



The Messenger

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

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

Reflections

From the Senior Pastor...

Charlie's Chatter

"Strive to excel in building up the church."

Mission through Endowment

Nearly two decades ago a group of visionaries from First Lutheran Church brought the idea of an endowment fund to the people of First Lutheran. The gifts given to the fund would be retained and the income from the fund would be shared in mission. The congregation responded enthusiastically to the idea and the fund was created.

The First Lutheran Endowment Fund is presently supervised by seven directors. The group includes Dave Pinkall, chair, Gaylord Mussman, treasurer, Mary Jo Spalding, secretary, Shirley Flanagan, Brad Nick, Lynn Robart and Lowell Weitzenkamp. They operate independently from the Church Council.

The *Investment Philosophy* of the Fund is committed to a strategy of diversified investments that will provide a high level of income without undue risk. Gifts may come in the form of wills, charitable remainder and other trusts, charitable gift annuities, assignments of life insurance, transfers of property, cash, stocks, bonds or real estate.

Mission distribution is divided equally into four different categories. They are:

- ✦ capital improvement of First Lutheran
- ✦ scholarships or grants to First Lutheran members, preferably to ELCA colleges and seminaries
- ✦ outreach to the community
- ✦ missions both at home and overseas.

The Fund presently contains about \$468,000 with \$27,000 available for distribution. Applications are to be presented to the senior pastor who will present them to the Board. The Board will consider each application and act in the best interests of the Fund. Applications are available at the church office or at our web site flc-ne.org under *who we are*.

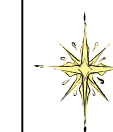
I encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful mission of First Lutheran Church either as a donor or an applicant. This is another great opportunity at First Lutheran Church.

In Christ,
Pastor Charlie



Average Weekly Attendance through April

2010	2011
701	737



First Lutheran Staff

	Extension
CHARLIE AXNESS Senior Pastor pastorcharlie@flc-ne.org	#15
MATT KNOPF Associate Pastor of Discipleship Ministries pastormatt@flc-ne.org	#19
NORMAN L. FREUND Pastor of Senior Ministries nefreund@gmail.com	#21
JILL NORENBURG Administrative Assistant to the Senior Pastor jilln@flc-ne.org	#11
BECKY POPPE Publications beckyp@flc-ne.org	#10
TAMI HALL Director of Confirmation Ministries tamih@flc-ne.org	#12
AMY BRANDERT Director of Worship & Music Ministries amyb@flc-ne.org	#22
JEREMY HANSEN Director of Youth & Outreach Ministries jeremyh@flc-ne.org	#18
PAM SPEVAK Director of Children's Education Ministries pam@flc-ne.org	#23
RON YOUNG Maintenance Engineer	#30
KAREN MUNDY Preschool Director/Teacher	#14
SHERIE EBERS & HELEN EINSPAHR Preschool Assistants	
BRUCE BARTELS Senior Choir Director	
LAURIE BARTELS Senior Choir Accompanist	
BARB HANEN Cherub Choir Accompanist	
RACHEL SAMUELSON & SARA SPEICHER Junior Choir Assistants	
ROSIE HAIAR Nursery Coordinator	
BILL MILLER & MILT HAVEKOST Maintenance	
COLLEEN DILLEY, KEVIN MEYER, 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, June 5
Blood Pressure Checks
9:00 & 10:30 am - ZOEL Leads Worship
10:00 am - Adult Mission Trip Meeting
6:00 pm - Spoudazo Music and Drama Auditions

Sunday, June 12
Pentecost - Wear Red
7:30 am - 12:00 pm - Blood Drive
9:00 - Traditional Worship w/Communion
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship w/Communion
4:00 pm - ZOEL Home Concert

Sunday, June 19
Father's Day
9:00 am - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship

Sunday, June 26
9:00 am - Traditional Worship
10:30 am - Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

Postmaster: Dated Material

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Christian Fellowship will meet on June 10 instead of June 3. The menu is Roast Beef with Au Jus. Roger Wing will present an interesting and informative program on Life Line. The group will not meet in July.

