



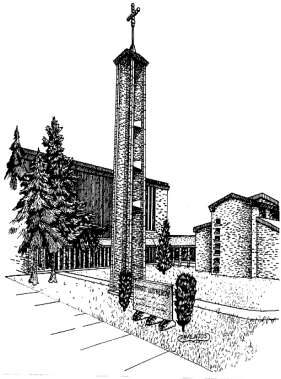
LACS

Letter to God's People



Vol. 25 No. 9 A monthly Publication of First Lutheran Church of Williston

September 2025



Remember our
Mission:

“The Mission of FLC
is

To share God's Love
by Engaging,
Inspiring and
Renewing.”

First Lutheran Staff:

Pastor Zach Harris

Interim Pastor

Lynea Geinert

Deacon

Randi Jangula

Financial

Admin

Beckie Youngs

Office Manager

Meriel Lora

Music and Worship
Coordinator

Carmen Delaney

Director of Music

Evan Lewis

Facilities Manager

Isaac Haugen

Zach Myhrer

Hailey Smith

Church School
Coordinator



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SHARING
GOD'S
LOVE

September

First Lutheran Church

**RALLY
SUNDAY**

September 14th, After Worship @ 10:30

REGISTER FOR
CHURCH SCHOOL
AND
CONFIRMATION

GAMES
& A
CRAFT

TOURS OF
NEW
EDUCATION
WING

NEW
SCHOOL YEAR
BLESSING

BURGERS &
POTLUCK

FOOD
DRIVE





Through a Lutheran Lens

Pastor Zachariah Harris III



An Invitation: The Greatest Show on Earth

September 14th is the date. Now traditionalists may quibble with the verbiage, “show,” in my title. It should really be “event.” Or is it events? Because there’s more than one thing going on. Or, yeah, “service.” Or is it services? Because to be sure there is a worship service, but then there will be the serving of a meal, folks serving as hosts at various opportunities, and the service event itself of gathering food stuff for the hungry. No, let’s just go with the circus theme. And as one of the Ringmasters for September 14th at First Lutheran Church in Williston, ND, let me just say: Get ready for the greatest show on earth!

Hyperbole, you say? Well, perhaps, but given where we were about three years ago, perhaps a little exaggeration is due. Lots of work has gone on from congregational members, diligent leaders of the congregation, and loyal staff whose ranks have increased in the process. The result of some focus on identity and purpose has brought about not only organizational clarity and building, but also updating and renovating to the facilities itself. And all of that has been going on simultaneously, very much like the acts one might encounter in our metaphor for our celebration day: a three ringed circus!

Now the circus theme is apropos first of all because it is the theme for our Vacation Bible School next summer and acts as a prelude. However, as the article for the Williston Graphic illustrates, there are many parallels with the Church. Here I would point out some other obvious similes one might note: three rings are also the symbol of the Holy Trinity; the Big Top tent is pretty much a travelling hall much like the Tabernacle was for the wandering people of God; and the very performers and acts within are so familiar to what goes on in the Church.

The Church walks the tumultuous tight rope of balancing theological fidelity to the tenets of our faith while addressing the needs of modern society. We strike up the band, because music not only gives a soundtrack but harmonizes with the message and meaning of what we have to experience. So much of what leader in the church, teacher of children, and those who model for the future are trying to do are like trapeze artists working without a net—literally defying gravity: those things which pulls us down—to lift us up! And those ordained, like the Ringmaster trying to bring focus to the many things all going on at once so that everyone can see all the talents being exhibited by so many! While at many times that same person is the clown, in the one sense filling in between the other parts, but also in the ancient sense of the Court Jester—the one who always (even to the King) could hold up the mirror and tell the Truth.

So, on Sunday, September 14th, First Lutheran is pulling out all the stops and using this theme to fill all three rings and more by inviting every one for a big time, under the Big Top. We are celebrating Rally Day. We are celebrating 120 years of ministry in Williston. We are celebrating the completion of our two-year renovation of the Education Building with tours to see our state-of-the-art, updated classrooms (to be used for our Sunday School and Confirmation programs for which registration will be available) as well as other educational opportunities, but also available for community events and groups who need a comfortable space to meet!

