



# The Messenger

Vol. 6, No. 7 ~ A Monthly Publication of First Lutheran Church of Fremont ~ July 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.

I invite you to take a moment to stop and say a prayer of thanksgiving to God for all of the wonderful summer activities that are taking place at First Lutheran Church. The coming month of July is packed full of ministry opportunities.

To start the month out, our church will once again be the proud host of the *John C. Fremont Days Balloon Glow*. Be sure to join us on Friday evening, July 8, for a beautiful display of balloons, food, entertainment, and fun! The Balloon Glow committee has been working hard to guarantee that this year's event will be the biggest, best, and most organized ever!

From there, we enter straight into the start of the *2011 Spoudazo Tour!* High school participants from across Fremont will lead us in worship on Sunday, July 10, before leaving on tour July 12-17.

Monday, July 18, is the start of this year's *Vacation Bible School* ministry. Be sure to sign up as soon as possible and spread the word! Join the V.B.S. 'African Safari' that includes an evening meal, fellowship, games, crafts, and fun – all while learning about God!

Finally, the month wraps up with a mission trip to help disaster response relief efforts. A group of volunteers will be helping restore homes that have been damaged by recent storms.

Thanks be to God for all of the ministries happening this summer at First Lutheran Church! We are truly blessed!

God Bless You,  
*Pastor Matt Knopf*

## First Lutheran Staff

	Extension
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<b>RON YOUNG</b> Maintenance Engineer	#30
<b>KAREN MUNDY</b> Preschool Director/Teacher	#14
<b>SHERIE EBERS &amp; HELEN EINSPAHR</b> Preschool Assistants	
<b>BRUCE BARTELS</b> Senior Choir Director	
<b>LAURIE BARTELS</b> Senior Choir Accompanist	
<b>BARB HANEN</b> Cherub Choir Accompanist	
<b>RACHEL SAMUELSON &amp; SARA SPEICHER</b> Junior Choir Assistants	
<b>ROSIE HAIAR</b> Nursery Coordinator	
<b>BILL MILLER &amp; MILT HAVEKOST</b> Maintenance	
<b>COLLEEN DILLEY, KEVIN MEYER, MARTIN TRAUTRIMAS, &amp; GRADY WELLS</b> 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](http://www.flc-ne.org)  
Follow us on Twitter: @flcfremont



## Worship Schedule

**Sunday, July 3**  
9:00 am - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion  
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

**Sunday, July 10**  
9:00 & 10:30 am - Spoudazo leads worship

**Sunday, July 17**  
9:00 am - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion  
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship

**Sunday, July 24**  
9:00 am - Traditional Worship  
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

**Sunday, July 31**  
9:00 am - Traditional Worship  
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship

Star crosses should be turned off and taken down. If your star cross has lights out, bring it in and fill out a form. It will be ready to go for Advent.



Postmaster: Dated Material

Return Service Requested

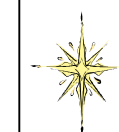
3200 E. Military Ave., Fremont, NE 68025-5977

firstlutheran  
CHURCH



Average Weekly Attendance  
through May

2010	2011
670	700



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

Website: [www.FLC-NE.org](http://www.FLC-NE.org) | E-mail address: [contact@flc-ne.org](mailto:contact@flc-ne.org)

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THE MESSENGER is published monthly by First Lutheran Church of Fremont. Deadline for the June Messenger is Monday, July 25. Contact Becky Poppe, Editor, with submissions or comments at 402.721.2959 or [beckyp@flc-ne.org](mailto:beckyp@flc-ne.org)

**Christian Fellowship will not meet in July.**

**Second Monday Men & Women** meet on the second Monday of the month (July 11). 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:

**July Calendar**

- 3 Applebees
- 10 Hy-Vee
- 17 Runza
- 24 Coffee Pot
- 31 Brass Wok

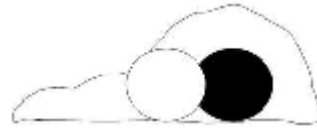
**The Fourth Tuesday Getaways 2011 - July:**

