



March 2026

CO-CHAIRPERSONS: Kerstin Allmaras and Kristen Allmaras

USHERING:

Sunday, March 1 at 9:40 a.m.: Rick Swenson
Sunday, March 8 at 9:40 a.m.: Avolt & Jen Baumbach family
Sunday, March 15 at 9:40 a.m.: Donny & Kristen Allmaras family
Sunday, March 22 at 9:40 a.m.: Gary Weigum and Jake Clelland
Sunday, March 29 at 9:45 a.m.: Cody & Emilee Larson family

*Please fill out the Usher Report and place in the offering plate.
Usher duties are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.*

GREETERS:

Sunday, March 1 at 9:15 a.m.: Volunteer needed
Sunday, March 8 at 9:15 a.m.: Bailey & Beau Baumbach
Sunday, March 15 at 9:15 a.m.: Allmaras girls
Sunday, March 22 at 9:15 a.m.: Cheryl Sandager
Sunday, March 29 at 9:15 a.m.: Bruce Hirchert

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

Sunday, March 1 at 9:15 a.m.: Tom & Kathy Ryan
Sunday, March 8 at 9:15 a.m.: Sharon Norton
Sunday, March 15 at 9:15 a.m.: Bruce & Jodi Hirchert
Sunday, March 22 at 9:15 a.m.: Chad & Kali Clelland
Sunday, March 29 at 9:15 a.m.: Colleen Semmens

PREPLANNED CONGREGATION MEAL: N/A

FUND: Capital Campaign

*If you are unavailable on your assigned day,
please use the group list that was mailed to you to find a replacement.
If you are unsuccessful at finding a replacement, please notify a chair-
person.*



Pastor Amy's Ponderings

At our Annual Meeting at the end of January, I closed out the meeting by giving what I call “the state of the parish” address. This is an opportunity for me as your pastor to tell it like it is. How ARE things going at First Lutheran Church? What IS the state of our ministry? Are we healthy? Are we growing in our faith and service in the name of the Lord? Is God being glorified by our shared life together? As I sat down in mid-January to think about the year 2025, I was overcome by a sense of such satisfaction and joy at being your pastor, and all the ways that I get to see God at work among us. So I wrote a list.

After the meeting, there were comments that EVERYONE should hear that list, not just those who were able to be at the meeting. So, here you go! I hope it blesses you the way it blessed me as I created it.

I see Jesus, right here at FLC

- * In the bravery of grieving women who show up week after week to process and give voice to their grief.
- * In the squeals of little kids who love the wide-open space of the Fellowship Hall.
- * In the arms of parents who spend the whole hour of worship trying to wrangle and quiet their little ones, modeling for their kids that church is who we are and what we do.
- * In earnest acolytes who walk so carefully with their lit flame, who engage in worship through prayer and singing, even though no one is watching them (except me).
- * In our elected Board and Council members, who are so dedicated to every aspect of First Lutheran’s ministry and who care deeply about governing well.

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FLC Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry Team

February 1, 2026

The Women's Ministry Team met on Sunday, February 1, 2026, at 11 a.m. In attendance: Katie Jorgensen, Marydean Weinmann, Sharon Whitmer, Joan Shroyer, Allison Pfeiffer, Kristen Allmaras, Jodi Hirschert, Anne Wobbema and Amy Perleberg. Absent: Nan Taverna.

The meeting was called to order. New members were welcomed.

Bank Forward Checking & Savings Accounts: A motion was made by Sharon, seconded by Marydean, to remove Patti Gehrtz from the accounts and add Amy Perleberg. The 2 members who will currently be listed will be Nan Taverna and Amy Perleberg. Motion carried.