The Circus theme for the day will also act as a prelude to our VBS theme for the summer of 2026, so the day will begin with outdoor worship under the Big Top outside. From 10:30 to 1:30 the community as well as the congregation is invited to join us for burgers and brats (with sides you can help bring), fountain drinks, a home-made ice cream sundae bar, fresh mini-doughnuts and more to eat. There will be bouncy houses, yard games, live music, crafts, and the rumor of a dunking tank and possible pie throwing booth: both targeting ME, the Ringmaster and Pastor! As a service project, there will be an opportunity to “fill the tent” with non-perishable food for the Gloria Dei Food Bank. It is a culmination of so much that cries out: “Come one, come all!”

One last thought. Though there are still echoes of the traditional circus troops today, probably the most known examples of modernity are the various forms of “Cirque du Soleil,” which means “Circus of the Sun” in French. I think what we are about this month is similar, but with a slight twist. It’s not the Sun up in the sky that warms the air. We are having “A Circus of the Son” for the warming of hearts!

It’s a celebration for all of First Lutheran. For what has been for 120 years. For especially what has been achieved in the last three years. But most importantly for what God intends and can do in all the years to come. We are indeed looking forward to a Big Time Under the Big Top and it will not be the same without all of us there. The show must go on, but it will only be the best with EVERYONE. And that includes YOU!

Living Under His Grace,

Pastor Zach



October 4th

Service for Blessing of the Animals

The first Saturday in October is the Feast of Saint Francis. It has therefore been a traditional time to bless some of the most constant members of our families. Those pets who seem to be precious right along with the rest of our family deserve a bit of recognition. Since St. Francis is the patron saint of animals, this is the day we will gather outside for a short service to bless all our furry (and maybe even slithering) little friends. From dogs and cats to hermit crabs, if they are your special pet, you are invited to bring them at 1 pm for a special blessing. After all God created all living things, not just us humans!

To continue that theme, we will have a showing of the full-length movie, "Super Pets." Time and details are still to be determined, but look for the opportunity to explore the heroic actions of our animal friends along with a bit of Gospel message and fun!



"Love
the LORD
your God
with all your
heart...soul
...mind and...
strength."

Mark 12:30



One morning I woke up with the following words running through my head. I began the day thinking, well I'll just go about my day and the words will fade. However, that did not happen. In fact, this message just kept going around in my head until I came into the church, sat down at my computer, and wrote it all out. Some might say it is simply something I dreamed. I will be honest and say I believe that God gave me this message to pass on to others. So here it goes.

What does Jesus say is the greatest commandment? If you remember from just a few weeks ago our Gospel lesson on Luke 10:25-37 where we heard the parable of the "Good Samaritan." The lesson starts with the lawyer asking Jesus, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus responds with a question, as he does quite often, "What is written in the law?" The lawyer recites from Deuteronomy 6:5, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind." In Mark 12:31 Jesus adds, "And the second is like it, love your neighbor as yourself."

Here's my question for you. What is the common denominator in those two statements? In other words what does Jesus say is the greatest commandment? If you answered Love, you are correct. Do you ever wonder what we mean when we get up and preach this? Or maybe you wonder what does that mean for my life today?

Well, let's look at some practical ways to think of it:

Love is not disagreeing with someone, then shouting them down or spreading rumors and lies about them or committing violence against them. It is listening, really listening to them to hear their side of the story or why they believe what they believe. If you stop and really listen, you might just learn something.

Love is not meeting someone who looks different, talks differently, moves differently, or has a different lifestyle than yours and thinking they do not belong here in church or anywhere. It is about getting to know them, welcoming them, and understanding they too are children of God whom he loves unconditionally.

Love is not coming to worship on Sunday morning then going out to complain about the message, prayers, or music. It is about immersing yourself in the words you are hearing and taking them into your heart.

Love is not coming to worship on Sunday then walking out the door until next Sunday and patting yourself on the back and thinking see I came to church. That makes me a good person. It is about coming to worship on Sunday to be refreshed and energized by the Word through teaching and music then going out to the world to spread the Gospel to others through words and actions. It is also about stepping up and being an active part of this community, we call First Lutheran by teaching, reading, and serving in the ways you are needed.

You can choose to believe these are words God has placed on my heart to deliver to the Church, or you can choose to think about them and pray about them, or you can choose to ignore them. But whatever you choose to do with these words know that God loves you and sent his Son for the sake of the entire world.

My prayer for you is simple. Lord, help us to truly love as Jesus taught us. Amen.