The flooding has caused the Tuesday Travelers to change from Brownville. Instead, the bus will leave First Lutheran Church at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, July 26. Summer camp is in session at Camp Carol Joy Holling. The bus will stop there and Jason will jump on board to give us all a guided tour of the camp. Then, it's on to Mahoney State Park. We will have dinner (on your own) at the beautiful Lodge overlooking the Platte River Valley. After dinner, an evening at the theater – melodrama, my dears, where we will whoop and holler and boo and hiss for the presentation of "Foulworks" – a tale of deceit and true love when darkness enters the lives of sweet and gentle Sunny Dey and her fiancé Fenton Finefellow. We should be back at First Lutheran by 9:00 pm. The cost for this little adventure is \$15.00. Cost includes transportation expenses, bus fees and admission to the melodrama. Friends of First Lutheran members are welcome. Please plan to pay when you sign up at the Welcome Center or make other arrangements at the office or with me, Betsy Hansen at 402-721-3299. We must make sure that we can cover our expenses.

**Fall Trip to Washington, DC: October 12-20:**

A visit to our nation's capitol is a trip that is on everyone's wish list. Even if you've been there before, the addition to the itinerary of the World War II memorial, the "Wall" and the Korean War Memorial are sites that have recently been developed. This is where history is celebrated, where history was made and is currently being made. We have travelers on board spanning sixty years of age, so you'll fit right in. The trip is a bargain. Nine days and eight nights, evening meals except when on the road, all entrance fees paid, bus driver and bus expenses paid, tips for guides paid. Your only expense is a few evening meals and lunches. All for \$819.00. \$75.00 due when you sign up. Pick up a brochure for your friends who love to travel whether they are First Lutheran members or not. Welcome aboard. For more information contact Betsy Hansen at 402.721.3299.

**L.I.F.T. (Lutherans in Fellowship Together) Potluck Group** will meet on the fourth Thursday, July 28, at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Bring a dish to share and stay for games and fellowship after the meal.



**Resurrection Project:** The Resurrection Project consists of FLC volunteers who help others the first Saturday morning of every month with yard/home work.

A project has just been added for July.

Mary Schnirl - Moving Project.

Saturday, July 2

Meet at 9 am at 249 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> St.

Mary is an elderly member of our congregation who is moving from one home into another. Please help us move a few items including 1 bed, 3 dressers, 1 bookcase, 1 table, and 4 chairs. Trailers will be provided and we do not anticipate the project taking very long.

**Grief Support Group:** Fremont Area Medical Center is offering a grief support group for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. It will be supportive and educational in nature and is designed for anyone 18 or older. It does not matter when the death occurred, everyone is invited. This group will meet for three consecutive Thursday evenings (July 7, 14 and 21) from 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM on the third floor of Health Park Plaza on the FAMC campus. There is no cost to attend. Please contact Scott Jensen, FAMC's Chaplain, at 727-3663 for more information or to register.

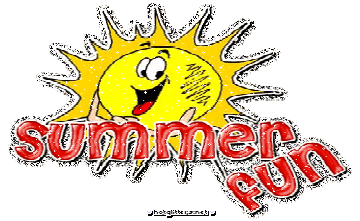
**The 23rd Annual Quilt Auction at Carol Joy Holling Camp** will be Saturday, July 30. The day promises good food, great fun and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of the Camp. The auction and barbecue turkey lunch will be held rain or shine. Camp tours will be available throughout the day and the swimming pool will be open at 12:30 with a life guard on duty. Quilts be on display by 9 a.m. The auction begins at 10 a.m. and continues until all are sold. First Lutheran "Cover Girls" have donated two quilts....one a queen size Christmas quilt and the other, a twin featuring cats playing with yarn. This will be a great family event. Don't miss it!!

**NEEDED:** Caring individual willing to drive the small bus (or their own personal vehicle) to pick up church members for worship every Sunday (one service). No special license is needed; just a caring heart and a commitment to this ministry. Wouldn't you consider this as your personal ministry? If you have any questions, please contact Jill or Tami (402 721 2959). Thank you!

**FLY POOL NIGHT**

July 6th at Speicher's house  
6:00 pm

This pool party will have food, swimming, the great game of pool-balloon (AKA: spoons with water balloons). Bring your suit, towel, and great attitude. More details to come.



**MISSION TRIP**

The FLYs will leave July 23 for their mission trip. Plans are not yet finalized for a trip to Tennessee. Please watch the green sheets for ways you can support this ministry.

The music and drama ministry of Spoudazo will be on tour July 12-17. They will lead worship at First Lutheran on July 10. Take a look at the performance sites and make sure to tell friends and family to stop in for a concert.

- Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>** – 7:30 pm Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Naperville, IL
- Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>** – 7:30 pm Faith Lutheran Church, Logansport, IN
- Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>** - 7:30 pm Resurrection Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, IN
- Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>** – 7:30 pm Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, North Liberty, IA
- Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>** – 7:30 pm St. John's Lutheran, Bennington, NE
- Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>** – 8:15 and 10:00 am St. Michael Lutheran, Omaha, NE  
— 5:00 and 7:30 pm at First Lutheran Church, Fremont, NE



**Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible**

Monday, July 18 7:00 pm

**Bad Girls of the Bible**

Friday, July 22 9:30 am

**Faith** No meeting in July

**Lydia** Wednesday, July 13 9:30 am in Heritage Room

Lydia Bible Study Group will be discussing the book "Heaven is for Real" by Todd Burpo. This easy read is a story about a little boy's astounding trip to heaven and back. Anyone who has read or who wants to read it, please join us at 9:30 am in our discussion. Time is 9:30 am. Theresa Adams and Marilyn Freeman will facilitate. Marilyn will also be hostess. This should prove to be a very interesting topic so please join us!!

**Cover Girls Quilters:** "Cover Girls" continue to work faithfully making quilts for LWR and local agencies. Cover Girls donated two quilts to the Camp Carol Joy Holling Quilt Auction. As we are all aware there is more need for blankets now than ever before. We will meet on Wednesday, July 20, at 9:30 am. Lunch is potluck. If you have a few hours to help, please join us. All hands are welcome.

**Prayer Shawl Committee** will not be meeting in July.

Mark your calendar now for the **First Lutheran Women's Christmas Program**. It is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, December 1. Iris Frey Doolittle, a professional musician from Madison, Nebraska, will be presenting the program.

**Lutheran World Relief** - Garage sale season is here, please start looking for adult-size cotton T-shirts, gowns (WITHOUT) feet, receiving blankets, cloth diapers, jackets or sweaters, and infant socks. They must be stain free and like new. Sending top quality items shows the greatest care and respect for the dignity of the recipient.

**Lutheran World Relief School Kits:** Because collections were taken in May for notebooks to be put in school kits, we will not have a drive this fall. Lutheran World Relief has changed the pattern for the school kit book bags. If you have any of the old bags finished, please bring them to church now. Beginning next year, they will only use the new drawstring-style bag. Copies are available in the basket at the Ministry Center or online at <http://www.lwr.org/beinvolved/schoolkit.asp>



This year's Vacation Bible School, **The Kingdom of the Son: The Lord's Prayer Safari** will give your whole family an opportunity to learn about and experience Africa- its people, customs, music, animals, art, culture, and food!! VBS will be held at FLC July 18-22, 5:00 to 7:30pm.

There will be presentations/slide shows for the entire family during the evening meal, and additional opportunities for learning about our Sister Church and school in Mowo, Tanzania, while the children are involved in their activities. Childcare for children too young for VBS will also be available each evening.

Registrations are due AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Registration forms are available online at FLC-ne.org, at the Ministry Center, and above the slotted mailbox. Call Pam at 721-2529 Ext 23 for more information.

If you have items at home to help us decorate with the safari theme, please sign up on the green sheets, call Pam or email pam@flc-ne.org. Needed items include African animal print fabric (large and small pieces, tablecloths, bedspreads, rugs, curtains and clothing etc.); stuffed African animals any size; medium to large tropical palms and plants (silk or real); and safari style clothing, jewelry, and hats. Please bring these items to the reception desk marked with your name. Watch the green sheets for other items needed for VBS.

Below is a list of children registered for Sunday School this fall. If your child's name is not on the list, please fill out a registration form. Registration forms are available above the slotted mailbox and on the Youth Education page of First Lutheran's website.

