

FREDSVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 2025

Connect with us



The Rev. Lee R. Gable, Pastor



32756 150th Street
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613



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www.FredsvilleLutheran.org



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@Fredsvillelutheran



YouTube @Fredsvillevideos



Upcoming Events

- **December 3**
 - Razzle Dazzle in Dike
 - Confirmation Class
- **December 10 - Confirmation Class**
- **December 14**
 - Christmas Program
 - Christmas Tree Dancing
- **Dec 20 - Advent Open House**
- **December 24 - Christmas Eve**
 - Candlelight Worship
 - Office Closed
- **December 25 - Office Closed**
- **December 28 - Lessons & Carols**
- **January 1 - Office Closed**

Christmas Eve Worship

Candlelight Worship

5:30pm





DECEMBER 2025



Birthdays

Madison Staker- 1
Kellie Shoemaker- 2
Bryn Petersen- 4
Kristen Staker- 4
Marvin Folkerts- 6
Kennedy Syhlman- 10
Merlin Freese- 10
Linda Nielsen- 10
Emma Staker- 10
Nora Faust- 13
Kristine Cipressi- 14
Patricia (Welter) Johnson- 14
Jean Loger- 15
Karli Lotts- 18
Trisha Weichers- 18
Cooper Bakker- 19
Duane Mueller- 20
Nicholas Reinicke- 20
Sutton Six- 21
Ryan Nuss- 22
Carlene Stage- 23
Kathryn Petersen Hinds- 24
Brenda Cooper- 25
Waylon Syhlman- 26
Steve Nielsen- 29
Kevin Pruisner- 29
Abby Brekke- 29
Kathy Folkerts- 29
Doug Dall- 31
Megan Griffith- 31

Anniversaries

Larry & Jeanne Guthrie- 15
Roy & Audrey Stefan- 27
Eric & Darla Andersen- 29
Jim & Jannan Marx- 29

Prayer List

- **Jerry Christensen**
 - recovering from a fall
- **Catherine Petersen**
 - wound care and wrist fracture
- **Amy Camarata**
 - recovering from hand surgery
- **Deana Peters** (SIL of Jana and Cory Hermann)
 - diagnosed with Breast Cancer

These names were received by the church from the individual or their family and have consented to have their names released to the Fredsville congregation. Please do not hesitate to contact the church office (319-989-2065) to be included in our weekly prayers or contact Pastor Lee.



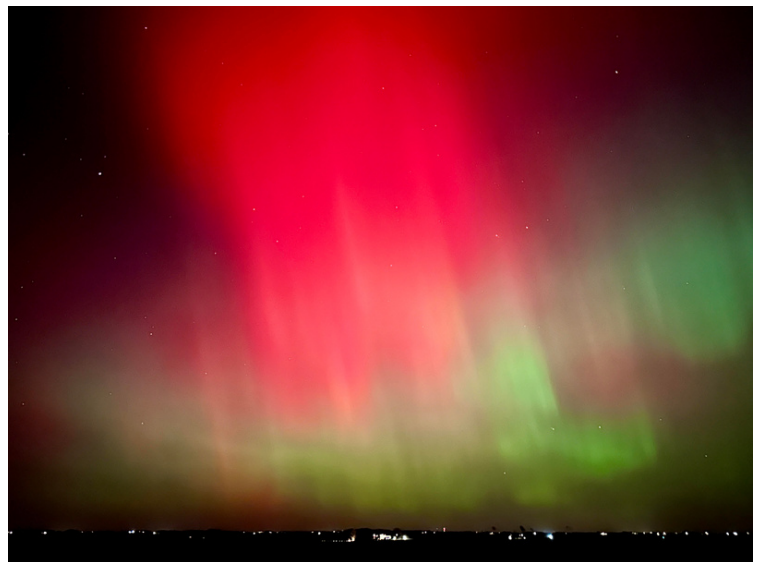
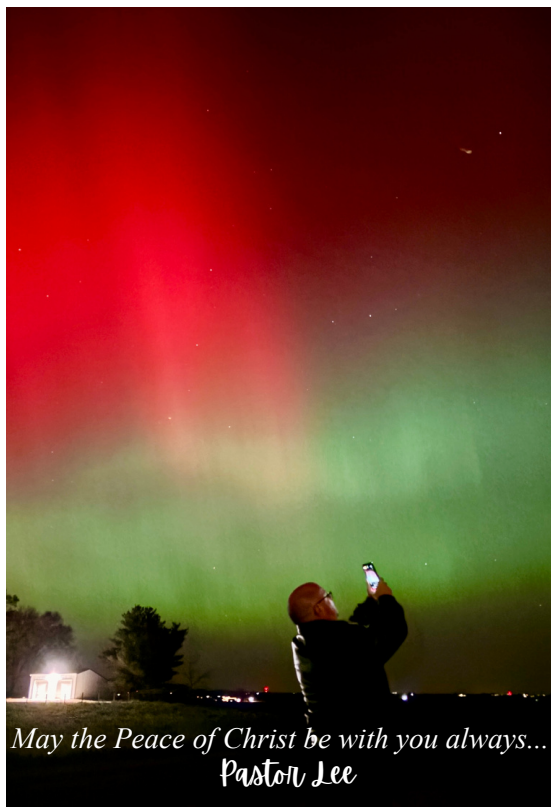
Pastoral Pondering ... Shared Experience.

I was at an endowment meeting when the text messages started coming in to our phones, "Go outside Now". It wasn't just my phone others at the table received the same message at nearly the same time. The Northern Lights were putting on a show.

