

# The Light

*In the heart of the city, with a heart for all in the city.*

November 16, 2011

## Looking Ahead...

### Advent and Christmas at First Lutheran

At the end of November, our culture far too often jumps with both feet into Christmas, missing entirely the beginning of a new liturgical year as we enter Advent. This month of waiting, hoping, and wondering in the dark prepares us to truly enjoy the light of life that Christmas brings.

We have *many* happenings here at First Lutheran in the month of Advent to guide and prepare you for the joy to come.

#### Start with Decorating!

We will start preparing the Worship space for Advent by hanging our decorations! On Wednesday, November 23 we will start around 9 a.m. putting up the Christmas trees and the blue Advent banners. If you are available to help for an hour or so, that would be great. Questions? Contact Marita Wolgast in the church office.

#### Wednesday Evening Services

At 6:00 p.m. starting November 30, and each Wednesday in December leading up to Christmas, we will have a service using the Holden Evening Prayer.

#### Lunch in the Loft

**Wednesdays, November 30, December 7, and 14 at 12:05 p.m. in the Balcony,** we will hold our 16th Annual *Lunch in the Loft* concert series. These concerts features area organists and instrumentalists playing seasonal music. Our musician line-up will be:

**Nov. 30:** Robin Wagner, Organist at Eden United Church of Christ & member of First Lutheran

**Dec. 8:** Jan Cuffel, Organist Emeritus at First Presbyterian Church

**Dec. 15:** Brett & Marita Wolgast

Bring your favorite take-out or brown bag lunch and enjoy beautiful Advent/Christmas music.

#### Walk the Labyrinth

Each Wednesday that there is a *Lunch in the Loft* concert, we will also be setting up a labyrinth to walk in prayer in the Chapel from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For details on this, please see the article on page 6.

#### Choir Cantata

**Sunday, December 18** at the 8 & 9:30 a.m. worship services, the Adult Choir, present portions of the Christmas Oratorio by Sebastian Bach.

#### The Music of Christmas

**On Sunday, December 18th at 3:30 p.m.** the Children's Christmas Program, *The Music of Christmas*, will be presented. All are welcome to come and enjoy the show; details for families can be found on page 4.

#### Christmas & New Years' Worship

Because Christmas lands on a Sunday this year, we will be changing our weekend worship schedule as well. Here is the listing of our services for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day & New Years.

#### Christmas Eve

3p.m. - Childrens Service  
5p.m. - Contemporary Service  
7 & 9 p.m. Traditional Services

#### Christmas Day

One service only: 9:30 a.m.

#### New Years'

December 31: 5 p.m. Saturday Service.  
January 1: one service only at 9:30 a.m.

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## We received word

that former First Lutheran pastor George Carlson passed away Sunday, November 13.

If you remember them and would like to send condolences to his wife, Marlys, her address is:

1274 Law St.  
San Diego, CA 92109

## Winter Weather Cancellations

As much as we like to avoid the topic, last weeks brief slush led us to believe we should once again publish our “Winter Weather” guidelines.

It is our policy to cancel Confirmation and children’s choir rehearsal on Wednesday if Cedar Rapids schools are closed or dismiss early due to weather. All other groups, events or services, will meet as scheduled. Use your best judgment. If you don’t feel safe going out in inclement weather, stay home. We understand, and so does God.

If there are additional cancellations, we will also post them at the top of our website, or you can call the church office to be updated.

## First Lutheran Church In the heart of the city, with a heart for all in the city

Last Sunday, November 13, Pastor Steve Knudtson shared with the congregation what he sees is God’s unique calling for our congregation. If you were unable to join us and hear this vision directly, we encourage you to visit [firstlutherancr.org](http://firstlutherancr.org) and view the recorded video.

