

## **Moment of Contact**

First Lutheran Church 3939 Cheyenne Blvd. Sioux City, IA 51104

March 2023



#### PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The season of Lent is full of paradox. We have images of contrast, light and darkness, desert and water, life and death. Our gospel stories this month are rich and deep. John's gospel shows who God is and what the life of faith has at its heart.

Lent is a season of preparation which often takes on a quiet, introspective quality. On Ash Wednesday we began the season with self -examination. Through simplicity and repetition, Lent allows us to find balance between fast and slow, softer and louder, silence and communal song.

And on Wednesday nights our mid-week Lenten worship will

explore our salvation history, along the way we will discover God's desire to be in relationship with all of God's people. We will explore faith questions and reflect on what sort of God we worship? What challenges will I face in my life as a baptized child of God?

With so much change in our lives, the constant gradual transition or the blink of an eye, we long for the expected and familiar. With all the unknowns, in the midst of uncertainty, let us gather as people of God who worship a God who is steadfast in the midst of the paradoxes of our lives.

PASTOR VRISTING

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#### COUNCIL RETREAT ACTIONS

The congregation council met to begin their work together during the council retreat. We give thanks for this group of members who will serve as our leaders this year. Congregation Council members for 2023 include: Vanessa Bremer, David Gross, Pete Hawkinson, Alison Hertenstein, Tammy Mahaney, Mike VanBeest, Mark Viksten and Pastor Kristine. The council will focus on three major areas of faith life including a vision for our future, assessing and determining the priorities of our building, and engaging and inviting all ages to participate in a variety of opportunities for fellowship.

As the congregation council meets each month they will communicate what they are doing and how you can participate. Stay tuned for more information and when invited, join in the ongoing ministry of this congregation!

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+ Midweek Lenten Worship....begins Wednesday, March 1 and will focus on the Easter Vigil texts. + + The confirmands have studied the salvation history of God's people for the past three years. As they , prepare for their affirmation of Baptism in May, + they will be assisting ministers during the Lenten mid-week programming. Through vigil readings we will explore themes in the creation and flood ÷. + stories, the exodus through the Red Sea, Isaiah's salvation proclamation and the scary fiery furnace! Save Wednesday's during Lent beginning March 1st, t + to journey to the Easter Vigil with familiar stories which will remind us again of God's love for his + people.

+ EASTER VIGIL, Saturday, April 8, 2023 Easter Vigil is a special night. A moment for some of the greatest stories of our faith heritage to come

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together in one setting. In hearing these stories, we connect with the heart of our own faith story.

This year First Lutheran will gather to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord with a Vigil of Easter.

At the Vigil of Easter, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night we experience again the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith: we are claimed and cleansed, renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ.

The confirmands will serve as our story tellers and we will end the evening with decadent desserts... celebrating the sweetness of the resurrection! Add this worship service to your calendar as we conclude Holy Week. And, spoiler alert, at this service, we get to sing Alleluia again!

#### First Lutheran Church 3939 Cheyenne Blvd Sioux City, IA 51104 Office Phone: 712-239-3942 Website: https://www.firstlutheransc.org **First Lutheran Staff** Pastor Kristine Stedje flcpastor3939@gmail.com (612) 408-6692 Jody Hines, Office Mgr. flc3939JodyHines@gmail.com Jim Larson, Custodian Alison Hertenstein, Vice President Vanessa Bremer alison.hertenstein@hintonschool.com vanessabremer@ymail.com (712) 223-1364 (402) 414-1426 Church **David Gross** Tammy Mahaney, Secretary mahaneyfour@aol.com jdhe03gross@aol.com (712) 454-0711 (712) 266-6764 Mark Viksten, President Pete Hawkinson, Treasurer Mike VanBeest mark.viksten@gelita.com vbeest@aol.com

(712) 212-2862

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Phawk712@yahoo.com (712) 258-1192

