

First Fruits

Worship Ministry

March 2025
Volume 29, Number 3



Ash Wednesday
— Lent Begins

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
with **HOLY COMMUNION & IMPOSITION OF ASHES**
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

CORYDON WORSHIP – NOON
CHARITON WORSHIP – 6:30 PM



SUNDAY SCHOOL- FIRST LUTHERAN

There are still spots available to sign up and teach Sunday School this year on the board in the Narthex. All material is provided. Please consider sharing your faith with our Sunday School youth. The last day for Sunday School this year is May 4.

FIRST LUTHERAN MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES will begin on Wednesday, March 12 with soup and sandwich supper provided at 5:30 PM and worship at 6:30 PM. Sign up sheet on table in Narthex to bring dessert, make coffee, and clean up. Dates are March 12, 19, 26; April 2 and 9.



PLEASE TAKE NOTE!



Daylight savings time begins on March 9. Please remember to move your clock ahead one hour on Saturday evening, March 8.

FIRST LUTHERAN WELCOMED Dean Whaley as a new member through baptism on February 9, 2025.



SUNDAY, MARCH 9 join First Lutheran at the 9 AM worship service for a blessing of the youth and adults traveling to Branson, Missouri. They will be in Branson from March 9 and returning on March 12. While there, they will enjoy the show “David” at the Sights and Sound Theater along with many other fun activities! We look forward to pictures in the April newsletter!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Lutheran Lakeside Camp	2
Day Camp Dates.....	2
Alpha Youth Group.....	2
Radio Broadcasts.....	2
Ministry Center	3
Noisy Offerings.....	3
March LAF.....	3
On The Vine.....	3
Pastoral Pondering.....	4
Birthdays & Anniversaries ..	5
Calendar.....	6

Discipleship Ministry

LUTHERAN LAKESIDE CAMP

Any youth who would like to attend a camp at Lutheran Lakeside? The Church Council will pay 100% of your camp stay! There are many different types of camps available throughout the summer. Pick up a 2025 camp schedule flyer from the holder under the windows in the Narthex. Let Susan in the office know and she will help you get registered!



TRAVELING DAY CAMP, BE A SPARK!!

JUNE 16-19, 2025

Mark these dates on your calendar for day camp sponsored by First Lutheran Church and provided by Lutheran Lakeside Camp staff. Camps will be for K-5th grade, open to the community, and held at First Lutheran. Programming will include music, skits, arts and crafts, interactive Bible studies, group games, and more. Volunteers will also be needed! Watch for more details and registration information in the coming months.



MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

You are invited to **Alpha Youth Group** at First Lutheran! It will be held once each month through May and September through December. Snacks and beverages will be provided. The March gathering will be on **Wednesday, March 19**. Please bring your friends—everyone is welcome!

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:

March 2: Friends in Des Moines area

March 9: Dave & Lana Kuball in honor of her 70th birthday

March 16: Susan Seufferer

March 23: Del & Karen Kray for March family birthdays

March 30: Allison & Brad Krutsinger in honor of their 20th wedding anniversary

WE ARE NOW FILLING DATES FOR 2025!! 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 one of these broadcasts, **please call the church office. Sponsorships are \$35. 641-774-4875 Thank you!**

Stewardship Ministry



MARCH IS KITCHEN SINK MONTH for the Ministry Center. Examples would be dish soap, comet, scouring pads, Lysol, wipes, toilet bowl cleaner, etc. Thank you! **Please consider helping with this ministry!**

The Ministry Center also needs volunteers!

Ministry Center hours:

Open M/W/F 9:30-11:30 AM

410 S. 7th St.—774-8146

Salvation Army Assistance available during open hours. Don't forget the blessing boxes found around town can use donations, too!!



NOISY OFFERINGS!!

Please bring your loose change to church and “noisily” deposit it in the pot!! Offerings December through March at First Lutheran will go to Salvation Army-Heating Assistance. Offerings December through August at Christ the Servant will go to Wayne School needs.

MARCH LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP!

LAF will meet on Sunday, March 16 from 5-7 PM. Everyone 18 years old and older are welcome to attend. Please wear something green and those wearing a St. Pat's costume will receive a prize! Bring a food dish to share. Visiting, board games, and card playing will follow the meal! Roger and Kary Blunk will be hosts.



ON THE VINE



FLC WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet on Tuesday, March 4 at 10 AM.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES at Corydon at noon on Wednesday, March 5 and at 6:30 PM at First Lutheran.

LAPLANDERS QUILT GUILD AT CTS will meet on Monday, March 10 beginning at 2 PM.

COUNCIL AT FLC will meet at 6:30 PM on Monday, March 10.

BREAKFAST GALS will meet at 8 AM on Tuesday, March 11 at Hardees.

“SHARING THE WEIGHT” BLANKET MAKING will take place on Tuesday, March 11 from 9 AM-3 PM at CTS.

