



Pastor

Pastor Deb Hammer
pastoratcandf@gmail.com
(402) 518-0423

Secretary

Bridgett Connell
secretaryatcf@gmail.com
(402) 841-3110

CLC Council Members

Peg Lutt
Zach Harder
Mandy Bruning
Dustin Thompson
Grant Anderson
Kenny Steinle

FLC Council Members

Vickie Sands
Katie Olesen
Gloria Dowling
Denise Hingst
Rod Ketelsen
Lyle Carlson

Concordia Lutheran Church

584-2471
Facebook:
Concordia Lutheran Church, ELCA

First Lutheran Church

635-2461
Website:
www.firstlutheranallen.com
Facebook:
First Lutheran Church,
ELCA~Allen, NE

Parish Partyline

Concordia Lutheran & First Lutheran

May 2025

Announcements

CLC E-giving option using your cell phone: Download the app "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement", search for "Concordia Lutheran Church ELCA" and set up your account. Contact Judy Martindale (402-369-0909) if you need assistance.

CLC Mother/Daughter Brunch will take place on May 3rd at 9:30 a.m.

FLC Graduate recognition for Gabe Olesen and Garrett will be on May 4th. A reception will be held follow service.

CLC AED information gathering will be held following worship on May 4th.

The last Confirmation/Children's Ministry at CLC for the school year will be a **Fun Night** on May 7th at 6:30 p.m.

FLC WELCA will meet on May 14th at 2:00 p.m.

Lesson (James 1:1-5) by Pastor Deb & Hostess is Clarice Johnson

Pastor Deb will be at a Family Engagement Conference May 27th-May 30th.

SAVE THE DATE – Allen VBS will be June 11th-12th.

Service men and women continue to need to hear from home, friends, and family. Please consider sending a "Thinking of You", "Thank You for Your Service", or just a short personal note to our current service members:

DG Christopher Wordekemper
4754 English Ave. Apt 301-B
Fort Meade, MD 20755

Taylor Johnson
7541 Murray Hill, Apt 838
Columbia, MD 21046

Jenna & Dylan Scholl
1224 W Redbud Court
Andover, KS 67002



*We remember in our prayers
those who need our prayers.*

Jerry Smith
Barb Lund
Duane Lund

*We remember those in care
facilities or homebound.*

Loren & Betty Carr (Homebound)
Bonnie Kellogg
(Wakefield Care Center)
Frieda Bowman (Kinship Pointe)
Lyla Swanson (Kinship Pointe)
Marilyn Wallin (CountryView)
Fern Erickson (Kinship Pointe)
Shirley Lanser (Homebound)
Elaine Lubberstedt
(Kinship Pointe)

*We remember those serving
in the armed forces.*

Chris Wordekemper
Taylor Johnson
Jenna & Dylan Scholl

Concordia Members

Steve & Peg Anderson;
William, Grant, Miles
Carolyn Alt
Craig Bathke & Lisa Clausen
Marc & Cris Bathke
Les Bohlken

First Lutheran Members

Greg & Ann Carr; Noah, Jordyn
Loren & Betty Carr
Shane & Bridgett Connell;
Tristan, Mackenzey, Hunter
Gloria Dowling
Nancy Ellis

If you know of any person in need
of prayers, please call the church
office at 635-2461 and leave a
message if no one answers.

Worship Helpers & Celebrations

	First Helpers	Concordia Helpers
Ushers & Greeters	Tom & Vickie Sands	Les Bohlken & Zach Harder
Acolytes		5/4 Harper Bruning 5/11 Cade Johnson 5/18 Tanner Thompson 5/25 Hunter Nolte
Lay Readers	Clarice Johnson	Warren Hanson
Communion Steward	Clarice Johnson	Lynette Krie
Altar Guild	Denise Hingst	Lynette Krie
Altar Flowers		Georgia Addison
Power Point	Vickie Sands	
Coffee after Service	5/4 Tom & Vickie Sands 5/11 Lyle & Jean Carlson 5/18 Henry & Clarice Johnson 5/25 Paul & Tina Boyle	



Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary First

5/1 Matt Hingst
5/1 Jolene Sullivan
5/6 Jerry Smith & Karen
Claussen Smith
5/8 Wyatt Keil
5/23 Lyle Carlson
5/29 Henry & Clarice Johnson

