ushrika Wa Neema was paid for by donations from First Lutheran Church, along with that of her fellow new teacher. Enjoy.....Ray Meister




News
From the Health Cabinet

If you did not have an opportunity to get your flu immunization at First Lutheran by Three Rivers District Health Department or elsewhere, there is still time to get vaccinated. Contact Three Rivers District Health Department or see your health care provider. "Getting your flu vaccine is about more than protecting yourself," said Dr. Joann Schaefer, Nebraska Chief Medical Officer and Director of Public Health for Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. "It protects friends and family members with certain health conditions who can't afford to get the flu." Flu vaccine is safe, effective, and has been rigorously tested. It is a myth that you can get the flu from the shot.

Besides being immunized, additional things you can do to help protect yourself include---

*Wash your hands frequently with soap and water. If soap and water is unavailable, use hand sanitizer.

*Stay home from work, family gatherings and social functions if you are ill.

*Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze with a tissue or sleeve, not your hand.

If you use your hands, wash them immediately.

*Eat healthy, drink plenty of fluids, and get adequate rest.

*It is OK to smile and greet or touch elbows when sharing the Peace at worship.



In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. Proverbs 16:9

As we face the New Year with all of our goals and aspirations, as well as our uncertainties and fears, we can take comfort in knowing that the ultimate guide of all guides, Jesus Christ is always right beside us. We make our plans, but he directs our steps. Even if the path turns rough and dangerous we have nothing to fear because our loving Lord is right beside us. We can trust in Him to bring us safely through to our destinations.

Please be our guide and companion in the year ahead. Help us to trust in You completely as You direct our steps. In Your name we pray. Amen.

Deaconess Jeanne Dicke, Parish Ministry Consultant, Minnesota Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services

On behalf of the North Bend Area Community Band (NBACB) we would like to thank First Lutheran for hosting the first concert of our Christmas series. We appreciated First Lutheran opening the doors for the community to celebrate the beginning of the Advent season, the great number that attended, and for being such a receptive audience. Thank you also for the free will offering which helps defray our expenses. We look forward to playing for you again. ~ Bruce Bartels, Director, and Carol Bohling, President NBACB

We would like to thank everyone for all the prayers for our family over the last year. Also a Big Thank you to Pastor Charlie for coming to see Josie after her surgery this summer in Omaha. We are also very appreciative of the delicious meal we received. Thank you again, Kraig, Erika, Josie and Ryann Kirchmann

Thank you to everyone who made the December Women's Event, "Angels among Us" meaningful and successful for the over 100 women who attended. Thank you to the women who attended and invited and brought guests. Iris Frey Doolittle was an inspiration for each of us. Thank you to Ron and Lon for setting up and to those who created the beautiful atmosphere. The dessert by Alotta Brownies was exceptional. A special thank you to Pastor Charlie and Pastor Norm for greeting and to the men who served and helped with clean up. You made it a special women's event. ~ Carol Bohling, Women's Program Coordinator, and Beth Meyer, Chairman Women's Leadership Team

Fremont Area United Way wishes to thank the congregation for their support during our Rally Sunday on November 27. Donations are accepted all year round and may be mailed to Fremont Area United Way, 605 North Broad St., Fremont, NE 68025. It's through your generosity and of others like you, that we are able to give funds to 17 partner agencies to improve the lives of people in our community. ~ Shawn Shanahan, Executive Director, Fremont Area United Way

Once again, we have wonderful church members!!!! \$4915.79 was collected for the Low Income Ministry!!!! Praise God!

Thank you very much for remembering me on my graduation. I apologize for the getting this to you all so late. Before I knew it, summer and baseball were here and then it was time to go to school. Midland has been a good fit for me and baseball has gone well. A baseball blanket was the perfect gift for me and is a permanent fixture on my bed. I also appreciated the pictures showing how it was made and who made it. Thanks again ~ Ian Nick



	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	54,353.50	59,286.50	59,751.25	5,725.50	17,947.50	17,166.50
November	<u>70,606.50</u>	<u>48,304.50</u>	<u>57,159.58</u>	<u>57,461.50</u>	<u>27,364.02</u>	<u>22,194.86</u>
Total to Date	621,386.91	579,465.50	604,700.33	145,214.00	231,306.79	213,114.78

	2011 General Fund			2010 General Fund		
	Receipts	Expenses	Net Loss	Receipts	Expenses	Net Loss
November	73,745.72	84,014.58	(10,268.86)	58,899.34	72,109.17	(13,209.83)
Total to Date	686,916.69	683,103.99	3,812.70	654,641.47	685,673.61	(31,032.14)

November was a good month, not a great month, for pledged giving. Expenses are always high in November due to significant mission offerings and programs expending their funds. This typically results in a loss for November, which is the case this month. We are still "in the black" for the year and hope to have a great December. Have you completed your pledge? For 2012, pledged giving is a little down right now with 287 pledges totaling about 616K! This represents about 85% of our budgeted amount for 2012, which we will adopt at the annual meeting in January. You can help by making a pledge! Thanks to all and Merry Christmas, Kent Speicher, Church Treasurer.

