



September



**First Lutheran Church,
Newton IA**

2018

First Epistle

From the Pastor... **HOW TO BUILD A GREAT CHURCH!**

It doesn't take much planning to wreck a building or a business, but it takes skillful planning and hard work to build a great church! First Lutheran Church is a great church that didn't just happen. It has been built through many years of persistent effort. Here's how it happened:

1. Our people never allowed a day to pass without taking time to pray for their church and its ministries.
2. Our people never spoke to anyone without praising First Lutheran Church and its pastors. Criticism was sometimes heard; but they made sure the praise was louder.
3. Our people never failed to be friendly to anyone who came to worship, especially visitors and those who hadn't come in a while. Nothing in the world could substitute for old-fashioned friendliness!
4. Our people never refused the opportunity to serve. They realized the importance of commitment and service to the church and they understood it was their privilege to serve!
5. Our people understood that coming to worship every Sunday was important.

* * * * *

150 years of persistent work has made First Lutheran Church a great church! Our God is an AWESOME God who has richly blessed us. Let us continue in that rich heritage and build on the firm foundation that we have been given. Thank you so much for your partnership in this incredible ministry!

Living in Gods Amazing Grace!
Pastor Mark

Charlie the Church Mouse says:
**Expect great things FROM God.
Attempt great things FOR God.**

**Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday Fellowship
10:30 a.m.**

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday

1:00—5:00 p.m.

or by appointment

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Potlucks are returning on September 9th!

Normally we have potlucks on the first Sunday of the month, but since in September that would fall on Labor Day weekend, the last formal 'hurrah' of summer, we are moving it to the 9th. Which is also Gods Work Our Hands Sunday! So we will have some church, go or stay and do service projects, and then we will gather again for our Potluck and sharing! See you there!



Please remember, if you are having trouble hearing: Listening devices are available. Please ask an usher.



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

The Food Pantry would like us to emphasize a specific item each month. **Remember, you may bring any item** you wish, but spreading this among the contributing congregations keeps a steady supply of their most basic needs coming each month. **For the month of September, canned meat and fish have been requested.** There is a basket in the narthex for all food pantry items.

Thank you for being so generous.

Chancel Flowers

Sept. 2—Porter

Sept. 9—

Sept. 16—

Sept. 23—

Sept. 30—

Fellowship

Sept. 2—

Sept. 9—Potluck

Sept. 16—

Sept. 23—

Sept. 30—

Please sign up to provide flowers and fellowship.



9/2 Connie Lucas
9/5 Garrett Frehse
9/8 Bryce Grabe

9/9 Patty Balk
Morgan Frehse
9/10 Brian Baumgartner
9/11 Michael Reick
9/15 Jim Lammey
9/16 Sherry Jensen
9/18 Josh Cantu
Ron Shockey
9/22 Callen Christy
9/24 Tyler Reick
9/27 Parker Foster

We Need Your Voices and Your Hands!

We need people to help at church with reading the lessons or making or running the slide shows.

- Lessons are sent to you on the week you volunteer to read.
- Slide shows are made with a template already in place and are updated each week. Slide shows may be made in either MicroSoft PowerPoint or Mac Pages.
- Running the slides entails clicking the arrow button to advance the screens as we go through the worship service.

These are important and helpful parts of our worship service and we need more people to help get them done each week. If you value these parts of service please consider helping. A sign up sheet is available in the narthex so you may help as it fits your schedule. Thank you.

Wednesday Night Community Dinners:

THANK YOU to the people that helped with our Wednesday Night Community Dinners during the summer! It was a big job, but we did it, together! Wednesday Night Community Dinners return to First United Methodist in September. Our dinner will be on the 4th **Wednesday, September 28th**. Menus have been planned for the next nine months but **we need people** to sign up to lead our crew each month. Please help! **Sign up in the narthex and come help Jesus feed the hungry.**



Choices in Mission for September!

For September Choices In Mission is Neighbors Helping Neighbors—Laundry Night! One night of laundry can benefit over 75 individuals - that's a lot of laundry. The cost for 4 hours of laundry for that many people is about \$350. Money donated to Choices In Mission projects is matched up to \$2500.

This summer the Newton United Way reported that 37% of Newton residents do not make enough money to meet their basic needs. Paying for laundry is one of those needs. When you are looking for a job, are a child in school, or shopping for food, clean clothes are a necessity.