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary Concordia

5/5 Grant Anderson
5/8 Shirley Anderson
5/9 Gretchen Deitrich
5/25 Brad Harder
5/26 Jason & Amanda Fischer
5/26 Zach Hauptmann
5/27 Steve Anderson
5/29 Taelynn Settje
5/29 Brandi Settje
5/30 Tammy Sterling

2025 Synod

Assembly

May 30th – June 1st



Delegates attending assembly will be:

Ron & Marilyn Harder from Concordia;
Katie Olesen and Gloria Dowling from First;
Pastor Deb Hammer.



Keynote Speaker at assembly will be Bishop Rev. Dr. Fredrick Shoo of Tanzania. He is serving as the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and the Bishop of the ELCT Northern Diocese situated in the northern part of Tanzania. Bishop Shoo is married to beautiful lady Janeth.

While in Tanzania, Bishop Shoo and Janeth hosted the Nebraska Synod Vision Trip group which included Pastor Deb for an evening meal. They received much hospitality from everyone from his staff that help host our trip. Prior

to Synod Assembly, Bishop will be traveling to Northeast Nebraska on May 26th and 27th. Pastor Deb along with a few other pastors will be taking him around our area to see many of our small churches and our way of life here in Nebraska.

The Nebraska Synod and the Northern Diocese of Tanzania are celebrating 25 years of partnership together at assembly this year. In honor of the 25th Anniversary, Bishop Shoo and his wife Janeth will be to celebrate this special occasion!



Knowing how to use it could make a difference in saving someone's life!

**JOIN US SUNDAY MAY 4, 2025, AFTER
WORSHIP FOR A SHORT
INFORMATION SESSION ON HOW TO
USE THE AED**

(PRESENTATION BY CERTIFIED EMT's FROM COLERIDGE AND LAUREL)



CELEBRATE

140 YEARS

WITH CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

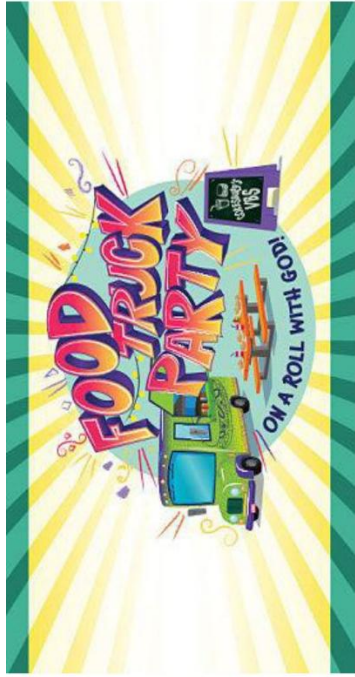
SUNDAY

JUNE 8, 2025

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL PRESENTATION AND
GUEST SPEAKERS

LUNCH TO FOLLOW

WORSHIP BEGINS @ 10:15



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Allen Methodist Church and First Lutheran Church

- ♥ Wednesday June 11 & Thursday June 12
- ♥ 9:00 am – 11:30 am
- ♥ Location at the Allen Community Park
- ♥ Ages 4 years old to 4th Grade

Students Name _____

Age/Grade _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Address _____

Cell phone _____ Alternate phone _____

Special Needs/Allergies/Medical Information _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Name of person who may pick up child from VBS _____

Church/VBS has my permission to use my child's photograph publicly in VBS materials. I understand the images may be used in print and online publications.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Return Form to:

Deb Hammer/First Lutheran
PO BOX 160
Allen, NE 68710

Or email to:
pastoratcandf@gmail.com

Congratulations

SENIOR 2025

SENIOR SUNDAY

May 4, 2025

Blessing during Worship
Reception Following



Gabriel Dale Olesen

- ~Parents are Jason & Katie Olesen
- ~Gabe plans to attend Wayne State College to be a finance major.
- ~Gabe received a the Wheeler Scholarship in the amount of \$2000.
- ~When asking Gabe who his role model is, he replied, "My role models are my parents. They made me into the person I am today."
- ~Gabe has been very active in the life of our church by helping with everything from calling bingo, to leading worship services, to doing the grunt work of moving the Christmas tree and many other duties as asked.
- (or as he was volun- told to do.) Regardless, he did it with his smile.