Second Monday Men & Women meet on the second Monday of the month (June 13). 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:

June Calendar

5	Kentucky Fried Chicken
12	Wendy's
19	Pizza Hut
26	Potluck @ Janice Hansen's

The Fourth Tuesday Getaways 2011:

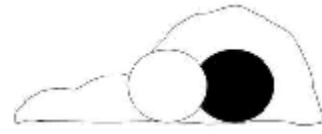
June 29: Ashfall Fossil Beds
Please note change of day from Tuesday to Wednesday. Bus leaves at 8:30 A.M. Cost is \$25.00 each. The distance traveled is almost 300 miles and the cost of diesel fuel is so high that we have to estimate bus costs at \$15.00 per person plus entry fee and driver expenses. We will need a minimum of twenty travelers in order to make this trip. June Travelers will be digging into the past - the far distant past. We will be traveling to Ashfall Beds State Historical Park near Royal. We will have a tour of the fossil beds where fossils of prehistoric animals were laid down millions of years ago. We will be leaving at 8:30 in the morning and arrive there at about 11:45 for our tour. After the tour we will have lunch at Green Gables (on your own and off the menu) before returning to Fremont at about 4:30 p.m.

July: Brownsville
August: Neligh Mill
September: Sioux City & Ponca State Park
October 12-20: Fall Trip to Washington, DC
Deposit due June 1

For more information contact Betsy Hansen at 402.721.3299, or sign up at the Ministry Center.

L.I.F.T. (Lutherans in Fellowship Together) Potluck Group will meet on the fourth Thursday, June 23, at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome. Bring a dish to share and stay for games and fellowship after the meal.

Prayer Shawl Ministry - There will be no prayer shawl meeting in June.



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

This month we will work at the home of Tiffany and Jeremy on Saturday, June 4. Meet at 9:00 am in the church parking lot and directions will be given to you. This month's project will include lawn edging, hedge trimming and possibly some painting. If you have tools to help with these projects, bring them along with you. The last project was very successful thanks to the great group of volunteers.

Toilet paper and paper towel rolls: Thanks to all of you who brought your empty toilet paper and paper towel rolls. These are an essential craft item, and word has been circulating that the paper companies have figured out a way to eliminate the cardboard roll. We now have a wondrous supply, which will be shared equally by our FLC preschool, The Rupert Dunklau Center for Healthy Families (formerly Lutheran Family Services Building Families Boutique) and the children's ministries here at First Lutheran.

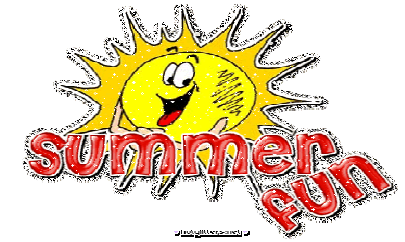
Welcome DVD Video— First Lutheran Church is producing a Welcome DVD Video to be placed in visitor gift bags. We would like to include clips of our church members talking about the ministries that they are involved in and what First Lutheran has meant to you. Please take advantage of the opportunity to share on June 12 in the heritage room. Stop in the room to get your FLC story recorded for the video!

Help raise the walls on a new house: Plan now to attend the wall-raising celebration for our area's newest Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity home. The celebration begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 4, at 250 East 12th St. (12th and D). You can help put up the first wall, sign a stud that will go into the house and have refreshments, too. Don't miss this great celebration. You can also stay and help us frame if you wish.

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.

FLYs

June 1	Dr. Livingston I Presume
June 8	FLY Night at Church
June 15	Mystery Bus Ride
June 22	FLY Night at Church
June 29	Fremont Area Youth Gathering



Middle School Kid's For Christ (KFC) youth trip - We will take an adventurous trip up to Smith Falls and canoe down the Niobrara River **June 19 - 21**. Don't worry if you have never done this before. The cost for this trip will be \$85.00. See details on the Middle School Youth webpage. Your registration form and fee must be turned in by Sunday, June 5, 2011. We must have at least 10 youth to make this event a possibility.