PRESCHOOL A  
BENJAMIN ENGLAND  
PAYTON PAFFORD

PRE-SCHOOL B  
ALEXA BRODD  
AVA NEWILL  
CODY STUEVE

PRE-KINDERGARTEN  
KATELYN MEADER

KINDERGARTEN  
SPENCER DIVIS  
MEREDITH ENGLAND  
CALEB KIRBY  
KOLTON KRIETE  
KAYLEIGH MCKENZIE  
MADDY PAFFORD  
COLIN RIDDER  
CALLIE WATERS  
SARAH VOSS

1ST GRADE  
REBEKAH VOSS

2nd GRADE  
MADISON EVERETT  
MACKENZIE KIRBY  
JACKIE MEADER  
HAILEY NEWILL  
JAIDEN RENSCH  
ANDREW SELLON  
GARRETT TOMASEK  
CARTER WATERS  
BETSY WRIGHT

3rd GRADE  
NICK BERNT  
EMILY BRODD  
KATIE JOHNSON  
GARRETT KRIETE  
CAMDEN MCKENZIE  
HANNAH WILSON  
SARAH WILSON

4th GRADE  
MAKENZIE RIDDER

5TH GRADE  
GARRETT DIVIS  
EDMUND ENGLAND  
AUSTIN EVERITT  
KAILEY RENSCH  
ELENA WRIGHT

6th GRADE  
ABBY JOHNSON  
ANNA ROSS  
JACOB SELLON  
TANNER WILSON

7TH GRADE: ROOM 146  
JAYDN BERNT  
SAMANTHA BERNT  
ALEX ENGLAND  
GAGE HARBAUGH  
SIERRA STUEVE

8TH GRADE: ROOM 145  
ALLISON KOPISCH

**Sunday School teachers for the fall are still needed. Please sign up on the green sheets or contact Pam Spevak.**

**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 **June** are:

*Barbara Lanning, Phyllis Lantefield, Lana Larsen Hunke, Lyle & Janet Larsen, Paul & Beulah Larsen, Ralph & Marge Larsen, Roger and Eileen Larsen, Jim & Lori Lathrop, Chris & Mary Beth Leaver, Jerry Leaver, Kaylene Leaver Inama, Sally Legband, Doug & Linda Liehs, Cheryl Lindgren, Eric & Kris Lindgren, Norma Lindgren, Sherryl Longacre, Janet & Gordon Lowe, Jerry & Brenda Luby, Jon & Joy Ludvigsen, Larry & Margie Ludvigsen, Ray Ludwig, Brooke Lunneborg, Travis & Mindi Lupton, Linda Lynch*

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*  
**Lt. Stash A. Dwornicki**, *extended family of Jill Norenberg*  
**Staff Sgt. Christopher Cerny**, *son of Steve & Cathy Cerny*  
**Staff Sgt. Jeannie Soto-Cerny**, *daughter-in-law of Steve & Cathy Cerny*  
**Specialist Stephan A. Fahrlander**, *grandson of Ray & Myrna Meister*  
**Sgt. John Ferguson**, *friend of Richard & Tracy Arett*  
**LCDC Keith R. Hanson**, *son of Jim & Mary Ann Hanson*  
**2nd Lt. Michael Harper**, *grandson of Lowell & 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. Sammi Jo Hajek**, *granddaughter of Jerry & Joy Horn*  
**Pvt. Jordan Klocke**, *grandson of Dwayne and Lucy Klocke*



**Amn Jacob Kohlscheen**, *nephew of Rick & Deb Sammons*  
**Army Spc. Jared Kruse**, *son of Jeff & Connie Elliott*  
**SFC Eldon Kuntzelman**, *son of Rex and Vi Kuntzelman*  
**Major Steve Maus**, *son-in-law of Pam Spevak*  
**2nd 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*  
**Mike Warner**, *son of Scott & Bonnie Warner*  
**PFC Joshua Wells**, *grandson of Jerry & Joy Horn*  
**AMN Benjamin Andrew Wing**, *grandson of Roger & Shirley Wing*

Operation Shield has received these updates on our soldiers:  
John Ferguson came back to the states in May.  
Johanna O'Toole came back to the states in June.  
Scott Peterson got married in June and will be stationed in Hawaii in December.

**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 health concerns this month included:

**Helen Bauermeister, Brinkley Chandler, Jim Ebers, Al Jessen, Madison Smutz, Lowell Weitzenkamp**

**Deaths**

Our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Lyda Jane Waters**  
**Sandi & Tom Brune and Julie & Ron Fechner** on the death of *Sandi & Julie's father, Jim Lubker*  
**Virginia Gard** on the death of her husband, **John Gard**

**Marriages**

**Kaylene Leaver** to Eric Inama **June 18, 2011**

**Baptisms**

**Kyla Rose Eldridge** **June 12, 2011**  
**Parents:** Eric & Venessa Eldridge  
**Sponsors:** Ember Eldridge and Tarl Peterson

**Josie Lynn Luby** **June 26, 2011**  
**Parents:** Jerry & Brenda Luby  
**Sponsors:** Marsha Johnson, Carrie Cyza, Brian & Jaimi Riley



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 14, 2011, 8:00 P.M.

