



# PARISH PARTYLINE

## Concordia Lutheran & First Lutheran

February 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.

**Food Pantry Challenge** – The winner of the trophy is Concordia!

FLC had 276 lbs. + \$343 = \$619  
CLC had 109 lbs. + \$1120 = \$1229



**CLC Parsonage Driveway Repair Fund** – Thank you for your donations. We have raised \$9,600 so far. If you wish to still contribute, please mark your offering specifically for the driveway project by writing on the memo line of your check. \$12,500 is needed for the repair.

**CLC Volunteer Sign Up** for teaching Children's Ministry on Wednesday nights is in the narthex on the table. Please consider signing up to teach K-6<sup>th</sup> grade from 6:30-7:30 pm.

**FLC WELCA** will have a meeting and Bible Study (Genesis 3:1-13) on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Hostess: Jean Morgan

**The Dixon County 4-H Jr. Leaders Soup Dinner & Raffle** is on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at the Dixon Community Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Serving chicken noodle soup, chili, dessert and drink for a Free Will Donation. Raffle tickets are for sale now until the drawing at 1 p.m. the day of the dinner. Proceeds go to college scholarships & CWF trip.

**FLC Soup Supper** will be held February 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:00 p.m. Serving Chili, Oyster Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, and Beef Barley Soup along with sandwiches and desserts. Free Will Donation.

**Nebraska Synod Mission Trip** in Norman, Oklahoma from March 11-15<sup>th</sup>  
We're joining hands with [ROAD](#) (Recovering Oklahoma After Disaster), dedicating our time during the week of March 11-15<sup>th</sup> to help rebuild lives disrupted by disaster. We will be repairing homes affected by tornadoes. A trailer of tools will be provided for us. For any questions, feel free to reach out to Pastor Becky Beckmann at [beckybeckmann13@gmail.com](mailto:beckybeckmann13@gmail.com) or 402-841-1063.

**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.*

Nikki Nathan  
Paul Boyle  
Court Roberts

*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)

*We remember those serving  
in the armed forces.*

Chris Wordekemper  
Taylor Johnson

*Concordia Members*

Doris Nelson  
Dan & Shandi Nolte;  
Hunter, Easton, Bentley, & Emry  
Don Pearson  
Rick & Donna Peterson; Cory  
Justin & Corrine Reifenrath;  
Ava

*First Lutheran Members*

Brian & Katie Sullivan;  
Cheyenne, Jolene  
Rex Wheeler  
Paul & Tina Boyle  
Lyle & Jean Carlson  
Diane Carr

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
<b>Ushers &amp; Greeters</b>	Scott & Jean Morgan	Dustin & Tanner Thompson
<b>Acolytes</b>		2/4 Lane Fischer 2/11 Kolten Settje 2/18 Ava Reifenrath 2/25 Harper Bruning
<b>Lay Readers</b>	Jean Carlson	Peg Anderson
<b>Communion Steward</b>	Gloria Dowling	Peg Lutt
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Karen Claussen Smith	Alissa Thompson, Trish Reifenrath, Andrea Johnson, Brandi Settje
<b>Altar Flowers</b>		Lynette Krie
<b>Power Point</b>	Barb Sands	
<b>Coffee after Service</b>	2/4 Jerry & Donna Schroeder 2/11 Scott & Jean Morgan 2/18 Lyle & Jean Carlson 2/25 Tom & Vickie Sands	



## Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary Concordia

2/3 Warren Hanson  
2/9 Alissa Thompson  
2/11 Izac Reifenrath  
2/14 Hart Vollers  
2/18 JoAnn Hauptmann  
2/19 Carolyn Alt  
2/19 Bentley Nolte  
2/28 Katrina Peterson

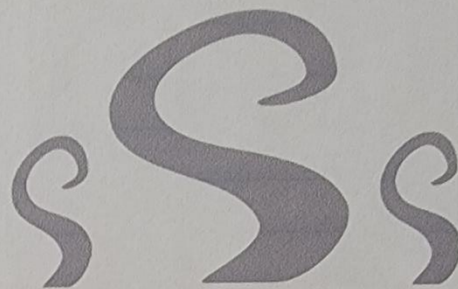
## Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary First

