

# Moment of Contact



October 2023

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## Pastor's Message

Forming faith is a way of life for Lutherans. Martin Luther reformed the church in order that the ordinary people of his day did not need an intermediary to pray for them to God. Martin Luther strongly believed ordinary people could read scripture for themselves, so he went about translating the Bible into the language of the people. Martin Luther believed God's love would change how a person lived their life, not under the threat of a vengeful God, but in the warm embrace of a loving and forgiving God. These reforming ideas have led to forming faith in us all, no matter our age.

We form faith in the children of God of all ages at First Lutheran. We gather for worship to hear again God's message of hope, receive Jesus' meal and depart to go serve our neighbors in need. We gather the children and

**Welcome.  
Worship.  
Serve.**

youth to teach them of God's love and care. As adults we go deeper into scripture and ponder the ways in which God actively seeks out and gathers his people, forming faith one day at a time.

During the month of October we will gather to **welcome, worship and serve** God. Living into our vision statement, as a welcoming congregation who worships and serves the God we love, our vision "*words*" will focus our ministry and service, leading us to reform the world outside our church doors. As God welcomes us, we give our thanks and praise as we worship as a community of faith.

*Pastor Kristine*

## Baptized, We Live

Over the course of four Sundays, October 15 – November 5, we will gather following worship to study together a guide to Lutheranism as a Way of Life. *Baptized, We Live*, written by Daniel Erlander, will engage us in conversation around a way of seeing, a way of hearing, a way of teaching and a way of following. These are the ways Christians actively participate in the life of the faithful people of God. Think of this opportunity as a refresher course on what it means to be Lutheran, baptized to be the people of God in the world today.

## Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Children need a good night's rest to function during the day. We have an opportunity to make a bed for them to sleep in. *Sleep in Heavenly Peace*, project will be making bed on Saturday, October 21 from 1 – 3 pm. If you would like to participate in this project, please contact Janet Gross for more information, or check out their website at [shpbeds.org](http://shpbeds.org).

## Who wants to go on a walk! And for a good cause?



The Western Iowa Synod invites you to participate in a fundraiser for *Igumbilo Girls Secondary School in Tanzania* by walking or running during the month of October. There is a \$25 entry fee per person, or for a group of 10 it is \$200.

anywhere in the month of October. You can walk alone or with a group. Check out the Western Iowa Synod website for more information and registration, [wisynod.org](http://wisynod.org).

Have you checked out the Western Iowa Synod Magazine, *Waterlife Journal*? Lots of interesting articles! Go to [wisynod.org](http://wisynod.org) and use the pull down menu, click on the *Waterlife Journal*.

Most girls who attend the school in Tanzania walk six kilometers to school each day. We can support them by walking with them anytime,

## Holy Family Food Pantry



In celebration of the twenty-five years of serving the hungry, during the month of October we will be collecting quarters in M&M containers. To involve the children and youth, to help them be aware of other children who be hungry in our city, we will provide an opportunity

for them to collect Quarter donations which will go to feed those who participate in our food distribution on Wednesday mornings. If you would like to participate along with the children, "containers" will be available to you. Pick up a container, enjoy the M&Ms and fill the container with quarters and return them to the basket in the narthex.

## Life Passages

*Those who believe in me,  
though they die, shall live*

Onee Iverson

January 31, 1930 – September 6, 2023

Last year a group from First Lutheran attended the first **Lutheran Services of Iowa Empower** event. The second annual event will be held on Thursday, October 12, at the Cottonwood Conference Center in South Sioux City from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. Individual tickets are available for \$25. The Empower event brings the Sioux City community together to celebrate diversity and raise fund for LSI's Immigrant and Refugee Community Services. To register go to: [lsiowa.org/empower-event-sc](http://lsiowa.org/empower-event-sc).

## Soup Kitchen



We are happy to report another enjoyable, busy serving shift at the **Soup Kitchen** on September 18th. We helped serve 132 individuals. Thanks be to Janet Gross, Becky McGlaufflin, Lee Knop, Sue Mullin, Candy Johnson, Doug Webb and special thanks to Larry LeClair for filling in at the last minute on September 26th. The staff there tell us how much they like and appreciate the First Lutheran volunteers! In October we have scheduled the Soup Kitchen volunteer serving shift for Wednesday the 18th. The shift is from 4-6 pm. Think about joining us Call Candy @ 251-9411.