



# Parish Partyline

## Concordia Lutheran & First Lutheran

March 2025

### Pastor

Pastor Deb Hammer  
pastoratcandf@gmail.com  
(402) 518-0423

### Secretary

Bridgett Connell  
secretaryatcf@gmail.com  
(402) 841-3110

### CLC Council Members

Peg Lutt  
Zach Harder  
Mandy Bruning  
Dustin Thompson  
Grant Anderson  
Kenny Steinle

### FLC Council Members

Vickie Sands  
Katie Olesen  
Gloria Dowling  
Denise Hingst  
Rod Ketelsen  
Lyle Carlson

### Concordia Lutheran Church

584-2471  
Facebook:  
Concordia Lutheran Church, ELCA

### First Lutheran Church

635-2461  
Website:  
www.firstlutheranallen.com  
Facebook:  
First Lutheran Church,  
ELCA~Allen, NE

## Announcements

**CLC E-giving option** using your cell phone: Download the app "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement", search for "Concordia Lutheran Church ELCA" and set up your account. Contact Judy Martindale (402-369-0909) if you need assistance.

**Bishop Scott Johnson will be our guest pastor on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, communion will be served.**

**HOPE Circle will meet on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at Kinship Pointe.**

Bible Study: Pastor Deb & Hostess: Lynette

**FLC WELCA will meet on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.**

Lesson (Matthew 6:19-34) by Jean Morgan & Hostess: Bea Osbahr

**Service men and women** continue to need to hear from home, friends, and family. Please consider sending a "Thinking of You", "Thank You for Your Service", or just a short personal note to our current service members:

**DG Christopher Wordekemper**  
4754 English Ave. Apt 301-B  
Fort Meade, MD 20755

**Taylor Johnson**  
7541 Murray Hill, Apt 838  
Columbia, MD 21046

**Jenna & Dylan Scholl**  
1224 W Redbud Court  
Andover, KS 67002

### **Pastor Deb surgery:**

- Pastor had surgery at the Methodist Hospital in Omaha on February 21<sup>st</sup>.  
(A hysterectomy for preventative ovarian cancer.)
- Pastor will be off for about two weeks, will take it easy for six weeks for full recovery. I hope to be well enough by Ash Wednesday.
- Bishop Scott Johnson will be our guest pastor on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, communion will be served.
- On call Pastor Priscilla Hukki (Grace, West Point) – cell phone 402-841-0220



*We remember in our prayers those who need our prayers.*

Peg Lutt  
Vicky Hingst

*We remember those in care facilities or homebound.*

Loren & Betty Carr (Homebound)  
Bonnie Kellogg  
(Wakefield Care Center)  
Frieda Bowman (Kinship Pointe)  
Lyla Swanson (Kinship Pointe)  
Marilyn Wallin (CountryView)  
Fern Erickson (Kinship Pointe)  
Shirley Lanser (Homebound)  
Elaine Lubberstedt  
(Kinship Pointe)

*We remember those serving in the armed forces.*

Chris Wordekemper  
Taylor Johnson  
Jenna & Dylan Scholl

*Concordia Members*  
Melvin Vanderheiden  
Hart & Mary Vollers  
Marilyn Wallin  
Laurie Wayman;  
Jayson, Presten  
Ethan Williams

*First Lutheran Members*  
Steven & Karlie Sands  
Tom & Vickie Sands  
Jerry & Donna Schroeder  
Jerry Smith & Karen  
Claussen-Smith  
Dale & Barb Strivens

If you know of any person in need of prayers, please call the church office at 635-2461 and leave a message if no one answers.