To illustrate how the combined mission of the congregation can play out in the personal life and faith of our members, we have gathered a few stories from members, like this one from Melissa Hines:

*“When I was a little girl, I would see my mom put money in the offering plate nearly every Sunday and I would wonder why she gave so much.... [When] I became a member of First Lutheran ... I started giving \$20 here or there, but never committed to give a monthly pledge. Then, nearly three years ago, my life collapsed around me. After five years of marriage, I separated from my husband; I was getting a divorce and suddenly a single mom. Attending church at First Lutheran brought me peace. I love to give to First Lutheran because the worship is uplifting, the people are welcoming, and our congregation does so much good work in the community! I like knowing that I am helping others through our church.”*

To read Melissa’s complete story, as well those of several other members, visit [firstlutherancr.org](http://firstlutherancr.org) and click the link in the right-hand column. We hope you read all of the stories there and can be encouraged by the hope and growth you’ve helped provide.

We also hope you can join us this weekend at all worship services to celebrate all that God is doing at First Lutheran Church in the Heart of the City. Please bring the 2012 commitment cards you have recently received to be presented during worship, and be sure to grab a special “Heart of the City” treat before or after worship as well.

## Alternative Gift Market



Looking for a truly unique gift this season? Find a solution at the Alternative Gift Market on Saturday, December 3, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Coe College is hosting the event again this year at Gage Memorial Union along College Drive NE.

Everyone can celebrate the true spirit of the holidays with gifts that inspire change through humanitarian and environmental causes. At the market, shoppers can visit informative displays about the local and worldwide projects and purchase items for those causes. Then they receive holiday cards for friends and relatives, informing them that an alternative gift has been given in their honor. Fair trade items from the SERRV Store and products from Catherine McAuley Center will be for sale as well.

If you have questions, please visit [www.agmcr.com](http://www.agmcr.com) or contact Kandy Sands at 213-3388.

## Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Join us for the annual Inter-Religious Council of Linn County Thanksgiving Service on Monday, November 21 at 7 p.m. in Peoples Church, 4980 Gordon Ave. NW. Enjoy music by the Mercy College Bell Choir and the Peoples Church Choir, combined with choral voices from other faith communities. We will share prayers/readings from the Baha’i, Christian, Unitarian Universalist, Jewish, Buddhist, Islamic, Hindu, and Orthodox Christian faith communities.

Please bring non-perishable food and canned items for the Linn Community Food Bank. The worship offering collected will also go to the Linn Community Food Bank. Snacks will be served after the service.

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## Keenager's Luncheon

Our Senior Adult Ministry Team invites members and friends age 60 and older to join them in the LFC for the next Keenager's Luncheon on Thursday, December 8, at 12 noon. For our program we will be hearing the sounds of Christmas via accordion! Our menu will include baked ham w/pineapple, scalloped potatoes, green beans and christmas cake.

Looking ahead to January 12, 2012, we will be playing Bingo and our menu will be beef stroganoff, 7-layer salad, rolls, and apple crisp with Cool-Whip!

Reservations or cancellations for the \$5 lunch are required by 11 a.m. on Wednesday before each Thursday luncheon. Rides are available.

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## Adult Education

### Everything I (should have) learned in Confirmation

**Sunday, November 20, 27 and December 11**

**9:30 and 10:45 a.m. in the Chapel**

led by Brian Middleswarth, Director of Teen Ministry

Do you recall what you learned in Confirmation? Did you participate in Confirmation growing up? Whether you've been through it before, would like a refresher, or haven't the foggiest idea what this Confirmation thing is, join us during November and December for a refresher on that most Lutheran of institutions, Confirmation. It's not as bad as you remember, we promise!

### Nativity – Sunday, December 4 at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel

led by Marcie Watson, Director of Spiritual Transformation

After the cross, the Nativity scene is Christianity's most recognized symbol. Its history, art and spirituality have been embraced by cultures around the world for nearly 2,000 years. Join Marcie Watson to learn more about the symbolism and art within these scenes through the captivating dvd Nativity followed by conversation about the meaning we find in that most Christian of symbols. We are also encouraging those who are willing to bring in their own Nativity scenes for this class, which we believe you will see with new eyes when we are done.

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## Tanzania Well Project Update

The first contribution of \$25,000 (which converts to 44 million Tanzanian Shillings) has been received in Tanzania! The first portion of these funds will be used for filing government paperwork and securing the contractor to start the drilling process about two weeks from now. Watch for more updates as we receive progress reports!