Garrett Eugene Tramp

- Garrett's parents are Lindsay & Nick Tramp
- His favorite food is mac-n-cheese, his favorite class is Uldrich's, and his favorite subject is History.
- Garrett's favorite book is *Green Eggs and Ham*, his favorite song is "Should've Been a Cowboy" and his favorite movie is *Raid Street*.
- Garrett's greatest memory from his time at Allen Consolidated Schools was setting Bathke off topic.
- Garrett plans to go to Wyoming Tech to do diesel.
- When Garrett was asked if he could change one thing, what would it be and why? He answered, "Get a higher GPA for scholarships."
- When asking Garrett who his role model is He replied, "My role model is Kevin Lunz, because he always has a way to fix or do something"



Ministry Opportunities

CLC Mother/Daughter Brunch – May 3rd at 9:30 a.m.

FLC Senior Reception – May 4th following Worship

CLC Council Meeting – May 5th at 5:30 p.m.

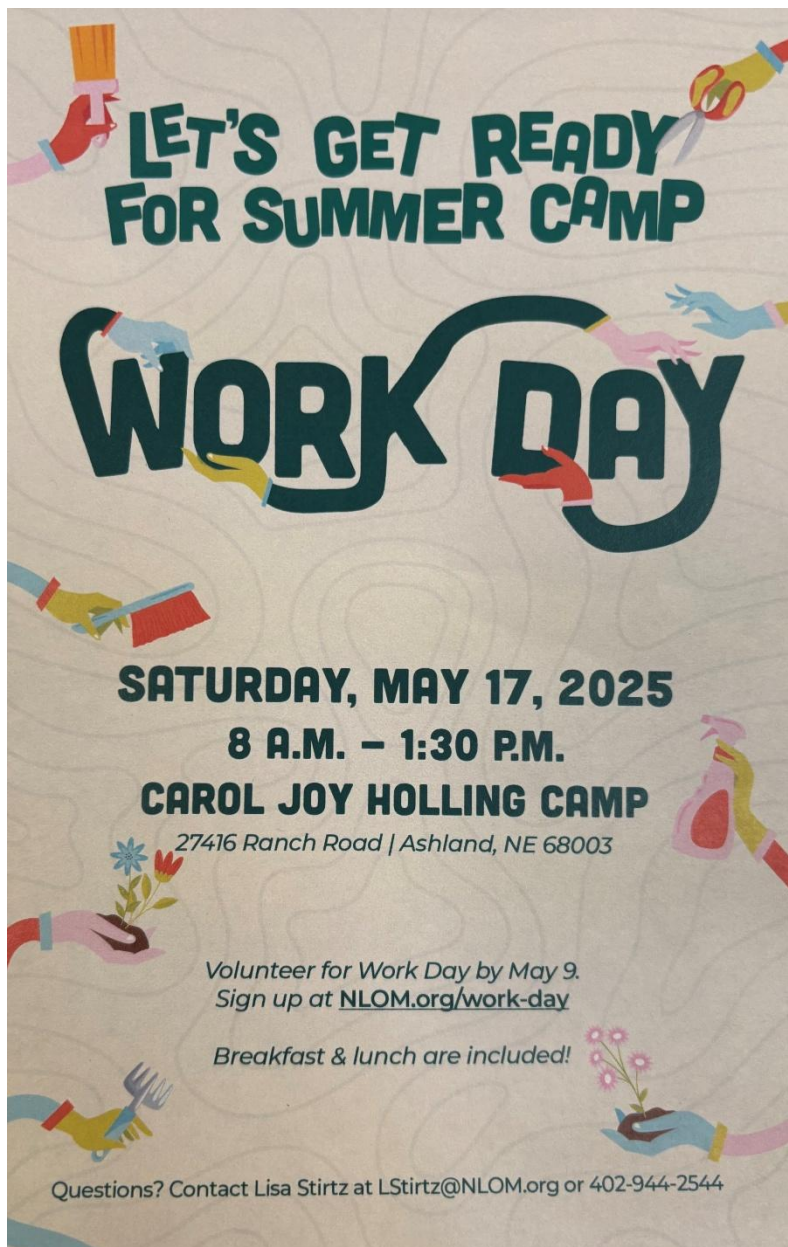
FLC Council Meeting – May 5th at 7:00 p.m.

