

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

September 18<sup>th</sup> – September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## This Week at First

### Monday-

- **Men's Group at Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp** - Meets at Grace Place at 6:30 to 7:30 am every Monday.
- **Yoga in the Ed Wing** - 6:00 to 7:00 pm
- **Pastor Perry and Pastor Brian will be attending the Western Iowa Synod Fall Convocation** in Fort Dodge which begins Sunday evening and runs through noon on Tuesday.

### Tuesday-

- **Quilting Ministry Team** - 9:00 am
- **Women's Bible Study** - meets at 7:00 pm
- **Stephen Ministry Team** - 6:00 pm in youth room

### Wednesday-

- **Staff Meeting** - 9:30 to 10:30 am
- **Kids at First** – Will meet from 6:30 to 7:30 pm [Wednesday Kids at First Sign-up](#)
- **Alpha Youth – Confirmation** (7<sup>th</sup> grade) – 6:30 pm
- **Youth Group** (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) – Will meet from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the Youth Room in the education wing.
- **National Youth Gathering Meeting** - 7:30 in the youth room.
- **Celebration Choir Practice** - 6:30-7:30 in the sanctuary.

### Thursday-

- **M.O.F.I.A....Men of First in Action** meets weekly at 8 am in the Conference Room at First Lutheran for Bible Study and discussion.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** - 9:30 am in the library
- **First Friends** will meet at 11:30 am at The Hutt
- **The Marriage Course** will meet in the education wing - 6:00 - 8:00 pm

**Friday-** Church office closed on Friday

**Saturday-**

**Sunday-**

- **8:30 am Worship Service** in sanctuary at First Lutheran Church
- **Sunday School** - 9:45 - 10:45 am in the education wing
- **Fellowship Time** - between services - cupcakes and cookies for Collette Rozeboom's 90th birthday.
- **Adult Forum - Conversation with Pr. Jeff Backer of St. Dysmas**
- **11:00 am Worship Service** in sanctuary at First Lutheran Church



- **Collette Rozeboom's 90th Birthday** - cupcakes and cookies will be served at fellowship time between services this Sunday, Sept. 24th in honor of Collette's 90th birthday. Come and help her celebrate.
- **First Lutheran Centennial Celebration...Sunday morning October 1, 2023** First Lutheran is celebrating 100 years of ministry with worship, history, fellowship, food and fun!! Come and celebrate with us!!!
  - **Centennial Time Capsule response sheets** please return your sheets **by September 28**. More Centennial Time Capsule response sheets can be found on the welcome center kiosk.
  - **Please wear your Centennial shirts on October 1st** for the Centennial Celebration if you previously ordered them.
- **Save the date for the Mission Team Annual Fundraiser Auction!** Happening on October 29th after the second service. There will be a free will offering lunch and a live auction of desserts and other homemade items. A sign up will go out later in the month. Hope to see you there!



**WE LEARN AND GROW**

- **New Adult Study - What if Jesus was Serious about the Church?** looks at what the Bible really says about the church, its purpose, and the impact of its modern captivity to consumer values. Rather than an event, a building, or an institution, the New Testament calls the church to be a community living in communion with God and one another for the sake of the world. Join the conversation with one of the pastors between worship services each Sunday at 9:45 in the conference room.

- **The Marriage Course:** Whether you've been married for six months or 40 years, whether you're in a good place or struggling, this course helps navigate the modern challenges of marriage. The course is based on Christian principles, but designed to help couples of any

faith strengthen their relationship. The course is open to the public and runs Thursdays, 6-8PM beginning September 21<sup>st</sup>. Child watch is available. For more information or to register contact Pr. Brian 712-338-4514 or [brian@3cross.org](mailto:brian@3cross.org) or to sign up directly [click here](#).

- **2024 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans** The ELCA national youth gathering will be happening July 16 – 20, 2024 in New Orleans, LA. The youth gathering is open to current 8<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, and adult chaperones (21 and older). There will be an informational meeting this Wednesday, Sept. 20th, at 7:30pm (following youth group) in the youth room at First Lutheran. Come and hear about this trip to see if it is something you would like to attend. If interested contact Pastor [perry@3cross.org](mailto:perry@3cross.org)
- **First Lutheran Church is blessed to have a ministry for those who are facing challenges in life... Stephen Ministry** is a confidential ministry that allows someone with special training to walk alongside of you for as long as you need a Christian friend to accompany you. If you are struggling with life and need support while you find healing, please contact the pastors, the church office or call Carol Platt (712-229-2991), Carol DeSchepper (605-261-0581), or Tammy Carr (605-712-1102), our FLC Stephen Ministry Leaders. We will discuss options with you on how the First Lutheran family can best support you.