2/1 Loren Carr  
2/8 Jean Morgan  
2/9 Tristan Connell  
2/12 Jean Carlson  
2/12 Scott & Jean Morgan  
2/12 Gerald & Barb Sands  
2/14 Court & Darlene Roberts  
2/15 Rett Hingst

# Annual Soup Supper

First Lutheran of Allen

**February 25<sup>TH</sup>**



**Serving times:**

**4:30-7:00**

**DINE-IN or CURBSIDE ORDER/PICK UP**



**Serving:** Soup, Sandwiches, Desserts



**CHILI**



**CHICKEN NOODLE**



**OYSTER**



**BEEF BARLEY**

**\*Local Deliver available** CALL 635-2461



**FREE WILL DONATION**

*\*Snow Date-March 2<sup>nd</sup>*

# LENT 2024

## Take Your Shoes Off, We Are Standing on Holy Ground!

This Lent, let us remember we are called to love and serve one another.

Feb 14 - Ash Wednesday @ FLC

Feb 21 - Lent 1 @ CLC\*

Feb 28 - Lent 2 @ FLC\*

Mar 6 - Lent 3 @ CLC\*

Mar 13 - Lent 4 @ FLC\*

Mar 20 - Lent 5 @ CLC\*

Mar 28 - Maundy Thursday @ FLC\*

Mar 29 - Good Friday @ CLC\*

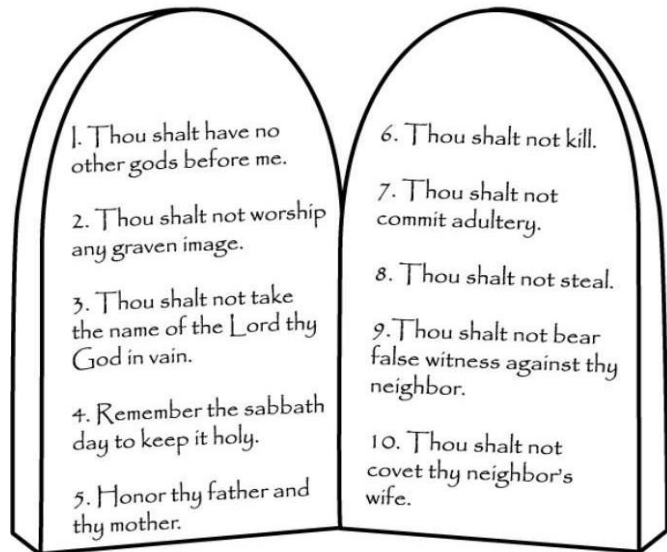
Mar 31 - Easter Sunday

7:30 a.m. @ CLC

10:15 a.m. @ FLC

*\*Lenten Service will be held at 7:00 p.m.*

## The 10 Commandments



**From Angel Share to Lutheran Family Services:** Launched on the 140-year-old Dana College campus in 2021, the Angel Share project has already proven wildly successful with its current tenants – all of whom have aged out of the foster care system and are working and paying their own rent. Lutheran Family Services (LFS) is moving the campus to the next level. Early in 2024, LFS will open 61 more apartment units on site. During Lent, let us show our love by collecting items for Dana Village.



Donations to help tenants aging out of foster care:

Please, New Items Only!

- Brooms
- Mops & Buckets
- Dish Soap, Sponges
- Laundry Detergent
- Toilet Brushes
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Laundry Detergent
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Trash Bags
- Paper Towels
- Hand Soap

Dear Concordia Lutheran,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Ministerial Association. Your continued support helps us to share God's love to those who need a little extra on occasion.

Thank you again.

The Ministerial Association



To my church family,  
My heart is full and I wish to share my heartfelt appreciation for all your kind words, cards, and gifts during the celebration of Christmas!

I am always in awe and forever grateful for your support, kindness and love!

Peace and Good Will to All,

Love Pastor Deb

Concordia Lutheran Church Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, support at college buses throughout my college years. It was all greatly appreciated!

Thanks, Izac Reitenrath

Thank You

Season's Greetings

AND BEST WISHES FOR A  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Thank you for providing entertainment at the facility for the Christmas party and through out the year.