Confirmation/Children's Ministry Fun Night– May 7th at 6:30 p.m.

FLC WELCA – May 14th at 2:00 p.m.

Newsletter Deadline –May 19th

NE Synod – May 30-June 1



Bible Readings

May 4th

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

May 11th

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

May 18th

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

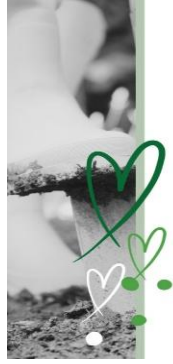
May 25th

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

John 5:1-9



Cultivating Love Through Joy

Psalm 34:1-3

¹ *I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

² *My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.*

³ *O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.*

The Joy of Easter: He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

Easter is not just a moment in time—it's the glorious reminder that **God keeps His promises** and that **love is stronger than death**. On that first Easter morning, the tomb was empty. Fear turned into faith. Tears turned into joy. And death was overcome by life.

The **joy of Easter** is knowing:

- Jesus lives, and we are never alone.
- God's mercy is new every morning.
- There is hope, even in the darkest places.

This joy lives on in our hearts—in every act of kindness, every prayer, every step of faith. May we carry the light of Easter with us:

- ✦ Rejoicing in the Risen Savior
- ✦ Sharing hope with those around us
- ✦ Living in the freedom of God's grace

Joy comes in various ways but May provides plenty of opportunities to experience it. Joy will be experienced through the movement of the 50 days of Easter season. It can be felt through the longer days as spring stretches daylight, and we move ever closer to summer. Reflect on cultivating joy by spending time with the following meditative practices:

- In what ways have you seen, witnessed and experienced God cultivating joy in you?
- How might God be inviting you to cultivate joy with others?
- What are ways that you will cultivate joy this year?

A Prayer of Easter Joy

Risen Lord, thank You for the gift of new life.

Fill our hearts with Your joy, and help us share it with the world.

May we live every day in the light of Your resurrection. Amen.

Blessings, Pastor Deb

First Lutheran Council Meeting Highlights

One unified body of Christ, called to be agents of love and service to all!

First Lutheran Council met on April 7, 2025. Present were Lyle Carlson, Gloria Dowling, Pastor Deb Hammer, Denise Hingst, Rod Ketelsen, Katie Olesen, and Vickie Sands.

*Opening prayer by all.

*Pastor's report was read and discussed.

*Secretary's report and treasurer's report for March were read and approved.

Property Items:

- Air conditioner-has been ordered and will be installed before hot weather arrives
- Roof repair-the goal is to start sometime in April
- Parking lot-Lyle C. and Paul B. will work on this once the weather stays consistently warm

Old Business:

- Lent offerings are going to Lutheran Family Services/Dana Village

New Business:

- Wheeler Scholarship-Rex Wheeler announced he would give Gabe Olesen a \$2,000 scholarship. With no seniors for the next 5 years, Rex would like to move the remainder of the Wheeler Scholarship funds to the roof fund.
- Gabe Olesen will be recognized on graduate Sunday, May 4.
- The council will provide breakfast following the Easter Sunrise service on April 20.
- Holy Humor Sunday is April 27. This year is a cowboy theme.
- Dairy Cow Fund for Kotela Parish in Tanzania – A dairy cow there costs \$80. They would gift a cow to mothers with kids for a milk supply and to teach them how to raise the cows. They would be able to breed the cow and the first female cow would then go to another mother in need. Pastor Deb's goal is to raise \$2,500 in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Nebraska Synod and Northern Diocese partnership. Pastor Deb requests that the funds be passed through First Lutheran to the Nebraska Synod. The Nebraska Synod would then send the funds to the Northern Diocese Synod in Tanzania, which would then forward the funds to the Kotela Parish for the Dairy Cow Project.
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- **Other Business:** Allen Community service will be held Sunday, June 15. More information to follow as it becomes available.