# Worship Helpers & Celebrations

	First Helpers	Concordia Helpers
<b>Ushers &amp; Greeters</b>	Scott & Jean Morgan	Dan Nolte & Grant Settje
<b>Acolytes</b>		3/2 Jayson Wayman 3/9 Taelynn Settje 3/16 Turner Thompson 3/23 Presten Wayman 3/30 Easton Nolte
<b>Lay Readers</b>	Gloria Dowling	Danita Hanson
<b>Communion Steward</b>	Vickie Sands	Mary Vollers
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Barb Sands	Trisha R., Alissa T., Andrea J., & Brandi S.
<b>Altar Flowers</b>		Lynette Krie
<b>Power Point</b>	Vickie Sands	
<b>Coffee after Service</b>	3/2 Lyle & Jean Carlson 3/9 Paul & Tina Boyle 3/16 Olesen Family 3/23 Scott & Jean Morgan 3/30 Karen & Jerry Smith	

## Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary Concordia

3/2 Trish Reifenrath  
3/3 Pam Anderson  
3/3 Turner Thompson  
3/4 Hart & Mary Vollers  
3/5 Jayson Wayman  
3/5 Audra Corbit  
3/7 Jason Fischer  
3/7 Emmitt Steinle  
3/9 Jeremy Christiansen  
3/13 Pastor Deb Hammer  
3/19 Jeremy & Sheri Christiansen  
3/20 Amanda Fischer  
3/22 William Anderson  
3/22 Dustin & Alissa Thompson  
3/25 Grant & Brandi Settje  
3/30 Frieda Bowman



## Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary First

3/11 Cole Monteith  
3/13 Scott Morgan  
3/13 Pastor Deb Hammer  
3/25 Jordyn Carr  
3/27 Paul & Colleen Boyle  
3/31 Reed Hingst

# EMMAUS

## Lifelong Learning

Designed for curious disciples wanting to continue learning as growing disciples, Emmaus: Lifelong Learning offers short term courses for all ages, levels of expertise and learning styles. Participants have the opportunity to engage online or in-person through book discussions, workshops, webinars, and conversation groups. Whether you're discerning a call to rostered ministry, stepping into a lay leadership role or ready to go deeper as a growing disciple, Emmaus: Lifelong Learning is for you.

"Emmaus courses are convenient, relevant, and just really enjoyable. I am passionate about learning more and growing my faith, and these courses have done just that for me." - Diane Reece - Bethlehem, Wahoo

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IN THESE AREAS

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DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING  
JUSTICE, INCLUSIVITY AND ADVOCACY  
BOOK DISCUSSIONS  
SPIRITUAL PRACTICES  
WORSHIP

Learn more  
& Register!



## LENT 2025

March 5 - Ash Wednesday @ CLC

March 12 - Lent 1 @ FLC\*

March 19 - Lent 2 @ CLC\*

March 26 - Lent 3 @ FLC\*

April 2 - Lent 4 @ CLC\*

April 9 - Lent 5 @ FLC\*

April 17 - Maundy Thursday @ CLC\*

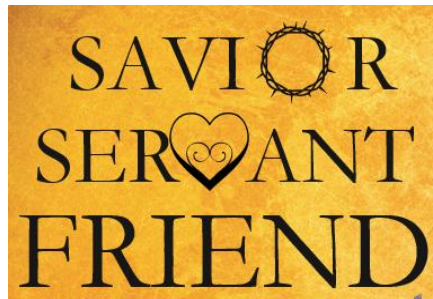
April 18 - Good Friday @ FLC\*

April 20 - Easter Sunday

7:30 a.m. @ FLC

10:15 a.m. @ CLC

\*Lenten Service will be held at 7:00 p.m.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL GATHERING

*Walking Together*

**APRIL 12TH, 2025**  
**9:30 AM - 7:00 PM**

**5TH - 9TH GRADE YOUTH**

*Ephesians 5:1-2*

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL  
OMAHA

FAMILY OF CHRIST  
KEARNEY

OUR SAVIOR  
WAYNE

# Ministry Opportunities

**Council Meetings at FLC** – March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. CLC, 7:00 p.m. Joint, 8:00 p.m. FLC

