

# First Fruits

## Worship Ministry

February 2024  
Volume 28, Number 2



**Ash Wednesday**  
— Lent Begins

**ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP with HOLY COMMUNION  
& IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

**FEBRUARY 14**

**CORYDON WORSHIP – NOON**

**CHARITON WORSHIP – 7 PM**

**Beginning Wednesday, February 21, at 7 PM,** First Lutheran will have mid-week Lenten services with viewing of “The Jesus Film.” There will be soup and sandwiches prior to worship at 6:15 PM with meal provided from Piper’s.

**Beginning Sunday, February 18,** Christ the Servant will be viewing “The Jesus Film” during worship. The film will be shown in five parts—so plan to attend five Wednesdays or Sundays to see the entire film!



Pastor Hutton with the children on December 31 with a message about *The Giving Snowman*.

2024 Task Force (Christ the Servant)

Doug Thiel (Chair)      Mary Ann Evitt  
Dave Mason (V. Chair)   Tom Schilling  
Ann Sipma (Secretary)   Brian Sipma

-----  
Doug Thiel (Council Rep)   Cindy Thiel (Treasurer)  
Dave Mason (Council Rep)

2024 Church Council

Denny Bisgard (President)      Linda Jurgens  
Chad Lukavsky (Vice-President)   Dave Kuball  
Nicki Brown (Secretary)      Dave Mason  
Angie Dachenbach (Treasurer)   Doug Thiel  
Duane Bedford

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS —  
FIRST LUTHERAN**

Please sign up to teach Sunday school on the chart in the narthex. Lesson plans will be provided!



**CONFIRMATION CLASS**

will **NOT** be held in February and March. Class will resume on April 3.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Counting Sheep ..... 2  
Radio Broadcasts..... 2  
CTS Anniversary..... 3  
On The Vine..... 3  
Pastoral Pondering..... 4  
Birthdays & Anniversaries... 5  
Ministry Center ..... 5  
Thank yous ..... 5  
Calendar ..... 6

# Discipleship Ministry



**COUNTING SHEEP** is a joint community service project with the support of the church mission committee and interchurch ministries. The goal is to build and provide basic functional beds with bedding for children in the area currently sleeping on the floor or without a suitable bed. After seeing other communities providing this service, we determined there was a need in the local area and set the idea in motion. The mission committee will be assisting with the application and selection process. We will be asking for volunteers to assist with building beds, delivering beds, and assisting with workdays in the future. Also, we will be accepting financial donations as well as child and teen themed bedding. Flyers with the application are available from the First United Methodist Church office.

We have delivered three beds in Lucas County and will be delivering seven more in early January. We have also approved two more beds which the client is not ready for delivery. Every child deserves a bed.

## RADIO

## BROADCAST



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS MINISTRY!!

The radio broadcast of Pastor Hutton's sermons is an ongoing ministry of First Lutheran and Christ the Servant. Ways to listen at 10:30 AM each Sunday morning:

KIIC Radio—96.7 FM (Albia)

kiicradio.com—website  
(Click on "Listen Live")

If you miss Sunday, catch it as a podcast on church's website!

### **Broadcast Sponsors:**

**February 4:** Friends in Des Moines area

**February 11:** Laura Wilson in praise and thanksgiving of family health procedures

**February 18:** Janice Goetsch in memory of Denny

**February 25:** Roger and Kary Blunk in honor Roger's birthday, February 26

***THERE ARE 15TH SUNDAYS AVAILABLE TO SPONSOR FOR 2024! With two members in care facilities, the broadcast brings our worship to those, plus we have listeners all across southern Iowa. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast for 2024, please call the church office. Sponsorships are \$35. 641-774-4875 Thank you!***

# Stewardship Ministry

## CHRIST THE SERVANT TO CELEBRATE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday, April 7, 2024 Christ the Servant Lutheran Church will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As they do so, they would like to invite everyone to join them for this festive celebration of worship at 11:00 AM, and to be followed by a catered dinner at Ludlow's Steakhouse in Corydon. **Please pick up an invitation from the table in the narthex which includes an RSVP for dinner.**



## ON THE VINE



**CTS WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE** will meet on Monday, February 5 at 11 AM.

**FLC WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE** will meet on Tuesday, February 6 at 10 AM.

**PRAYER SHAWL/BABY AFGHAN GROUP** will gather in the FLC Library, beginning at 1:30 PM, on Wednesday, February 7.

**THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA** will gather on Thursday, February 8, at 1:00 PM at First Lutheran.

**LAPLANDERS QUILT GUILD AT CTS** will meet on Monday, February 12 beginning at 2 PM.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** will meet on Monday, February 12 at 6:30 PM at FLC.

**BREAKFAST GALS** will meet at 8 AM on Tuesday, February 13 at Hardees.

**“SHARING THE WEIGHT” BLANKET MAKING** will take place on Tuesday, February 13 from 9 AM-3 PM at CTS.

**LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP** will meet on Sunday, February 18, at 5 PM. Earl and Linda Comstock will host. Please bring an item to share.

**THE CTS WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP** will meet on Tuesday, February 20, at Christ the Servant beginning at 11:30 AM.