Closing prayer by all

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

Next meeting will be on Monday, May 5 at 7:00 PM

Concordia Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

Reflecting God's love in service to all through our family of faith!

The monthly meeting of Concordia Lutheran Church Council was held April 7th, 2025 at approximately 5:30 pm in the basement of Concordia Lutheran Church. Present members were Grant Anderson, Peg Lutt, Kenny Steinle, Mandy Bruning and Deb Hammer.

We started the meeting with an Opening Prayer led by Pastor Deb Hammer.

Pastor's Report for March 2025 was passed around, reviewed and discussed by Council Members.

Judy Martindale, Financial Secretary, presented Concordia's monthly income report for the month of March. After Council review and discussion, the report was approved.

Trisha Reifenrath, the Treasurer, presented Concordia's monthly expense report for the month of March. Three additional expenses were discussed. First, \$1448.98 was spent on the AED paid by funds from the memorial fund. Second, \$53.10 was for the Post Office Real Estate Tax. Third, \$386.22 was paid to Farmer's Pride. Along with the rest of the expense report, these additions were approved.

President, Peg Lutt gave a brief informational update of Concordia's Goals Plan/Progress. She stated that we are doing well and appreciates councils' involvement in the leadership of the church specifically by leading by example. The Joint outreach mission is August 24th with the outdoor service at Concordia. Funds raised will go to Norfolk Rescue Mission.

Old Business:

The AED has been purchased and is in the possession of Concordia Lutheran Church. After Council discussion, we agreed to place it in the main entry way near the picture of Jesus by the mailboxes. We decided this was the best location for it as it will be centrally located and requires the shortest amount of distance to reach it no matter where you are at in the church.

Brad and Zach Harder found a light bulb that fits the fixture. Council agreed that the lighting is much better throughout the Sanctuary and are pleased with the results.

We have zoned in on June 8th as the date for Concordia Lutherans 140-year anniversary. Grant Anderson volunteered to put together a 3–5-minute power point presentation highlighting different milestones throughout the Church's history. Peg noted that Concordia has good historical records that he would be able to reference. Deb Hammer said that we do have a projector set up that we could display this presentation at the front of the church during worship. Peg suggested providing a small lunch to be held in the basement after church to celebrate. If the projector set up isn't realistically functional, we decided we could also just play something on a T.V. while people are getting their food at lunch. Grant also suggested putting an ad into the Laurel and Wayne newspapers to invite people to attend worship. We have not officially done anything yet, just made a gameplan.

Peg encouraged people to look at the property list and volunteer to sign up for projects. Siding repairs still need to be done and we are approaching the deadline. Warren volunteered to complete this task. It was also stated that the hand rails in the church have been stabilized.

College Boxes will be delivered the first week of May.

New Business:

AED informational session is set for May 4th following worship.

Palm Sunday is April 12th. Palms arrived in the mail.

Maundy Thursday service is at Concordia Lutheran. Good Friday services is at First Lutheran. Easter sunrise service with breakfast is at First Lutheran. Regular Easter Services is at Concordia Lutheran.

Holy Humor Sunday is April 27. We will be doing a Cowboy Theme.

Outdoor Service date will be sometime this summer. No date has been set yet. We will need to organize speakers and outdoor equipment first.

Grant Anderson took some time to discuss insurance. One of the tenants got a 'Notice of Cancellation' due to non-payment in the mail. We found out because Concordia Lutheran Church was listed as additional insured on his policy. Grant made a motion to require all tenants to list Concordia Lutheran Church as 'Additional Insureds' on the policy. The motion was approved. This will accomplish two things:

1. If any tenant's insurance lapses, we will get a notification. Per the signed lease, it is required all tenants maintain an individual Renter's Policy with a limit of at least \$500,000.
2. If a tenant is found liable for any injuries to other parties at the described premises for more than \$500,000 and the defendant now sues the church, the tenant's Renter's Policy will provide Concordia another \$500,000 worth of coverage.

Grant explained that Concordia does have their own policy that will protect the church against any liable damages, but that it is important to defer any liability to others insurance policies so that it does not hit against Concordia's insurance score.

Next Meeting is May 5th at 5:30.

Meeting is adjourned followed by a Closing Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Anderson, Secretary