

The Messenger

Volume 28 Issue 8 Office 996-7706 e-mail: luther@mitchellfirstlutheran.org Fax 996-7727 August 2025

AUGUST FOCUS.....

Sisters of First Lutheran

POTLUCK & SOCIAL EVENT

**Monday, August 11th
@ 6:30 p.m.**

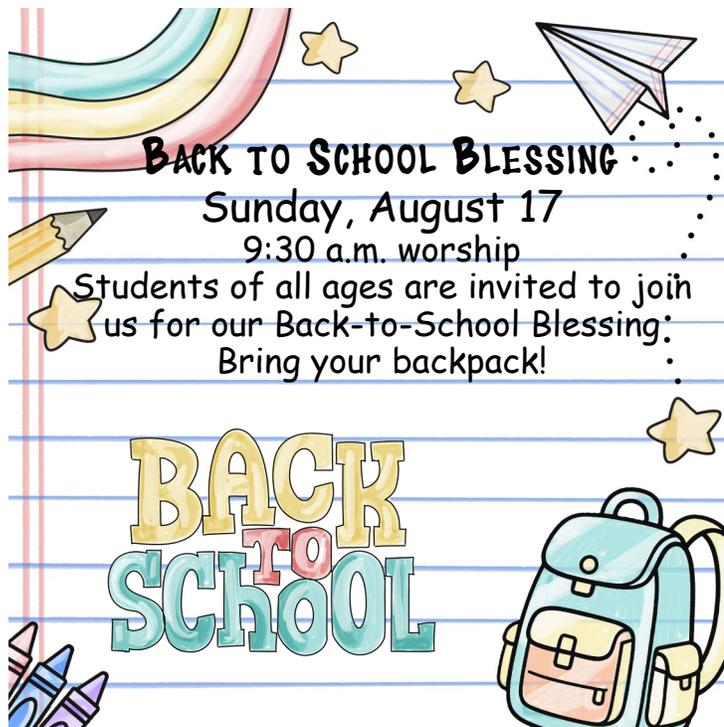
GUEST SPEAKER:

Bishop Constanze Hagmaier

Conversation • Bible Study • Making Space for Faith

*Faith &
Full Plates*

A night for
women who
do it all!



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING
Sunday, August 17
9:30 a.m. worship
Students of all ages are invited to join
us for our Back-to-School Blessing:
Bring your backpack!

**BACK
TO
SCHOOL**



**Sisters of First Lutheran
Potluck**

The potluck meal will begin at 6:30 p.m.
Bring a salad if your last name
starts with A-I, dessert if your
last name starts with J-Q and
main dish if your last name
starts with R-Z. Registration is
encouraged, but not required.
You can scan the QR code or stop by the table
in the Family Life Center to sign up!



**Waves of
Mercy**
Summer Evening
Worship at the Lake
Sunday, August 10th
Sportsman Club - Lake Mitchell
@ 950 Indian Village Road
5:30 p.m. Face Painting & Activities
6:00 p.m. Worship
6:45 p.m. Root Beer Floats

*Bring a
lawn chair,
blanket &
bug spray.

hosted by
First Lutheran, Mitchell

**All are
welcome!**

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

COUNCIL MINUTES — June 16, 2025

Please note: these minutes have been edited for the newsletter.
The full minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the office hallway

Pastor's Report:

- ◆ Planning on attending the first meeting of the Conference Deans on Thursday, June 19.
- ◆ Attending the ELCA Churchwide Conference in Phoenix in July as a voting member

Deacon's Report:

- ◆ Gloria and Deacon Kris will be sharing "old time" praise music at Wesley Acres on Wednesday, July 2 at 2:00 p.m.
- ◆ Deacon Kris and some women from the church will be attending the WELCA Synod Convention in Yankton, June 18-20
- ◆ Women's summer study group are meeting June-August.
- ◆ Save the Date, September 30 at 2:00 p.m. for the Annual 60 Plus Friendship Gathering

Ministry Reports:

- ◆ **Worship:** Throughout the month there was special music at the worship services by Jessica Haigh, the Chancel Choir, Susan Dodd, the Praise Team, Gloria Thompson, Lonnie Burns, The Mitchell Barbershop Choir and Emma Plamp. Thank you to everyone that helped with the special music! Waves of Mercy was held June 8 with the next time scheduled for August 10. Send off blessings will be help for the youth and adults going to summer camps on July 20 and 27.
- ◆ **Fellowship and Caring:** Worship at care centers, Wesley Acres June 10, Firesteel June 12, Brady June 17, Edgewood South June 25, Wesley Acres July 8, Firesteel July 10, Brady July 15, and Edgewood South July 23. Next meeting of Prayer and Care is August 15. Fall Grief Group will meet every Monday at 5:15 p.m. from September 22-November 17.
- ◆ **Faith Formation:** 29 youth and 6 adults will be going to camp. T-shirts and packing list pick up with Tuesday, July 15 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Wednesday night activities will resume September 10. Back to School blessing will be Sunday, August 17. Milestone Blessings in September: September 7 & 10: Beginning Confirmation, 3rd grade Bible September 14 & 17 and Kindergarten Prayer Pillow September 28 and October 5.
- ◆ **Stewardship:** God's Work, Our Hands will be September 7, also connecting with LifeQuest for a possible outreach project.
- ◆ **Property:** Russ and Jim are repairing the retaining wall on the East side of the church. No update on the roofing project, waiting to hear back from the contractor. Approved the maintenance of the of caulking the windows in the Family Life Center from Zimmer Caulking for \$1,020.00. Approved the maintenance on the downstairs bathroom vent causing water damage to the ceiling tiles. Tessiers will install a new exhaust vent box for \$2,785.00. Water heater for the Family Life Center was ordered and will be installed within the next couple of weeks.
- ◆ **Evangelism:** Postcards were mailed out to 2,000 community members for summer and fall events.

Reception of the Treasurer's Report: May income \$39,224.12; expenses \$33,735.88; Net ordinary income for May was \$5,488.89. Year to date net ordinary income is \$215,424.38 and total expense was \$200,546.36 leaving a net ordinary income for the year \$14,878.02. Steve made a motion to receive the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Roberta. Motion carried.

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

MAY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS:

May 4	166/OL: 60	\$7,171.37
May 11	172/OL: 88	\$17,805.97
May 18	180/OL: 34	\$9,021.45
May 25	150/OL: 70	\$4,068.70

May 2025 Offering **\$38,067.49**

JUNE ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS:

June 1	166/OL: 60	\$9,586.62
June 8	160/OL: 62	\$5,048.45
June 8 (Waves of Mercy) ³⁷		
June 15	140/OL: 78	\$8,362.23
June 22	113/OL: 140	\$4,280.45
June 29	120/OL: 42	\$5,171.95

June 2025 Offering **\$32,449.70**

\$34,347.00 is needed per month to meet monthly budget.



You can support the ministries of First Lutheran through

venmo

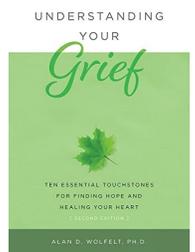





August's Noisy Offering is being collected for FLC Piecemakers. This money will be used to purchase items for the LWR School Supply Kits. A list of items that are needed can be found below.

Fall Grief Group
“Understanding Your Grief”

Anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one (family member or friend) is invited to attend the fall grief group, “Understanding Your Grief”. This grief class will meet at 5:15pm in the church library for 9 Mondays, September 22–November 17. No matter if your loss is recent or years ago, gathering with others who have lost loved ones is comforting and helpful. Class books and journals are provided. Class size is limited to 10. If interested, contact Deacon Kris.



UPCOMING NOISY OFFERINGS:

- * September: Food Pantry
- * October: SD Lutheran Campus Ministry
- * November: Love Feast



“God’s work. Our hands.”
 Sunday is Sept. 7, 2025! This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. **Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities at First Lutheran Church!**



Wednesday Evenings

We will be resuming Wednesday evening activities on Wednesday, September 10.

- * 5:15 p.m. Supper
- * 5:45 p.m. Journey with Jesus and Confirmation
- * 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice
- * 6:45 p.m. Worship



what's coming up

Save the date for the upcoming Faith Milestones:

September

- *Sunday, Sept. 7/Wed., Sept 10: 7th Grade Beginning Confirmation Milestone (Confirmation Bible)
- *Sunday, Sept. 14/Wed., Sept 17: 3rd Grade Chapter Bible Milestone (Spark Bible)

September/October

- *Sunday, Sept. 28/Wed., Oct 1: Kindergarten Prayer Milestone (Prayer Pillow)

School Kits for Lutheran World Relief

School supplies are now on sale but the price is about 25% higher than last year. With a goal of 250 kits, help is needed! Please note the list below!