KNIT & CROCHET GROUP will meet at 1:30 PM on Wednesday, March 12.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES at First Lutheran on Wednesday, March 12, 19, and 26 with supper at 5:30 PM and worship service at 6:30 PM.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet at 2:30 PM on Thursday, March 13.

LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP will meet on Sunday, March 16, at 5 PM for a St. Patrick's Day Party. Everyone 18 years old and older are welcome! Please bring a food item to share.

ALPHA YOUTH GROUP will be held on Wednesday, March 19, from 2-3 PM for middle school and high school youth and friends. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Pastoral Pondering

Welcome to the season of Lent. Honestly, does it mean anything different in your daily life? I would guess the answer is “no” for most of us. In the church year, the season of Lent was often about sacrifice, spiritual discipline, and reflecting on your relationship with God. To be clear, I am still in favor of all these things. However, I am also a realist. The world we live in today is full of distractions. Finding moments to quiet the voices clamoring for our attention is a constant struggle.

I am a big believer in seeking out moments for reflection. Whether it is a walk, a quiet moment in the sanctuary, lingering over a cup of coffee, or soaking up a little sunshine standing at a window for a moment – how we find those moments is often about our intention to do so. I love to be in the midst of people. The more, the better. Yet, I know there are needed moments in my own life when I am out of balance and in need of some quiet time to even out. The same is true in our relationship with God.

Finding moments to center; to reconnect; to reconsider; to be reminded of our relationship with God can provide us with the opportunity to move ourselves into a deeper, more intimate experience of the presence of God. This is what the season of Lent offers to us.

So, beginning with Ash Wednesday, March 5th, we invite you to step out of our normal routines and step into a different routine.

On Ash Wednesday we'll worship with the Imposition of Ashes at Christ the Servant at Noon and First Lutheran at 6:30 P.M. (Note this year's midweek Lenten Services will all be at 6:30 P.M. – and, beginning March 12th there will be a light soup and sandwich supper beginning at 5:30 P.M. with Piper's catering the soup and sandwiches.)

Then the following Wednesday's will focus on “Hope in a Dark World” with various members of First Lutheran Church preaching. The schedule is:

- March 12 - Karen Kray (Hope as we face a dark future)
- March 19 - Kent Storm (Hope in a dark society)
- March 26 - Kim Francisco (Hope in the darkness of wildlife)
- April 2 - Rod Bortz (Hope in a dark farm environment or economy)
- April 9 - Marlene Oxenreider (Hope in the darkness of loss)
- April 17 - Maundy Thursday Service – Chariton
- April 18 - Good Friday Service – Corydon
- April 20 - Easter

Dear friends, Lent is upon us. Find your center. Reconnect with God and people you love. Reconsider how you are spending your time. Be reminded that you are loved by God. All good things in these days of Lent.

See you in church.

Blessings!

Pastor Dick

Re:Newed

March Baptismal Anniversaries



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

3/20	Jean Heston	3/25	Doug Farrell
3/23	Easton Wilson	3/25	Jeff Farrell
3/24	Geneva Wilson	3/25	Makala Whaley
3/24	Vivie Nichols	3/25	Kaiti Farrell
3/24	Gwen Shanks	3/26	Tom Schilling
3/24	Maeve Shanks	3/27	Tanner Duey
3/25	Chris Farrell	3/30	Jason Allen

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!)

NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY AT FIRST LUTHERAN during Lent. Bible study will resume on **Wednesday, April 30** at 10 AM.

BOLD WOMEN'S DAY 2025

BOLD WOMEN'S DAY—observed Sunday, March 2—celebrates all Lutheran women who have acted or are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers. Other women are bold in their service to those in need. Still other women are bold in their advocacy or through their hospitality. Whether we live out our bold story of faith in the workplace, family home or community, our faith compels us to make a difference in the lives of others. It's all about living out our baptismal call, about being a disciple of Christ. Are you bold?

Celebrate the bold women in your life!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

CORYDON

3/7	Madison Harman
3/15	Jason Allen



CHARITON

3/1	Karen Patterson	3/14	Betty Pepping
3/1	Mary Jo Fisher	3/15	Kelsey Seufferer
3/3	Cynda Mehlert	3/18	Taylor Duey
3/8	Trayton Brown	3/19	Carol Brown
3/11	Blaze Cunningham	3/20	Julie Horstmeier
3/11	Coleton Atwell	3/23	Nancy Stansbery
3/12	Ryan Dachenbach	3/23	Pastor Dick Hutton
3/13	Jo Aulwes	3/24	Jodi Draper
3/13	Lana Kuball	3/26	Brooklin Atwell
3/13	Jim Moore		

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

CORYDON

3/14	Dr. David & Wendy Foster
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CHARITON

3/31	Roger & Kary Blunk
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A BIG THANK YOU to Tom McGee for painting the women's restroom at First Lutheran!! It was long over due and looks so good.



IF YOU WISH TO PROVIDE ALTAR FLOWERS, let the office know. We will no longer have a flower chart hanging in the hallway.



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.