



September 2026

WORSHIP ROLES

1. USHERING:

Sunday, September 6 at 9:40 a.m.: Johnny Carlson
Sunday, September 13 at 9:40 a.m.: Jim & Fern Schuster
Sunday, September 20 at 9:40 a.m.: Erik & Tammy Sorensen family
Sunday, September 27 at 9:40 a.m.: Joan Shroyer & Amy Perleberg

2. GREETERS:

Sunday, September 6 at 9:15 a.m.: Ethan & Abby Shroyer family
Sunday, September 13 at 9:15 a.m.: Ken & Luann Thompson
Sunday, September 20 at 9:15 a.m.: Kim & Aaron Weber family
Sunday, September 27 at 9:15 a.m.: Justin & Liza Ystaas family

3. COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

Sunday, September 6 at 9:15 a.m.: Linda Lies
Sunday, September 13 at 9:15 a.m.: Josh & Trista Langley family
Sunday, September 20 at 9:15 a.m.: Gina Clifton & Terry & Sandy Koepplein
Sunday, September 27 at 9:15 a.m.: Glenn & Mary Walz

MEALS AND FUNERALS

CO-CHAIRPERSONS: Joan Shroyer, Amy Perleberg, and Luann Thompson
Preplanned Congregation Meals N/A
Funerals (as scheduled)

FUND: Capital Campaign

THINGS TO NOTE

Families are always welcome to help. Congregation members love seeing the children helping right alongside the adults.

Households not assigned to a monthly task will be called on to help with funerals and congregational meals as needed:

Providing food

Setting up, serving, or cleaning up

Donating \$10-\$20 to help cover costs



pastor's ponderings



The Board of Education, here at FLC, hosted a Vacation Bible School (VBS) program from July 22nd—24th, 2026. The theme of the program was “What’s Cookin’?” and so the board decided to get the kids involved with lunches and snacks (such as pudding lasagna and rock fudge), age appropriately, while diving into our Bible stories to find what God had cookin’ in his plans.

Thirty-two students and our volunteers learned about Jacob’s dream and ladder and Moses, memorized Bible verses, learned new songs, and had plenty of fun with games and crafts—such as rock pillows and necklaces.

There was a VBS closing program at 11:30 am on the 24th for families, congregation, and community members where the students did a fantastic job, looking adorable in their chef’s hats and aprons, showcasing what they learned during the week.





1 st - Mary Walz	21 st - Harrison Jorgensen
2 nd - Myles Guler	Kyle Thompson
3 rd - Danielle Bjerke	22 nd - Adam Fleming
Rory Perleberg	Rachel Holzwarth
5 th - Gabe Allmaras	Marty Larson
Andy Bachmeier	Kortney Roscoe
8 th - Nathaniel Scanson	24 th - William Jorgensen
9 th - Terry Koepplin	Kayla Schumacker
Brycen Shroyer	27 th - Chase Pederson
11 th - Barb Hillebrand	28 th - Dori Tollefson
13 th - Logan Cudworth	29 th - Debra Larson
15 th - Orie Willms	30 th - Donny Allmaras
18 th - Rachel Anderson	John Bollingberg
20 th - Kent Brown	

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



Sunday, September 6th
Gracie Pister & Luca Schumacher
Sunday, September 13th
Jack Skogen & Livi Skogen
Sunday, September 20th
Dylan Cudworth & Christian Nystrom
Sunday, September 27th
Jace Ystaas & Casey Ystaas

Hunger-Free Food Pantry's Backpack Program

As we prepare to enter the month of September, school is back in full swing. This means that students can participate in the Backpack Program through the Hunger-Free Food Pantry.

This is a program that may be essential for families in our community. Other than the school office admin (who gathers the information for participation, informs the First Lutheran Church office admin of a weekly number, and distributes the bags to students' backpacks during recess), the program has utmost anonymity. The Hunger Free Food Pantry Intern prepares the food bags and drops the weekly number of requested bags off at the school office each week.

As we are preparing for the 2026/2027 School year, we are looking for sponsors for this program. The cost per child per week is just over \$8. The full school year's cost is \$300 and a sponsorship for a semester is \$150. Last year, we served thirteen (13) students.