The June, 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, Marty Gifford, Paul Johnson, Dawn Koehlmoos, Sharon Landholm, Pablo McDermott, Judi McKenzie, Bill Miller, Jon Rensch, Matt Ridder, Nancy Rix, Rick Spalding and Sandy Trehearn.

Pastor Matt presented opening devotions from Psalm 95.

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 reported that we are nearly finished with revisions to our constitution.

2. He also reported that the Balloon Glow is well under way in preparation for Fremont Days. It will be held here at FLC on July 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-10:00 with extra entertainment from the North Bend band, our praise band (Faith Unchained) and pony rides. Food, including soft serve ice cream, will also be available.

Associate Pastor's Time

Nothing new to report

President's report

1. President Paul Johnson received a thank you from Care Corps, Inc. for hygiene products donated.

2. Paul reported that the Synod Assembly held at Midland University on June 3-5, 2011 was well attended. Those in attendance from FLC were Pastor Charlie, Pastor Matt, Paul & Liz Johnson, Jeremy and Jen Hansen and Ron and Charlotte Young. Next year the Assembly will be held in Elkhorn, NE, at Bethany Lutheran Church.

3. Paul reported that the taskforce to research and make suggestions to the Council as to how our tithes from the capital fund can be disbursed will present their suggestions in October or November.

4. There will be no July Council meeting. We will meet again on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 P.M.

New Business

Sharon Landholm, liaison to the First Lutheran Preschool from the Council, moved that the following people be accepted as Preschool Board Members/Officers for the upcoming year: Board Members: Carissa Donner and Angie Hazen – Officers: President-Tammy Newill (FLC member), Vice President-Mindy Chandler (FLC member), Treasurer-Crystal Ebersbacher, and Secretary-Heather Kroeger (FLC member). Marty Gifford seconded the motion. MSC

Old Business

Dave Grimm and Steve Pike from the Executive Building Team (EBT) presented upcoming plans regarding Phase 2 to the Council members. The architects are finished with the first step in planning for Phase 2. In preparation for the next steps, the EBT has assigned Dave Hanen as Finance Lead for the project. Dave will develop financing and payment plans based on potential building options. The EBT also discussed hiring an outside firm to do a feasibility study. Bill Miller made a motion to approve a feasibility study recommended by the EBT to take place later this year which will determine our next steps in the building process. Judi McKenzie seconded the motion. MSC

Committee time met after adjournment of the council meeting.

Board of Stewards – nothing new on the agenda for June

Board of Deacons – nothing new on the agenda for June

Board of Trustees – nothing new on the agenda for June

MSC to adjourn.

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy Rix



9:00 am - Traditional Worship  
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship



Thank you to our Choirs, Praise Band, Directors and other musicians for your wonderful Worship music during this past program year. Your gifts of time and talent are appreciated by the congregation, and we are blessed by your Ministry! ~ Amy Brandert

I would like to thank the Pastors for your visits and prayers during my hospital stay and to my friends for the calls, cards and prayers after my surgery. ~ Larry Nielsen

Thank you for my graduation blanket. I love it. That was very kind of you. Please pass this on to the person who made my blanket. I love it. I also liked being a part of the service. Thanks, Cameron Jugler

Thank you for the beautiful flowers that were delivered to our home. Thank you also for the visit from Pastor Freund in the hospital. Recovery from surgery is going slow, but it is getting better. Thank you for all of your prayers. ~ Marilyn Wagner

Thank you all very much for the wonderful blanket! I love and cannot wait to use it and bring it to Doane this fall! I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude for all the incredible ministries sponsored by the church that I have been able to participate in. FLYs, Zoe, and Spoudazo have made a huge impact on my life and truly been a blessing. I know I am not the only one that feels this way. Thanks again for all you do! ~ Lisa Poppe

Many, many thanks to the members and friends of First Lutheran Church that supported the Relay for Life team by purchasing 48 luminaries! Four hundred eighty dollars (\$480) was collected to fight cancer. Blessings to you!