High School—Youth Barn Holler June 29th for high school youth. We will leave FLC at 6:00pm and return by 11:00pm. This event is a joint event with all area youth group with food and fun. Invite a friend. Watch for more information in the First Weekly and on the High School Youth webpage.

ZOE! celebrating its thirteenth consecutive year, is an ecumenical outreach ministry for middle-school students. This year, nearly 70 youth representing over 15 area congregations have joined to bring the message of God's love to people across the Midwest. Through drama and music, we invite you to share this family-friendly concert with us!! This year, the I'M A BELIEVER TOUR will lead worship on Sunday, June 5, at both services. The group will be on tour June 10-12. Their final concert will be at First Lutheran on Sunday, June 12, at 4:00 pm. Please join us for one of the performances. Watch for posters or the website for tour details. Invite your family and friends to attend one of the performances.



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.

Leaders, helpers and donations are still needed, please check the green sheets. 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. Registration deadline is June 29th. Watch for more details in the July Messenger!



3rd Grade Bible Presentations: On April 10, our 3rd grade Sunday School students received a "Faith Alive" Bible: Kenan Brodd, Tiffany Carnahan, Leah Fitzke, Ben Hampton, Korbyn Havener, Nicole Hittle, Myia Johnson, Josie Kirchmann, Madisen Manning, Gavin Nielsen, Carter Richmond, Makenzie Ridder, and Devin Willnerd. In May, they attended "My Bible" classes taught by Dana Mark. Students received their Bible covers after the class was completed.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION (PRE-SCHOOL – 5TH)

PERFECT ATTENDANCE All Year 2010-2011 (NO ABSENCES)

Bethany Miller Anna Ross	Julianne Schmidt* Rebekah Voss	Sarah Voss* Betsy Wright	Elena Wright *Receiving 2 nd year perfect attendance pin
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PERFECT ATTENDANCE Spring 2011:

Bethany Miller Jaiden Rensch Kailey Rensch	Anna Ross Julianne Schmidt	Rebekah Voss Sarah Voss	Betsy Wright Elena Wright
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FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE Spring 2011 (1-3 ABSENCES)

Isaac Barton Alexa Brodd Emily Brodd John Elliott Edmund England Madison Everitt Lauren Gifford Samuel Gifford Nathan Grimm	Karsen Jesse Abby Johnson Kallie Johnson Katie Johnson Myia Johnson Caleb Kirby Mackenzie Kirby Ryann Kirchmann Jaden Mark	Camden McKenzie Kayleigh McKenzie Cole Miller Eli Miller Shane Miller McKenna Murphy Ava Newill Hailey Newill Grant Partridge	Kaylee Partridge Alyssa Petersen Jaiden Rensch Carter Richmond Connor Richmond Kolby Tighe
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WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR SPRING 2011: (12 OR MORE TIMES)

Nick Bernt Alexa Brodd Emily Brodd Edmund England Meredith England Andrew Falk	Ethan Falk Nathan Grimm Dathan Hansen Caleb Kirby Mackenzie Kirby Devin Mark	Jaden Mark Bethany Miller Cole Miller Eli Miller Shane Miller Ava Newill	Hailey Newill Anna Ross Rebekah Voss Sarah Voss
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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, Butch Buettow, Roy Carstensen, Brinkley Chandler, Jim Ebers, John Gard, Al Jessen, Sarah Meyer, Wendy Payuer, Arnold Rix, Madison Smutz, Lowell Weitzenkamp

Marriages

Megan Brooks and Bryan Bomar April 30, 2011

Deaths

Our sympathy to the family and friends of:
Chuck & Lorie Peterson on the death his father, *Jack Peterson*
Dorothy Clausen on the death of her daughter, *Dianne Schnoor*
Stan & Ione Popken on the death of their daughter, *Linda Baumert*