## Ladies' Night Out

Ladies Night Out will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, November 28 at Papa Juans's, 5505 Center Point Rd. NE. They have both a Mexican and an Italian menu, so you're sure to find something that will suite your taste buds!

This group is open to all ladies of the church—if you've never joined us you are cordially invited to come and check us out! If you can join us, please call Lori Nietert at 373-1412.

## Bridge Marathon

Bridge Players! Time to count your Aces and get the kids off the street!

The First Lutheran Bridge group will meet on Sunday, November 20 at 1:30 p.m. in the Garden Room at Blair House.

If you would like to join the group for a fun afternoon of cards and fellowship; please call Karen Kral at 363-9441.

## Parents' Day Out: Saturday, Dec. 10 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Just in time for your holiday shopping (or when you need a break from it), Parents' Day Out is back on Saturday, December 10 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

You may bring your child(ren) to church at 9 a.m. and then you are free to do some holiday shopping, go on a date with your spouse, or just relax with the newspaper and a cup of coffee child-free for four hours!

We'll be having fun playing games, making holiday crafts, eating a pizza lunch and seeing a holiday movie!

Register early either by emailing or calling Marissa in the church office at 365-1494 x.115, or by signing up on the Children and Family page of the FLC website. Registrations are due on Sunday, December 4. There is also a suggested donation of \$10/child for this event.

## A Great BIG "Thank You" For Trunk-or-Treat!

The Children and Family Ministries Team would like to say a great big "Thank You" to everyone who helped make Trunk-or-Treat such a HUGE success! We had 800 neighborhood children and their families attend in the parking lot at St. Paul's UMC, just up the street. We had loads of candy and TONS of fun! Thank you for your generous donations of time, support, and, of course, CANDY!

## Plan Ahead for Christmas Events! Children's Christmas Program, *The Music of Christmas*, Sunday, December 18, 3:30 p.m.\*

*\*A required rehearsal for all participants is Saturday, December 17th from 9-10:30AM.*

All children who participate in Preschool Sunday School and KidZone are welcome and invited to participate in the Christmas program. Children in Preschool - 4th grades are encouraged to wear holiday-inspired clothing or their church clothes, as we will not be providing costumes of any kind; 5th grade students with character lines will be costumed, but should still wear appropriate clothing underneath.

### Christmas Eve:

Join us on Christmas Eve at 3 p.m. for a family-friendly worship service! Our Family Christmas Eve service is geared toward young children, so don't miss it!

### Christmas Day:

If you didn't stay up too late waiting to catch a glimpse of Santa Claus, we invite you to join us for worship on Christmas morning at 9:30 a.m. There is *NO* Preschool Sunday School or KidZone this day, but we will have a fantastic Christmas Celebration service!

## Mark Your Calendars!

### November

**20th**, 5-7 p.m.: Family Advent Night in the LFC at First Lutheran

**27th**: **No Preschool Sunday School or KidZone!** *Happy Thanksgiving!*

### December

**10th**, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.: Parents' Day Out. Pre-registration is required!

**17th**, 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.: Children's Christmas Program **REQUIRED rehearsal.**

**18th**, 3:30 p.m.: Children's Christmas Program, *The Music of Christmas!*

**24th**, 3 p.m.: Family Christmas Eve service.

**25th**, 9:30 a.m.: Christmas Day worship.

**No Preschool Sunday School or KidZone. Merry Christmas!**

### January

**1st**: **No Preschool Sunday School or KidZone. Happy New Year!**



*A great crowd snaked its way past the lined-up trunks (above) and, a few of our High School youth helping out with the FLY trunk even found Waldo! (aka Stan Letscher!)*





## 2012 ELCA National Youth Gathering

Many thanks to all those who have supported our Youth and Adults attending the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering, in New Orleans, *citizens with the saints*, by buying stock in our group.

We have raised over \$2,000 so far of the \$14,000 that we need. Next month, we'll start introducing you to those who are attending the Gathering as well as beginning to tell you a little about the Gathering itself and what we will be doing there.

### **Gathering Youth!-**

Our next meeting is Sunday, December 11 immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service (12:15ish). We'll meet for about an hour.