Thank you for sending me off to college with a blanket full of First Lutheran memories. I have been an active member all my life and having this blanket will help keep my fondest memories alive; from Sunday School, VBS, confirmation, choir, Zoe, Spoudazo and FLYs. I will pray and think about all the hands that helped shape and mold my faith journey. In God's continuing work, Micah Chvatal

God is doing something GREAT in Fremont, NE. I just arrived home moments ago from the Zoe 2011 *I'm A Believer* World Tour held at Resurrection Church in Marion. My friend is a member there and invited me to come and hear the kids sing. I was moved to tears by their enthusiastic expressions of faith through their songs and skits. I am of retirement age and have been involved in worship in my home church all of my life and I don't know when I have ever been so convinced by young people that they truly believe in what they are saying and singing. The message was clear, the light of Jesus was on each face and I shall never forget my encounter with each and every one of them tonight. My faith was strengthened and my hope renewed. Thank you to First Lutheran for your valuable contribution in sending out these wonderful young missionaries. God Bless your work! Love in Christ, Louise

the art of  marriage™


A First Lutheran Church Weekend Retreat.  
February 10-11, 2012.  
...Because your marriage deserves it.  
Registration forms are located at the Ministry Center.

**Balloon Glow**  
Family Fun Event!  
**FREE!**  
Friday July 8th  
6:00 - 10:00 pm



See the insert in the First Weekly on how you can help. There will be lots of food, activities and music. Just come and have fun!

**HANDS ACROSS THE WATERS**



First Lutheran Church will be providing the evening meal every Sunday in July (from 5-6:00 pm) for people who have had to relocate to Dana College in Blair because of flooding. Sign up sheets are available at the ministry center for the needed food items. The biggest expense item is meat. If you would rather donate cash, that would also be greatly appreciated. The amount of money that is donated will help decide what our meals will consist of. It would be nice to have some good, old-fashioned comfort foods to serve...roast beef, etc. We will take the church bus. But you may travel there on your own. If you have children, please make this a family event. The children there would love to have someone to play with.

We are all so blessed and this will be a great way to share our blessings.

According to the *Lighter Vein*, a publication of Fremont Area Medical Center of June 10, 2011, a new study from Stanford University shows our touch screen cell phones are some of the dirtiest, filthiest, bacteria harboring items out there. The study found that an average cell phone has eighteen times more bacteria than a toilet handle in a men's public restroom. In addition to having more bacteria, the fact that we use our fingers to interact with the device is also quite a problem. The Stanford study found that once the germs are on the devices, thirty per cent of the germs make their way to your hands and then you transfer them to your mouth, eyes, etc.

Practical tips from FAMC to ensure your phone is as germ free as possible—

- ✦ Wash your hands slowly. Think back to your school days and sing the ABC song as you lather and rinse.
- ✦ Wipe your phone down with an antimicrobial wipe daily. Also disinfect your landline phone, desk, and keyboard and mouse daily.
- ✦ Disinfect shared services like grocery carts with wipes available or have some with you to use.
- ✦ Do not offer your cell phone to others unless it is an emergency.

It is not necessary to get obsessive about cell phone hygiene, but it is important to exercise personal cell phone hygiene.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the First Lutheran Blood Drive Sunday, June 12. Thank you to the thirty-three individuals who presented to donate, to those who volunteered their time and efforts in many ways for the blood drive, and to those who brought food for the canteen. Thank you to Lucy Klocke, Colleen Dilley, and Judi McKenzie for organizing the drive and to Ron Young for helping set up. Twenty-five units were collected. Through your giving approximately ninety persons will be blessed. You gave the perfect gift. Food remaining from the canteen was delivered to some First Lutheran shut-ins. The next Red Cross Blood Drive at First Lutheran is scheduled for January 8, 2012.

Thank you again. *First Lutheran Health Cabinet*

The Nebraska Synod Assembly convened June 3-5 with 620 voting members present. Among the Assembly's headlines: Assembly participants gave \$10,800 to fund scholarships for multicultural youth to attend Synod youth ministry events.

This year's Carol Joy Holling camp counselors were commissioned by Bishop deFreese.

The Assembly adopted a revised Synod budget of just over \$4.2 million for 2011 and just under \$4.2 million for 2012.