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, Jackie Dam, Karl Engdahl, Gail Nielsen, Megan Peppmuller, Butch Scott, Ruth Sibert, Madison Smutz

Deaths

Our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Arlis Higley
Lois Anne Julian
Pat & Carolee Cronin, on the death of her mother, Joan Watchorn

Baptisms

Elizabeth Lee Hansen November 24, 2011
Parents: Kyle & Lee Hansen
Sponsors: Seth & Stephanie Hansen

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 **January** are:

Steve & Kim Prenzlow, Maxine Price, Ron & Kay Pronske, Duane & Roberta Rath, Steve & Ruth Rector, Becky Redding, Joanne Reents, Lon & Shirley Reker, Jon & Tammy Rensch, Carol Renter, Roger & Linda Revis, Jerry & Susan Richards, Matt & Emily Ridder, Gary & Cece Ristau, Aaron & Wendy Rix, Nancy Rix, Jack & Lyn Robart, Kristin Roberts, Jon & Trisha Rohlf, Cathy Ross, Elaine Ross, Doyle & Colleen Routon, Ardyce Row, Florene Rumery, Jill Russman, Cynthia Ruwe



The annual meeting for First Lutheran Church will be held on Tuesday evening, January 24, at 7:00 pm. Elections for Council Members, Endowment Board and Nominations Committee will be held on Sunday morning, January 22. Annual reports will be available on Sunday, January 8, for you to review.

Vice President

Dave Grimm has been a member of First Lutheran for 10 years. He and his wife, Julie, have 3 children: daughter, Katie, and sons Matt and Nate. Dave is self-employed at Grimm & Sons Carpentry and Cabinetry. At First Lutheran he has served as a greeter, usher, member of the EBC for Phase 1 and co-chair of the current EBC. He enjoys being a full-time spectator at his sons' sporting events.

Doug Kriete and his family have been members at First Lutheran for 10 years. Doug and wife, Sheri, have been married for 17 years. Their two sons, Garrett and Kolton, are 8 and 5. They run a small seed business, serving customers north of Fremont. Doug has been active in the church serving as Deacon, FLY Advisor, usher, E-Team, Hospitality Team, mowing and various clean-up crews.

Deacon

Laurie Bartels is a long-time member of First Lutheran and has been active in choir, Sunday School, Bible School and Faith Bible Study. She is past president of First Lutheran Women and a former deacon. Laurie is married to her husband, Bruce, and they have 2 married daughters and 2 grandsons. She teaches elementary music at Logan View Public Schools. She is an avid reader (mostly mysteries) and enjoys walking and playing golf.

Roxanne Botic has been a part of First Lutheran Church since 2007. She works at Valmont Industries as an Order Control Specialist and has been there for nearly 13 years. Roxanne has helped at VBS, Balloon Glow, LIM, been a greeter and helped with the costumes for the Christmas Program. She has served as a deacon in three previous churches. She and her husband, Don, moved to Fremont in January of 1999. We have 4 children and 8 grandchildren. Don is a retired Presbyterian minister. They love being a part of First Lutheran Church.

Kay Fitzke and her family have been members of First Lutheran for the past 12 years. She is a RN at the Fremont Surgery Center here in town. Husband, Brian, is a Paramedic/Firefighter for the city of Omaha. They have two children. Reed is 12 and in the 6th grade at the middle school. Leah is 9 and is in the 4th grade at Howard Elementary here in Fremont.

Paula Conrad has been a member of First Lutheran Church for a little over 3 years. They were drawn to this church because of Spoudazo and have been very happy with their choice. She and her husband, Mike, have 3 grown children and 2 grandsons. She really enjoys having her kids and grandchildren close by. Paula is a Reading Specialist at Wahoo Public Schools and has been teaching there for 13 years. Her hobbies include: reading, walking and babysitting the grandsons.

Trustee

Diane Paseka has been a member of First Lutheran Church for over 33 years, ever since she married her husband, Keith. They have 3 grown children. She has served as president of First Lutheran Church Women as well as other offices, including a previous term as a church trustee.

Kurt Pafford has been married to Kristy Pafford for seven years and has two daughters, Madalyn (6) and Payton (3). They have been members of First Lutheran since 2003. Kurt has been a Police Officer with the City of Fremont since 1997. He enjoys spending time with his family, especially in the outdoors. They enjoy camping and fishing together. He also enjoys working on remodeling and handyman type projects. He and his wife are members of the PTA at Grant Elementary School and has also volunteered to be the Adopt-A-Cop for Grant Elementary, handling school safety concerns and any presentations for the students that are needed. He looks forward to becoming more involved at First Lutheran.

Teresa Johnson has been a member of First Lutheran since 2006. She sings in the church choir, helps design and maintain the church website, served as a VBS coordinator and volunteer, and serves on a Hospitality team. Teresa is an Adjunct Professor of Biology at Midland University and a busy mom. She and her husband Lance have two daughters: Abby, 11, and Katie, 8.

Nancy Watters has been a member of First Lutheran Church since 1988. She is a Midland Lutheran College graduate and has been employed in the Trust Department at Fremont National Bank & Trust Co. since January of 1997. Prior to the bank she worked in the Invoicing Office at Hormel Foods Corp.

