

First Fruits

Worship Ministry

September 2026
Volume 30, Number 9

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, First Lutheran will be holding the 9 AM worship service and a potluck at Red Haw State Park in the stone shelter. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy the outdoor service by the lake and stay for the potluck!



ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN-UP CALENDAR



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



YOUTH SUNDAY—The youth will be assisting with the worship services on **September 20.** In Chariton, Morgan Peters, Kate Krutsinger, and Aislin Carroll will be sharing the sermon and in Corydon, Alice Thiel will be providing the sermon. Don't miss these inspiring messages from our youth!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES will begin on **Wednesday, September 16** at 2 PM.



SUNDAY SCHOOL will start September 27! Sunday school will be held during the worship service for youth thru 6th grade. Older youth are invited if they choose! Members are invited to sign up to teach one Sunday (or more) on the chart in the Narthex. The lessons follow the gospel reading that morning. The children will be released during the gospel and sermon. The classes will be held in the basement and will 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

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 free will donation. Buy 1 or 2 or 6! They will be delicious! Mark your calendar for the third Sunday of the month—the youth will be happy to serve you!! Angie Wilson is setting up the rotation schedule for the parents of the youth. Thank you Angie for your service.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Ministry Center	2
Adult Bible Study	2
Alpha Youth Fellowship	2
Radio Broadcasts	2
WELCA Scholarship	3
On The Vine	3
Giving Opportunity	3
Noisy Offerings	3
Pastoral Pondering	4
Birthdays & Anniversaries ..	5
Condolences	5
Calendar	6



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21!

On Wednesday, October 21 at 5:30 pm, there will be a congregational birthday dinner at First Lutheran for all members of First Lutheran and Christ the Servant. Plan to attend and celebrate everyone's birthday on the same day!

Watch for registration information in September. A catered meal will be provided and birthday cake will be the dessert. **Registration deadline will be Sunday, October 4.** Plan now to attend and celebrate with your church family!

Discipleship Ministry

SEPTEMBER IS JUICE MONTH at the Ministries Center. Examples would be fruit juices, vegetable juices, (tomato & V8), and juice boxes. Please consider helping with this ministry! Thank you!

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!!



ADULT BIBLE STUDY will meet starting on **Wednesday, September 16** at 10 AM in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran. Everyone is welcome to attend for the study and the fellowship. The coffee pot will be on!!



ALPHA YOUTH FELLOWSHIP is returning this fall! All youth in Middle and High School are invited to attend. The first one will be on **Wednesday, September 30 at 2 PM**. Snacks and beverages will be provided. 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:

September 6: Randy & Marcia Heimdal in honor of their grandchild's birthday

September 13: Randy & Marcia Heimdal in honor of their grandchild's birthday

September 20: Dana & Connie Holland in honor of granddaughter Laney Murray's birthday

September 27: Roger & Jean Heston

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

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



FLC WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet at 10 AM on Tuesday, September 1.

OFFICE CLOSED on Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.

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

"SHARING THE WEIGHT" BLANKET MAKING will take place on Tuesday, September 8 from 9 AM-3 PM at CTS.

THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA will gather on Thursday, September 10, at 1 PM.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT RED HAW STONE SHELTER on Sunday, September 13 at 9 AM with potluck following the service.

CTS WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet at 11 AM on Monday, September 14.

LAPLANDERS QUILT GUILD AT CTS will meet on Monday, September 14 beginning at 2 PM.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on Monday, September 14 at 6:30 PM at FLC.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY will meet on Wednesdays, at 10 AM starting September 16.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will be held at 2 PM on Wednesday, September 16 and 23.

LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP will meet on Sunday, September 20, at 5 PM. Please bring a food item to share. Earl & Linda Comstock will host.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS on Sunday, September 27 during worship service.

ALPHA YOUTH FELLOWSHIP will be on Wednesday, September 30 at 2 PM.

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](https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZXZE)

Thank you for your support!

NOISY OFFERINGS!!

Please consider bringing your loose change to church and "noisily" depositing it in the pot!! Offerings **August through November** at First Lutheran will go to a **needy family**. Offerings through November at Christ the Servant will go to the **Food Pantry**.



Pastoral Pondering

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. (Colossians 3:16)

As September approaches, school bells ring and chatter fills the classrooms, Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Bible Study resume, and outside the leaves begin to turn orange and red as the air grows crisp; once again we are reminded of the changing seasons of life. Autumn has a way of holding both beauty and loss together - the brilliance of color alongside the barrenness that is coming. It is a season that quietly teaches us what faith has always known: God's presence is steady, not only in the moments of abundance, but in the seasons of letting go, change, and waiting.

During this time of year, it is easy to slip into a shallow version of gratitude - thankful for only the good things, the bright days, the blessings that feel easy to name. But the deeper truth of our faith is that gratitude runs even deeper. Gratitude is not just for what we have; it is for who God is. We give thanks for God's sustaining grace, for the Spirit who carries us through the long nights, for the presence of Christ who walks beside us when the path is hard.

This kind of gratitude does not stay inside of us...it spills over. True thanksgiving is never just a word we say, but a life we live. It takes shape in service, in generosity, in advocacy, in showing up for one another and for our neighbors near and far. As a congregation, we see this gratitude spilling over all the time: in the care of children and youth, in gathering around the Lord's table to be fed and sent, in being inspired by youth as they lead us in worship on Sunday - September 20th - (and this year it will happen at both congregations), and in joining together on Wednesday, October 21st to celebrate everybody's birthday.

Then, as we move through the months of fall - through Reformation, All Saints, Thanksgiving (when this year, we shall gather to give thanks at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving), Advent and Christmas, and finally into the turning of the year. May we live out this fall season with a deep sense of gratitude: for beauty and for change, for joy and for challenge, for the God who sustains us in all of it. And may our gratitude flow outward, in service and love, until God's kingdom of mercy and justice is made visible among us.

Blessings to All!

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!)



OUR CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS to the family of Lois Jacobsen. Lois completed her baptismal journey and joined the Church triumphant on August 29, 2026. Please keep her family in your prayers. A memorial service will be held in October.

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 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



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