Baptisms

Marissa Jean Phares May 15, 2011
Parents: Ken and Brittney Phares
Sponsors: Austin Schafersman, Todd Schafersman, and Seth Schafersman

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:

Melissa Knoell, Molly Knoell, Pastor Matt & Jessica Knopf, Beryl Knudson, Dawn Koehlmoos, Deanna Kopisch, Doug & Sheri Kriete, Darlene Kroeger, Linn & Heather Kroeger, Catherine Kroupa, Tony & Jode Kubin, Don & Jean Kubr, Joe & Marjorie Kubr, Esther Kucera, Theron & Patricia Kuhn, Rex & Violet Kuntezman, Scott & Jill Lackey, Keith & Ann Lallman, Linda Lallman, Sharon Landholm



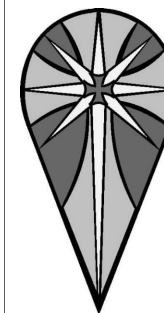
ELCA congregation Peace Lutheran in Joplin, Missouri, lost their building in the recent tornado. Please keep Rev. Bill Pape and the people of Peace in your prayers. ELCA Disaster Response is already onsite assessing the situation and providing for immediate and long-term needs of those affected by these disasters. You may donate online at www.elca.org/springstorms or send contributions to:

ELCA Disaster Response
39330 Treasury Center
Chicago, IL 60694-9300

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*
***Underlined names are recently added names*



Operation SHIELD will be collecting the items listed below until June 12. Care packages will be mailed for July 4th. A copy of this list is also available at the Ministry Center. Please drop off your donated items in the shopping cart near the Operation SHIELD display in the Fellowship Hall.

Food & Snacks

Beef Jerky/Slim Jims, Coffee (instant), Tea, Instant Drink Mixes (Gatorade, Kool-Aid, Crystal Light), Protein Powders, Protein Bars, Cliff Bars, Cereal (small individual boxes), Cheese and cracker packs, Microwave Foods (popcorn, mac 'n cheese, etc.), Trail Mix, Fruit By The Foot, Fruit Snacks, Fruit Rollups, Granola Bars, Cereal Bars, Gum or Hard Candy (must be individually wrapped), Licorice, Hard Pretzels, Cheetos, Fritos (small bags), Jelly Beans, NO CHOCOLATE!!!!

Entertainment:

Playing Cards, DVD Movies, Batteries (AA or AAA most common), Crossword Puzzles, Word Search Books, etc., Stationery or Greeting Cards (for them to send), Flash Drives

Toiletries: Baby Wipes (travel size), Liquid Hand Sanitizer (travel size), Deoderant, Band-Aids, Lip Balm, Baby Powder and Foot Powder (small bottles), Sunblock, Odor Eaters, Body Wash, Toothbrushes, toothpaste or gel, Mouthwash, Shaving Cream (small)

Miscellaneous

Socks, Generic Sunglasses, Air Freshener (Stick Ups), Religious Booklets, Inspirational Readings, Bug Repellant (plastic pump bottles only)

Not Accepted:

Chocolate, Aerosol Cans, Lighters, Matches, Hotel Samples, Hard Cover Books, Glass Bottles



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MAY 3, 2011 7:00 P.M.

The May 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, Daryl Brodd, Wanda Clements, Evelyn Eldridge, Stan Freeman, Marty Gifford, Paul Johnson, Dawn Koehlmoos, Janet Lowe, Pablo McDermott, Judi McKenzie, Kathy Moll, Chuck Peterson, Jon Rensch, Nancy Rix and Jon Wilson.

Pastor Charlie presented opening devotions from Titus 3.

Secretary's report MSC to accept the Secretary's report.

Treasurer's report MSC to accept the Treasurer's report.

Senior Pastor's Time

Pastor Charlie reported that the picture directory needed a re-proof. Because of this delay, we are able to include our new members' pictures in this directory.