-  Spiral Notebooks of 70 sheets of ruled paper
-  Blunt Scissors
-  2 ½ inch erasers
-  **Unsharpened** #2 pencils with erasers
-  Black or blue ballpoint pens **(no gel pens, please)**
-  Box of crayons (24 count)

Rulers and pencil sharpeners are not needed!

Don't like to shop? Monetary donations can be dropped off at the church office and we will do the sale shopping!




Gather Study Group

Dates & Times



◆ **Tuesday, August 5**

◇ 12:00 p.m. WELCA/FLCW August Board Meeting, First Lutheran Library

◆ **Wednesday, August 6**

◇ 9:30 a.m. Lydia Group, Countryside Game Room

◆ **Thursday, August 7**

◇ 9:30 a.m. Sarah Group, Family Life Center

BOOK CLUB

Here is a list of upcoming titles for book club



📖 August 28: *Darling Girls* by Sally Hepworth

📖 September 25: *Cannery Row* by John Steinbeck

📖 October 23: *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See

📖 November 21: *The Cost of Free Land* by Rebecca Clarren

Book Club meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Library

A big thank you to the donors, the helpers, the sellers, the buyers and the clean-up crew. A total of \$3,462.22 was brought in. The money was divided between the camping program and the post-secondary scholarship program.



Thrivent Cards for Wednesday Night Meals

Thanks to those who donated cards for the Wednesday night meal program during the 2024-2025 school year. The Thrivent cards, along with the free-will offering each Wednesday, paid for the meal program, which meant church funds were not used.



Thrivent Action Team cards would be appreciated for the Journey with Jesus Wednesday night meal program which will begin in September. The Thrivent cards are used to purchase milk, and fruits and vegetables.



When applying for a card for the meals, it is helpful if people do not all use the same date for the project date. A variety of dates could be used, examples: one person could use September 10 as the project date, and another person could use October 8 as the date. The card is good for 120 days after the project date. **Please do NOT submit the Thrivent on-line report until after the entire \$250 has been spent.** Once the report is submitted, the card is inactive, and any remaining money is not available.

Summer stock the shelves at the Food Pantry July 27-August 10.

*Week 1 (July 27-August 2): Elbow Macaroni

*Week 2 (August 3-9): Canned Pasta (ravioli, etc.)

*Week 3 (August 10-16): Cream Soups



There are totes in the Glass Lobby for the food.

Always needed are plastic shopping bags, reusable cloth shopping bags and egg cartons (These items can be placed in marked drawers in the Glass Lobby).

AUGUST PRAYER AND CARE WORSHIPS



Each month First Lutheran leads worship at Mitchell retirement and care centers. All are welcome to attend.

*2:00 p.m. August 14 at Firesteel

*2:00 p.m. August 19 at Brady

*7:00 p.m. August 26 at Wesley Acres

*11:00 a.m. August 27 at Edgewood South



"60+ Friendship Gathering for Seniors" 2pm Tuesday, September 30. Join us again this year for another 60+ Friendship Gathering. This year's theme is "Praise;

Pictures & Pie" This year's guest presenter is Bill Mulder and he will be sharing about his travels to Antarctica. More information will be available soon!

PICTURES FROM OUTLAW RANCH, JUNE 20-25



Send Off blessing during church on Sunday, June 20



Waves of Mercy Outdoor Worship Sunday, June 8



WELCA Synodical Convention June 18-20



Kathy Otterby was installed as the new treasurer for the SD WELCA



First Lutheran Church attendees:
Deacon Kris, Barb Vandever, Kathy Otterby, Jill Munger, Sharon Scott & Joan Anderson

Making t-shirts for youth and adults heading to camp at Outlaw Ranch and NeSoDak



Sunday, June 27 Worship

Blessings of youth and adults attending NeSoDak camp



Blessings for Pastor Scott and Barb Vandever attending the Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix as voting members



Maria Schwader signing the Hymn of Praise