Amanda & Ade!

Nilbret Care Center and Assisted Living

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Thank you for your gift of \$200.00 to ReconcilingWorks! We are so grateful for your engagement and support. Your contribution makes it possible for us to continue expanding the authentic welcome, acceptance and

full participation of all God's beloved children in the Lutheran Church.

Thank you again and we hope you have a wonderful day!

Blessings!

Jojo Stunk, Administrative Assistant

NLOM  
Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

Carol Joy Holling Camp, Conference & Retreat Center, Ashland • Sullivan Hills Camp, Lodgepole

December 29, 2023

Concordia Lutheran Church  
PO Box 86  
Concord, NE 68728-0086

Dear Friends,

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for bringing Faith: Alive! for our camper! Your gift of \$243.75 (NE Synod Check #61613, dated 12/15/2023) helps bridge the gap and subsidize the cost of each and every camper. We are incredibly thankful YOU stand by our long-time promise that we will not turn away a camper for their family's inability to pay the camp fee.

"Thank you so much for this opportunity," an elementary camper parent shared with us. "I grew up going to church camp every summer through my congregation and the memories I made along with strengthening my walk in faith as a kid are priceless. I feel very blessed, and I know it's because of the generosity of others that my girls can come to a camp center around God's word."

Campers spend their time at camp studying the Bible, participating in team-building activities, and exploring God's creation. Our campers develop lasting faith, with many campers growing to become Summer Ministry Team members, and some deepening their faith further by going into seminary.

For building a bridge and making camp possible - thank you! May God bless you and your family this holiday season.

Happy New Year,

Dennis Remington

Development Associate

# Ministry Opportunities

**FLC Council Meeting** – February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**CLC Children's Ministry** – February 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 -7:30 p.m.

**Confirmation Class** – February 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 -7:30 p.m.

**CLC Choir Practice** – February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**CLC Council Meeting** – February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**FLC WELCA** – February 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

**Ash Wednesday Service** – February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at FLC

**Newsletter Deadline** – February 19<sup>th</sup>

**Lenten Worship** – February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at CLC

**FLC Soup Supper** – February 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:00 p.m.

**Lenten Worship** – February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at FLC

LUMIN—the Lutheran Campus Ministry for the ELCA—is restarting at Wayne State this spring semester under the leadership of Pastor Jim Holthus. If you have a Wayne State student in your family or know of one, please let them know. We have a website/Facebook group on the Wayne State website (<https://www.facebook.com/WSCLuMin>) that we will keep updated with various events. We are also going to form a Wayne State Local Governing Board composed of adults from various churches in our area who have connections to the college—possibly currently working there in some capacity or an alumni of Wayne State or simply an interest in what we're trying to do. Please reach out to me if you or someone you know might be interested! THANKS SO MUCH, Pastor Jim Holthus



NEBRASKA

**LUTHERAN  
CAMPUS MINISTRY**



# Pastor's Article

*Exodus 3:5, "Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."*

During his encounter with God, Moses was told not to come closer, but first to remove the sandals from his feet. This command by God to Moses was to inform him that he had moved from finite time to divine time.

As Moses was shepherding the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, he encountered a burning bush and decided to turn aside to see why it was not consumed. Moses was summoned into sacred space where he was transformed from a tender of flocks in a field to a liberator of people. We too are summoned during this season of lent to pay attention to the burning bushes in our lives. Where do we notice God in our lives? Where do we find sacred space?

In what ways are we being summoned by God to remove the shoes from our feet? Perhaps God is calling us to renounce the false claims made on us by the world that we accepted - wittingly or unwittingly - that have never served us. It was when Moses turned aside that God called him to something new, something else, and something better. The process was not without questions or struggle. This unknown space can create feelings of uncertainty and self-doubt, but this is the best place for transformation to occur in our lives.

We are molded by God for what is ahead. We celebrate past experiences, and we are called to re-imagine church for our future. During this season of lent, may we experience greater clarity and deeper commitment to follow our Lord and Christ sacrificially and faithfully. Let us take our shoes off for we are standing on holy ground.

