

NEW

COMMUNITY PRAYER BOX

Joys or challenges in your life? We want to support our community and visitors through prayer. A Community Prayer Box has been installed on the corner of Three Cross Road and Heritage Avenue, just across the street northeast of the church.

If you would like prayer support in your life, open the box and write your prayer request on the sheet provided. Place the sheet back in the Community Prayer Box. The requests will be collected weekly and are kept confidential. The prayers will then be shared with our pastors and prayer team.

Colossians 4:2 "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY WHAMS: Starting October 6th, 1st-6th graders are invited to join us in the Ed Wing for Wednesday Whams at 6:30! Whams is not your typical Sunday School! We'll play some games, have some fun, and take a look at some lessons that will help us continue to learn how to be good neighbors! Contact Reagan if you have any questions!

SEPTEMBER NOISY OFFERING: World Central Kitchen - Over the last year+, WCK has served 36 million meals to 400 cities in America to those struggling with food insecurity. They paid 160 million to restaurants to help them stay afloat & continue to employ their workers. WCK also helps provide aid when natural & manmade disasters happen, & are currently working to provide meals and aid in Haiti. <https://wck.org/>

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION: Head to <https://www.3cross.org/children> to sign your children up for Sunday School now! There is a lot of information on the site, so take a look around and contact Reagan at children@3cross.org with any questions!

MISSIONS

BACK PACK FOOD COLLECTION: Food distribution continues weekly. A list of needed food is available at the collection baskets in the Mission Center.

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped in any way with this summer's Drive-In Worship. Your help in this wonderful ministry of First Lutheran is truly appreciated!

Thank you!

- From Memorial Day to Labor Day 2021 we hosted a total of 2,663 cars with an average of 177.53 cars per Sunday. The largest attendance was September 5th with 218 cars.
- 2020's total attendance was 3,717 with an average of 218.65 cars per Sunday. 2020's largest attendance was on August 2nd with 265 cars.
- 2019's total was 2,845 with an average of 189.67 cars per Sunday. That year's largest attendance was on September 1st with 238 cars.
- We also held "nontraditional" outdoor worship in the parking lot due to COVID 19 from March 15, 2020 to May 17, 2020, with a total of 1,668 cars, and then again from September 13, 2020 through May 23, 2021, with a total of 3,512 cars.

-Jeannie Stollie

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY** to the family of Naomi Adams as they mourn her passing on September 9, 2021
- **CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY** to Amanda (Pirie) Essick, and the entire family of Ray Essick, who mourn his passing on September 7, 2021.
- **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** to meet weekly on Tuesdays at 9:30am in the Education Wing. The book of Matthew will be studied and all women, members or non-members, are invited to join!
- **BOUNDLESS COMPASSION – CREATING A WAY OF LIFE:** Carol DeSchepper will host a 6 week book study starting Monday, September 27, using the book **Boundless Compassion – Creating a Way of Life** by Joyce Rupp.
 - "Living compassionately is rarely convenient and often downright challenging," writes Joyce Rupp, bestselling and award-winning author and retreat leader. The definitive Christian guide to compassion, *Boundless Compassion* is the culmination of Rupp's research and work as codirector of the Servite Center of Compassionate Presence. Through this six-week personal transformation process for developing and deepening compassion, Rupp nudges, encourages, and inspires you to grow in the kind of love that motivated Jesus' life and mission for his disciples. ... By the book's end, you will feel prepared to live with a renewed commitment to a compassionate presence for yourself and those who are in the midst of pain, struggle, and transition."
 - There are daily readings throughout the six weeks and questions for reflection at the end of each chapter/weeks' readings. The group will meet at the church on Mondays at 4 pm for 1 hour. A zoom connection will also be considered, if requested. You can order the book from your favorite book distributor. If you have questions or need assistance ordering the book, please contact Carol at cideschepper@gmail.com or 605-261-0581.
- **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:** Please contact the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you are willing to be part of a team to make weekly coffee fellowship a reality!
- **EVERYTHING HAPPENS FOR A REASON (AND OTHER LIES I'VE LOVED):** Have you enjoyed the "Unraveled" sermon series and want to explore more with others about how God shows up when life comes unraveled? Pr. Perry and Pr. Brian will be holding a book study between Sunday worship services starting **October 3rd**. You can purchase **Everything Happens for a Reason** by Kate Bowler in book or audiobook format through your favorite bookstore or arrange to pay for and pick it up through the church office at 712-338-4514.
- **WORSHIP WITH ST. DYSMAS PRISON CONGREGATION:** First Lutheran is taking a field trip on Thursday, October 21st to Sioux Falls to worship with the congregation of St. Dymas. Many of the men do not receive visitors and the worship service is the only place they can enjoy conversation with others who are not paid to be there or other inmates; they experience the gospel through outside visitors! Those who plan to attend must be 18 or older and complete a background check by Sept. 26th. We will leave from the church parking lot at 3:30pm and return about 10:00pm. Contact Pr. Brian at brian@3cross.org or 712-338-4514 for more info.
- **THANK YOU** to Jim and Pat Schuller for their many hours of hard work and extensive trimming around the church building. We appreciate all you do to serve our congregation and staff!
- **THANK YOU!** First Lutheran wishes to thank Judy Haviland for her sponsorship of Paul Oman's "Resurrection" painting on Sunday, Sept. 12th during the 8:30am worship service. The sponsorship is given in memory of Judy's mother, Lucille Burkett, who passed away at 103 years of age.
- **THANK YOU** to all who have chosen First Lutheran Church to receive funds through Thrivent Choice or Amazon Smile. Your donations make a difference!