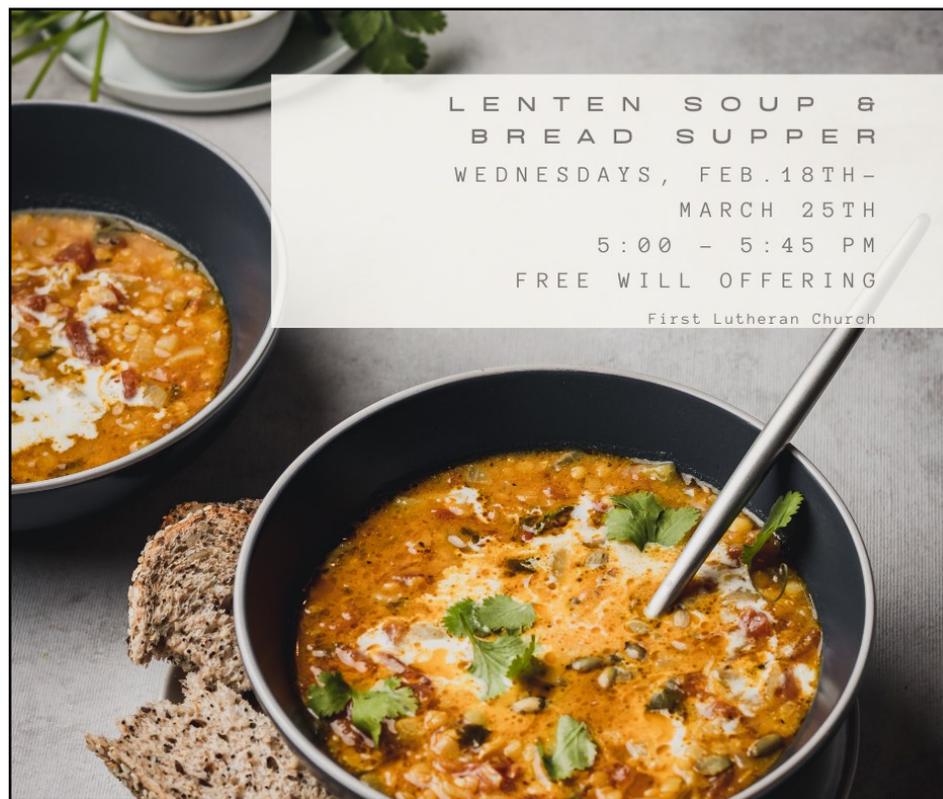
Women's Night Out was discussed. It was decided to maybe try a Sunday afternoon event instead of an evening event to see if that helps with attendance. A few different locations were discussed and possible dates. We will do further planning once we hear back from them on availability. Also, a few speakers were considered and will be contacted once we have a date and location planned. Watch your newsletter and bulletins for further information. The event is hopefully happening around the end of March through the first half of April.

\$575 was raised from the Ladies' Bingo Bash free will offering for the Safe Shelter in Jamestown. Thanks to all who contributed, we are excited to support this wonderful local ministry with those gifts!

Katie and Pastor Amy will research some dates for the fall Women's Retreat at Metigoshe Retreat Center.

Sharon made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Joan seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Amy Perleberg, Secretary



Carpet Fund

IMO Debbie Kruse

By Marilyn Gedrose



Robed and Ready for Worship!



2025 Giving Statements

As mentioned at the annual meeting, giving statements will be placed in your church mailboxes this year.

Please ensure you check the mailbox number document on the side of the mailboxes in order to avoid taking someone else's statement.

If you need your statement mailed or emailed, contact Katie in the church office.



Sunday, March 1st
Evan Hultgren & Auggie Meier
Sunday, March 8th
Christian Nystrom & Hudson Myhre
Sunday, March 15th
Grace Pister & Makaya Heskin
Sunday, March 22nd
Layne Allmaras & Raegyn Lange
Sunday, March 29th
Austin Weisenburger & Miles Peterson

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I sense the Holy Spirit working:

- * In the curiosity of our confirmation kiddos through the mind-blowing questions they ask on their sermon note forms.
- * In the bright eyes and raised hands of the kids during storytime.
- * In your generosity, supporting the daily operations, while also giving \$200,000 to the Capital Campaign to ensure our debt free future.
- * In the LAUNCH teachers who faithfully engage the kids in creative responses to the Bible story.
- * In our Luther League youth group advisors, who despite leading very busy lives, give their time and their hearts to help our teens stay connected to church and God.
- * When I peek out during the singing of the Lord's Prayer and I see so many of you in deep worship and praise.

I see God at work through:

- * The Altar Circle members who take seriously the holy task of caring for the altar area and changing the paraments seasonally.
- * Our Home Communion Deacons, who go from here to bring Jesus to those who cannot be with us in person.
- * Our Confirmation guides who are often so tired after a long day of work, yet who faithfully engage our youth on Wednesday eves, going along with whatever plan Pastor Amy has come up with for that night.
- * Each of you as you continue to get up every Sunday morning to come and hear the Good News of God in Christ Jesus, and then go out to be that Good News to your families, our community, and God's so loved world.