### **FLY National Gathering Fundraiser: Sunday, December 18 following the Children's Program**

The Gathering participants will be supplying the refreshments following the Children's Christmas Program on Sunday, December 18. They will be taking free will donations to support their trip. So, please come to the program to support our Children's Ministry and stay to support our Youth!



## **FLY Holiday Party! Sunday, December 4**

**What?** The (sixth) annual FLY Holiday Party

**When?** 1:30-4:30 p.m.\* in the LFC

**Why?** For those children who are part of the Children of Promise program. All of these kids have at least one parent who is incarcerated.

**What?** We need our FLY participants to help set up and clean up, run the craft stations, cookie decorating, trinket walk, etc.

**How?** Sign up today on Facebook, on our website, in the narthex or contact Brian at 365-1494 .x.104 or [brianm@firstlutheran.org](mailto:brianm@firstlutheran.org).

\* The Children of Promise folks are there from 2-4 p.m. The time before and after is to help set-up and clean-up. If you can give us the whole time, great! If not, sign up to help anyway!

Help us make someone else's Christmas a little brighter! The head of this program contacted Brian in September to ask if we were doing this again, it is a big hit with their participants.

## **FLY Lock-in**

Eleven Youth and adults participated in our "Justice and Joy"-themed Lock-in. We started off our Justice portion by making cookies to take to the Willis Dady Emergency Shelter on 4th Ave.



Then we returned to take a harder look at poverty and its causes, especially here in Cedar Rapids. We closed that portion of the evening by posting all those things we are thankful for on the wall of the Youth Room.

Finally, we had fellowship time with a Spoons tournament, Sardines, and other games. After partaking in some Bacon Log on Saturday morning we were on our way.

## **A "FLY" Trunk-R-Treat**



*Many thanks to all those who helped with the FLY trunk at the Trunk-R-Treat event. We won "Best Pun" Trunk. I don't know why.*



*Prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ child with an*

## ADVENT LABYRINTH WALK

- November 30, 2011
- December 7, 2011
- December 14, 2011

*11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Chapel*

During the Advent (from *Adventus* or “coming”) season, you are invited to come away for an hour to walk the Labyrinth as a prayer walk. If you have never visited a Labyrinth before, don't worry. Unlike a maze there are no dead ends, and you cannot get lost. It has a single circuitous path winding to the center and the same path leads you out again. The path is in full view, which allows you to be quiet and internally focused. There is nothing magical about the labyrinth—it is not a newfangled technique to jump start your spiritual life—it is simply a prayer tool to help us focus our minds and hearts on God and on the lives we find ourselves in. During Advent, we might walk the Labyrinth as a way to think about the journey that the wise men made to the manger in Bethlehem all those years ago. You might walk “pregnant with hope” as you think about Mary and Joseph’s journey. Whatever the focus, an Advent Labyrinth Walk can help us prepare to make our own journey towards Christmas, and to prepare for the birth of the Christ child in our own way.

Advent Labyrinth Walks will be offered in the Chapel on three Wednesdays during Advent, November 30, and December 7 and 14, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. These dates coincide with First Lutheran’s Lunch In The Loft series and our first three Wednesday evening Advent worship services—come early or stay after the organ recital, stop by in the afternoon, or walk before the worship service. Marcie Watson, Director of Spiritual Transformation, will be available before and after your walk to answer any questions you may have, and to help you process your experience over coffee and cookies.

## Welcome to our newest members!

The families and individuals pictured here were officially welcomed into our First Lutheran Family during the 9:30 a.m. service on Sunday, November 6. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with their information so that you can share a welcoming greeting when you see them.



**Ben & Echo Guenther**  
4425 Beaver Hollow SE, C.R.

Ben enjoys traveling, and UNI sports. Echo likes skiing; both water and snow. Ben is the market president at Liberty Bank and Echo is the manager of their home.



**Peter Mator Sr.**  
2730 A Ave NE, Cedar Rapids

Peter works as a direct service provider for REM of Iowa. He enjoys being with other people.



**Roger & Jeri Lueders**  
7429 Idledale Rd NE, Cedar Rapids

Roger & Jeri are retired. Roger enjoys music and Nebraska football. Jeri likes reading and sewing.