Deacon Lynea



"Love
your Neighbor
as Yourself."

Mark 12:31

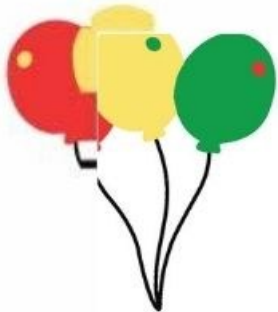


Oscar Quarne, a World War II Vet, will raise the flag at Target Field in Minneapolis on Tuesday, September 16 for the Twins Yankees game.

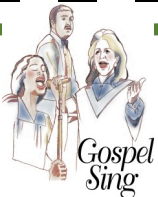
Oscar is a loyal Legion member and has never missed a Memorial Day Service in Grenora, ND
Think of Oscar during this game.

RALLY SUNDAY

Sunday, Sept. 14



Join us for Rally Sunday on September 14th! Come enjoy our circus theme that is a snapshot at next year's Vacation Bible School. We will have a registration table for Church School, Confirmation, and the Mentorship Program. At the table you can register your child, pick up a calendar for the year, ask any questions you may have, and sign up to volunteer throughout the year in a variety of different ways. We will also have games and a craft. There will be music, food, and fellowship for everyone to enjoy. Come join us for an afternoon of fun!



**The Gospel Choir Group is holding practice again. All are welcome.
Contact Ron Lund at
(701) 570-6386 for more information.**

MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!

SEPTEMBER 14

RALLY SUNDAY

COME ONE, COME ALL TO THE GREATEST CELEBRATION OF ALL TIME UNDER THE BIG TOP AT
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH!

9:30 am Outdoor Worship under the big top on the front lawn
10:30 am -1:30 pm Rally Sunday/120th Anniversary/Opening of newly renovated Education Wing

Come for:

Hamburgers, brats, and hotdogs grilled by the Strong Men of our Men in Mission Team.
Side dishes and desserts prepared by the most amazing chefs of First Lutheran, **YOU!**
Spectacular fun games and bouncy houses for children of all ages
Uplifting, crazy fun music by the most stupendous musicians
Tours of the newly completed remodel of the Education Wing



RALLY SUNDAY

CANNOT HAPPEN WITHOUT YOU!

Volunteers Are Needed:

Grilling brats, hamburgers and hotdogs
Setting up and serving the potluck sides
Setting up the games
Helping to set up the music
And more

Look for ways to help on the Reception Desk

Rally Sunday should include a way to serve our community:

A Food Drive to support the Gloria Dei Food Shelf. Bring non-perishable food items and let's see if we can fill the clowns tent with food to help feed the hungry of our community.

This is a great opportunity for a committee or team to provide a service together and use the event to recruit new members. All committees and teams of First Lutheran are invited to decorate a table and be present to talk about the work you do.

**All teams must register for a table by contacting Lynea.
Register no later than September 3**

Please contact Lynea in the office with questions and/or what your ministry group would like to provide.



Fall 2025 Children & Youth Programs

Sunday School:

Who: 3 year old to 5th Grade

What/How/Where: Learning the Word of God and fellowship with peers while building your relationship with God

(Stop in during Rally Sunday, September 14th, after worship to register, pick up a calendar, and ask any questions you may have.)

When: First Day is September 21st

Wednesday School:

Who: 1st Grade to 5th Grade

What/How/Where: Learning the Word of God and fellowship with peers while building your relationship with God

(Stop in during Rally Sunday, September 14th, after worship to register, pick up a calendar, and ask any questions you may have.)

When: First Day is September 24th

Confirmation classes:

Who: 6th grade to 9th grade

What: Learning the Word of God and fellowship with peers while building your relationship with God

(Stop in during Rally Sunday, September 14th, after worship to register, pick up a calendar, and ask any questions you may have.)

When: First Day September 17th

Mentorship Program:

Who: 10th Grade

What/How/Where: Guided fellowship with a mentor

When: TBD



Fun facts about **RALLY SUNDAY**

It is for the entire congregation.

It's not just an ELCA thing or even a Lutheran thing. Different denominations celebrate Rally Sunday.

