



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

July 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.

Sunrise Worship Service at the Dixon County Fairgrounds, Concord, at 8:00 a.m., July 15th. The **Dixon County 4-H Jr. Leaders** will be serving omelets from 8:00-11:00 a.m. Free Will Donation. Proceeds to help pay for college scholarships & leadership training experiences.

CLC's Ice Cream Social will be held on July 20th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Outdoor Worship Service on July 27th at First Lutheran Church at 8:30 a.m. and Concordia Lutheran Church at 10:15 a.m. Bring your lawn chairs.

FLC's Annual Church Picnic will be held on July 27th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the church basement. Sign up for desserts/salads on table at back of sanctuary.

FLC Farmer's Market will be held in August.
Tentative Dates: August 9, 16, & 23

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
Betty Bothwell

*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

Gretchen Dietrich
Fern Erickson
Brad Erwin
Jason & Amanda Fischer;
Mitchell, Kolton, Lane
Rich & Leila Fischer

First Lutheran Members

Jay & Shelly Jones; Brogan
Faith Keil
Heidi Keil; Wyatt, Cheyenne
Steve Keil; Wyatt, Cheyenne
Bonnie Kellogg

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	Gloria Dowling	Ron Harder & Melvin Vanderheiden
Acolytes		7/6 Ryker Settje 7/13 Bently Nolte 7/20 Presley Bruning 7/27 Emry Nolte
Lay Readers	Gloria Dowling	Peg Lutt
Communion Steward	Vickie Sands	Warren Hanson
Altar Guild	Jerry & Donna Schroeder	Peg Lutt
Altar Flowers		Peg Lutt
Power Point		
Coffee after Service	7/6 Karen & Jerry Smith 7/13 Jerry & Donna Schroder 7/20 Gloria Dowling 7/27 Gloria Dowling	



Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary First

7/2 Cheyenne Keil
7/8 Ann Carr
7/19 Clarice Johnson
7/25 Greg Carr
7/28 Tom Osbahr
7/30 Tom & Bea Osbahr
7/31 Noah Carr

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary Concordia

7/5 Dawn Addison-Corbit
7/12 Danita Hanson
7/18 Terry & Peg Lutt
7/27 Lee & Joyce Johnson
7/31 Ron & Marilyn Harder

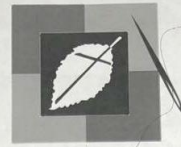


Women of the ELCA Saved To Serve Opportunity Retreat Mosaic/Beatrice

Tangible Offering taken through August 3, 2025
(Event from August 8-10, 20)

Tangibles being collected:

Large hole beads	Crosses with large hole for bead work
1/8" satin ribbon	Ty Beanie Babies or other small stuffed animals
Fun Pillowcases	Terrycloth shower mitten



Carol Joy Holling Camp, Conference & Retreat Center

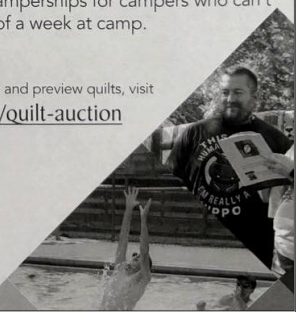
Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 26, 2025

Plan to join us for the 37th annual Quilt Auction!

It's a day filled with good food, great fun, and hundreds of beautiful quilts! Help us provide Camperships for campers who can't afford the full cost of a week at camp.

To view the schedule and preview quilts, visit
NLOM.org/quilt-auction



First Lutheran Annual Picnic

July 27, 2025
4-6 pm

Church
Picnic



Concordia

Pie & Ice Cream

Social

July 20, 2025
5-7 pm





2025 Saved To Serve Opportunity Retreat Mosaic/Beatrice



Friday, August 8, 6:00 p.m. to Sunday, August 10, 1:00 p.m.

Learn about Mosaic's program and spend time with Mosaic's clients

Spend time with your Sisters in Christ, make new friends, and renew continuing friendships as we have a fun weekend in Beatrice at the Mosaic facility. Come join us to learn about Mosaic new and existing programs. Hear from individuals sharing their stories. The weekend will also include devotions, Bingo, bell ringing, sing-a-longs with Karaoke, jokes, a picnic, jewelry making, a tour of the campus, worship will be held in the Mosaic Chapel, the closing group hug, and of course, food.

Individuals, churches and women's units are encouraged to participate by collecting and bringing items for the tangible offering.

Tangible items being collected:

Large hole beads, crosses, 1/8" satin ribbon, Ty or other small staff animals, terrycloth shower mitten, and fun pillowcases

Registered attendees will receive a letter or email with more information. For answers to retreat questions, contact Mary Mayfield, call 402-778-0291, or text 402-660-9450; or Donna Bentjen, 402-429-0745.