Stewards

Erika Kirchmann is a life-long member of First Lutheran Church. She is married to Kraig and has 2 daughters: Josie and Ryann. Erika has helped with Sunday School and as a Communion Server. Erika is employed at G4S Technology in Omaha as a Proposal Coordinator.

Michele McManigal has been a member of First Lutheran Church since 1995. During that time she has served as a VBS and Sunday School volunteer and was a member of the Heritage Committee. She has also served in a variety of "behind the scenes" activities, donating food, baked goods, and tangible items for outreach ministries such as Care Corps, Operation Shoe Box, funeral guild, and new membership dinners. Michele is the Vice President/CFO for Fremont National Bank with nearly 25 years of hands-on experience in Banking and Finance. Community involvement includes Treasurer and Committee Chair for MainStreet of Fremont and membership on the Community Development Block Grant Revolving Loan Fund Committee and the Downtown Park Improvement Committee. Her hobbies include spending time with family, gardening, listening to music, and reading. She and her husband Billy reside in Fremont with their two children, Paige and Connor, and grandchild, Adyson.

Endowment Board

Trisha Rohlfs is a lifetime resident of Fremont. She attended Fremont Public Schools and graduated from Midland Lutheran College. She has been married to Jon Rohlfs for 18 years and they have one son. Alex is 14 and is in the eighth grade at Fremont Middle School. She works full-time at the Yost Law Firm. She has been a member of First Lutheran Church for 14 years. Trisha has been active in Habitat for Humanity for nearly 10 years and is currently serving as the Chair of the Family Selection Committee. She enjoys running, reading, traveling and spending time with her family.

Steve Schmidt is a Nebraska native and a lifetime resident to his hometown of Fremont, Nebraska, where he was born and raised. He graduated from Midland Lutheran College and received his Bachelors degree in Education. His career started as a science teacher in Fremont Public Schools prior to perusing a career at Robinson's Seed Company. He worked for Robinson's for 37 years and retired in 2004 as the Vice President of Operations. Steve still works on a semi-retired basis within the seed corn industry. He enjoys the outdoors, and his hobbies include hunting and fishing. Along with serving as a past trustee, Steve and his wife, Dee, have been long time active members of First Lutheran. Steve and Dee take pride in their three children and five grandchildren.

Nominations Committee

Tom Brune is a CPA who graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and received a masters of tax from Denver University Law School. Prior to moving to Fremont and starting his own public accounting firm, Tom worked in Omaha in both public and private accounting. While in Fremont, Tom has served on the boards of Fremont Area United Way, Fremont Public School Foundation, and Fremont Opera House. Tom's church involvement has included teaching Sunday school, being a youth group sponsor, and serving on church council. Tom and his wife Sandi have two children, Sarah who is a junior in college and Jim who is a sophomore at Fremont High School. Tom's favorite pastimes are spending time with his family, fishing, and golf.

Rita Christianson is a (widowed) mother of 3 children and currently has 4 grandchildren. She has been a long-time member of First Lutheran and has been on the Health Cabinet and sung in the choir in the past. She is a nurse and has held a variety of nurse and teaching positions throughout her career. Currently, she is in her 17th year as the Special Needs/Special Education nurse for Fremont Public Schools, serving children from birth to age 21.

Lori Dravland has been a member since she was confirmed at First Lutheran in 1977. She has taught Sunday school and was a FLY advisor. Lori assists with communion at the 11:00 service. She is married to Don and they have 3 children and live in Valley. Drew is 14 and Dylan is 17. Both go to DC West School in Valley. Courtney is married and lives in Omaha. She works at First National Bank in Omaha as a Mortgage Sales Assistant. Her hobbies include Jazz on the Green with girlfriends, golf and watching her boys play sports.

Rita Goree has been a First Lutheran member for almost 20 years. She and husband, Roger, have been married for 25 years and they have two children, Maggie (22) and Richard (19). Rita was a Sunday School teacher for nine years and a confirmation guide/instructor. She has given time to many jobs around church including a capital fund drive.

Michelle Mathison and her family moved to Nebraska in 2001 to fulfill a career move for her husband, Todd. They own their businesses. Todd owns a Beer & Liquor Wholesale Company in Omaha and Michelle is a State Farm Agent. She has worked for State Farm since 1992 and became an agent in 2002. They have 2 children, Tyler, 20, and Kaitlin, 16, plus two really spoiled dachshunds, Lucy and Elle. Michelle was baptized into the Baptist church at the age of 7 and joined First Lutheran when they moved to Nebraska. She feels very blessed to be a part of the praise team at the 11 o'clock service as music allows her to find her center and to feel God's presence.

Barrett Schmidt was born in Fremont and has been a lifelong member of First Lutheran Church. His education includes graduating from Fremont High School, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University, and then receiving a Doctor of Optometry degree from Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee. He has practiced optometry for 12 years in Fremont and 2 years ago opened a private practice in the community. My wife, Tina, and I have been married for 10 years and have three children – Ashley (20), Julianne (8), and Barron (2). His family lives in Fremont and enjoys being involved with community activities.