So, what is Rally Sunday? It is, "A special day at the end of summer to draw "rally" together for a common purpose seeking the Holy Spirit's power to 'renew our energy' for worship, for digging into God's Word, for praying, for serving, and for

2025–2026 "Youth And Children" Special Events

September 14th - Rally Sunday

21st - First Day of Sunday School

24th - First Day of Wednesday School

October 12th - Halloween Legos

26th - 3rd Grade Bibles

November 23rd - Turkey Bingo

December 14th - Christmas Program

14th - Gingerbread Houses

January 7th - Family Event

February 18th - Family Event

March 18th - Family Event

29th - Palm Sunday

April 2nd - First Communion

8th - Family Event

26th - Last Day of Sunday School

29th - Last Day of Wednesday School

May 3rd - Confirmation

10th - Muffins with Mom/Someone Special

June 21st - Donuts with Dad/Someone Special

FLC Sunday/Wednesday School Calendar

2025-2026

September 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Sunday Schools

Wednesday Schools

No Sunday School or Wednesday School

First Day/Last Day

Special Event

Family and Youth Committee Meeting

January 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30



We love our volunteers—and we're inviting new ones to jump in this fall! If you enjoy helping with kids, Sunday School and Wednesday School is the place for you to serve.

Question? Does this mean I need to be available every week?
No! We are looking for volunteers to sign up for a month at a time. Teaching Teams of two are encouraged to sign up.

Question? Why Teaching Teams of two? Schedules, change, kids get sick. Teams of two provides a built-in substitute when you need to be available.

How many Teaching Teams are Needed?

Four teams are needed for Sundays and two for teams for Wednesday School.

Do I have to sign up as a Team of two? NO! We encourage individuals who wish to volunteer to sign up also. We will help match you with another individual.

How Do I sign up?

Contact Hailey Smith via email haileyb2555@gmail.com or text 701-770-6299 or sign up at the receptionist desk located outside the sanctuary.



Upcoming Events

Thursday, Sept. 4th

Men in Misson
1st meeting Fall -25
12 noon - Parlor

Sunday Sept. 14

Rally Sunday
120th Anniversary Celebration
Education Wing Opening

Monday Sept. 15 & Thursday Sept. 18

First Week of Kids Quilting Classes
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Sunday Sept. 21

Sunday School Classes start

Monday Sept. 22

Trust Fund Applications due by 4 pm

Saturday, Oct. 4

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, Oct. 4

10 am to 2 pm WELCA Fall Gathering
- Wildrose

Friday, Oct. 24

Time: TBD
Ribbon Cutting Education
Wing Renovation and Youth
Room Refurbishment.

Sunday, Oct 12

Halloween Legos with Pastor Zach

2025 FIRST LUTHERAN TRUST FUND REQUESTS

Please fill out any FLC Trust Fund requests for 2026 and return to the office by

September 22nd

The forms are on the reception desk.

Thank you!



Trust Fund Committee



Williston Concert Association

Invites the public to the

Season Fall Kickoff -

Saturday, Sept. 6

Time: 2 - 4 pm

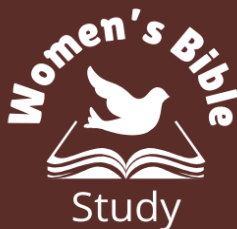
Location: Our Redeemers
Lutheran Church

Celebrating the Association's 80th Season
Ice Cream Social and Local Entertainment

All are Welcome!

WELCA

September Newsletter



Faith Circle

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

Hope Circle

Meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

17th
@ 9:30am
Parlor

20th
@ 10am
Parlor



September

We will be collecting new or gently used coats and winter items for the needy. Please drop your items off at the church.

NEW

Weekly Bible Study

This group will be meeting Wednesdays starting Sept 3rd from 2-3pm in the Parlor. This group will be studying the Seven Faith Practices- Pray, Study, Worship, Invite, Encourage, Serve and Give.

*All women are welcome to join any of the Bible Studies offered. Each one covers a different topic.

*Donations of soap are needed for the LWR Personal Care Kits. Each kit contains 2 or 3 bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping.



Fall Cluster Meeting

"Tis A Gift To Be Simple, 'Tis A Gift To Be Free!"

Date: Saturday, October 4th

Hosts: Women of Grace, Grace Lutheran - Wildrose

Location: Firehall, located on the south end of Wildrose's Main St

Time: Registration begins at 9:30 - Event will be from 10 AM to 2 PM

Scripture: Ephesians 2:8 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."