Associate Pastor's Time

Pastor Matt, in response to last month's discussion regarding an exchange of pastors from another country, felt that the timing is not good for him and the staff of First Lutheran right now. He felt that deferring this possibility for at least a year will be in our best interest.

President's report

- 1. President Paul Johnson received thank-yous from the following agencies: Care Corps, Inc., Low Income Ministry and Oaks Indian Mission for monetary donations.
2. Paul reported that the taskforce is in place and has met to research and make suggestions to the Council as to how our tithes from the capital fund can be disbursed. Caryn Erickson will be the chairperson of this team.
3. Paul requested that June's Council meeting meet on June 14th at 8:00 P.M. instead of June 7th at 7:00 P.M.

New Business - There was no new business.

Old Business

Dave Grimm and Steve Pike from the Executive Building Team (EBT) presented current plans regarding Phase 2 to the Council members. Information from their team showed an increase of approximately 47,000 square feet in Phase 2 which includes additional classrooms, youth areas, office space and our new sanctuary. Additional information was given on parking, heating and cooling, and use of the grounds.

Committee time after adjournment of the council meeting.

Board of Stewards - nothing new on the agenda for May

Board of Deacons - nothing new on the agenda for May

Board of Trustees - nothing new on the agenda for May

MSC to adjourn.

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

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Rix



Stewardship

Financial Giving

Table with 7 columns: Month, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2009, 2010, 2011. Rows include January, February, March, April, and Total to Date for both General Fund Pledged Receipts and Building Fund Receipts.

Table with 7 columns: Receipts, Expenses, Net Income, Receipts, Expenses, Net Income. Rows include April and Total to Date for 2011 General Fund and 2010 General Fund.

Sorry, I missed the March report deadline as tax season ended and I was off to NY for a few days. This report catches you up. March and April collections were similar to last year resulting in positive income for March and about a breakeven for April. The great start in January is still keeping us ahead for the year! Expenses were pretty normal both months. Building pledged receipts continue to progress. We are now making payments to the architects, so keep those capital pledges coming in! With school winding down, summer attendance and giving tends to go down. Our cash flow suffers a little so please keep up on your giving! Sincerely, Kent Speicher, Church Treasurer.



Worship

Summer Schedule

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



Letters

What You're Saying to Us

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers for my mother-Anne Kiehoefer. When we moved to Fremont, mom came to First Lutheran with us. After the service this is what she told me, "if you don't join you loose." Best piece of advice. ~ Lorie Peterson

The Sunday School wants to thank Norma Lindgren for giving us a lovely Nativity set. The figures are children, beautifully designed and painted. We will enjoy using them very much!!! ~ Pam Spevak

A BIG thank you to Carol Bohling, Ann Brodd, Nick DeJean, Lou Ann Dooley, Jenny Hansen, Trenten Hansen, Sydney Harbaugh, Lorie Peterson, Sharlyn Scheer and Sara Speicher for helping with Good Friday Camp activities. Thanks also to Tami Hall and her dad for preparing the Sloppy Joes, they were delicious! And thanks to Michelle Barnett, Carol and Lon Bohling, Colleen Dilley, Lou Ann Dooley, Jane Dugan, Betsy Hansen, Stacy Harbaugh, Nike Jesse, Dave Kirby, Lucy Klocke, Janet Lowe, Dave and Lea Millie, Kim Mitchell, Kurt & Kristy Pafford, Lorie Peterson, Tammy Rensch, Carol Renter, Cathy Ross, Leslie Scheling & Craig DeKeuster, Tammi Wolff and Monica Zuch for donating food and/or hardboiled eggs. Once again, I am so grateful for the generous hearts of First Lutheran!!! ~ Pam Spevak

Thank you to everyone at First Lutheran for participating in the Mother's Day Carnations fundraiser for the Crisis Center. This was a huge success and all donations are going towards direct services at the Crisis Center. In their haste to escape, our clients often leave with nothing. The women and children who utilize our services are very grateful for your thoughtfulness. Thank you for your generosity, hopefully we can do this again next year. ~ Crisis Center Staff