- **Celebration Choir:** Choir rehearsals have begun! If you'd like to sing with us, but haven't started yet, there is still time. We rehearse on **Wednesdays at 6:30pm** in the sanctuary. The choir will be singing at the 8:30 am service on September 24th. We will be singing songs this fall that are in celebration of our church's 100 year anniversary. They are medleys of hymns called "Hymns from Childhood". These medleys use our long-time favorite Lutheran hymns that you have been singing since you were little. Begin the 100 year celebration with us by singing with the choir! Please contact JJ with any questions you might have about all our music programs or to get a 2023 Fall/Winter schedule of when we are singing.
- **TESTIFY: (First Lutheran's 6-12th grade worship band)** TESTIFY's next practice is October 11th at 7:30pm They will be leading our worship music on October 15th at both 8:30 and 11:00 am services. Please contact JJ ([music@3cross.org](mailto:music@3cross.org)) with any questions you may have about participating in this band (we need singers and musicians) or to get a current schedule for Fall/Winter 2023.



- **First Lutheran Mission Team...**is accepting donations of **used eyeglasses** for a Lion's Club who sorts them and sends them to third world countries. In addition, they are collecting **pop-tabs** for Ronald McDonald Houses in Sioux Falls and **empty pill bottles** with the labels removed also used in third world countries. There are receptacles in the Mission Center at First Lutheran for these items. Please help us make a difference to those in need.

- **Worship with St. Dysmas Prison Congregation **\*\*NEW DAY AND TIME\*\***** – First Lutheran is taking a field trip on **WEDNESDAY, November 1<sup>st</sup>** to Sioux Falls to worship with the congregation of St. Dysmas. Because many of the men do not receive visitors this service is the only place they can enjoy conversation with someone who is not paid to be there or other inmates. Inmates *hear the gospel* from their Pastor but *experience the gospel* through outside visitors. Those who plan to attend must be 18 or older and complete a background check by October 8<sup>th</sup>. Attendees should be prepared to ascend and descend a flight of 30 steps leading up to the prison sanctuary. If you've completed the background check for St. Dysmas within a year of our fieldtrip date you do not need to do so again, but still need to sign up by the deadline. **We will leave from our parking lot at 11:30AM and return around 5:30PM.** Contact Pr. Brian at [brian@3cross.org](mailto:brian@3cross.org) or 712-338-4514 for more information or to sign up.
- **Backpack Food Donations Needed...**Food continues to be needed weekly. If you would like to donate food items like cereal, crackers and cheese, granola bars, mac n cheese cups, juice boxes, mandarin oranges, peanut butter, pop tarts, popcorn, pudding cups, ramen noodles, ravioli, soup, spaghetti and meatballs (canned) and canned fruit to name a few. Please consider supporting this ministry by dropping these items off in the cart in the entryway.
- **Mission Team in Need of Snack Donations....**The mission team is looking for snack donations for the Okoboji Success Program. A box is located in the Mission Center and you can drop off your items through October 10th. Items needed are as follows: Gold Fish crackers, cheese cracker sandwiches, cheese dippers, granola bars (nut free), fig bars, fruit leathers, Teddy Grahams, beef sticks and jerky strips. Thank you for your support!



- **Women's Day Away** at Ingham Lake Bible Camp with Susan Kliment as speaker (a former youth leader here at First Lutheran Church) Saturday, October 14th from 9 am - 5:45 pm. Click the link above for more information or see brochures on the welcome kiosk.
- **Moms in Prayer** - Moms in Prayer is starting back up again in the Lakes area! Join other Christian moms and grandmas for intentional prayer for our children, grandchildren, schools, and world. Join us every Thursday from 2:00-3:00 p.m. at the home of

Doreen Blackburn in Wahpeton. To find out more information and to get the address, please contact Allison Antoine at [allison.antoine@gmail.com](mailto:allison.antoine@gmail.com) or 605-212-2731. Learn more about Moms in Prayer by visiting [momsinprayer.org](http://momsinprayer.org). Additional Moms in Prayer groups starting in the area are always welcome so if that time or date doesn't work, contact Allison for help starting your own local group.

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- **First Lutheran Recorded Worship Services...** Recorded worship services are available by clicking here [Latest Sunday 8:30 am worship service](#) and through Milford Cable. Milford Cable airs our services on Channel 12- Mondays at 10am & 7pm.
- **Ministry Support at First Lutheran...**we so appreciate your offerings shared at our worship services, mailed to First Lutheran at 1525 Three Cross Road, Milford, Ia. 51351, or given electronically through our website by [clicking here](#). Thank you for choosing to help us in our mission of sharing the word of Jesus Christ. If you would like more information, please call the church office at 712-338-4514.
- **Western Iowa Synod Newsletter** - To find out more about the happenings in our synod, the Western Iowa Synod, click the link and check out their monthly news publication. [WIS Water life](#)

**Gathering to Know Jesus...Serving to Make a Difference**