**Ash Wednesday Service** – March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at CLC

**HOPE Circle** – March 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at Kinship Pointe

**FLC WELCA** – March 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

**Lenten Worship** – March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at FLC

**Mutual Ministry Meeting** – March 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at FLC

**Lenten Worship** – March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at CLC

**Newsletter Deadline** – March 24<sup>th</sup>

**Lenten Worship** – March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at FLC

\*\*No Confirmation or Children's Ministry will take place during Lent.\*\*

## Bible Readings

### **March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36[37-43a]

### **March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

### **March 16<sup>th</sup>**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalms 27

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

### **March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalms 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

### **March 30<sup>th</sup>**

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalms 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

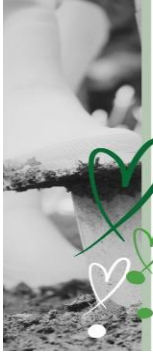
Lutheran Ladies

With sincere gratitude  
and appreciation.

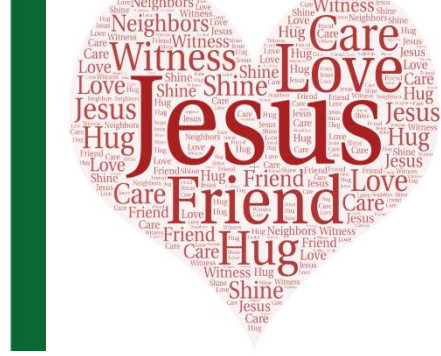
Thank you so much for  
the wonderful luncheon  
for Doug's service.

The family of  
Doug Klewer

Thank You



## Cultivating Love Through Friendship



*Jesus said, "...I have called you friends, for everything I learned from my Father, I have made known to you. - John 15:15*

Welcome to March as we begin our journey through lent. During Lent, we will be spending time with a series about Jesus, "Savior, Servant, Friend." Lent provides us with a perfect chance to explore the extraordinary attributes of our Savior, Servant, and Friend, Jesus. It is a time to marvel at the many blessings we received when he laid down his life for us on the cross and then rose victorious from the grave.

Each week we will look at how Jesus forgives, heals, listens, encourages, protects, and comforts us. We will look at how we receive Jesus as our friend and how we share that friendship with others. I will give a meditation each week. Part of the series is about how Jesus is a savior, servant, friend to us. I would love to have a volunteer each week come and give a two- or three-minute faith statement on how Jesus has been there for them, how Jesus is their friend. Of course, you could have more time than a few minutes, we always love to hear faith stories and people never tire of listening to people share their own faith. I pray you would be willing to volunteer to share your faith during one of the Wednesdays during lent.

*Blessings, Pastor Deb*



# **First Lutheran Council Meeting Highlights**

*One unified body of Christ, called to be agents of love and service to all!*

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First Lutheran Council met on February 11, 2025. Present were Lyle Carlson, Gloria Dowling, Denise Hingst, Rod Ketelsen, and Vickie Sands.

\*Opening prayer by all.

\*Pastor's report was read and discussed.

\*Secretary's report for January was read and approved.

\*Treasurer's report for January not available.

## **Election of officers:**

**President: Lyle Carlson**

**Vice President: Rod Ketelsen**

**Secretary: Vickie Sands**

**Treasurer: Katie Olesen**

## **Property Items: (all on hold until Spring)**

- Air conditioner
- Roof repair
- Parking lot

## **Old Business:**

- Soup Supper (Feb. 23) Several items still needed for this

## **New Business:**

- The council and WELCA will handle the fellowship coffees after Lenten services at First.

Motion to adjourn.

Closing prayer by all.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

**Next meeting will be a joint meeting at FLC on Monday, March 3. CLC will meet at 6:00, joint council at 7:00, and FLC at 8:00.**

# Concordia Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes

*Reflecting God's love in service to all through our family of faith!*

The monthly meeting of the Concordia Lutheran Council was held February 3rd, 2025 at approximately 5:30 pm in the church basement. Present were Peg Lutt, Grant Anderson, Mandy Bruning, Dustin Thompson, and Kenny Steinle.