The food bags contain items for the weekend and include breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks. These items are easy for the students to prepare on their own – cereal, oatmeal, microwavable meals, soups, etc, if needed, or for a guardian to prepare for them quickly.

In North Dakota, the most recent data (from 2024) shows that 16.9% of children live with food insecurities. The rate in Eddy County for children living with food insecurities is actually 20.1%, according to <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2023/child/north-dakota/county/eddy> which is above the state level.

Hunger amongst children can have lifelong and extremely costly consequences. Hungry children suffer physical, emotional, and developmental impairment. They are sick and hospitalized more often than their peers. Hungry children don't learn as well at school, which in turn limits their potential and productivity as adults. Adults who experienced hunger as children are often not as well prepared mentally, emotionally, physically, or socially to perform in today's work environment.

Would you be willing to sponsor a backpack for a child in our communities each weekend? Special envelopes are in the Narthex and can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you for helping to fight against food insecurities in our communities!



Hackers, pretending to be a local church or pastor, have been sending fake emails and text messages to church members. They ask parishioners to buy gift cards for church projects. Or a needy family. These emails and text messages look authentic, but they are not. **Neither First Lutheran Church nor Pastor Amy will ever ask you to purchase a gift card via email or text message.** If you receive such a message, please contact the church office immediately.

Children & Youth Programs Registration Open House

Cookies &
Lemonade

September
9th
5 - 6:30 pm

Meet our
volunteers!



Grades 6-8, starts Oct. 7th
Wednesdays 7 - 8:30 pm



Pre-k - 5th, starts Oct. 4
Sundays 10 to 11 am

By the Numbers

ATTENDANCE	OFFERING
August 2 - 59	\$ 1,911.00
August 5 - 6	\$ 85.00
August 9 - 56	\$ 1,240.00
August 12 - 0	\$ 0.00
August 16 - 89	\$ 2,295.00
August 19 - 4	\$ 0.00
August 23 - 66	\$ 1,916.00
Vanco MTD	\$ 629.62

*Weekly Offering Needed to Meet
Budget \$3,640.00*

YEAR-TO-DATE (As of July 31, 2026)

BUDGET:	\$ 110,411.58
EXPENSES:	\$ 108,501.32
OFFERING:	\$ 106,302.37

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS (SAVINGS)

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Property Fund:	\$8,798.47
Banner/Altar Fund:	\$456.64
Music Fund:	\$4,211.30
Budget Reserve:	\$16,124.86
Thrivent Choice:	\$1,241.00
Noisy Offering:	\$851.00
FLC Men's Group:	\$1,222.16
Capital Camp. Fund:	\$127,920.38
(Includes Carpet Fund:	\$11,801.09
& Hopes & Dreams:	\$1,224.35)



September (Group 8)

Richard Anderson
Johnny Carlson
Gina Clifton
Bob & Sandi Hoffman
Amy Kippen
Terry & Sandy Koepplin
Josh & Trista Langley family
Larry & Debbie Larson
Linda Lies
Mary Nokleby
Tim & Amy Perleberg
Jim & Fern Schuster
Ethan & Abby Shroyer family
Joan Shroyer
Erik & Tammy Sorensen family
Kenneth & Luann Thompson
Glenn & Mary Walz
Aaron & Kim Weber family
Curt & Marydean Weinmann
Justin & Liza Ystaas family

KDAK RADIO BROADCAST

THE BEST WAYS TO LISTEN

1. **On the radio!**
1600am or 100.1fm
2. **Online streaming through the KDAK app on your computer, tablet, or phone.** Just head to your app store and search "KDAK the Cardinal". Look for the logo above, install the app and listen!





Thanks to all the sponsors of our radio broadcasts!

Sept. 6: IMO Kenny Ihringer, by his family

Sept 13: IMO Char Lesmeister, by Wayne Lesmeister family

Sept 20: IHO John Bollingberg, by Jim & Ann Marie Wobbema family

Sept 27: IMO Marlin Bjornson, by Bev Bjornson



- ◆ **BAPTISMS:**
- ◆ Elsie James Pederson

- ◆ **WEDDINGS:**
- ◆ Evan & Dani Ulrich

- ◆ **FUNERALS:**

- ◆ **TRANSFERS:**



**September
2026**

Sharon Weisenburger
and
Karla Berglund

FLC Foundation: There was discussion about appointing someone to fill the remainder of Jeanette Perleberg's term (ending Jan 2027). The council took no action.

