

First Fruits

Worship Ministry

September 2025
Volume 29, Number 9

September is Youth Month!

Join us as we celebrate **Youth Month** this September. At First Lutheran our youth will be leading and assisting in worship services throughout the month.

Sunday, September 14—A special worship service will feature Ava Krutsinger and Dalton Lukavsky sharing the sermon. Don't miss this inspiring message from our youth. The youth will also be ringing bells!

Sunday, September 21— **Sunday School** begins!

Fellowship Time—Join us for fellowship and refreshments after worship on the **1st, 2nd, and 4th Sundays** of September. On **September 21**, enjoy a special treat of **homemade cinnamon rolls**.

Support Our Youth—Free-will donations collected during fellowship will go toward supporting our youth programs. Thank you for your generosity! Let's come together this September to celebrate and encourage our young leaders in faith.

CINNAMON ROLL SUNDAY IS BACK!! The youth are raising money for future activities.

The third Sunday of every month (September-May) cinnamon rolls will be available after church for a free will donation.

Buy 1 or 2 or even 6! They will be delicious! Mark your calendar for the third Sunday of the month—the youth will be happy to serve you!!

CONFIRMATION CLASS will be held on Wednesdays, at 2 PM starting September 17 through November 19. Class will resume January 7.



LAST OUTDOOR WORSHIP—FLC ON AUGUST 17

followed by coffee cake fellowship thanks to Linda Comstock, Kary Blunk, Jean Heston, Julie Goetsch, Karen Kray, and Patti Bisgard.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

begins on Wednesday, September 17 at 10 AM in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran. The study will be on the Bonhoeffer movie. Everyone is welcome to attend for the study and fellowship. The coffee pot will be on!!

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First Lutheran Sunday School 2025-26

Sunday School will be during the worship service starting **September 21**, for youth through 6th grade. Members are invited to sign up to teach one Sunday (or more) on the chart in the narthex. The children will be released at the Gospel reading. The classes will be held in the basement and last approximately 15-20 minutes. All materials will be available for you. Very little preparation is required. Thank you in advance for sharing your faith with our youth! —Gayle Bortz



Discipleship Ministry

THANK YOU to all who brought school supplies and helped fill the school bags at First Lutheran. We filled 48 bags which will be taken to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse and distributed in the United States and in foreign countries.



BLESSING OF BACKPACKS was held on Sunday, August 24 during worship at both First Lutheran and Christ the Servant. Students and teachers participated in the blessing for a great school year.

WATCH FOR DATE FOR GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS AT FIRST LUTHERAN!

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:

September 7: Mark & Rhonda White

September 14: Joann Narber in memory of her wedding anniversary

September 21: John & Emmy Forbes

September 28: Roger & Jean Heston in honor their 47th wedding anniversary

ALL SUNDAY BROADCASTS FOR 2025 ARE SPONSORED! We are ready to begin taking sponsors for 2026. 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.

Stewardship Ministry

2025 CLUSTER 9 WELCA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE in the office. An applicant must be a female member associated with a Cluster 9 church and be accepted for enrollment at a post-secondary institution for the 2025-26 school year. **DEADLINE IS EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 22.** For applications and scholarship procedures, contact Susan at the office.



NOISY OFFERINGS !

Please bring your loose change to church and “noisily” deposit it in the pot!! Offerings July through November at First Lutheran will go to needy families. Offerings September through November at Christ the Servant will go to the Empty Stocking project.



ON THE VINE



OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 FOR LABOR DAY.

FLC WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, September 2.

LAPLANDERS QUILT GUILD AT CTS will meet on Monday, September 8 beginning at 2 PM.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on Monday, September 8 at 6:30 PM at FLC.

BREAKFAST GALS will meet at 8 AM on Tuesday, September 9 at Hardees.

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

KNIT & CROCHET GROUP will meet on Wednesday, September 10 at 1:30 PM at First Lutheran.

THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA will gather on Thursday, September 11, at 1 PM.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY will meet at 10 AM on Wednesday, September 17 & 24.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet on Wednesday, September 17 at 2 PM.

LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP will meet on Sunday, September 21, at 5 PM. Marleen Oxenreider and Earl and Linda Comstock will host. Please bring a food item to share.

ALPHA YOUTH FELLOWSHIP will meet on Wednesday, September 24 at 2 PM.

SEPTEMBER IS JUICE

MONTH at the Ministries

Center. Examples

would be fruit
juices, vegetable
juices, (tomato &



V8), and juice

boxes. 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!!**

Pastoral Pondering

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 4:4-7)

September is an exciting month, and this year is even more so! School has begun, football games await, Sunday School begins, and at church we have designated the entire month of September as Youth Month. We'll be asking the young people to lead us in worship, usher, greet, read lessons, and offer the prayers for the church, play bells, and even preach on Sunday, September 14th - all of this is wonderful and certainly gives us more than one reason to rejoice.

I'd also like to encourage everyone to be in church on the second Sunday of September (the 14th) as Ava Krutsinger and Dalton Lukavsky share the wonder of a great God in their homilies. Then the following Sunday (September 21st), Sunday School will begin with a new curriculum.

The Wednesday Bible Study for adults will begin on Wednesday, September 17th at 10:00 A.M. with a viewing of the new Bonhoeffer movie. We will watch segments of the movie for six weeks and following will discuss what is viewed that day. Following the viewing of the Bonhoeffer movie I hope to read with the group Timothy Keller's book, "Belief in an Age of Skepticism: The Reason for God" – however, I haven't totally decided this is exactly where we will go, but will try and make a final decision at least by the middle of October.