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(712) 301-6013



# ent MARCH 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A sprin gushing etern life	ng of water up to pal		1      9-11:30 Food      Pantry      6:00 Choir      7:00 Mid-week      Lenten      Worship	2 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	3      9:00      Quilters        FH      7:00      AA FH	4 9-11 Pickle ball Gym 11:00 Funeral for Alex Reinhardt
5 10:00 Worship/ SS/In-Person/FB Live/Radio w/ Holy Communion After Worship— Adult Forum: Racism Fellowship FR 2-7:00 Scouts Gym	6 Pastor's Day Off Office ⊂losed 5-6:30 Rising Stars Gym 7:00 Scouts FH	7 10:00 Text Study 5-6:30 Rising Stars Gym 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	8 9-11:30 Food Pantry 6:00 Choir 7:00 Mid-week Lenten Worship	9 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	10    Quilters      9:00    Quilters      FH    7:00      AA FH	11 9-11:00 Pickle ball Gym
12 10:00 Worship/ SS/In-Person/FB Live/Radio w/ Holy Communion After Worship— Fellowship FR	13Pastor's Day OffOffice Closed5-6:30RisingStarsGym6-8:00DorothyGoettschFR7:00Scouts FH	14 10:00 Text Study 5-6:30 Rising Stars Gym 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	15      9-11:30    Food      Pantry      12:30    Rachel      Circle      6:00    Choir      7:00    Mid-week      Lenten    Worship	16 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	<b>17</b> 9:00 Quilters FH 7:00 AA FH	18 9-11:00 Pickle ball Gym
<b>19</b> <b>10:00</b> Worship/ SS/In-Person/FB Live/Radio w/ Holy Communion <b>After Worship</b> – Fellowship FR	20 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed 5-6:30 Rising Stars Gym 7:00 Scouts FH	21 10:00 Text Study 5-6:30 Rising Stars Gym 6:30 Council Meeting FR 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	22 9-11:30 Food Pantry 6:00 Choir 7:00 Mid-week Lenten Worship Deadline for Newsletter submissions	23 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	24 9:00 Quilters FH 7:00 AA FH	25 9-11:00 Pickle ball Gym
26 10:00 Worship/ SS/In-Person/FB Live/Radio w/ Holy Communion After Worship— Fellowship FR	27 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed 5-6:30 Rising Stars Gym 7:00 Scouts FH	28 10:00 Text Study 5-6:30 Rising Stars Gym 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	29 9-11:30 Food Pantry 6:00 Choir 7:00 Mid-week Lenten Worship	30 7-9:00 Pickleball Gym	<b>31</b> 9:00 Quilters FH 7:00 AA FH	<u>Key</u> CR = Community Rm FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room SS = Sunday School Room YR = Youth Room

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Worship Leadership Calendar								
LENT 2023	MARCH 5 Nicodemus Rev. Joy presider	MARCH 12 Woman at the Well	MARCH 19 Man born blind	MARCH 26 Lazarus				
ASSISTING MINISTER	Janet Gross	Alison Hertenstein	Dan Moore	Bruce Miller				
SACRISTAN Kaia Downing		Ian Hertenstein	Julie Thiele Jenny Denne	David Gross				
READER	Kaia Downing	Vanessa Bremer	Bruce Miller	Jim Lippke				
CRUCIFER	Ian Hertenstein	Zach Hagan	Logan Hebert	Ethan Walz				
COMMUNION MINISTER	David Gross, Evie Hertenstein, Sheila & Tim Geary	Ian & Evie Hertenstein, Stacy & Wyatt Hagan	Lori McClaren, Evie Hertenstein, Jenny Denne, Jacob Simons	Kaia Downing, Evie Hertenstein, Mike VanBeest				
USHERS/GREETERS	Jay Schenzel, Chris Taylor, Denise Powell	Gary Troth, Bruce Miller, Dorothy Goettsch	Mike Mahaney, David & Emma Gross	Mike VanBeest, Mary McCoy, Bev Rosenkrans				
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST	Lori McClaren	Nadine Holtz, Dee Bertram	Vanessa Bremer	Julie & Brian Thiele				

### Life Passages

I am the resurrection and the life Alex Kadin Reinhardt February 25, 2023







2023 radio and livestream sponsor signup lists are in the narthex.

## HELPING IN THE HOLY FAMILY FOOD PANTRY

February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28 Janet Gross & Nissa Downing preparing bags for Wednesday distribution.

March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Sue Bowers	Mary McCoy	Candy Johnson	Sue Mullin	Dorothy Goettsch
Nadine Holt	Chris Taylor	Ann Doellinger	Nadine Holst	Becki McGlauflin

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First Lutheran Church 3939 Cheyenne Blvd. Sioux City, IA 51104 Return Service Requested

## **Easter Lilies**

We will be ordering Easter lilies once again for the church. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex for anyone who would like to purchase lilies and if they wish to have it made in honor or memory of a loved one. The purchase price of the lilies will be \$12.00 each and will arrive on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to: First Lutheran Church.