Thanks for coming to my birthday party, calls, cards and gifts. You made it very special. I'm blessed to be a part of you. ~ Alice Clausen

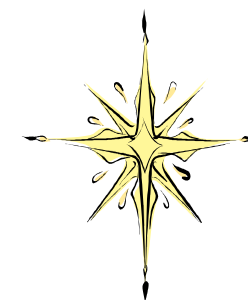
To Pastors Charlie, Matt and Norm and our FLC family, Your love and concern, your comforting words in cards and conversation, your memorials and gifts of food and flowers, and many, many other acts of kindness have sustained us with support at the time of Linda's death that we shall never forget. The entire Baumert and Popken families thank you so much. Keep us in your prayers as we concentrate and rejoice in God's promises of eternity through our Lord Jesus Christ. ~ Kurt Baumert; Ashley & Broc Blanchard; Tyler, Kelly and Amy Baumert; Stan & Ione Popken "All the beautiful memories gathered through the years are ours to keep forever."

First Lutheran Staff and Members—Thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement at the funeral for our mother and Amy's (Brandert) grandmother. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. ~ The Family of Freida Hocking

First Lutheran Congregation, A special thank you to the Pastors and the congregation for their prayers, cards, phone calls and visits at the time of my daughter's passing. ~ Dorothy Clausen

Pastor Charlie, Pastor Matt & Members, Thank you for your visits and prayers during my hospital stay after surgery. I enjoyed the beautiful flowers and delicious meals after returning home. I am blessed to have such a wonderful church family. ~ Wendy Payeur

I want to thank Operation Shield and First Lutheran Church for remembering me with cards and packages while I served in Iraq. ~ Sgt John Ferguson




Star-cross update! We will keep them lit until Pentecost on June 12. They can be taken down and stored until Advent. If your star cross has lights out, bring it in and get it repaired before next winter. Let your light shine!

The warmer weather brings lots of opportunities to improve your health. There is plenty of local produce that can provide for more healthy eating and when the weather is nice there is more opportunity to get outside and include exercise in your activities.

The National Institute of Health, June 2010 publication lists several wise choices for healthy summer habits.


- Beat the sun and heat with an early morning or evening activity.
- Wear protective clothing, such as hats with broad brims all around, long-sleeve shirts and long pants, to block out the sun's harmful rays.
- Use sunscreen that blocks both UVA and UVB with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15, preferably 30, and reapply frequently.
- Use sunglasses that block both UVA and UVB.
- Try to stay in the shade when outdoors during peak sunlight.
- Go to an air-conditioned gym, do water workouts or use a fitness video at home.
- Drink plenty of water before, during and after exercise.
- Take advantage of seasonal fruits and vegetables at the local farmers' market. Boost the flavor and nutrition of your meals with garden-fresh herbs.

Enjoy the opportunities that summer brings and avoid the health risks.




First Lutheran Church will host a blood drive Sunday, June 12, from 7:30 A.M. until 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Donation hours have been extended. Because of your great response in the past our goal has been increased to 36 units. Please help us reach that goal by making an appointment at the Ministry Center. You may also sign up on the green sheets or leave your name at the church office. You will then be called to schedule your appointment. You may also sign up to give double RBCs. Blood supply often becomes critical during the summer months so please volunteer to donate. If you have questions regarding travel, medications, or health conditions that might affect your ability to donate call 1-800-733-2767.

If you are unable to donate, you may help in other ways. We need food donations and volunteers to help during the blood mobile. Give the gift of life.



Relay for Life — June 3 & 4 -- 6:30pm to 7:00am
Memorial Stadium in Fremont, NE
So many lives have been affected by cancer — Let's help find a cure!

 What does it mean to "live Lutheran?" Entries for this year's video contest are being accepted between May 17 and June 30.

Video This year's contest gives members and mission centers the opportunity to share their faith stories in video. ELCA members are everyday evangelists who bring the gospel message with them wherever they go. The ELCA is Christ's church with a place for each one of us. What does this mean for the members of your synod? How do they live Lutheran in today's world?