The state of the parish? Honoring the faithful ones who got us to this, our 105th year of ministry, and leaning well into the next century of First Lutheran Church. All to the glory of God.



Thanks to all the sponsors of our radio broadcasts!

- Mar. 1: IMO Dennis Anderson, by Rachel Anderson
- Mar. 8: IMO Arlo & Linda Omoth by the Omoth girls & their families
- Mar. 15: IMO Scott Harrington, by Traci Harrington and family
- Mar. 22: IMO our parents, by David & Gail Roberts
- Mar. 29: IHO Noah's birthday, by Jim & Ann Wobbema family



- ◆ **BAPTISMS:** Lily Arwen Langley, Forde Dorwin Robert Langley
- ◆ **WEDDINGS:**
- ◆ **FUNERALS:**
- ◆ **TRANSFERS:**



**March
2026**

Glenda Collier,
Tiffany Munson,
and Marilyn Anderson



- March 1:** Gail Weisenburger, sound; Sharon Whitmer, lay reader; Shelly Ehni, communion coordinator
- March 4:** Cherry Heinz, sound
- March 8:** Kevin Cartwright, sound; Allmaras family, lay reader
- March 11:** Kenny Thompson, sound
- March 15:** Gail Weisenburger, sound; Christina Anderson, lay reader; Deb Stafford, communion coordinator
- March 18** Cherry Heinz, sound
- March 22:** Kevin Cartwright, sound; Allmaras family, lay reader
- March 25:** Kenny Thompson, sound
- March 29:** Gail Weisenburger, sound; Whit Burkhardtsmeier, lay reader



Pastor Amy is available for your pastoral care needs. If you or your loved one is sick at home or hospitalized and you desire a pastoral visit, please call the church. Keep in mind that HIPPA regulations prevent us from knowing who is hospitalized, so you must let us know.

**NEW OFFICE
HOURS**



MON-THURS, 10AM-3PM

Officer Reports:

President Report: Bruce reported no additional board items and reminded Boards they may meet as needed and are not required to rush their meetings to align with council.

Secretary's Report: Motion by Colleen to accept the Secretary's Report as printed. Seconded by Jon. All in favor, motion carries.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Pastor Amy to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Christina. All in favor, motion carries.

Office Admin Report: Katie shared correspondence received and presented monthly cards of care.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

New Business:

Extra Benevolence: Council noted the January and February extra benevolence has already been distributed and no additional designation was made.

Council Retreat Dates: Council discussed retreat timing and agreed to revisit retreat planning at the April meeting.

Worship and Music Designated Fund: Motion by Pastor Amy to change the name of the Music Fund to the Worship and Music Fund, allowing for expenditures from the Worship & Arts Committee decorating. Second by Jon. All in favor, motion carries.

Hunger Free Food Pantry and First Lutheran Church governance: Discussion was held on the absence of elected governance of the Hunger Free Food Pantry. It is a ministry of First Lutheran Church, so in the absence of a Food Pantry elected board, the responsibility is with the Church Council. Motion by Christina that Katie explore possible nominees for a Hunger Free Food Pantry board, with further discussion to take place at March council meeting. Second by Jon. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion by Pastor Amy to authorize \$100 for a thank you gift. Seconded by Jon Johnson. All in favor, motion carries.

Red Willow Bible Camp will be here March 22 for "Bible Camp Sunday". Motion by Christina to collect a special offering for their 100th Anniversary celebration Aug 7-9, second by Jon. All in favor, motion carries.

FAITH5 Step 4- Pray Together

FAITH5 Step 5- Bless One Another with the sign of the cross

Submitted by: Christina Anderson, Secretary



By the Numbers



FEB. GENERAL FUND OFFERING

February 1	\$4,462.00
February 4	\$22.00
February 8	\$6,202.00
February 11	\$230.00
February 15	\$1,255.00
February 18	\$556.00
February 22	\$2,774.00
Automated Gifts (MTD)	\$520.00
Vanco	\$683.45

GENERAL FUND YEAR-TO-DATE

(as of 1/31/25)

BUDGET:	\$189,277.00
EXPENSES:	\$17,758.08
OFFERING:	\$25,157.51

DESIGNATED FUNDS

(as of 1/31/25)