Resolution #2 memorializes the 2011 Churchwide Assembly to accept the proposed Social Statement on Genetics as a study only and not adopt the social statement. The resolution passed.

Resolution #3 encourages mission centers to become places of open discussion about all perspectives on social issues and encourages ELCA Churchwide to focus more on developing study materials on social issues and less on the development of social statements. The resolution passed on a 287-254 vote.

Resolution #6 encourages congregations to train adults who work with young people on guidelines for Safeguarding God's Children and provides that the Synod shall continue to provide such training to ministry leaders. The resolution passed.

Resolution #7 commits the Nebraska Synod to participating in an interfaith event commemorating the 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks and encourages mission centers to consider activities that will provide occasion for reflection and for fostering love rather than hate and understanding rather than division. The resolution passed.

Resolution #1 would have placed the Nebraska Synod on record as opposed to the Fremont city ordinance adopted in June 2010 regarding immigration enforcement. The resolution failed on a 259-290 vote.

Resolution #4 would have memorialized the 2011 Churchwide Assembly to rescind rostering policies adopted in 2009 that permit the ordination of people involved in publicly-accountably, monogamous, same-gender relationships. The resolution failed.

Resolution #5 would have requested that the ELCA Churchwide Assembly reconsider and repeal the "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust" social statement that was adopted in 2009. The resolution failed.



	General Fund Pledged Receipts			Building Fund Receipts		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
January	49,293.50	60,553.50	81,706.75	12,977.00	8,808.85	31,417.50
February	56,074.00	49,049.50	49,379.50	9,466.00	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	54,113.50	51,385.80	8,251.50	17,988.49	34,446.50
May	<u>57,751.00</u>	<u>55,536.50</u>	<u>63,807.00</u>	<u>16,093.50</u>	<u>79,788.78</u>	<u>8,540.50</u>
Total to Date	286,323.91	274,311.50	302,603.30	57,463.50	111,415.12	108,263.92

	2011 General Fund			2010 General Fund		
	Receipts	Expenses	Net Income	Receipts	Expenses	Net Income
May	69,471.46	63,625.95	5,845.51	59,368.38	65,271.77	(5,903.39)
Total to Date	329,773.66	297,537.42	32,236.24	299,879.54	297,529.52	2,350.02

May was a good month heading into the summer season. Pledged giving was up (5 Sundays helped!) and expenses were down (Advanced collections on Spoudazo and Zoe helped!) For the year, we have a nice excess, which is well ahead of last year. Note that expenses for the year are just \$7.90 ahead of last year! I guess we are pretty consistent in our spending. The capital fund sits at about \$333K at the end of May. Remember FLC this summer and help the cash flow out by staying current on your pledges. Thank you in advance. Sincerely, Kent Speicher, Church Treasurer

**A special message for summer travelers**

If you're planning to miss services this summer due to travel or other family commitments, First Lutheran Church would like you to consider committing to a recurring giving schedule. Your consistent support is very much appreciated, especially during the summer months

**Give electronically!**

Did you know that **First Lutheran Church** offers the option to give electronically? Contact Jill in the church office for more details (721 2959).

Summer has officially arrived! School is out. . . summer activities are in full swing. . . vacations are being planned and enjoyed!

As daily schedules become less structured and you have more leisure time on your hands, why not come and browse the shelves of the church library? There you will find a wide variety of books, videos, and DVDs for all ages and interests. If you have young children, **check out** a Bible story book or one of the ever-popular *VeggieTales* videos. For young readers **check out** a chapter book in the Juvenile section. Pre-teen/teen girls enjoy the *American Girl* series and the boys enjoy sports books. Want a wholesome family movie....**check out** the family video/DVD section. Adult fiction is very popular with women of all ages. **Check out** novels by authors Janette Oke, Lauraine Snelling, Jan Karon, Karen Kingsbury, or Beverly Lewis, just to name a few. Maybe you have a favorite author or specific interest. **Check out** the card catalog. Books can be located according to author or title. Summer is a wonderful time for personal or small group Bible study. If you are in need of additional information, **check out** the reference section.

The church library offers a wonderful variety of options for children and adults of any age or interest. The shelves are organized by category and are user-friendly. Look for the framed blue category sheets for quick reference and assistance. Come browse and **CHECK IT OUT!!!!**