RSVP: Nancy Lervik 701-641-8962 or Karen Jacobson 701-641-9006 by September 27th

Love Offering: Adult and children hats/stocking caps, gloves/mittens, scarves, and socks to be given to Social Services in Divide, Williams, and McKenzie counties. Both new and gently used items will be welcomed.

Upcoming Dates

Sept 8th 11 am- Board Meeting

Sept 17th 9:30 am- Faith Circle

Sept 20th 10 am- Hope Circle

Oct 4th 9:30 am- Fall Cluster

Oct 6th 11 am- WELCA Board Meeting

Oct 15 9:30 am Faith Circle

Oct 18 10 am Hope Circle



For more details contact:

Lisa Zunich
(701) 570-4604
lzunich@me.com

GO WITH GOD!

It is with sadness and, also excitement that we say goodbye to Issac Haugen, aka the Sound Man, as he departs for Army National Guard

Basic Training
in Missouri.

Thank you for your service, Isaac and we will miss you.

Join us in Fellowship following worship to say goodbye to Issac and enjoy some cake.



WELCOME!

Please welcome Zach Myhrer, yes, another Zach, to our staff as the sound man. You may have noticed him working alongside Isaac the last few weeks training on the system. Please welcome him to our church family when you see him.



Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle. Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks below to complete Psalm 67:6, NIV.

WORDS:

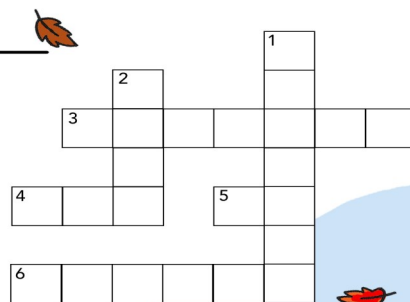
GOD, BLESSES, HARVEST, YIELDS, US, LAND

ACROSS

3. Rhymes with farthest.
4. Rhymes with nod.
5. Rhymes with thus.
6. Rhymes with fields.

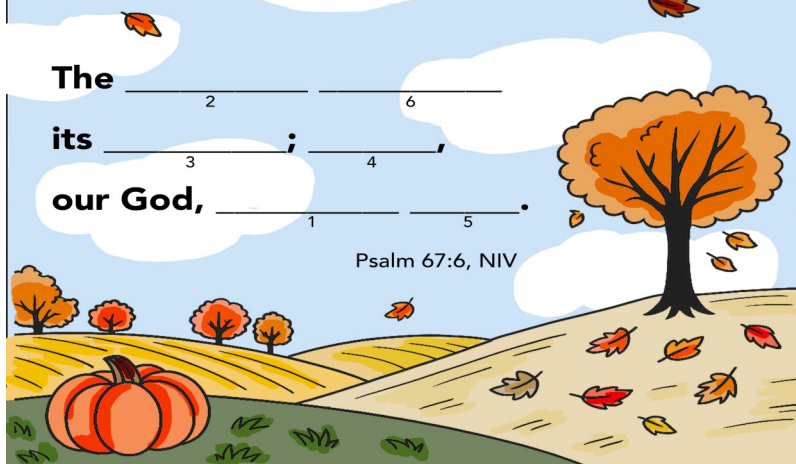
DOWN

1. Rhymes with messes.
2. Rhymes with hand.



The _____
its _____;
our God, _____.

Psalm 67:6, NIV



Answer: The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. Psalm 67:6, NIV

CAN YOU HELP?

The Lutfisk Committee
Needs empty ice cream
containers with lids

The containers may be left
on the counter in the kitchen.
Thank you!



The Church Office will
be closed on
September 1
in observance of
Labor Day.

STEWARDSHIP

YTD Contributions 2025

2025	8/30/25	8/27/25
Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
\$620,000	\$ 413,333.	\$414,634

WORSHIP & ATTENDANCE

Sunday

August 03	64
August 10	72
August 17	78
August 24	89

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

LIVESTREAM

You can sit in the Director's Chair! We are looking for more people to run the Sunday Morning Livestream. Contact the church office @ 572-6363 or join us upstairs during the service.

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS

Please prayerfully consider signing up to help with Sunday services: greeters, ushers, communion servers, readers, and coffee hour!! Call the office to sign up!!!

