

First Fruits

Worship Ministry

July 2026
Volume 30, Number 7

Vacation Bible School—2026

The week after Father's Day at First Lutheran Church was fantastic, 20 kids, youth helpers, and adults walked together in Vacation Bible School. Four young adults from Lutheran Lakeside Camp provided leadership – Bible Study, Crafts, Games, and Music were all led by the camp staff. There was never a quiet moment around the church from 8:45 AM to 1:15 PM – kids were laughing, singing, praying, and sharing the joy of God's grace. They also went on Thursday to Homestead, the Assisted Living Center, to sing. It was an awesome week full of joy and blessings.

We have many people to thank for making the week a huge success: Denny & Patti Bisgard for opening their home on West Lake to house the Lakeside Staff; Ashley, Mars, Jaycelynn, and Tion from Lakeside Camp for their leadership; and Deb Clark & Fay Utesch for their wisdom and guidance in administrating the week. We also thank Morgan Peters, Kate Krutsinger, Aislin Carroll, Lily Gortman, Svetlana Gortman, LuAnn Mosbach, Linda Shriver, Paula Russo, Angie Dachenbach, Rod & Gayle Bortz, Patti Bisgard, Dave & Lana Kuball, Marleen Oxenreider, Sharon Anstey, Susan Muehlenthaler, Kary & Roger Blunk, Linda Comstock, Rae Luehring, Duane Bedford, Barb Vogel, Carol Brown, and Allison Krutsinger. Whether it was baking, prepping meals and snacks, moving tables, adding lighting for craft area, assisting the kids throughout the week, we couldn't have done it without you. Everyone made the week truly one to remember, and we thank all of them for their outstanding contribution.

We hope you enjoy some of the pictures of this week and pray that the young people might remember this week as a very special journey with their Lord!



JULY 19 – AUGUST

16 AT FLC

On the third Sunday of July & August, outdoor worship is being planned on the west side of First Lutheran on the large cement pad to begin at 9 AM. Please bring your lawn chairs.

On July 19, stay for fellowship with cinnamon rolls following the service.



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Discipleship Ministry

JULY IS CONDIMENTS & BAKING MONTH at the Ministries Center. Examples would be ketchup, mustard, oil, mayo, salad dressing, pickles, sugar, flour, baking soda, baking powder, cornstarch, and cocoa. 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!!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS MINISTRY!!

RADIO BROADCAST



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:

July 5: Jeanine Walters in honor of her 85th birthday

July 12: Rod & Gayle Bortz in honor of their wedding anniversary

July 19: Pastor & Carolyn Hutton in honor of Carolyn's birthday

July 26: Denny & Patti Bisgard in honor of their wedding anniversary

ALL BROADCASTS ARE SPONSORED FOR 2026!! Thank you to all who sponsored a broadcast. For those who didn't get a chance to grab one at the end, be sure to watch for the notice of 2027 broadcast signups so you can get your date set!

Stewardship Ministry

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE, CHURCH COUNCIL, AND KNIT AND CROCHET GROUP will NOT meet in July.



2026 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 2026-27 school year. Deadline is September 1, 2026. For applications and scholarship procedures, contact Susan in the office.



ON THE VINE



CHARITON COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE ON SQUARE on Sunday, July 5.

There will be **NO SERVICE** at First Lutheran that day.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, July 9 at 1 PM at First Lutheran.

LAPLANDERS QUILT GUILD AT CTS will meet on Monday, July 13 beginning at 2 PM.

BREAKFAST GALS meet on Tuesday, July 14 at 8 AM at Hardees.

“SHARING THE WEIGHT” BLANKET MAKING will take place on Tuesday, July 14 from 9 AM-3 PM at CTS.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT FLC on Sunday, July 19 at 9 AM with cinnamon roll fellowship following the service.

LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP will meet on Sunday, July 19 at 5 PM. Please bring a food item to share.

LUCAS COUNTY FAIR begins on Friday, July 24.

WAYNE COUNTY FAIR begins on Monday, July 27.

PASTOR HUTTON ON VACATION July 26 through August 8.

NOW YOU CAN GIVE EASILY THROUGH ONLINE GIVING!

Be part of the amazing work God is doing in our church! Instead of writing checks, you can now give to the church's general fund easily by scanning the QR code with your smartphone's camera and following the secure link to make a quick, secure donation **OR** use the link below to reach the same secure link.



<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZXZE>

Thank you for your support!

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



NOISY OFFERINGS!!