# Confirmation News



## Confirmation Christmas Lock-in Friday, December 16, 4 p.m. - midnight



Need a little pre-holiday cheer? Then join us on Friday, December 16 from 4 p.m. until midnight for our 2011 Christmas Lock-in.

We'll play games, eat pizza, watch movies, and help bring a little Christmas cheer to those who need it. The sign-up sheet will be out starting December 4, or you can sign-up online

at our website. The cost for the event is \$5 (to cover the cost of supper). Parents! We need chaperons! If you cannot come the whole time we will be running two shifts, 4-8 p.m. and 8-12 p.m. Please contact Brian Middleswarth at 365-1494 X 104 or [brianm@firstlutherancr.org](mailto:brianm@firstlutherancr.org) or sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

### Schedule Reminder!!!

**Wed. Nov. 23 - NO CONFIRMATION**

**Wed. Nov. 30 - CONFIRMATION**

Parents, please remember that our schedule at the end of this month is different. We *will not* have Confirmation on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, but *will* have Confirmation on November 30 even though it is the last Wednesday of the month.

## Confirmation Community Nights

Community nights are where the Confirmation ministry breaks out of its usual mold. These evenings are a time for growing closer together, serving our neighbors in the heart of the city, having some fun together, or even getting one of our requirements done.



So far this year, the Confirmands have participated in a group building exercise with their small groups and, in October, they completed one of their requirements, a Faith Interview with a non-family member. Six First Lutheran members came and shared about their faith life and faith story with the Confirmands. These youth then wrote up these conversations as part of their requirements.



Community nights are one way that First Lutheran works to help grow our youth into well rounded adults of faith.



### Heidi Shaw, & Grady

Heidi is employed in Risk Management at Collins community Credit Union. She enjoys spending time with her family. Grady is 3 years old. Also pictured is their husband/father, Tony.



### James & Amy Clemons Chloe, Jagger & Jonah

150 Bear Creek Ct, Palo

James is a health & safety associate at International Paper, Amy is a stay at home mom and hairstylist. Cloe is in the 4th grade at Viola Gibson, Jagger is 4 and Jonah is 2. James enjoys golf, bowling and wrestling, and Amy likes boating.



### Josh & Sarah Wilson, Mackenzie (not pictured)

285 Valleyview Dr., Marion

Josh is a machinist at Kinze Mfg. Sarah is a member services representative with Principal. Mackenzie is two months old. Josh enjoys sports and Sara likes doing crafts.

# What Should Groups Be Aiming For?

## Biblical Examples of What a Small Group Does

Continued from 09.2011

**FOCUS ON:**  
**Center : Worship**

FLC's Discipleship Covenant states that,

*"With my life joyfully claimed by God and the gift of Holy Baptism, in unity with the mission, vision and values of First Lutheran Church, I commit myself, thorough the power of the Holy Spirit to:*

*Center my life in Jesus Christ in a lifestyle of worship.  
As I recognize the grace of God in my life, in gratitude I open myself to the experience of God's presence in worship.*

But, how does this apply to small groups? In Acts 2:43 (NIV), it says, "Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles." However, how can groups worship together?

- Have your group sit together during a worship service. This shared worship experience can help build unity in the group as well as offer accountability when it comes to church attendance.

## Connection Corner

Small Groups News & Upcoming Events



- Have someone read Isaiah 40:18-31 aloud. What aspects of God's greatness does this passage celebrate? Spend some time praising God for his greatness and majesty.
- The church is the body of Christ and the bride of Christ. While churches are far from perfect, God still loves his church, and so should we. As a group, make a list of things you love most about your church. Be specific. Spend time giving thanks to God for the items on your list.
- Don't Ask—Close a group meeting with a different kind of prayer time. Don't ask for a thing. Instead spend time praising and worshipping God, and offering prayers of thanksgiving.

Watch for the next article, which will continue to break down and give specific examples for groups. As always, please feel free to contact Lindsey Scheibe with any questions you may have about small groups at [lindseys@firstlutherancr.org](mailto:lindseys@firstlutherancr.org) or 365-1494 x114. The Small Group Ministry Team and Lindsey would love to help you get involved!

