



PARISH PARTYLINE

Concordia Lutheran & First Lutheran

April 2024

Pastor

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

Secretary

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

CLC Council Members

Dan Nolte
Pam Anderson
Peg Lutt
Zach Harder
Mandy Bruning
Dustin Thompson

FLC Council Members

Vickie Sands
Katie Olesen
Gloria Dowling
Denise Hingst
Richie Monteith
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

Announcements

FLC Online Giving is available at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z1PQ>

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.

FLC WELCA will meet on April 10th at 2:00 p.m. Bible Study (Joshua 7:1-15) by Jean Carlson.

HOPE Circle will be meeting at Kinship Pointe on April 4th at 2:00 p.m. Pastor has the Bible study and Peg Lutt serves. We will be taking up a special offering for Access Period.

Holy Humor Sunday on April 7th – You are invited to have fun as we gather to explore the mystery of the empty tomb. Bring your spy gear and clues to help us uncover this mystery. Be ready to seek and find and go and tell the story.

Following CLC Worship on April 7th, Holy Humor continues as we gather with prayer partners to explore the mystery of the tomb. Everyone is invited to join in the fun.

WELCA Spring Gathering will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in West Point on April 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tangible items collected are 8 oz. bar Dove soap, pair of infant socks, receiving blankets, infant caps, and new neutral spools of thread.

CLC - It is time to fill care package boxes for our college students! Boxes will be delivered the week of May 5, in time for finals. Let's cover our students with love, support, and maybe a little bit of stress relief.

FLC college boxes will be available to fill soon. Please support our college students and fill their boxes to help get through finals.

Saturday, May 18th – Work Day at Camp Carol Joy Holling Camp – See flyer for details.

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
101B Cariaga Ct.
Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613

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



We remember in our prayers those who need our prayers.

Faith Keil
Paul Boyle

We remember those in care facilities or homebound.

Betty Carr (Homebound)
Bonnie Kellogg
(Wakefield Care Center)
Frieda Bowman (Hillcrest)
Lyla Swanson (Kinship Pointe)
Marilyn Wallin (Country View)
Fern Erickson (Kinship Pointe)
Shirley Lanser (Homebound)
Elaine Lubberstedt
(Homebound)
Doris Nelson (Hillcrest)
Court Roberts
(Heritage of Emerson)

We remember those serving in the armed forces.

Chris Wordekemper
Taylor Johnson

Concordia Members

Lyla Swanson
Dustin & Alissa Thompson;
Toni, Tanner, Turner
Melvin Vanderheiden
Hart & Mary Vollers
Marilyn Wallin

First Lutheran Members

Dwight & Ronnie Gotch
Matt & Denise Hingst;
Briana, Reed
Rett Hingst
Vicky Hingst
Henry & Clarice Johnson

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	Gerald & Barb Sands	Jason Fischer & Kolton Fischer
Acolytes		4/7 Turner Thompson 4/14 Presten Wayman 4/21 Easton Nolte 4/28 Bently Nolte
Lay Readers	Gloria Dowling	Jeremy Christiansen
Communion Steward	Gloria Dowling	Jeremy Christiansen
Altar Guild	Denise Hingst	Lynette Krie
Altar Flowers		Lynette Krie
Power Point	Vickie Sands	
Coffee after Service	4/7 Scott & Jean Morgan 4/14 Jerry & Barb Sands 4/21 Greg & Ann Carr 4/28 Lyle & Jean Carlson	



Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary Concordia

4/6 Dustin Thompson
4/18 Peg Anderson
4/24 Steve & Peg Anderson
4/25 Elaine Lubberstedt
4/30 Mitchell Fischer
4/30 Dan Nolte

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary First

4/3 Nancy Ellis
4/3 Dale & Barb Strivens
4/3 Duane & Barb Lund
4/7 Loren & Betty Carr
4/7 Barb Ketelsen
4/15 Mackenzey Connell
4/17 Lyle & Jean Carlson
4/19 Jerry & Donna Schroeder
4/24 Richard Olesen
4/25 Dwight & Ronnie Gotch
4/26 Heidi Keil

Concordia Lutheran Mother Daughter Brunch

616 Iowa St – Concord, NE

Saturday, May 4, 2024 @ 9:30 am

“Women of Faith – Then and Now”