We started the meeting reviewing the January 2025 Pastor's Report.

Next, Judy Martindale presented the monthly income for January 2025. We decided that council meetings will work on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month as it will not affect any financial reports.

Soon after, Secretary Grant Anderson reported the minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting. Everything looked good and minutes were approved.

Trisha Reifenrath was not present to report the Monthly Expenses. However, Council did agree to refund the former Parsonage tenant's, Grant Anderson, security deposit. After discussions, all financial reports were approved.

Our next topic was going over Council Goals for 2025. It was brought up that the Memorial/Gift Fund may have money to pay for the AED. Dustin suggested also purchasing the AED 'Premium Package' as it will include a LifeVac. This will cost roughly \$1709 in total. Although it is very simple to use, some members of Council were interested in doing a quick training to better familiarize themselves with the AED. Dustin is still hopeful that a grant will come through to pay for the AED premium kit, but Council made a motion to approve Dustin to just go ahead and purchase the kit however he best sees fit. This motion was approved along with approving the rest of the 2025 Goals.

Then, we reviewed some Old Business. The cost to replace the broken stain glass window will cost around \$500. We agreed not to turn in a claim as it is lower than our deductible. As for the lighting in the sanctuary, we are just waiting on Brad Harder to see if he is able to find and install a compatible bulb. Dustin also pointed out that if we drop the fixture down a few of those chain links, then it may be easier to get a bulb to fit.

Our next point of discussion was New Business. Council agreed that the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 5:30 will work for Council Meetings. Peg agreed to do all sermons and children sermons while Pastor is gone in February/March. She would appreciate some volunteers to help read. Dustin agreed to be a liturgist 2/9 & 2/23. Grant agreed to be a liturgist 2/16. A Bishop from Omaha will be here for communion on 3/2. Lent kicks off on Ash Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. Council will serve lunch on March 19<sup>th</sup> and the WECLA will serve lunch on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

After closing out New Business, we discussed how we would like to disperse our Lent Offerings. A motion was set forth to donate this money to Lutheran Family Services. This motion was approved.

Then, the 140-year Anniversary of our Church is approaching in May. We briefly discussed how we would like to celebrate. We will make more concrete plans in the coming months.

Last, we further discussed the three boys who applied as tenants to the Church Parsonage. Peg passed out applications of the three tenants for Council Members to review. After discussion, Council agreed to present a lease agreement to the boys with special conditions. Rent will be \$900/month, each tenant must show proof of a Renter's Insurance Policy with at least \$500,000 of liability before move in, the dwelling should not house more than three tenants or anyone who has not signed the lease. It should also be known that they are representing a church property and that everything should be in order and well kept. If the tenants do not abide by the lease agreement, we can evict them. We designated Kenny Steinle to be the main point of contact for

these tenants. We gave Kenny the ability to negotiate rent down to no less than \$700/month without Council approval if the boys do not accept \$900/month.

Meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Grant Anderson, Secretary

## **Mission Statement of Concordia Lutheran Church**

*Reflecting God's Love in service to all through our family of faith.*

### **COUNCIL GOALS FOR 2025**

#### **1. Faith Foundation of Concordia**

- a. Support our Children's Ministry
- b. Involve youth in church activity

#### **2. Mission Outreach**

- a. Collaborate with First Lutheran to identify a local mission opportunity to be shared by both congregations.
- b. Join in mission with Lutheran Family Services.
- c. Contribute to Camp CJH initiative

#### **3. Physical Structure**

- a. Complete siding repair (hail damage) of the church building by June 30, 2025
- b. Repair back entry
- c. Improve sanctuary lighting

#### **4. Future**

- a. Encourage and support Pastor to participate in Synod activities.
- b. Lead by example with active participation in service projects and ministry opportunities.
- c. Install/maintain AED