Property Fund:	\$8,862.94
Banner/Altar Fund:	\$1,116.64
Worship & Music Fund:	\$4,348.79
Budget Reserve:	\$ 18,507.36
Thrivent Choice:	\$1,115.00
Noisy Offering:	\$0.00
FLC Men's Group:	\$1,186.16
Capital Campaign Fund:	\$101,520.79
(Includes Carpet Fund:	\$11,771.09
& Hopes & Dreams:	\$1,224.35)

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

February 1	96
February 4	8
February 8	92
February 11	25
February 15	66
February 18	87
February 22	72



March 2026

- Donnie & Kristen Allmaras family
- Kerstin Allmaras
- Avolt & Jen Baumbach family
- Karla Berglund
- Ed Brecto
- Chad & Kali Clelland
- Jake Clelland
- Bruce & Jodi Hirschert
- Cody & Emilee Larson family
- Sharon Norton
- Richard & Vicki Ryan
- Tom & Kathy Ryan
- Colleen Semmens
- Rick & Kristi Swenson
- Gary Weigum
- Roger & Betty Westby



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 st - Fern Schuster | 15 th - Ashton Reimche |
| 2 nd - Jordan Grossman
Nan Taverna | 16 th - Cheryl Sandager
Braxx Smith
Ann Wobbema |
| 3 rd - Makaya Heskin | 19 th - Sheila Brown
Erik Sorensen |
| 4 th - Justin Munson | 21 st - Michelle Fleming
Miles Peterson
Lucas Weisenburger |
| 5 th - Judy Meier | 23 rd - Jen Baumbach |
| 6 th - Hannah Chamberlain
Noah Wobbema | 24 th - Patti Longnecker
Annie Weber
Austin Weisenburger |
| 7 th - Frank Erickson
Dustin Nystrom
Karen Omoth
Kathy Thompson
Jace Ystaas | 25 th - Deb Belquist |
| 9 th - Shelly Ehni | 28 th - Jill Thompson |
| 10 th - Kelsie Belquist
Vikki Cartwright | 29 th - Sawyer Hochhalter
Cory Jorgensen |
| 11 th - Julie Shrock | 30 th - Kevin Cartwright
Haley Thompson |
| 13 th - Janine Anderson
Ezra Carr
Dennis Lommen
Katlyn Smith
Kim Weber | |

If you find your birthday is not listed, or is incorrect, let us know!



FEBRUARY 2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES (UNAPPROVED BY COUNCIL)

First Lutheran Church Council Minutes February 11, 2026

Quorum was established and the meeting was called to order by President Bruce Hirschert.

Present Council: Bruce Hirschert – President, Colleen Semmens – Vice President, Jon Johnson – Treasurer, Christina Anderson – Secretary, Pastor Amy Kippen – Pastor, Katie Jorgensen – Office Administrator and Board of Education – Katie Jorgensen, Property & Stewardship – Corey Longnecker. Lay Ministry & Evangelism – Michelle Pfeiffer.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Christina to approve the preliminary agenda with the addition of March 22 lunch discussion under New Business. Seconded. Second by Jon. All in favor, motion carries.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Amy reported one week of vacation and continuing education, including an anti-racism one day training in Hillsboro. Pastor Amy reported two nursing home worship services, one funeral and burial, and two baptisms. Additional updates included pastoral care visits, Luther League involvement, and adult forums held on Sunday mornings, including topics of angels and demons, Bible 101, hymns of the faith, and heaven.

Board of Education Report: Katie reported that planning for Ash Wednesday soup supper on February 18 is underway. Katie also shared that the Board is looking ahead to summer scheduling and is welcoming new members Tammy and Megyn. Elected co-chairs are Carissa Johnson and Katie Jorgensen.

Property / Stewardship Report: Corey reported on their meeting with new members, including Lucas Schumacher and LuAnn Meehan. Corey also reported discussion on Capital Campaign priorities and a plan to seek a second opinion on elevator service and potential upgrades. Elected co-chairs are Curt Weinmann and Corey Longnecker.

Lay Ministry / Evangelism Report: Elected co-chairs are Mary Dean Weinmann and Michelle Pfeiffer. The Board is in the process of recruiting additional home communion ministers.

FAITH5 Step 1-Share Highs & Lows: Council members shared personal highs and lows. FAITH5 Step 2- Read Bible Verse: President Bruce shared Psalm 119:105 and 2 Corinthians 9:8.

FAITH 5 Step 3: Talk about the Bible verse and then move to agenda