



First LUTHERAN

President

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Office Hours
Monday—Friday
8:30 am -
12:30 pm



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

Our Prayer

"The Savior is coming ... Let every heart prepare a throne and every voice a song" ("Hark, the Glad Sound!"). Lord, help me prepare to receive you. With the promise of Advent: Amid barren trees, Isaiah announces spring growth — a "shoot" representing new life in Jesus. "... and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:23). What message is more comforting and praiseworthy than the promise of you, Jesus? Your coming gives hope to this troubled world, and to our hearts, O Lord. Thank you for this gift, Gracious God. We give you all of the praise and Glory! Amen

Church Council Meetings Review :

Present:

Allison Bartholmey, Corrine Coyle, Bryan Friedman, Connie Lucas, and Steve Putz

Call to Order:

Friedman called the meeting to order at 6:39pm.

Devotions:

Bartholmey provided an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes:

Council reviewed the minutes from the October 20, 2022 meeting. Bartholmey moved to approve. Lucas seconded. Motion passed.

Reception

Petitions/

Communications:

None

New Business:

Council Nominations for December:

Reminder that new Council members will be elected at the General Meeting of the

congregation on December 11. There is interest from a few people in running for Council. We should put reminders in the newsletter and weekly emails.

Budget Process:

The Council budget meeting is scheduled for December 7, with the congregation voting on the 2023 budget on December 11. We need to encourage all pledge forms to be submitted, with reminders in the newsletter, emails, and at worship services. Council discussed the proposed budget for Synod Benevolence for 2023. Bartholmey moved that the amount should be set at \$900 per month, which is down from \$1000 per month in 2022. Putz seconded.

Motion passed.

Annual Review of Employees:

Friedman and Kay Hesse will meet with Nicole Vitales to give her annual feedback in the upcoming weeks. Coyle had forms that could be used.

Special Gifts:

Reminder that 2023 Choices in Mission can be approved in advance at the December meeting. Otherwise, they can be approved as requests arise throughout 2023.

Old Business: Chapter 155:

Lucas volunteered to lead efforts to revamp the Church's brochure and add prayer request cards in the pews. We should start planning for a 155th year celebration for next year. We should cross-promote Bible and book studies with our neighbors at UCC, and we should have a couple hard copies of the newsletter available. It was recognized that the playground painting at Emerson Hough was very successful on October 29.

Treasurer's Report:

Coyle presented the report. The budget continues to be positive for the year.

Calendar Review:

The draft December calendar was reviewed. The Jam Session event at 6:30pm on December 7th should be added, and the regular Council meeting was moved to December 20th at 6:30pm.

Committee Reports:**Property:**

Putz reported that all outside painting was done. Christmas decorating will take place on December 3rd.

Service: Nearly \$13,000 was given to Zinga. God's Global Barnyard is the November Choices in Mission.

The Church is trying to get a

Venmo system set up to facilitate giving via cell phone.

Worship:

The use of a new setting for worship is going well. We also have access to Song Select through our CCLI license, which opens up many more music opportunities.

Call:

No new information from the Synod.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday December 20th.

Friedman has devotions.

Adjournment:

Coyle moved, and Bartholmey seconded to adjourn at 8:02pm.

Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted:

Bryan Friedman

**Special dates**

**Second Sunday of Advent,
December 4, 2022**

**General Meting
Third Sunday of Advent,
December 11, 2022**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent,
December 18, 2022**

**First day of winter,
December 21, 2022**

**Christmas Eve
Service 5:30P.m.
Christmas Eve,
December 24, 2022**

**Christmas Day,
December 25, 2022**

**New Year's Eve/Watch
Night,
December 31, 2022**



CHAPTER 155

January will be the beginning of the 155th year anniversary of First Lutheran Church in Newton.

We are looking for a team who would be interested in planning ways of celebrating and sharing special memories. There will be sign up sheets in church on Dec 4 and 11 and we are also inviting those who are not able to be at church to be involved as well.

"Church" is not a building or a denomination, it is the body of Christ - all of us who have placed our faith in Jesus Christ for salvation and embrace the principles of encouraging, teaching and building up one another.

May we pray for guidance as we strive to do God's will.

Zinga News!

Zinga Thank-You!