## Meet the Council: Jenny Schulz



Jenny Schulz is chair of Council in 2011-12. She felt a connection to FLC the first time she attended, as Pastor Dick Lehmann was then on staff and had baptized Jenny in Storm Lake when she was a baby.

She became a member in 2001 and has served as a Stephen Minister, on SEMP, the Alternative Gift Market, and in the Praise and Joy Band. She is currently a facilitator of Group Spiritual Direction. She greatly values the support and fellowship of her small groups.

Jenny is an attorney and seven years ago she founded Kids First, a nonprofit children's law center that gives a voice to children in high-conflict divorce and custody conflicts. Kids First now has four staff members and helps 550 children a year.

Jenny is married to John Chaimov, a professor at Coe College. In their free time, Jenny and John like to travel, go camping and hiking, and do volunteer work together.

## Thank God It's Friday!!



T.G.I.F. is off to a great start—three weeks and going strong! We've served several hundred goodies and as many cups of hot cocoa to the construction workers on site next door!

Thank you to those who have already served and brought in goodies to share. It has been a pleasure to serve these hardworking folks who are working to make a positive change in this community!

Want to join us? We still have a few dates to fill for 2011 and all of 2012! Sign up on our website, [firstlutherancr.org/tgif](http://firstlutherancr.org/tgif) or contact Lindsey at [lindseys@firstlutherancr.org](mailto:lindseys@firstlutherancr.org) or 365-1494 x.114.





# December Worship Volunteers

	Dec 3, 5:00 PM	Dec 4, 8:00 AM	Dec 4, 9:30 AM	Dec 4, 11:00 AM
<b>Acolyte</b>			Erik Pauls Bailey Shie	Brock Hunt
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kerri McGraw, Linda Monroe, Susan Padget, Dixie Olmstead			
<b>Choirs</b>		Cherub Choir	HS Bells	MS Bells & Choir
<b>Coffee Host</b>			Penny Preston Bill Utterback Kim Utterback	
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Mark Scheumann Nancy Scheumann Kallie Meyer	Shirley Benfer Dave Bey Paul Hagen	Marcie Watson Lori Musil Darla Parks
<b>Communion Clean-up</b>		Ray McGraw Kerri McGraw	Sandra Schnack Nile Happel	
<b>Greeter</b>	Misty Beaty Shirley Stickney	Connie Kennedy Jim Kennedy Tom Hupp	Mariah Hurley Terry Benfer Maureen Hunt	Cheryl Zapf Deanne Beltz-Sund David Johnson
<b>Lector/Liturgist</b>	Scott Beaty	Fred Stieglitz	Katie Chism	
<b>Nursery</b>		Connie Stusak	Nancy Ketchum	Glorie Borsay
<b>Prayer Team</b>				Sue Fletcher
<b>Projectionist</b>	Michael Sinnott		Ruth Hallquist	Suah Borsay
<b>Radio</b>	Brett Wolgast			
<b>Usher</b>	Larry Rustand Theresa Brandon	Pat Stieglitz Fred Stieglitz Dick Sprague Donna Sprague	Evelyn Moore Karen Moore Dan Bryant Sean Bryant Alice Wasson	Jenny Schulz, Becky & Peter Knudson

	Dec 10, 5:00 PM	Dec 11, 8:00 AM	Dec 11, 9:30 AM	Dec 11, 11:00 AM
<b>Acolyte</b>			Riley DeWolf Hunter Moore	Haleigh Houston, Corrine Schwarting
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kerri McGraw, Linda Monroe, Susan Padget, Dixie Olmstead			
<b>Choirs</b>		Bell Choirs	Bell Choirs	Chapel choir
<b>Coffee Host</b>			Linda Feddersen Lon Feddersen Carol Melsha	
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Sarah Olmstead Tom Olmstead Tammy Lutz	Kay Gloe Roger Stigers JoAnn Wood	Janet Jacobsen Vicki Finkstein Lisa Rud
<b>Communion Clean-up</b>		Doug Johnson Anita Johnson	Todd Anderson Krista Anderson Lisa Anderson	
<b>Greeter</b>	Cathy Jansa Nick Hansen	Lindsay Brown Betty Lietz Rhett Ruzicka	The Woodburn Family	The Houston Family
<b>Lector/Liturgist</b>	Richard Wagner	Thomas Cleveland	Lisa Bey	
<b>Nursery</b>		Anita Reisner	Suzi Cooper Christi Rink	Glorie Borsay
<b>Prayer Team</b>				Liz Stansbury Fred Stieglitz
<b>Projectionist</b>	Mike Humbert	Russ Filip	Kyle Kazimour	Hannah Borsay
<b>Radio</b>	Harlan Hanson			
<b>Usher</b>	Rose Ann Jensen Paul Jensen	Pat Stieglitz Fred Stieglitz Dick Sprague Donna Sprague	Spencer Moore Karen Moore Sean Bryant Dan Bryant Alice Wasson	Jenny Schulz, Becky & Peter Knudson