When the end of the month comes, and money has run out, this program helps those who must choose between paying for food, electricity or washing the clothes. A standard load costs \$2.75 to wash. The dryer costs 25 cents for 6 minutes. Neighbors Helping Neighbors also provides laundry soap.

Laundry Night Volunteers Needed

In conjunction with the Choices in Mission, First Lutheran is providing the volunteers for laundry nights in September. A laundry night volunteer greets the guests at laundry night, and puts the quarters into the machines. Laundry nights in September will be the 10th and 24th. Neighbors Helping Neighbors is there from 4-8pm. Any amount of time you can be there is appreciated. One or two hours is typical for volunteering. Please visit with Dave Goos, Bob and Sarah Sandquist or Mark and Judy Monroe if you want more information. Sign up sheets will be at the back of the church.

Thanks to the First Lutheran family for supporting the summer community meals. It certainly took a village to carry on the work of Marlys and Dirk! I personally appreciated everyone stepping up in both food donations and help. It made the job easy.
- Jane Johnson

Prayer Corner

We pray for our families, friends and church family. Lord, the month of September is full of homecomings. After months of running wild and free, or perhaps just an loosed up schedule, we turn back to regular schedules that take us through cooler months. We gather together to reconnect. We reap what we have sown and put up the harvest. We step outside to notice a new crispness in the air and add a layer of clothing as we go to investigate the signs of the new season we are turning toward. We step back into the familiar routines that carry us through our daily lives, while enjoying the moments we spend sharing and caring for others. We continue to pray for our congregation, our leaders, our community and our world. Amen.

Zinga News!

Another summer is coming to an end, and the last teams are leaving the Children's Hospital, Zinga. At the end of the month, Paula and Denny Lofstrom will be returning to the States to spread the word about the work at the hospital and raise funds for the continued construction there. We at First Lutheran welcome them to join us on Sunday, October 14.

One necessary piece of equipment was acquired this summer: the hospital now has an ambulance. It went out on its first run the very day it was delivered!

Earlier this summer, IHP-TZ put in a bid for a reconditioned bus, but with just \$18,000 available for that, the bid fell short. The earmarked funds are in the bank, but more is needed. A suitable reconditioned bus will cost an estimated \$33,000. So far this year, close to \$1,000 has been spent *renting buses to transport teams to and from Dar es Salaam. And in the rainy season, hospital and construction staff have to be transported back and forth from the main road. Heavy rainy season downpours make for muddy roads, difficult or even dangerous to travel in regular cars. A bus, with its higher clearance, would make the trip more easily. Our focus for the Choices in Mission matching funds for the month of October will be to move closer to the goal of acquiring a bus for IHP-TZ.*

If you are on the IHP-TZ mailing list, you will have read the personal testimonies of volunteers who have given of their time and talents at Zinga. One special education teacher has come nine times! Her creative solutions for children with special physical needs have transformed lives. Medical students write of the transformational experience their time at Zinga has been. They note the patience and compassion of Dr. Kitundu, Dr. Bon, and the other staff at the hospital, and the fact that the hospital staff is all Tanzanian.

In 2008, a team from First Lutheran went to Nyakato near Lake Victoria to work with IHP on the hospital Paula and Denny were developing there. Perhaps it is time to plan another trip, maybe in 2020, to allow time to save up for the travels. Is this something you feel called to do? It is truly a life-altering experience. Our team in 2008 included adults and teenagers, and we went during summer vacation. If you are interested in exploring this possibility, please contact me or Judy Monroe at mhquanbeck@gmail.com or mmonroe@partner.net.

For our Tanzania Mission,
Marie Quanbeck

Including First Lutheran In Your Estate Planning

Most people spend more time planning their vacation then they do their estate. One area that is often overlooked is the opportunity to include charitable organizations, like First Lutheran Church, in your plan. There are several methods for transferring assets and money upon death to non-profits. There are also several ways that funds can be left to charitable organizations depending upon the wishes of the donor. The rest of this article will briefly touch on the ways to transfer and provide more information on the designations of the gifts themselves.

The majority of transfers of assets and cash passed to charitable organizations are done as bequests from a will or trust. These are typically for a specific amount of money, or a specific asset. For example I could have a bequest in my will that would leave \$10,000 to First Lutheran Church. All that is needed is typically the address of the charitable organization, and the tax identification number.