Congregations and individuals could win a \$3,000 ministry grant or a \$1,500 cash prize. There are also prizes for the congregation and individual entries receiving the most popular vote. Plus, a selection of videos will be shown at the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly this August.

Visit <http://www.livinglutheran.com/contest> to get the information you need, including tips to help everyone get started. The contest will launch on May 17.

Faith Thursday, June 9 6:30 pm
Lesson Leader: Nancy Nielsen
Hostess: Sheri Wilberding
Note time change. Salad supper at 1050 Maplewood Dr.
Please bring a salad to share.

Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible

Monday, June 20 7:00 pm

Lydia Wednesday, June 8 9:30 am in Heritage Room
Lesson Leader: Theresa Adams
Hostess: Marilyn Freeman

Bad Girls of the Bible

Friday, June 24 9:30 am

Cover Girls Quilters: Cover Girls will meet on Wednesday, June 15, at 9:30 a.m. Lunch is potluck. What we do is thread a needle, insert it through the fabrics, and tie a knot. This is something anyone can do. Even you!!! So please join us.

Prayer Shawl Committee will not be meeting in June.

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.

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.

This month books with a historical theme are featured... specifically books highlighting events from WWII.

NEW BONHOEFFER...Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy by Eric Metaxas

This New York Times bestselling book is a gripping story of moral courage in the face of unspeakable evil! In this ground-breaking biography, Metaxas details previously unknown facts about Bonhoeffer's life—including a full-account of his decision to return to Germany and his romance—and documents his role as a double agent in the plot against Hitler. Numerous photographs enhance this definitive portrait. *A must read for any history buff!*

The Hiding Place by Corrie ten Boom

Gentle, suspenseful, humorous, terrible---this is the true story that comes along only once in a generation. For the first fifty years of her life nothing at all out of the ordinary had ever happened to her. Corrie was an old-maid watchmaker living contentedly with her spinster sister and their elderly father in the tiny Dutch house over their shop. Then the events of WWII changed their lives forever. With the feet-on-the-ground practicality that has made her one of the world's most sought-after teachers, Corrie ten Boom shows us how we can love those who hate us, how we can enter heaven in the midst of hell, how we can stay sane in a world that has lost its reason. *The Hiding Place* is a book you will not be able to lay down; it is only when you have turned the last page that you will realize that you have read more than a spellbinding adventure. You will have in your hands a key to your own deep questions.

Return to the Hiding Place by Hans Poley

By 1943, the Nazi *pogroms* that began in 1938 had penetrated the borders of the Netherlands. "Voor Joden Verboden" (for Jews Forbidden) signs appeared in public places. Rumors of death camps and racial genocide turned out to be true. Nationwide raids on universities resulted in mass deportations of dissenting professors and students to forced labor in Germany. Unwilling to sign a declaration of loyalty to the Nazi regime, eighteen-year-old Hans Poley was the first fugitive to the sheltered by Corrie ten Boom and her family. It was there, in the Hiding Place, that Poley came to grips with the fact that even his loyalty to his country and queen was subordinate to the ultimate loyalty due his God. *Return to the Hiding Place* is the challenging testament of a man who has wrestled with the deeply personal aspects of loyalty to God in the face of very real persecution....and won. It's a book to be read again and again.

Maria by Maria von Trapp

Laughter, joy, tears and sorrow await the reader of *Maria*, a true story about one of the most colorful personalities of the twentieth century, Maria von Trapp. In her story, Maria shares moments of truth, love, anger, despair and joy in poignant scenes of her childhood, convent life, marriage, and escape from Hitler's Germany---a powerful blend of the bitter and the sweet. Maria traces Baroness von Trapp's adventure-filled and spiritually-overflowing life through the growth of her children, the Lodge at Stowe, Vermont and her new dedication to God. The famous play and movie "THE SOUND OF MUSIC" is the thrilling story of Maria.