**Featured speaker: Jan Schifrel –
singer/songwriter, speaker and author**

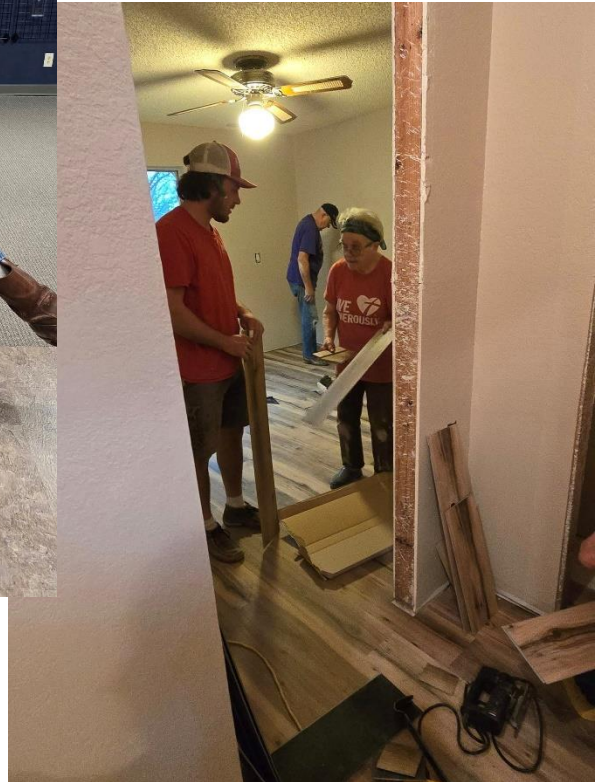
Free will donation





Nebraska Synod Mission Trip joined hands with [ROAD](#) (Recovering Oklahoma After Disaster), dedicating their time during the week of March 11-15th to help rebuild lives disrupted by disaster.

First Lutheran Members Lyle & Jean Carlson along with Pastor Deb participated in the mission trip.



LFS/Dana Village Saved to Serve Opportunity!

Assisting 19 year olds exiting out of the Foster Care System in Nebraska

June 21-23rd



First Lutheran Church

2146 Wright St, Blair, NE

Come join us to learn about Lutheran Family Services purchase of the former Dana College Campus and the Angel Share program located there that assists young adults exiting out of the Foster Care System.

We have been asked to help set up a Dana Village Pantry. We will be preparing some healthy snacks/meals for (with) the youth and providing recipes/resources. Providing quilts is a goal Sewing squares, binding and tying quilts and assembling personal care bags for the youth is on the agenda. Get acquainted activities, devotions, dutch treat dinner out, and evening entertainment will also be a part of the weekend's activities. We will stay in a motel and be working at First Lutheran Church and Dana Village.

Since we have been asked to help set up a Dana Village Pantry. Your unit/congregation can help by providing needed items or giving a monetary donation to purchase them. Send checks to NSWOTreasurer. See below.

Tangible Items: full/queen quilts by individuals or congregations, shampoo/conditioner/soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, and feminine hygiene products



Call Mary Mayfield for questions at 402-778-0291 (home) leave message or text at 402-660-9450.

Registration for June 21-23 LFS/Dana Village Saved to Serve Opportunity, Blair. Deadline, June 7th
You will receive a letter/email 2 weeks prior to event with details, map, schedule, etc

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Church _____

Check your conference

Metro East _____

Midlands _____

Northeast _____

Southeast _____

Central _____

High Plains _____

Please include a \$ 39 check to NSWOTreasurer - noting for Saved to Serve Opportunity. This registration is transferable but not refundable. Send Check to NSWOTreasurer, Julie Reiser, PO Box 64,

Butte, NE 68722

NSWO – Nebraska Synodical Women’s Organization

Saved to Serve Opportunity: June 21 – June 23 at First Lutheran Church in Blair

Educational: Lutheran Family Services at Dana Village

Please help our women attending by collecting the following items:



Bar Soap
Shampoo
Conditioner



Feminine Hygiene
Products



Toilet Paper
(Build a tower)

Concordia Lutheran Church will be putting together Baby Care Kits

together for Lutheran World Relief include the following items:

- *2 lightweight cotton t-shirts (no onesies)
- *2 long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- *2 Swaddling blankets, medium weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight year, 36” to 52” square
- * 4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- *1 jacket, sweater, or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- * 1 hand towel, dark color recommended
- *2 or 3 bath size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- *2 diaper pins or large safety pins

Items can be gently used, clean items (no stains or tears) Sizes 6 to 24 months in sizes. Spring is here and is time for garage sales so keep your eyes out for these items.

First Lutheran Church/WELCA will be gathering tangible gifts for Spring Gathering:

- 8 oz Dove soap
- Pair of infant socks
- Receiving blankets
- Infant caps
- New spools of neutral colored thread

Thank You

Concordia Lutheran Church,

The Ministerial Association would like to thank you for the generous donation. Your continued support of this mission has allowed us to show love and support to those^{who} are in need. Thank you for helping us to spread God's word and love.