Another option for making charitable gifts is through a designation of beneficiary on a retirement plan, life insurance policy, or IRA. This is typically done by indicating the percentage of the account that you wish to go to the charity. So for example if Wally had a \$100,000 IRA he could indicate that he wants 5% to go to his church. If Wally passes away the day after making the election his church would receive the gift of \$5000. If his IRA grows over time the gift could be larger, or if he uses the funds during retirement the gift could be smaller. Many people make their annual gifts to charities using their annual minimum required distribution. By paying this directly to the charity it is never subject to income tax.

A third way assets can be transferred at the time of death is by operation of law called the transfer on death rule. It is often referred to as a TOD designation. This type of transfer can be used on a bank account, or a securities account with a broker. The most common use is with a bank account. The language on the transfer simply states that upon death the assets are to be transferred to the individual or charity named. These assets pass without being a part of the individuals estate, although the value could still be subject to inheritance and Federal estate tax.

The detail that is included in a bequest, or designation of beneficiary gift, is more important than most people realize. The specific instructions let the charity know how the funds are to be utilized. The following information is specifically for First Lutheran Church. The normal designation for a gift would typically include one of the following:

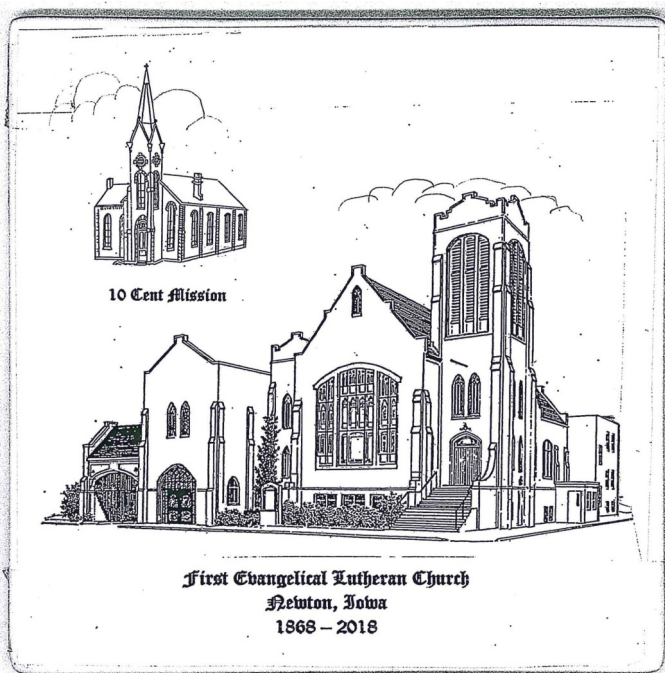
1. Building Support Fund -this money is utilized towards the upkeep and maintenance of the Church. The assets themselves can be used towards expenses.
2. Mission Support Fund - this money is utilized towards mission activities as designated by the congregation or the council depending upon the specific amount of the request. Most recently these funds have been used to match giving by congregational members.
3. General Fund - gifts made to the general fund can be utilized for normal expenses, or special projects. A General Fund gift allows the most flexibility in allocating the money to where it is most needed.
4. Building Support Endowment Fund -gifts that go into this fund are used to generate earnings that can then go towards building support expenses. The actual gift itself can never be spent.
5. Mission Support Endowment Fund – gifts that go into this fund are used to generate earnings that can then be used towards mission projects in the future. Again none of the actual gift can be used.
6. General Fund Endowment – Gifts of this type are used to generate earnings that can then be used for normal expenses or special projects. Again none of the gift itself can be spent.

7. Designated Gifts - These are gifts that are specifically designated to go towards one purpose. For example funds that were designated to go towards organ repair and restoration. The downside of specific gifts like this is that if the project never takes place the funds can never be used.
8. Designated Endowment Gifts – these types of gifts are invested and the earnings off of the original gift are used for a specific purpose. For example someone could leave a designated endowment gift to go towards Sunday School supplies. The actual gift itself could never be spent but the earnings off of the gift could be utilized towards that specific purpose. Again the downside to this type of gift is if the earnings exceed the need they can't be used for other purposes. Another possible problem is if the funds are actually needed to cover expenses they still can't be used because of the endowment restriction.

Every charitable or non-profit organization will have their own funds and needs which will determine designations. If you are comfortable speaking with them about your intentions you may learn about designations which you were unaware of that speak to your interests and you wish to support.