	Dec 17, 5:00 PM	Dec 18, 8:00 AM	Dec 18, 9:30 AM	Dec 18, 11:00 AM
<b>Acolyte</b>			Jonathan Melander Dylan Howard	Emily La Grange Jacob Bartels
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kerri McGraw, Linda Monroe, Susan Padget, Dixie Olmstead			
<b>Choir</b>		Adult Choir	Adult Choir	
<b>Coffee Host</b>			Anne Lenzen Phil Lenzen Lori Willett	
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Roxanne Rieder Tony Rieder	Lori Nietert Bruce Barnes Sue Tesdahl	Dave DeWolf Sue Fletcher Kim Wesbrook
<b>Communion Clean-up</b>		Loretta Way Ira Way	Theresa Lent Marilyn Duning	
<b>Lector/Liturgist</b>	Larry Stolte	Tammy Lutz John Faurote Angie Wilson	Gloria Larson Doug Nietert Devon O'Donnell	Ruth Ehrhardt Lottie Sands
<b>Greeter</b>	Mary Kay Grodt	Cindy Dietz	Alice Wasson	
<b>Nursery</b>		Connie Stusak	Kelli Stodola Shirley Bradley	Hayley Wesbrook
<b>Prayer Team</b>				Bill Lottes Sue Lottes
<b>Projectionist</b>	Michael Sinnott	Chris Hansen	Kyle Kazimour	Shane Wesbrook
<b>Radio</b>	Harlan Hanson			
<b>Usher</b>	Bob Schwarting Kathy Schwarting	Pat Stieglitz Fred Stieglitz Dick Sprague Donna Sprague	Evelyn Moore Karen Moore Sean Bryant Dan Bryant	Shelby Cook, Becky & Peter Knudson

*Volunteers are needed for  
Christmas Eve, Christmas Day  
and New Years' Weekend  
Services. Please contact Barb  
Hanson in the church office if  
you or your family are  
available to assist!*

*365-1494 x.270, or  
barbh@firstlutheran.org*

## Please include in your Prayers...

### Births:

A baby girl, Amaya Lynn Sumner, born to Whitney Sumner on November 15.

### 50+ Anniversary in November:

Dennis and Karen Kral, 50 years on December 28.  
Elmer and Eleanora Pfeifle, 53 years on December 26.  
Wally and Marie Sundet, 55 years on December 21.  
Ray & Edna Williams, 59 years on December 16.

### 90+ Birthdays in December!

Doris Griswold, 92 years young on December 6.  
Everett Lunning, 92 years young on December 9.  
Genevieve Stickney, 91 years young on December 4.

**Hospitalized:** \*released as of November 15.

### St. Lukes Hospital

Norm Ramsey\* Trudy Sundermann\* Ed McMickle\*  
Darlene Plattenberger\*

### Mercy Hospital

Melva Durbin\* Amber Jungjohann\*

### U of I Hospital

Whitney Sumner Tim Lafrenz

### Our Sympathy to:

Loren Jansa and his family on the death of his sister, Sheri Koss.  
Wally and Sue Benson and their family on the death of their daughter, Kathy (Kate) Benson Emery.  
Betty Lietz on the death of her mother, Ella Kitzmiller.  
Sherry Vozenilek, Bennie Koppenhaver, family and friends on the death of their daughter/ mother, Tracee Vozenilek  
Lory Christoffersen and family on the death of her grandfather, Edward Meyer.  
Gordon Edwards, Vicki Finkstein and family on the death of their wife/mother, Maxine Edwards.  
Linda Hinzman and family on the death of her father, Howard Gardner.  
Marlys Carlson and family on the death of her husband, Pastor George Carlson.  
Family and friends of Betty Cassaday.