Saved to Served 2025 August Event Registration Form

Name			
Address			
City	State + Zip		
Phone	E-mail		
Congregation/City	Conference		
Special Needs			

Registration Deadline: Friday, August 1, 2025

Send form and \$39.00 payment to: Julie Reiser, NSWO Treasurer
Check payable to: NSWO
PO Box 64
Butte, NE 68722
nsw.treasurer@gmail.com

Registration fee is transferable for one-year, not refundable



The ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the primary decision-making body of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, is a process of communal spiritual discernment. When the ELCA Churchwide Assembly convenes, its voting members meet with confidence in God's grace around word and water, wine and bread, to carry on their work on behalf of the entire church.

For the Life of the World

The first Council of Nicaea was convened 1,700 years ago, beginning the process of setting forth Christian convictions in what we know today as the Nicene Creed. The creed proclaims the life-giving truth of the triune God and our steadfast faith in Jesus Christ "for ... the life of the world to come." These convictions continue to live and breathe among us in word and sacrament.

Early in her tenure, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton set forth her own convictions to guide the members of the ELCA in understanding our unique identity, and these convictions have become a recognized way of articulating who we are:

- We are church.
- We are Lutheran.
- We are church together.
- We are church for the sake of the world.

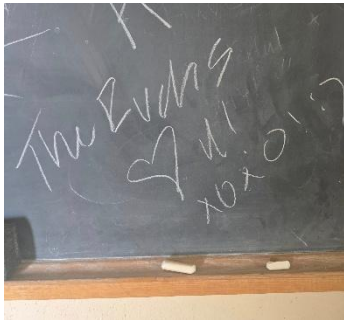
We recognize the wisdom of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who said, "The church is the church only when it exists for others." Our constitution's "Statement of Purpose" boldly proclaims this commitment to be a people "called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world."

Bishop Eaton will finish her second term as presiding Bishop in 2025. A new bishop will be called to serve and lead our church forward.

Gracious and loving God, as we enter this time of discernment and transition, send your Holy Spirit to guide us. Grant us wisdom, patience, and clarity of heart as we seek a bishop who will lead with compassion, courage, and vision. Bless those entrusted with this holy work —may they listen deeply to your voice and to your people. Prepare the heart of our next bishop, that they may respond with joy and faithfulness to your call to lead your people in this place. We ask through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Concordia Lutheran Church Celebrated 140th Anniversary





Allen Community VBS



NE Synod Assembly



Ministry Opportunities

CLC Council Meeting— July 7th at 5:30 p.m.

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

Mutual Ministry – July 15th at CLC at 4:30 p.m.

CLC Ice Cream Social – July 20th from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Newsletter Deadline – July 21st

Outdoor Worship at FLC & CLC – July 27th

FLC Church Picnic – July 27th from 4:00-6:00 p.m.



Dairy Cow Fund for Women in

Kotela Parish in Tanzania

The dairy cow project for Kotela women and youth is a great way for women to support themselves and their families. The milk market is currently very good in Tanzania. A dairy cow will cost \$80. The cow would be gifted to mothers for a milk supply and to teach them how to raise the cows. The women would learn how to care for the cow and then breed the cow for future milk supply. The first female cow would then be gifted to another mother in need with the intention of paying the gift forward.

Pastor Deb Hammer is raising funds to purchase cows in honor of the 25th anniversary of the partnership between Our Savior Lutheran Church/ Nebraska Synod & Kotela Parish of Northern Diocese/Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

Donations can be given to Concordia Lutheran Church or First Lutheran Church, designated for the Cow Fund. **A donation box will be in the back of the church for this JULY/AUGUST Mission Project.**

I would like to sincerely thank everyone that has already given so graciously to this project.



Bible Readings

July 6th

Isaiah 66:1-14

Psalms 66:1-9

Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 13th

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Psalms 25:1-10

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

July 20th

Genesis 18:1-10a

Psalms 15

Colossians 1:15-28

Luke 10:38-42

July 27th

Genesis 18:20-32

Psalms 138

Colossians 2:6-15[16-19]

Luke 11:1-13

HAPPY JULY!!

Dear Beloved Church Family,

At Synod Assembly this last month, we celebrated being church together through imagination.

Imagine, imagine, imagine.

Why three? Because often it takes more than one spark of vision to awaken the soul. One “imagine” starts the dream. Two “imagines” helps us believe it’s possible. And the third? That’s where faith steps in and walks with us into God’s unfolding story.

Imagine Summer Blessings.

July has arrived — long days filled with sunshine, laughter, gardens in bloom, and a bit of that slower summer rhythm we all welcome. It’s a season that invites us to rest, to reflect, and to *imagine*. Yes, **imagine**. Imagine what God might be stirring in your heart. Imagine what healing and wholeness could look like in your life, in our church, in our world. Imagine the Spirit moving in fresh and unexpected ways — not just someday, but *this summer*.

The summer months give us space to dream. The worries of winter fade, and the busyness of the fall hasn’t quite begun. This is sacred time — a season of **blessing** and possibility. And God often speaks most clearly when we slow down enough to listen.