The question often asked is what happens if there is no specific designation, and the check is simply made out to the charity? Most organizations have a policy on how these monies are to be handled. First Lutheran Church has a policy that all gifts received that are not specifically designated will be split between the Building Support fund and Mission Support fund. If you have an undesignated gift to the Church in your estate plan you could also provide a letter to the Church indicating your wishes. This would in sense be a supplement to your gift. While leaving money to the Church for the General Fund does not have the emotional lift of a specific mission or replacement of the organ, it may be the most important gift given the changing times within most churches. With declining membership and reduced giving, having adequate funds for the ministry is critical. If you have questions about this topic please don't hesitate to contact David Goos or Candy Thompson.

This information is for general discussion purposes only and should not be considered legal advice. You should always consult with your attorney or other estate planning professional before making any changes in your planning.



SQUICENTENNIAL **COMMEMORATIVE TILE**

In order to commemorate the occasion of our 150th birthday, we are having this tile created. We hope that you will consider buying one or more to keep or give to children or friends as a way of remembering the founding of First Lutheran Church.

Price \$10.00 each, must be prepaid.

Make check payable to First Lutheran Church.

(Full size tile is 6 x 6 inches.)

September LSI Update

Direct Support Professionals Week

Do you know someone who is a caregiver to a loved one? It is a role that is both demanding and meaningful. During September's National Direct Support Professionals Week, we celebrate all the ways in which these professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful lives. One way LSI empowers Iowans is through our Services for People with Disabilities. From 24-hour support to occasional respite care, the LSI team lifts up Iowans with disabilities as they find the confidence and independence they need to thrive in their communities.

We thank you for your faithful support of LSI – you create so many new life-changing possibilities for children, adults, and families! If you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Finding His Independence

Logan and his mother, Michaela, didn't know where to turn.

Since Logan was 5 years old, he had moved in and out of hospitals and residential treatment centers across Iowa. For 13 years, Michaela tried to find the right approach to address his behavioral needs. But nothing was working.

That's when the family learned about LSI's Services for People with Disabilities. Now 18, Logan is living independently in an apartment supervised 24/7 by his compassionate LSI team.

Logan is now active in his community and developing healthy relationships with his friends. He graduated early from his high school and has become active at the gym and in a local bowling league – where his high score for a game is 210.

Every step of the way, Michaela knows Logan's LSI team will keep her informed about her son's care and growth.

"At LSI, they treat him like an individual and they know each person needs different care," Michaela says. "It's good knowing that I have constant communication with his team, and I know somebody is saying, 'we hear you'."



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Flier courtesy of
First United Methodist Church

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship	3 Labor Day Office closed	4	5 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Property	6	7	8
9 God's Work Our Hands 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship	10 4-8pm NHN Laundry night 7:00 Hannah	11	12 6:30 Confirmation	13 Good Cheer 6:30 Council	14	15
16 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship	17 Newsletter articles due this week	18	19 9:30 Lois 1:00 Martha 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Eunice	20	21	22
23 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship	24 4-8pm NHN Laundry night	25 9:00 Dorcas	26 5:30 Community Dinner At Methodist Church 6:30 Confirmation	27	28	29
30 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship						

September Serving Schedule

Sunday 9:30am	Acolyte	Council on Duty	Lector	Ushers	PA
Sept. 2nd	Thomas Hodnett	Pat Foote	Marie Quanbeck	Dirk Amundsen, Alex Anderson	
Gods Work Our Hands Sept. 9th	Leo Friedman	Stan Kirchhoff	Gods Work Our Hands	Lee Swenson, Aaron Bartholmey, Dennis Porter	Gods Work Our Hands
Sept. 16th	Hailey Sumpter	Deb Rose		Bob Floss, Stan Kirchhoff	Deb Rose
Sept. 23rd	Blake Baumgartner	Marie Quanbeck		Gary Johnson, Jim Lammey	
Sept. 30th	Ben Breuer	Stan Kirchhoff	Lee Swenson	Captains	Deb Rose

First Lutheran Church
309 E 3rd St N
Newton, IA 50208

September Plans at First Lutheran

**Choir practice is at 8:30
Sundays before church**

**Sept. 9th is
God's Work Our Hands
Join us in service
projects at church and
around town!**

**Join us! We welcome
new members at the
end of the month!**