## FEBRUARY IS PASTA MONTH for the Ministry

**Center.** Examples would be pasta, processed cheese, boxed macaroni & cheese, sauces, boxed pasta salads, etc. Thank you!  
**Please consider helping with this ministry!**

## NOISY OFFERINGS WILL CONTINUE!

“Noisy Offerings” will continue to be taken on Sundays. Please consider bringing your loose change to church and “noisily” depositing it in the pot!! CTS offerings through March will to school lunches. FLC offerings through March will benefit Homestead Activity Department.



# Pastoral Pondering . . . .

One thing we know for sure about spring is that April showers will bring May flowers. But there are some important questions, like when exactly those flowers will bloom (we're looking at you, Mr. Groundhog). And when Easter and other important dates during Lent will fall. With all the festive family gatherings, Easter egg hunts, and Sunday feasts, each household finds its own way to commemorate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ during the beloved holiday of Easter. Before the grand celebration, it's crucial to acknowledge another significant date: Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024, marks the beginning of Lent – this year it just so happens that it falls on Valentine's Day, a day to express our love and affection for another. We will send cards, chocolate, flowers, and worship at church to be marked with ash, to be reminded of our mortality, and to know that from dust we came and to dust we shall return. It is a time to ponder and expand our relationship with God, and to ask – when and where will you meet God?

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, this period of 40 days and 40 nights is a time of preparation before entering the promised land that flows with “milk and honey.” It's the journey to the cross. It's a solemn season. We just celebrated the birth of Christ, and now our attention turns to his death by crucifixion. We recognize the grief of this season, sit in it, and then of course on Easter Sunday, we celebrate the life and resurrection of Jesus! Full victory over sin and death.

The culmination of Lent is Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. On our Lenten journey everyone tries to make sense of the world and how the world works. Our world so needs love during these desperate days of radical polarization and division. This year as we make our journey to the empty tomb, we will pause to view “The Jesus Film” to remind us of God's love for us and the sacrifice he made on our behalf. *“God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”* (John 3:16-17).

Why Film? To hear a story is powerful. But to see it happen — and to hear Jesus speak in your language — is life-changing. That's why Jesus Film Project chose video to introduce Jesus to the world. We will see the film in five parts during Lent on Wednesday evenings at First Lutheran in Chariton and on Sunday morning in Corydon. I believe that you might wish to set aside all these Wednesdays or Sundays so that you see the entire film and not just parts – we'll begin on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> in Chariton and Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> in Corydon.

Lent is a time for spiritual renewal knowing that God so loves us that He gave His only Son, Jesus the Christ, to open the door to an abundant and eternal life.

Blessings to all!

*Pastor Dick*

# Re:Newed

## February Baptismal Anniversaries



During this month, we remember and give thanks for the baptisms of:

- 2/15 Leah Goben
- 2/20 Hunter Wilson
- 2/24 Chris Kuball
- 2/24 Chad Mehlert
- 2/26 Madison Bucklalew

Thanks be to Jesus for the saving waters of baptism!

*(In baptism, we all are made one in Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither male nor female, neither Chariton nor Corydon! Are we missing your baptismal anniversary? Let us know! Tell us the story of your baptism!)*

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

### CORYDON

- 2/21 Cynthia Thiel
- 2/28 Troy Trzpuć



### CHARITON

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2/1 Kendall Watson     | 2/15 Joe Morrett      |
| 2/1 Dave Thompson      | 2/22 Mya Krutsinger   |
| 2/2 Trish Sharp        | 2/22 Dave Kuball      |
| 2/3 Allison Krutsinger | 2/23 Emma Kempen      |
| 2/4 Barb Vogel         | 2/24 Abby Luehring    |
| 2/4 Logan Newsum       | 2/24 Angie Dachenbach |
| 2.5 Logan Mehlert      | 2/26 Roger Blunk      |
| 2/6 Anna Nayeri        | 2/28 Rae Luehring     |
| 2/8 Kate Krutsinger    | 2/28 Chrissy Atwell   |
| 2/15 Makala Farrell    |                       |

# Thank You

Dear Members of First Lutheran,

Thank you for your gracious Christmas gift! Carolyn and I are very appreciative of all your support and thoughtfulness. It is a pleasure to walk with you in faith and share the grace of our Lord in Ministry; we pray the Lord will continue to share His blessing with everyone in the congregation. God bless you all!

*Pastor Dick and Carolyn*

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

### CORYDON

None

### CHARITON

2/2 Ryan & Kelsey Dachenbach

### Dear Members of First Lutheran Church,

We would like to thank you for your generous gifts. Knowing that we have your support and appreciation means a lot to both of us.

*Angie & Susan*

Thank you Pastor for the nice service you provided for Bernie's funeral. We could not have been happier for every thing, I loved the plant and it still looks great.

Thanks to the ladies of the church for furnishing the wonderful desserts. I know Bernie was very happy too—lots of friends and family to say good bye till we meet again.

*Jo Aulwes and family*

### Minutes and Reports

Copies of recent meeting minutes and financial reports are available on site at both First Lutheran and Christ the Servant. At FLC, please look on the bulletin board outside the church office. At CTS, check the table by the windows on the lower level.