The Ministerial Association

Dear First Lutheran,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for all that you do as God's people in Allen. Thank you also especially for your continued participation in mission share.

Through you, and because of you, so much good work is done in the world, and so many lives are changed out of God's love made real through you. Together we "Go and..." as God's people, cultivating love as Jesus' disciples.

Please know that your congregation is prayed for daily by your grateful siblings in Christ, near and far. Thank you for sharing God's love with the world!

God's peace and blessing,
Timothy

Thank you so much for the beautiful card and generous gift card! My family appreciates that so much. We are very happy to finally be home with our new baby Noah.

Sincerely

Jake Ally Josie + Noah



My story is Your story is Christ's story is Our story

MIDDLE SCHOOL GATHERING 2.0

SERVICE AND STORYTELLING
APRIL 13, 2024: 9:30 AM-6:30 PM
FOUR LOCATIONS

MESSIAH LUTHERAN
GRAND ISLAND

HOLY TRINITY
SIDNEY

SHERIDAN LUTHERAN
LINCOLN

SALEM LUTHERAN
DAKOTA CITY

Ministry Opportunities

FLC Council Meeting – April 1st at 7:00 p.m.

CLC Children's Ministry & Confirmation – April 3, 10, 17, 24 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

CLC Choir Practice – April 3rd at 7:30 p.m.

HOPE Circle – April 4th at 2:00 p.m. at Kinship

CLC Prayer Partner Event – April 7th following Worship

FLC WELCA – April 10th at 2:00 p.m.

CLC Council Meeting – April 10th at 5:30 p.m.

Middle School Gathering 2.0 – April 13th from 9:30 a.m.- 6:30 p.m., Dakota City

Worship Planning Meeting – April 16th at 6:30 p.m. at FLC

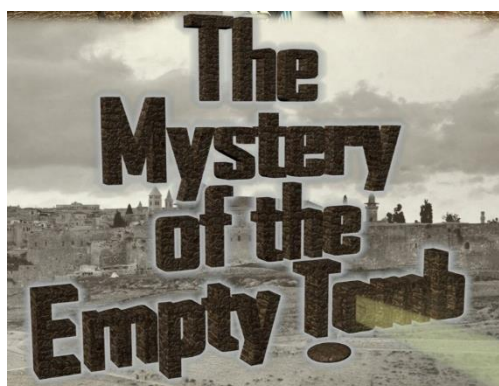
WELCA Spring Gathering – April 20th at Grace Lutheran, West Point

Newsletter Deadline – April 22nd

HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

April 7, 2024

You are invited to have fun as we gather to explore the mystery of the empty tomb. Bring your spy gear and clues to help us uncover this mystery. Be ready to seek and find and go and tell the story.

The poster is for a 'Work Day' event. It features the text 'LET'S GET READY FOR SUMMER CAMP' at the top in a playful, green font. Below that, 'WORK DAY' is written in large, dark green letters. The date and time are 'SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024' and '8 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.'. The location is 'CAROL JOY HOLLING CAMP' at '27416 Ranch Road | Ashland, NE 68003'. It includes instructions to volunteer by May 3 and sign up at CarolJoyHolling.org/work-day. It also states 'Breakfast & lunch are included!'. At the bottom, it says 'Questions? Contact Lisa Stirtz at LStirtz@NLOM.org or 402-944-2544'. The background is light green with illustrations of hands holding various tools like a hammer, scissors, a spray bottle, a fork, and a plant.

Pastor's Article

*"Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



The 50 days of Easter are a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. It is a time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. During this time, we are encouraged to reflect on our baptism and how we live out the promises in every facet of our lives. We are also encouraged to cultivate joy, gratitude, and thanksgiving. Here are some suggestions for celebrating the 50 days of Easter by going and telling the story:

- **Tell God about how awesome he is.**

Take some time each day to praise God for his goodness, mercy, and love. As we focus on his goodness, our hearts will be filled with joy.

- **Start a routine of thanking God for what he has given you.**

When we take the time to thank God for the good things in our lives, it helps us to appreciate them more. It also helps us to focus on the positive aspects of our lives.

- **Read the Acts of the Apostles.**

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of the early church and how they spread the gospel. As we read this book, we will be encouraged to share the good news of Jesus with others.

- **Bring new life to others.**

One way to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus is to bring new life to others. This could involve volunteering our time to a worthy cause, donating to a charity, or simply being kind and compassionate to those around us.

May you rejoice and praise his Holy name as we celebrate the 50 days of Easter!

Blessings and peace to you,

Pastor Deb

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



GO AND...

TELL THE STORY

Jesus isn't in the tomb anymore – God is on the loose! God is active and up to something! The story of Easter is an ongoing one, similar to the story of our own faith. Our response as disciples is to *Go and...* to go out, go share, go proclaim, and to go tell the story.