## FIRST LUTHERAN WORSHIP GUIDE

**Saturday Evening Worship:** 5:00 p.m.  
**Traditional Worship:** 8 & 9:30 a.m.  
**Contemporary Worship:** 11 a.m.

*This information is preliminary and subject to change.*

### **November 19 & 20 – Christ the King Sunday**

**Preaching:** Pastor Steve Knudson  
**Choirs:** 8:00 – Middle School Choir & Bells  
9:30 – Adult Choir  
11:00 – Contemporary Choir

### **November 26 & 27 – First Sunday of Advent**

*~Healing Service~*  
**Preaching:** Pastor Kay Slocum  
**Choirs:** 5:00 – Adult Choir  
8:00 – Jubellation  
9:30 – Luther Bells

### **November 30 – Midweek Advent Service**

**Preaching:** Pastor Kay Slocum  
**Choir:** Chapel Choir

### **December 3 & 4 – Second Sunday of Advent**

**Preaching:** Pastor Steve Knudson  
**Choirs:** 8:00 – Cherub Choir  
9:30 – High School Handbells

### **December 7 – Midweek Advent Service**

**Preaching:** Pastor Steve Knudson  
**Choir:** Adult Choir

### **December 10 & 11 – Third Sunday in Advent**

**Preaching:** Pastor Craig Brown  
**Choirs:** 8:00 & 9:30 – Jubellation, Luther Bells  
& Rhapsody Ringers  
11:00 – Chapel Choir

### **December 14 – Midweek Advent Service**

**Preaching:** Pastor Steve Knudson  
**Choir:** Jubellation

### **December 17 & 18 – Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**Preaching:** (5:00 & 11:00 only) Pastor Steve Knudson  
(8:00 & 9:30) Bach Oratorio – Adult Choir

### **December 21 – Midweek Advent Service**

**Preaching:** Pastor Craig Brown  
**Choir:** Contemporary

Address Service Requested

# Poinsettias



We invite you to help us decorate the chancel with poinsettias for Christmas. You may dedicate poinsettia plants as a memorial, celebration, or in honor of a person or occasion. This year, we are also offering the opportunity to dedicate a "virtual plant". Money given for these dedications will be given as a Christmas present from us to Helping Hands Ministries, who provide community assistance to people in need. As the economy has continued to struggle, they have seen a dramatic increase in need, and this gift will be a great blessing to them and the community!

Plants are available for \$10 or \$20, according to size. If you would like an actual plant to be purchased so you can take it home, please fill in the bottom boxes of this form. Virtual Plant dedications can be made for any amount. Dedications will be accepted through Monday, December 19.

A list of the dedications will be in the Christmas Eve bulletins, and the plants can be taken home following the 9:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, or on December 25 after the 9:30 a.m. service.  
 Note: the church will be closed on Monday and Tuesday.

Donor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication (indicate if the dedication is in memory, honor, or celebration): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**For decorative plant purchases:**

Number of small plants we would like to purchase: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10

Number of large plants we would like to purchase: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20

For virtual plant dedication,  
 our gift to Helping Hands: Amount attached: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Grand total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## First Lutheran Church

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online at [www.firstlutherancr.org](http://www.firstlutherancr.org)

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 extension 106

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 assistant's ext. 109

**Gordon Epping**  
 extension 111

**Marcie Watson**  
 extension 280

**Brian Middleswarth**  
 extension 104

**Marissa Letscher**  
 extension 115

**Barb Hanson**  
 extension 270

**Lindsey Scheibe**  
 extension 114

**Brett Wolgast**  
 extension 112

**Marita Wolgast**  
 extension 113

**Tanya Rosenkranz Malloy**  
 extension 250

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 extension 220

**Janiese Karpa**  
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**William Mittelsteadt**  
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