Please consider bringing your loose change to church and “noisily” depositing it in the pot!! Offerings April through July at First Lutheran will go to the Counting Sheep project. Offerings through July at Christ the Servant will go to school lunches.

Pastoral Pondering

*O come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
For the LORD is a great God
and a great King above all gods. (Psalm 95:1-3)*

As I sit here at my desk thinking of summer with all that is coming in the future weeks and months, I listen to the children of Vacation Bible School singing in the sanctuary, memorizing bible verses, making leather book marks and prayer bracelets, decorating caps and crosses, and making lots of joyful noise. It's fantastic! - who can help but be inspired by the enthusiasm of the children as they grow in faith and make new friends. While all this is going on, we are very thankful for the staff members from Lutheran Lakeside Camp at Okoboji who provide leadership for the week and the many adults who have come to help support all the activities of the week.

Looking further into this year, plans are being made to celebrate a whole parish Birthday Dinner on Wednesday, October 21st beginning at 5:30 pm in the Fireside Room of First Lutheran. The celebration will honor and celebrate everyone's birthday, all in the same evening over dinner, cake, and candles - this is for everyone in both congregations, adults and young people alike. You don't need to do anything but make a reservation (which will be open the early part of August in the narthex at First Lutheran or on the coffee counter at Christ the Servant). Prairie Street Pub will cater the appetizers and dinner; and it will be at no cost to anyone. So, put the date on your calendar and plan now to celebrate with us and make a joyful noise to the Lord.

In addition to the 3rd Sunday of each month (June, July and August) worshipping outdoors at First Lutheran and Sunday, August 23rd, Christ the Servant worshipping at the Reservoir with a potluck dinner to follow, First Lutheran will worship on Sunday, September 13th, at Red Haw Park Stone Shelter with a potluck brunch following. Plan now to join us outdoors on these special outdoor worship services to make a joyful noise to the Lord our God.

And finally, on Sunday, September 20th, we'll celebrate a youth Sunday with the young people of the congregation leading us in worship. What an awesome joy to make a joyful noise to the Lord as the young people share their faith with us.

We truly do have lots of reasons to make a joyful noise; come join in praising the Lord, our God, who is a great God!

Blessings!

Pastor Dick

Re:Newed

July Baptismal Anniversaries

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

- 7/ Carol Brown
- 7/ Jamie Aulwes
- 7/1 Anne Kruse
- 7/13 Barb Vogel
- 7/19 Alena Umbenhower
- 7/22 Linda Schilling
- 7/24 John Harman
- 7/27 Brad 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!)



First Lutheran Church,
Thank you so much for your visits, cards, kind words and prayers for our family and honoring Diane during this tough and difficult time.

Thank you, The Lukavsky's

First Lutheran Church,
Those who volunteer at the Interchurch Council food pantry send blessings to you for your gifts to the needy of our community. May God bless you!

ICC of Lucas County

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.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

CORYDON

- 7/2 Linda Schilling
- 7/3 Judie Miller
- 7/6 John Forbes
- 7/29 Lucas Harders
- 7/29 George Harders
- 7/30 Alice Thiel
- 7/31 Cindy Thiel
- 7/31 Lois Jacobsen

CHARITON

- 7/2 Susan Muehlenthaler
- 7/4 Macy Wood
- 7/5 Janice Goetsch
- 7/8 Fred Wilker
- 7/10 Dave Rich
- 7/10 Evan Havick
- 7/13 Rowyan Ballanger
- 7/14 Brad Krutsinger
- 7/15 Angelynne Coleman
- 7/15 Maeve Shanks
- 7/17 Connie Holland
- 7/18 Dean Whaley
- 7/19 Linda Comstock
- 7/24 Dana Holland
- 7/24 Jason Peters
- 7/25 Kim Francisco
- 7/25 Katie Williams
- 7/28 Julie Goetsch
- 7/31 Dalton Lukavsky



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

CORYDON

- 7/8 Greg & Becky Harman
- 7/25 Bill & Judie Miller
- 7/27 Jennifer & Cole Goben



CHARITON

- 7/8 Chad & Stephanie Lukavsky
- 7/9 Justin & Trish Sharp
- 7/9 Clint & Amanda Smith
- 7/14 Rod & Gayle Bortz
- 7/15 Tim & Natalie McGee
- 7/16 Mary Jo & Chris Fisher
- 7/19 Dennis & Patti Bisgard
- 7/19 Paula & Gene Wright
- 7/21 Mark & Rhonda White
- 7/24 Bethany & John Lahart
- 7/29 Tom & Kim McGee
- 7/30 Joe & Jenny Morrett