MEMORIALS

RADIO/MEDIA

Doris Lindvig
Leslie & Marla Bean
David & Tina Hanson
Wayne & Cindy Sorenson

Jim Stokke
David & Tina Hanson

Beth Darr
David & Tina Hanson

Jane Slocum
David & Tina Hanson

Joann Olson
David & Tina Hanson

Charlotte Flexhaug
Lyla Semenko

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jane Slocum
Diane Hagen



UNDESIGNATED

Richard Nelson
Neil & Avis Berge
Rickie & Sharon Sorenson
Stan & Nina Grev
Greg and Kay Anderson

MUSIC

L Sean Key
Tim Ritter

Richard Nelson
Nancy Hoffelt

Doris Lindvig
Nancy Hoffelt

Jeff Olson
Nancy Hoffelt

GOOD SAM FUND

Terry Stordahl
Les & Karen Luther

Betty Koerner
Les & Karen Luther





STEWARDSHIP

It's all about gratitude.
It's all about giving back'
It's all about God.

Direct – Cash or check donation into the plate, always welcome!

Online – Make a donation on our website:

www.flcwilliston.com



Text to Donate – Make a donation via Text message.
Simply text the word
“Give” to: **833-934-3039**

Click on the link in the response and follow the prompts to complete your donation!

Tithe.ly Church App – Search “Tithe.ly Church App” (the Blue one, not the green icon) in your phone App Store or Google Play. Simply download and find First Lutheran Church, Williston ND

Click on the Give button

**First Lutheran Church,
916 Main Street, Williston, ND
58801**

Thank you for your generous support!

email addresses for FLC

Pastor Zach: Zachariah Harris:

pastorzachfirstlutheran@gmail.com

Randi Jangula: office@flcwilliston.com

Lynea Geinert: LGeinert@flcwilliston.com

Meriel Lora: meriel@flcwilliston.com

Evan Lewis: evan@flcwilliston.com

Carmen Delaney: edelaney@flcwilliston.com

Travis Feiring: twfeiring@gmail.com

Beckie Youngs: Rebecca@flcwilliston.com

Hailey Smith: haileyb2555@gmail.com

Zach Myhrer: zach.myhrer@gmail.com

Tithe.ly

Tithe.ly is our online donation processor when giving through our Facebook page, Livestream, and Website. If you are set up with a username and password through Vanco, they will not work with Tithe.ly.

PRAYER & VISITATION REQUESTS

Please contact the office staff or Pastor with any of your prayer requests or if you would like a visit from the Pastoral staff!!

Those listed on the Weekly Bulletin Prayer list will remain there for a period of four (4) weeks unless a request is received to be removed earlier.

COMMUNITY

RADIO MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!



First Lutheran Church has broadcast thousands of radio services to touch travelers, sports fans and parents, Sunday laborers, and shut-ins with song and Gods Word. We may be touching other people's lives without knowing it.

The cost of one broadcast sponsorship is \$150.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

August 12, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:10 PM by Council Vice-Chair Steve Slocum.

Prayer was shared by all.

Roll Call: Travis Feiring, Jean Lindvig, Kathleen Sinclair, Beverly Conway, Steve Slocum, David Brevik, Sjon Zurich, Phyllis Stokke, Tucker Leibrand Pauline Everson, Steve Rehak, Pastor Zach, Lynea Geinert, Meriel Lora.

Others: Anna Denton, Sam Maggard

Devotions: Deacon Lynea shared a meaningful message that came to her regarding being welcoming, listening to stories, knowing we are all children of God. She spoke of immersing ourselves in the reward and words of worship, being refreshed and ready to go forth and share the Gospel through words and actions.

Minutes 7-8-2025 Minutes – approval tabled due to minutes not being in the packets.

Consent Agenda Discussion. Added 12d; visit from Anna Denton on the reorganizing Elks group and a request for space for an activity.

Pastor Report – *Attached.* Pastor went over activities since the June meeting and added that Rickard School has again asked that FLC be their primary emergency gathering site in case of an incident at the school. Council approved this. He reviewed upcoming events and remaining long-term concerns.

Deacon Report – *Attached.* Lynea reported on her activities at the rural churches. She reviewed activities and plans of Befrienders and the Good Sam services. She reported on Rally Day/120th Anniversary/Opening of renovated area plans. She has a team working to bring all this together. See report attached for planned attractions.