As in years past, First Lutheran members met the Choices in Mission \$5000 matching fund's goal! Individual gifts adding up to \$7960 brought our total donation to \$12,960. Thank you so very much for supporting IHP-US in the work of bringing excellent healthcare to Tanzania! A Tanzanian proverb puts it this way: **"The heart is that which gives. The fingers only let go."** Thank you for your generous hearts. This will cover the cost of repairing existing equipment, and goes a long way toward the goal of replacing aging vehicles.



Child suffering from botfly

Paula's most recent Update, now available online, tells the story of a child who was recently treated at Zinga. The child was suffering from botfly, a particularly nasty invasive insect whose larvae feed on live flesh. Dr. Kenny extracted the larva from above the little girl's eye. This triggered a memory for Dr. Denny, which Paula shares in the Update. It shows how sometimes, the locals know best... Paula's story is copied below, but for more photos and to read both stories and more, go to www.ihptz.org.

Paula writes: "Here's an interesting story from 1958 when Denny first was a young, just posted missionary doctor at the old Iambi Hospital (now called Iambi Mawe, Iambi near the Rocks) in the Singida district in Tanzania.

Denny was shocked when he saw the just washed sheets from the hospital being laid out on the grass to dry in the sun. He told the nurses this was terrible. It was not good for the sheets to lie out that way and then be used on the patients. So, Denny had poles put up and clotheslines strung so that all of the hospital laundry could be hung up to dry. The staff complied.

There were about 20 patients in the hospital at the time. Within a week they all started developing bulging sores. Then shortly after that, a couple of the sores broke open and the botflies flew out. Oh dear.

Den then realized that the sores were the larvae of the botflies and he had to incise all of the sores and extract the larvae. The doctor learned his lesson and the nurses went back to putting the sheets on the grass to dry.



You see, bot flies are attracted to large standing animals. The sheets, hung in the breeze, looked good to the flies as a great place to lay their eggs."

It is "A Super Christmas"

Our annual Christmas program will be performed Sunday 12/11 during the church service time.

It is a little glimpse of what superheroes of modern time may have felt when they hear a "new superhero" is coming to town on 12/25.

If you have a child or you yourself are "someone young at heart" who would like to be in this performance, please join us on Sunday 12/4 after church and Wednesday 12/7 at 6:00 for practices to prepare for the show. No acting experience required.



On Christmas Eve, the sanctuary will again be filled with the bright red foliage of poinsettias. We need your help in providing these plants. To order a poinsettia, please complete the form below, enclose your check or cash (\$10.00) and either bring it to the church or mail it.

Checks should be made out to First Lutheran for \$10.00

The deadline for ordering is noon on December 12th.

Poinsettias may be taken home after the 5:30pm Service on Christmas Eve.

Name _____

Phone _____

Poinsettia (s) ____ **\$10.00/each** (Check payable to First Lutheran)

Given in honor of _____

Given in memory of _____



Share the good news of Jesus' birth in a creative way.



What you need:

- Newspaper
- Bible
- Smooth, clean stones
- Pencil
- Oil paint pens
- Adult help



What you do:

1. In a well-ventilated area, cover a work surface with newspaper.
2. Read Luke 2:1-20 and choose key people and places to draw.
3. In pencil, sketch one drawing on each stone.
4. Follow directions on paint pens to fill drawings with color. Let dry.
5. Hide stones for younger siblings to find, set out a new stone each day or order them in a row and tell the Nativity story.



HAPPY Birthday FROM YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Ava Sumpter 12/01
Cailyn Grabe 12/03
Darcy Van Dam 12/06
Suzanne Von Seggern 12/07
Barbara Wilcox 12/08
Vicki Porter 12/12
Jim McVey 12/14
Lynette Marvelli 12/16
Cora Dellamuth 12/26
Charles Elliott 12/26
Thomas Hayden 12/26
Robert Sandquist 12/26
Craig Peterson 12/27
Mae Van Dam 12/30

Upcoming Faith & Fellowship Events from Faith Formations at First Lutheran

All Ages Welcome!
Invite a friend or get to know the
neighbor from the next pew.
Come and go as your schedule allows.

Music Jam Session
Wed, Dec 7 6:30-8:00 pm
Bring along your instrument- the trumpet,
your voice, the spoons- and join in some
Christmas tunes for the fun of it.

**Dont Miss the
General
MEETING
December 11th
Following Service**

Bible Quiz

Complete this Bible verse: "The
(1)_____ (2)_____ in the (3)_____,
and the (3)_____ has not over-
come it."