Questions to Consider:

- What is one of your favorite Bible stories?
- Is there a prop or tangible item you might use to help you tell the story?
- How will you *GO and* tell the story?
-

Prayer: Master Storyteller, your stories seem almost unbelievable. Open us to recognize your patience, deep love, and grace. Help me be a storyteller. Amen.

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 March 4, 2024. Present were Pastor Deb Hammer, Katie Olesen, Gloria Dowling, Lyle Carlson, Denise Hingst, and Vickie Sands.

Pastor's report was read and discussed. Pastor will be gone on Synod Mission trip March 10-16. Council will host fellowship after the March 13 Lenten service.

Secretary's report was read and approved.

Treasurer's report was discussed and approved.

Property Items:

- New lights in basement are installed.

Old Business:

- We discussed the soup supper, and whether any changes need to be made.

New Business:

- The council will purchase an item for the silent auction being held at Covenant Church in Wakefield to benefit Couy and Taylor Johnson.
- Easter Service at First will be held at 9:30 AM. Sunrise service will be held at Concordia at 7:30.
- The council will purchase a small refrigerator, with freezer, to be placed next to the communion station upstairs.
- Virginia Wheeler scholarship applications are due soon.
- The theme for Holy Humor Sunday on April 7 will be "Mystery."

Katie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Vickie.

Closing prayer by all.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

Next meeting will be on Monday, April 1, 2024 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 the Concordia Council met March 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the church basement of First Lutheran. Present: Pastor Deb, Peg Lutt, Zach Harder, Dan Nolte, Mandy Bruning and Pam Anderson. Dustin Thompson was present for the Joint meeting. Pastor opened with prayer.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the February Minutes to add Dana Village in Blair as the recipient of our Lenten offerings.

Judy Martindale was present for the Financial Secretary's Report. Peg Anderson was present for the Treasurer's Report, and led discussion on the insurance claim for clean-up at the Parsonage. We have presented a request to the Village of Concord for possible reimbursement via their insurance. A motion was made and seconded to approve the February reports for Pastor, the Financials, Minutes, and the Treasurer's March payments, including a payment of \$38.11 to Dan for window repair, and \$7.50 to Bridgett for back salary. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Zach reported that Stanley Steamers cleaned the basement carpet, and they are working to treat some stubborn spots.

The broken window pane in the basement has been repaired, and a dehumidifier is up and running in the Parsonage basement. Thank you to Dan for heading up these projects.

We have not heard from the Synod Office about our Constitution change.

New Business:

Pastor will be leaving earlier than she thought for the Nebraska Synod Mission Trip, so Mandy and Peg will help lead worship on March 10.

The Council is still looking for a volunteer for the Treasurer position, if anyone is interested. Mandy may step in if needed.

A motion was made and seconded to move \$4,700 from the Improvement Savings to the General Fund, to make sure we don't cut ourselves short for upcoming bills.

Pastor Deb will take into consideration having communion at the rail for special occasions or at certain times of the church year (i.e., Maundy Thursday).

A request has been made to rent/borrow tables and chairs from Concordia on May 10-12 for Laurel's graduation. We have honored these requests in the past, as long as we aren't using them for our own activities.

Everyone got their assignment for Easter Sunrise breakfast.

Our next meeting will be at Concordia on Wednesday, April 10 at 5:30.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn, followed by Joint Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Anderson

Joint Council Meeting Highlights

First Lutheran Council and Concordia Lutheran Council met for a joint council meeting on March 4, 2024. Present were Vickie Sands, Pastor Deb Hammer, Gloria Dowling, Katie Olesen, Lyle Carlson, Denise Hingst, Pam Anderson, Peg Lutt, Mandy Bruning, Dustin Thompson, Dan Nolte, and Zach Harder.

Opening prayer by all.

New council members introduced.

Election of officers was held. Officers for 2024 are President-Katie Olesen, Vice President-Vickie Sands, and Secretary-Pam Anderson.

Pastor's report was discussed.

Secretary's minutes from December 11, 2023 were read and approved.

Old Business:

Lenten offerings will be given to Dana Village.

New Business:

Pastor will be gone on March 10 and 13.

The organizers for Faith and Family night at the Dixon County Fair sent information to each church asking for donations. Each council will discuss at their next individual meetings.

Leadership training for council members is being offered online on April 13 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Motion to adjourn was made by Vickie and seconded by Lyle.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Anderson, Secretary

Next joint meeting will be June 12, 2024 at Concordia. FLC council will meet at 5:30 PM, joint at 6:30 PM, and CLC council at 7:30 PM.