I encourage you to take a walk and pray. Sit under a tree and imagine. Let’s imagine with holy boldness. Let’s imagine with open hearts. Let’s imagine with the same creativity that our Creator used in forming the stars, the oceans, and each of us.

Laugh with your family and friends and be reminded of joy. Look around you and name the beauty that God has already planted — and then imagine what’s still to come. May this summer be more than just a season. May it be a time of **renewal**, of **vision**, of **sacred imagination**. And may you receive the blessing of rest, joy, and holy wonder.

I leave you with the words of Isaiah 43:19:
"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

With summer blessings and hope,

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 June 2, 2025. Present were Lyle Carlson, Gloria Dowling, Pastor Deb Hammer, Katie Olesen, Rod Ketelsen, and Vickie Sands.

*Opening prayer by all.

*Secretary's report for May was read and approved.

Treasurer's report was unavailable but we went over the highlights for April and May.

Property Items:

- Air conditioner is installed.
- Roof repair is paid.
- We need to see about getting the ceiling fixed in the hallway above the ramp and in the upstairs bathroom.
- Our flower cooler is not working. We are considering purchasing a beverage refrigerator to replace it. We may put it upstairs, depending on the availability of an outlet to plug it in.

Old Business:

- There will be a community worship service in conjunction with Allen Days. The service will be at 8:30 AM on June 15 in the parking lot of the Methodist Church.
- Vacation Bible School will be held with the Methodist Church. It will be June 11-12 from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM at the Methodist Church.

New Business:

- First Lutheran's annual picnic will be held in the basement of the church from 4:00-6:00 PM on July 27. Council will provide the meat, buns, drinks, and tableware. Congregation will be asked to bring a salad or a dessert.
- We will have an outdoor service in our parking lot on July 27 at our regular service time of 8:30 AM
- If we have enough volunteers for baked goods, we will be having a bake sale at the Countryside gas station from 8:00-10:00 on June 14 in conjunction with Allen Days and the swap meet.
- Farmer's Market/Bake sale dates will be August 9, 16, and 23 from 8:00-10:00 at the Countryside gas station.
- A motion was made and approved to donate \$100.00 to Lutheran Campus Ministry.

Gloria made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Lyle.

Closing prayer by all following the joint meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

Next meeting will be July 7, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Concordia Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

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

The monthly council meeting for Concordia Lutheran Church was held in the basement of Concordia on June 2, 2025. The Call to Order was approximately 6:58 pm. Present Council Members included: Pastor Deb Hammer, Kenny Steinle, Zach Harder, Mandy Bruning & Peg Lutt.

The meeting began with reviews and discussions of the Pastor Report, Secretary Report, and Financial Reports. Reports were approved.

Peg informed council that we are halfway through the year and that good progression continues on completing the council goals. Discussion on making a contribution to Camp Carol Joy Holling "Sustaining Sacred Spaces" program. Donations would go towards cleaning out and restocking the lake and help with storm shelters.

Old Business:

The final plans and preparations were made for the 140-year anniversary celebration. Food & Drinks are taken care of. The Wayne Herald ran a story in this week's paper. Grant will have power point presentation set up. A motion to approve the \$72 to Wayne Herald/Morning Shopper for the 140th Anniversary & \$148 to Zach Harder for Beef/Taverns was approved.

Outdoor service will be Jun 29th. Steinle Baptism will be that day as well. Weather permitting

A motion was approved to donate \$140 in honor of our 140th Anniversary to go towards Pastor's goal of purchasing cows for Kotela Parish in Tanzania. Kotela is Sister Parish to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Wayne. The cost is \$80 per cow.

New Business:

Kenny is working on getting estimates to repair the siding on the south side of the church and for the 2 windows on the east side that are leaking

A suggestion was made to have a family movie night outside @ church some night to raise money for Cows in Tanzania.

Council extended an invitation to First Lutheran to join us for the 140th anniversary.

Next meeting is July 7th at 5:30.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:25 followed by the Closing Prayer.

Joint Council Meeting Highlights

First Lutheran Council and Concordia Lutheran Council met for a joint council meeting on June 2, 2025 at Concordia Lutheran Church. Present were Vickie Sands, Pastor Deb Hammer, Gloria Dowling, Katie Olesen, Lyle Carlson, Rod Ketelsen, Peg Lutt, Kenny Steinle, Mandy Bruning, and Zach Harder.

Secretary's report for the March joint meeting was read and approved.

Pastor's report was read and discussed.

Old Business:

A joint service will be held at Concordia on August 24 at 10:15. Our guest speaker will be Roxanne Fox from the Norfolk Rescue Mission. A free will meal will be served after the service, with the proceeds going to the Norfolk Rescue Mission.

New Business:

Concordia will be holding a service to mark their 140th year anniversary on June 8 at 10:15. Everyone is invited to attend. A meal will be served after the service.

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

Closing prayer by all.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

Next joint meeting will be September 8, 2025 at First. CLC council will meet at 5:30 PM, joint at 6:30 PM, and FLC council at 7:30 PM.