- A. (1) Word; (2) speaks; (3) si-
lence
- B. (1) light; (2) shines; (3) darkness
- C. (1) kingdom of God; (2) reigns;
(3) world
- D. (1) Spirit of God; (2) shines; (3)
world
- E. None of the above



Answer on Pg. 6

Christian symbol

CANDLE—

The candle symbolizes Jesus
being the light of the world
(John 8:12), as well as his call
for Christians to be lights
(Matthew 5:14). Candles play a
prominent role in the
Christmas season. Each candle
on an Advent wreath has a
special meaning. Many churches
have a candlelight worship
service on Christmas Eve, often at midnight.



The upside-down of Christmas

Theologian Halford Luccock once saw a shopper “who looked like an animated Christmas tree with packages dangling from every limb.” When he retrieved some dropped bags, she grumbled that Christmas “turns everything upside down.” Luccock replied, “That is just what it was made for!”

He explained: “Christmas is a story about a baby, and that is a baby’s chief business, turning things upside down. ... A baby in a family divides time into two eras, just as Christmas does. There is B.C., which means ‘before child,’ and A.D., which means ‘after deluge.’”

When God became flesh, the lowly, last, least and lost were exalted, added Luccock. As a result, “the locked-up treasures of kindness and sympathy come from the inside of the heart, where they are often kept imprisoned, to the outside of actual expression in deed and word.” The Christ-child “enables all [people] to get at the best treasures of their lives and offer them for use.”



*The next
meeting will be on
December 14, 2022
6:30 Pm.*

First Lutheran does have a prayer chain!

If you or someone is in need of prayer please contact the church office or Kay Hesse. If you would like to keep it private or confidential that is completely understandable and names can be left out if you wish.

The General Meeting

The General meeting will be held December 11th following worship service. Please make plans to attend, as we will be voting on the yearly budget, and new council members will be elected at that time. If you are interested in joining council please contact the church office or a council member as soon as possible. Joining the church council is a great way to get more involved and let your opinions and voice to be known.

A prayer to the Christ-child

***You have come to us as a small child, but
you have brought us the greatest of all gifts,
the gift of eternal love. Caress us with your
tiny hands, embrace us with your tiny arms
and pierce our hearts with your soft, sweet
cries.***

—Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

309 East Third Street North
Newton, Iowa

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(641)792-3934

Office Hours

Monday—Friday

8:30 am—12:30 pm

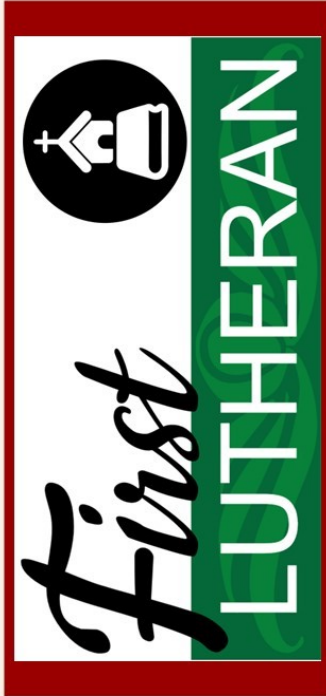
November Pulpit Supply

Pastor Calvin "Cal" Oraw

Worship Service Every Sunday at 9:30am

Sunday School

Every Sunday 10:30-11:00am



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Dorcas 9:00 AM	2	3
4 Rev. Myron Herzberg Worship Service 9:30am Sunday School 10:30-11:00	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Rev. Cal Oraw Worship Service 9:30am General Meeting	12	13	14 Property Meeting 6:30 pm.	15 Council Meeting 6:30 Pm Martha Cr. 1:00 Pm.	16	17
18 Rev. Cal Oraw Worship Service 9:30am Sunday School 10:30-11:00	19	20	21 Lois Cr. 9:30 Am.	22	23 Office Closed	24 Christmas Eve Service 5:30 Pm
25 No Worship Service CHRISTMAS DAY	26 Office Closed	27	28	29	30	31 Happy New Year's EVE!!
No New Years Day Service						

309 EAST THIRD STREET NORTH
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FIRST
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**Watch Past and Live
services !**

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&
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Newton

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Sunday Morning Worship starts at 9:30 AM.

Let us know how we can pray for you!