Staff Reports – Pastor Zach shared that Hailey has worked hard and done a good job organizing and planning church school and activities with her team. Evan has been behind the plate waiting for and acting on each new pitch in the renovation and building needs. Staff seems have no issues at this time. Meriel reports that Zach Myhrer is working well with Isaac in training to take over after August 24.

Financial Report – Kathleen Sinclair reviewed the packet report. Assets are at 417,514. The budget is at 58% which aligns with spending at 58% of the year passed. Otherwise she had nothing remarkable to report. Some grant awards and subsequent spending were discussed. Motion by Steve Slocum and seconded by David Brevik, to accept the financial report. **Motion passed.**

Committee reports

Marketing Committee Ready to go on Rally promotion with radio and print. Next is September 13 concert at WHS. Meriel will provide material for marketing this event.

Call Committee: Had one Zoom call interview and no outcome to report at this time.

Personnel committee: Report in 11.g below

Youth and Congregational Life: Jean reported that online registration for church school and confirmation would be ideal if the site is ready yet. They are prepared to do paper registration. Baylee Hanson suggested starting up a youth group once a month and is willing to get it going. The team agreed and approved. There are projects to be completed before a ribbon-cutting on the youth activity room and nursery, which will be in October. Rally Day is September 14. Church school starts Sept 21, and confirmation starts Sept 17. Lindsay Rath will lead the mentorship group this year. Dates were set for 3rd graders to receive bibles, family activities, the Christmas program, end of year, and confirmation. They reported hearing of poor wifi on the 2nd and 3rd floors and that brought a discussion on 5g service and fiber optic issues. David Brevik will check with NCC Ray on service.

Property: – David Brevik reported that the fence north of the Main Street houses won't be feasible. Other solutions are being sought. Renovation of the 1st Ave E house continues, making it a duplex rather than existing 4-plex. The roof of the building needs only repair, not total replacement. A new lease agreement with Little Scholars Preschool is being drafted due to the change in space and hours of use. Meriel and Carmen will use the FLC vehicle for travel to rehearsals in Minot for the Sept concert, with steps taken to have all information necessary on record.

Music and Worship Arts Committee: *Attached.* Beverly reported on the meeting held July 15. The summer concert is moved to Sept.13 , 7:00 p.m. at the WHS auditorium. Banners will be

purchased to promote the concert and the 120th celebration. See attached for more information. Trust Fund. Reminder that trust grant requests are due September 30, but Randi requests they be to her by September 15 for processing and preparation for the 30th deadline.

OLD BUSINESS

a/ Building update: – covered in committee report. Also there was a ceiling tile issue which has been resolved and the project should finish on time.

b/ Stewardship:- No report

c / Emergency Preparedness: Numbers are on doors. Door locking during the services will be tabled and was incorrectly stated in the July minutes.

d/ 120th: Ministry team postcards should go out asap asking each group to prepare an informational table with a circus theme. Jean will draft a notice and get it to Beckie.

e/ Church App Update: Sam showed council how to connect and discussed work left to do being mostly verbiage and information on the website. Tucker will head up a team to look it over and work on information entry.

f/ Pictorial Directory: A bid was discussed from a local photographer. Jean will look into costs and options further.

g/ Personnel reviews: No meeting this month. Personnel has reviewed staff eval reports from Pastor Zach and finds no issues at this time.

h/ Concordia Crosby – Assist \$. Motion by David Brevik and 2nd by Pauline Everson to request Trust approve using \$5,000 attributed for California fires towards the \$5,000 for Concordia repair needs, to equal \$10,000 for Concordia in Crosby.

Motion passed. Trust meets next Thursday and this will be brought to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

a / Congregational trip to Germany: Travis has been suggesting we look into cost and feasibility of a trip with Reformation Tours and a Lutheran Heritage Tour. More information to follow. No dates discussed.

b / Inform Beckie of meetings: With Fall bringing startup of some groups meeting and more activities, please remember to inform Beckie of meeting schedules and make sure there is space available.

c / Deacon Letter: (Attached.) Lynea submitted a letter requesting to go part- time beginning November 2, 2025. She included a schedule of Monday and Tuesday, 9-4, and Wednesday 9-3, duties she would maintain, along with a calculation of a new wage and benefits, and the savings to the budget. This is a council matter because she is a rostered staff member. Motion by Steve Slocum and 2nd by David Brevik that we approve her request.