We do have much about which to rejoice, so let us continue to give thanks and sing our praises to God!

In October we'll focus on God's call to faithful stewardship, our response to the numerous blessings God has bestowed upon us. I pray you'll join me in praying as to how we best can respond to the wonderful blessings God has given us. Carolyn and I seek to increase our giving to the church each and every year, for we are reminded on a daily basis that God's graciousness is very abundant, and we enjoy sharing those blessings with people, causes, and ministry we love.

Looking at the church budget for this year and our agreed upon ministry plan, I note that at the end of July our giving was \$10,300 less than last year. I'm not sure why this should be, and at the same time I note that our church property insurance has increased by 50%. So not only has our offerings been down, but our costs are increasing. So, Carolyn and I will give a special offering before the end of the year as a special thanks to God and for each of you. May I ask each of you to pray about and consider your giving as well? Carolyn and I are very thankful for each of you and want the ministry and mission of First Lutheran and Christ the Servant Lutheran to flourish.

We have much for which to be thankful and so rejoice with you at the many blessings God has given us. Let all rejoice together!

Blessings!

Pastor Dick

Re:Newed

September Baptismal Anniversaries



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

9/1	Jaxon Kuball	9/11	Marcia Heimdal
9/2	Katie Williams	9/13	Justin Sharp
9/4	Julie Goetsch	9/14	Dana Holland
9/5	Fay Utesch	9/15	Larry Wheeldon
9/5	Mike Patterson	9/23	Connie Holland
9/5	Susan Muehlenthaler	9/25	Rhonda White
9/8	Megan Aulwes	9/27	Dalton Lukavsky
9/8	Pastor Dick	9/28	Ava Krutsinger

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!)

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

CORYDON

9/2	Greg Harman	9/18	Dave Mason
9/3	Tom Schilling	9/22	Shari Harders
9/5	Patty Mason	9/24	Brian Sipma
9/10	Heidi Collins	9/30	Mike Thiel
9/10	Tammy Mason	9/30	John Thiel

CHARITON

9/2	Jean Wheeldon	9/15	Rob Johansen
9/3	Axel Cunningham	9/15	Gene Wright
9/4	Addison Peterson	9/18	Chris Farrell
9/8	Joe Shore	9/22	Patti Bisgard
9/9	Callen Coleman	9/23	Lori Moore
9/9	Tom McGee	9/27	Leanne Norton
9/13	Scott Morrett	9/29	Jeff Farrell



ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN-UP CALENDAR

is available in the office. Please contact Susan for possible dates to provide flowers for the altar.

Women of the ELCA

Cluster 9 Fall

Gathering will be hosted by First

Lutheran Women of the ELCA on Saturday, October 4.

Registration begins at 8:30 AM with the program at 9 AM. Larry and Terri Lamb, Counting Sheep Project, will be the featured speakers. For more information, see the flyer on the bulletin board in the Fireside Room or contact Barb Vogel.



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.

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

CORYDON

9/1	Michael & Jennifer Thiel
9/12	Heidi & Matt Collins
9/29	John & Becky Allen

CHARITON

9/3	Anna & Amir Nayeri
9/13	Don & Carol Brown
9/14	Avery & Mallory Fuhs
9/15	Betty & Gary Pepping
9/15	Fred & Karen Wilker
9/19	Laura & Brent Duey
9/20	Jodi & James Draper
9/26	Chris & Tiffany Kuball
9/30	Roger & Jean Heston
9/30	Brad & Sara Sobotta



During the month of September, both congregations will be collecting grocery shower items for the ladies at Circle of Freedom. Bring items throughout the month and place them in the box marked Circle of Freedom. See below for the current needs list.

Circle of Freedom Current Needs

Food Items:

- Walmart card or visa/master gift card, which can be used to purchase perishable items such as:
 - Meat- chicken/ground beef
 - Shredded Cheese
 - Fresh fruits and vegetables
 - Lots of lettuce
- Salad dressings (ranch, honey mustard)
- Coffee
- Creamer
- Tortilla chips
- Walnuts/Almonds
- Raisins/dry fruit
- Olive oil/Coconut oil
- Canned fruit
- Peanut Butter creamy/crunchy
- bottled water
- Salsa
- Mayo
- Diced or crushed tomatoes
- Granola
- Sugar
- Flour

Please be sure all household/toiletry items do not contain alcohol in the first 3 ingredients...thank you

supplies/laundry/toiletry Items

- Laundry Detergent
- Garbage Bags – 13 gallons
- Garbage Bags - 4 gallons
- Toilet Paper – regular (LOTS)

- Toilet paper (1 ply) for thrift store (due to smaller drain pipe)
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Lysol
- Dawn dish soap
- Ziplock bags gallon & quart size

School room supplies:

- 1" 3 ring binders
- 1-subject spiral ring notebooks
- Composition notebooks
- Pocket and prong folders
- Yellow High lighters
- Colored Pencils
- Lined index cards

Other needs

- Multi vitamin gummies
- Ibuprofen/Tylenol
- Super Plus Tampons
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Hair spray
- Hair mousse

We are not asking or expecting you to get everything on this list. We are so very thankful for what the Lord will provide through you.