Grace and Peace, *Pastor Deb*



## GO AND...

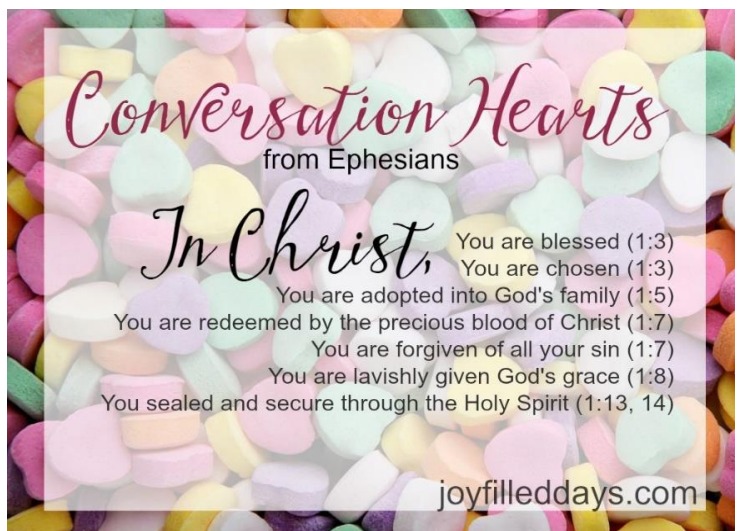
### HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Conversation is an exchange involving active listening as well as taking turns sharing ideas and stories. It can be easy for us to fall into monologuing, lecturing, or tuning out especially when we think we know the answers. As a result, we often avoid having difficult conversations. Faith-filled disciples are called to be honest and engage with each other in Christ-like love.

#### Questions to consider:

- What is your prayer as you consider engaging in a hard conversation?
- When was a time you had a hard conversation? What did it feel like? What did you learn from it?
- What is the conversation that you need to GO have and with whom?

**Prayer:** Engaging God, who is not afraid of any conversation, give me the words, wisdom, and heart to join in difficult conversations. Amen.



# **First Lutheran Council Meeting Highlights**

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

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First Lutheran Council met on January 3, 2024. Present were Pastor Deb Hammer, Katie Olesen, Gloria Dowling, Lyle Carlson, Greg Carr, Richie Monteith, and Vickie Sands.

Pastor's report was read and discussed.

Secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

## **Property Items:**

- We received a questionnaire from the city wanting to know what kind of pipes the church had. They are recommending that all lead pipes be replaced. Richie and Pastor Deb filled it out.

## **Old Business:**

- We decided on a cabinet to order for the upstairs altar guild communion station.
- We still have no people who are willing to serve on the council. Gloria volunteered to attend the Synod Assembly on June 1-2. We would like to have another person attend.
- We went over the budget for 2024 a final time.
- Reports for annual meeting due by January 15.
- We wrote the council goals for 2024.
- We finalized dates for certain activities for 2024.

## **New Business:**

- Richie received a bid for new LED lights in the basement which will be presented to the congregation for a vote at the annual meeting.

Closing prayer by all.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

**Next meeting will be February 5, 2024 at 7:00 PM.**



# Concordia Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

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

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After two weeks of weather delays, the monthly meeting of the Concordia Council met January 21, 2024 immediately after worship service. Present: Pastor Deb, Peg Lutt, Zach Harder, Dan Nolte, Dustin Thompson, Mandy Bruning and Pam Anderson. Judy Martindale was present for the Financial Secretary's Report and copies were available for the Treasurer's Report.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the December reports for Pastor, the Financials, Minutes, and the Treasurer's January payments. Motion passed.

## **Old Business:**

The church sign has been updated. Thank you to Dan Nolte and his family for this donation.

Stanley Steamers will be meeting with Zach to set up cleaning the basement carpet.

The leak in the Parsonage basement was a broken water/sewer main. Repairs and cleaning bills were submitted to the insurance company, and a check to cover all expenses was deposited.

## **New Business:**

A motion was made by Zach and seconded by Dustin to accept the 2024 Budget recommendation, which will be presented at our Annual Meeting on January 28. All were in agreement.

A motion was made and seconded to have the Annual Meeting Minutes approved at the February Council meeting.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 7 at 7:30.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Anderson