Motion Passed. A letter will be send to the Bishop and synod office stating this was accepted.

d / Anna Denton: presented a request from the Williston Warmth and Wellness Project, for use of the kitchen and fellowship space for at least one day a year. This would be for the reorganizing Elks Brotherhood to prepare and serve a free meal and disperse winter clothing, hygiene items to local residents. They are applying for a grant to help provide these necessities, and need a location for the meal to include in the grant. Lynea suggested that Anna coordinate with the Faith Methodist coats program. Motion by Steve Slocum and 2nd by David Brevik to allow the Elks group to prepare and serve a free meal for whom they invite, and use the space for dispersion of items.

Motion Passed.

Consent agenda: Motion by Sjon Zurich and second by David Brevik to accept all items and reports as presented that were not already voted on.

Motion passed . Ideas/Exchanges/ Reflections.

It was discussed that the length of any meeting should be judicious and cognizant of every-one's time.

The meeting closed at 8:25 p.m. with prayer for congregation members and Blessing. Exec Committee meeting will be Sept 25, 2025 @ 5:00 p.m.. Next Council meeting, Sept 9, 2025 @ 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jean Lindvig, Acting Council Secretary.



2025

Monday, September 1

Labor Day Holiday - Office Closed

Tuesday September 2

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's

5 pm Executive Committee - P

6 pm Personnel Committee - P

Wednesday, September 3

1:30 pm Construction Meeting TBD

2:00 pm Weekly WELCA Bible Study - Parlor

Thursday, September 4

10:00 Coffee Group - P

1:30 pm Pray, Knit, Chat - P

12 Noon Men in Mission - P

Friday, September 5

Saturday, September 6

Sunday, September 7

9:30 am Worship Service-S

10:30 am Coffee Hour-FH

Monday, September 8

8:00 am Pastors/Lay

Preachers text study

1-3 pm Quilting for adults - FH

6 pm Youth Ministries Committee - P

Tuesday, September 9

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's

6 PM Church Council - P

Wednesday, September 10

1 pm Golden Estates

1:30 Construction Meeting TBD

2:00 pm Weekly WELCA Bible Study - Parlor

Thursday, September 11

10: am Coffee Group - P

11:00 am WELCA Board Mtg. - P

1:30 Pray, Knit, Chat - P

2:00 pm Weekly WELCA Bible Study - P



Friday - September 12 -

Rally Day Setup

Saturday, September 13

Rally Day Setup

Sunday, September 14

9:30 am Worship Service - S

10:30 am to 1:30 pm

***Rally Sunday and Sunday School and Confirmation
Registration Following Worship Service
Food, Music, and Education Wing Tours***

Monday, September 15

8:00 am Pastors/Lay

Preachers text study

9:30 am Hope Circle - P

3:30 to 5:30 pm

Kids Quilting Class Resumes QR

Tuesday, September 16

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's

Wednesday, 17

6 pm Wednesday School Meal - FH

6:30 pm Wednesday School - ED Wing

First Day of Confirmation/Wed School

Thursday, September 18

10:00 Coffee Group - P

11:00 am Finance Committee - P

12 noon Trust Committee - P

1:30 pm Pray, Knit, Chat - P

3:30 - 5:30 pm Quilting for Kids - QR

Friday, September 19

Saturday, September 20

10 am Hope Circle - P

Sunday, September 21

9:30 am Worship Service-S

First Day of Sunday School

9:45 am Sunday School

10:30 am Coffee Hour-FH

Monday, September 22

8:00 am Pastors/Lay

Preachers text study

1pm Arbor House

1-3 pm Quilting for adults - FH

Tuesday September 23

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's

Wednesday, September 24

2:00 pm Weekly WELCA Bible Study -
Parlor

6 pm Wed School Meal

6:30 Sunday School/Confirmation

Thursday, September 25

10:30 Coffee Group - P

1:30 pm Pray, Knit, Chat - P

3:30 - 5:30 pm Quilting for Kids - QR

Friday, September 26

Saturday, September 27

Sunday, September 28

9:30 am Worship Service-S

9:45 am Sunday School

10:30 am Coffee Hour-FH

Monday, September 29

8:00 am Pastors/Lay

Preachers text study

1-3 pm Quilting for adults - QR

3:30 - 5:30 PM Quilting for Kids - QR

Tuesday, September 30

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's



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