Yearly Investments Review: The council reviewed our Invest Forward statement as of June 30, 2026. Bruce will contact Dan Taylor about scheduling a regular formal review of investments and risk.

Yearly Mission Partner Plan: The council reviewed our current mission commitments: Regional Partner- The Neighborhood Church in Fargo, and International Missionary Willie Langdji. Council decided to continue these sponsorships for one year.

Policy Review: All current policies and contracts were reviewed (church use, sexual predator, transportation, photo/video release). Only minor wording changes were made for clarity. New date of review will be updated on all docs.

Submitted by: Katie Jorgensen, Office Administrator

August Memorials & Honorariums

Capital Campaign Fund

IHO Elsie's baptism
by Chase & Lauren Pederson
IMO Neil Taverna
by Marilyn Gedrose
IMO Neil Taverna
by Greg & Janine Anderson
IMO Neil Taverna
by Robert & Carmen Ludwig
IMO Milt Nokleby
by Mary Nokleby
IMO Neil Taverna
by Nancy Arendt
IMO Gary Weinmann
by Lonnie & Lisa Thompson
IMO Neil Taverna
by Glenn & Mary Walz
IMO Gary Weinmann
by Glenn & Mary Walz

Music Fund

IMO Teresa Wiechec
by Robert & Carmen Ludwig
IMO Teresa Wiechec
by Lonnie & Lisa Thompson
IMO Teresa Wiechec
by David & Patti Gehrtz
IMO Neil Taverna
by David & Patti Gehrtz

First Lutheran Church Council Minutes
August 5th, 2026

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

Present Council: Bruce Hirschert, Pastor Amy Kippen, Treasurer Jon Johnson, VP Colleen Semmens, and Office Admin Katie Jorgensen. Absent: Secretary Christina Anderson

Board Chairs: Board reports were not available on August 5th.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Pastor Amy to approve with the added new business of "Policy Review". Second by Colleen. All in favor, motion carries.

Reports:

Pastor: Pastor Amy reported three nursing home worship services, one pre-marriage sessions, one wedding (non-member), Luther League trip July 6-14, summer worship series and Synod Assembly. She also reported community involvement with the Lions Fourth of July events, continuing as a mentor for synod lay ministers, and continuing work with Red Willow. In the coming weeks, she will be helping with the 100th Anniversary at Red Willow Ministries, attending the Moses Project for continuing education in Des Moines, Iowa in August, and Red Willow's Quilt & More Auction.

Secretary: Pastor Amy moved to accept the Secretary's Report. Seconded by Colleen. Approved.

Treasurer: Revenue for June was \$14,061.99 and expenses were \$13,947.30. Offerings are ahead of budget, and expenses remain under budget year to date. Motion by Colleen to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Pastor Amy. All in favor, motion carries.

Office Admin: Katie presented correspondence and cards of care.

Old Business:

Hunger Free Food Pantry: Pastor Amy and Katie proposed having Kyle Thompson (NR-S Senior and FLC Youth) work in the HFFP as a part of the Co-Op work program/class at NR-S. This would provide a much-needed solution, as all current weekly HFFP adult volunteers will be done at the end of 2026. Program details provided by Danell Gaudermann were discussed, including job responsibilities, hours, liability, and compensation (pay is not required for co-op students). Katie will train and directly supervise Kyle. If additional work is needed to fill his scheduled hours, he will perform office and custodial work in the church. Jon made a motion to approve Kyle as FLC co-op student for 6th and 7th class period for this school year with a daily "thank you" stipend of \$7.50 paid from the HFFP account. Colleen seconded and the motion passed.

New Business:

Extra Benevolence: A motion was made by Pastor Amy to give \$100 to Julie Shrock for recent medical expenses incurred. Seconded by Jon. All in favor, motion carries.

Fall Supper: Nov 8th was set as the tentative date for Fall Supper. Calendar planning for the year will take place later this month and that date will be confirmed or changed at the September meeting.

A graphic with a yellow background. On the left, a white notepad with a spiral binding has the words "SUNDAY" and "WORSHIP ASSISTANTS" written on it in bold, black, sans-serif font. On the right, a black pen with a silver clip is shown vertically.

September 6: Mitch Bjerke, sound; Fern Schuster, lay reader, Carissa Johnson, communion coordinator

September 13: Kevin Cartwright, sound; Christina Anderson, lay reader.

September 20: Kenny Thompson, sound; Michelle Pfeiffer, lay reader; Fern Schuster, communion coordinator

September 27: Gail Weisenburger, sound; Colleen Semmens, lay reader

The First Lutheran Foundation was established in 2009 to encourage contributions to FLC with tax favorability to donors.

Financial gifts are allocated equally to the following four areas:

- * Endowment Fund (only interest is used)
- * FLC Ministry Programs
- * Community Projects
- * Missions



Your gift to the Foundation supports meaningful ministry both near and far, furthering God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Foundation donations are the gift that keeps on giving. You are encouraged to consider the First Lutheran Foundation in your estate and financial planning.

For more information about giving and tax advantage options, please contact a member of the Foundation Board of Directors: Bruce Hirschert, Jeanette Perleberg, Richard Carlson, Amy Perleberg & Dori Tollefson.

COUNCIL MINUTES

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

Present Council: Bruce Hirschert, Pastor Amy Kippen, Christina Anderson, Colleen Semmens, Jon Johnson, and Office Admin Katie Jorgensen. Absent: None.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made and seconded to approve the preliminary agenda. All in favor, motion carries.

FAITH5 Steps 1-3 Share highs & lows, Read a Bible verse, and Talk about the verse & agenda

Bible Verse: Revelation 21:4 was read and discussed.

Old Business:

Holy Experiment Decisions:

Nominating Committee: Council reviewed the proposed Constitution and Bylaw language for the Nominating Committee. The proposed language states that the Nominating Committee shall consist of four voting members of the congregation, including one member elected from the Congregation Council by the Congregation Council and one member elected from each of the three administrative boards by each board. The proposed bylaw states that the Congregation Council representative will organize the first meeting, at which a chairperson will be elected. Motion by Bruce to approve the language. Seconded by Colleen. All in favor, motion carries.

Administrative Boards Governing System: Council reviewed the remaining Holy Experiment decision area related to boards. Discussion included board terms, term limits, board size, board names, whether the groups should continue to be called boards or be changed to committees or teams, meeting times, and reporting expectations. Council agreed that board input is needed before final recommendations are made.

Board Framework Feedback: Council directed that each board be asked to discuss and provide feedback on an all-encompassing name using modern language, whether board, committee, or team would be the best term and why, whether the current two-year term length is optimal or should be longer, feedback on the number of consecutive terms, whether the current meeting time works, expectations for written or in-person reports to Council, and whether the current board size is optimal.

Term Limits: Council discussed the current term limit language and clarified that the language was implemented four years ago. Those serving at that time have two additional terms remaining. Council discussed that term limits help provide a way for people to step away, invite new leadership, and address difficult situations when needed. Council also discussed concern that the church should not unintentionally push out faithful leaders. The existing ability for Council to approve an additional term in extenuating circumstances was discussed as an important safeguard.

Stewardship: Council discussed whether stewardship needs to remain under Property/Stewardship. Council expressed support for stewardship functioning as a working committee or team rather than an administrative board, similar to the Women's Ministry Team. No final action was taken.

Future Timeline: Board chairs will be asked to discuss the board framework questions at their August meetings and return feedback by September 1. Council plans to make decisions regarding board-related Constitution and Bylaw proposals at the September meeting. Council will also begin discussing the remaining Council-related decisions in September, make Council decisions in October, and prepare final language in November. Council noted that final Constitution and Bylaw changes will still need congregational approval.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 5, 2026.

New Business:

Hunger Free Food Pantry: Council discussed the possibility of a school-to-work student assisting with the Hunger Free Food Pantry. Pastor Amy reported that Kyle has expressed interest in helping with the pantry. Council discussed the possibility of a stipend, the need for clear expectations, and the need to gather more information from the school regarding contract requirements, liability, restrictions, and supervision. Pastor Amy and Katie reported that current food pantry volunteers are ready to be done at the end of the year and that the pantry work has grown significantly. No action was taken. The item will be discussed further at the next meeting after more information is gathered.

FAITH5 Step 4 & 5 - Pray Together and Bless One Another

Submitted by: Christina Anderson, Secretary