I have seen the Northern Lights at Fredsville multiple times, so I know that the best place to see them is at the north side of the cemetery. Brenda and Shannon walked with me across the road to see what the night sky would reveal. Wow! We could see the colors of the aurora and then through our phone cameras the colors were vibrant. We stood in awe trying to capture beauty that would not fit our small screens. The best part about this experience wasn't the sky, it was sharing this time with friends. Shannon took the picture below of me taking a picture of the Northern Lights. It reminds me I was not alone. I love taking photos and it was joyful to share this photo experience with others. God creates us for community and the community created by the Northern Lights stretched across the country and around the world. We were all drawn together in this shared experience of unrepeatable beauty.

The Northern Lights made me think about the shepherds out watching their flocks by night when an angel of God appeared with a message of hope. Then with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!" If the shepherds had cell phones they would have been taking photos and texting friends, 'Go outside Now.' Their shared experience has carried the hope of the new born Jesus to generations of God's people. May we continue to look up in wonder at the

night sky hoping to catch a glimpse of God's glory come near. Maybe it will be as expansive as the Northern Lights or as bright as a new star. May God draw us together in this season of hope, with the shared experience of beauty and Love come near in Jesus Christ.



Q & A
by Sue Green
Secretary Ashley
December 2025

Ashley Graas has been hired as our new secretary at Fredsville. I thought that you would enjoy getting to know more about her.

Q: Where did you grow up and attend high school?

A: I was born in St. Cloud Florida and spent 12 years there. For those who are unfamiliar with St. Cloud, it is located in the outskirts of Orlando Florida. I moved to Tallahassee Florida in 2000. I attended high school in Tallahassee Florida at Lawton Chiles High School where I graduated with honors.

Q: Have you had any post-secondary training? What is your degree in?

A: I have a varying range of types of employment and degrees. In the summer of 2019, I did my first term with Green Iowa AmeriCorps. I later did a 6-month term and 11-month term with them as the Energy and Community Outreach Coordinate in 2020 and 2021. Currently I am working on a dual major in Cybersecurity and Network Administration from Hawkeye Community College. I graduate in a few weeks (December 2025).

Q: Could you explain what the Green Iowa AmeriCorps is for those that aren't familiar with it?

A: AmeriCorps is a federal agency for national service and volunteerism in the U.S. It provides an opportunity for members to serve their communities. Green Iowa AmeriCorps is a branch of AmeriCorps. It is a state-wide community service program that operates out of the University of Northern Iowa's Center for Energy and Education. Green Iowa AmeriCorps focuses on environmental stewardship, neighborhood revitalization projects, and energy efficient services.

Q: What projects did you work on as a Green Iowa AmeriCorps employee and what were your responsibilities with those projects?

A: During my summer internship program with Green Iowa AmeriCorps, I was a Land and Water Stewart. My responsibility during this period was to volunteer and engage in a variety of outreach and education events. During my 6-month and 11-month terms with Green Iowa AmeriCorps, I was the Energy and Community Outreach Coordinate. My responsibilities included creating social media posts, organizing outreach events, corresponding with community leaders, and helping the Energy and Community team. My main focus was to organize Outreach events for members to participate in, in the Cedar Valley Area. Some of the events we did included helping at Habitat for Humanity, trash clean-ups, water quality monitoring, prescribe burns and energy audits.

Q: Who is in your family?

A: My family consists of my mom, dad, and brother. My brother and his fiancé have a son, my nephew, who will be turning 2 in January. My parents live in Hudson and my brother lives in Florida. I currently have one cat, a tuxedo, named Mizu or Miz for short.

Q: What do you like to do in your free time?

A: I like to spend my free time with my boyfriend and my cat Mizu. We watch a variety of different tv shows and movies together. I also spend time with my friends and family. And, I like to read and do a variety of arts and crafts.

Q: I always end my Q & A with this question: What is your favorite Bible verse?

My favorite book in the Bible is Psalms. The Psalms are so beautiful. As far as a favorite Bible verse, my current one is Matthew 6:34 "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today."

Best wishes to you Ashley in your new job as Fredsville's Secretary! Your computer skills and love for the environment are great assets to have.





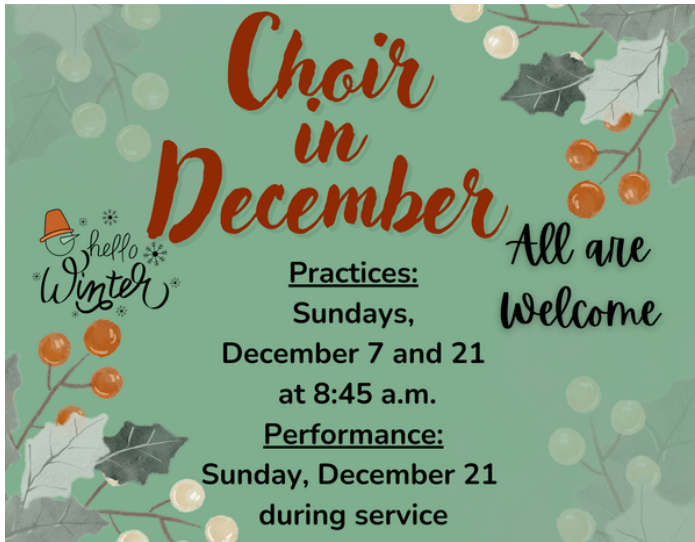
**November 16, 2025 was a day filled with joy, as we celebrated
The Baptisms of Stevie Six and Quade Aronson**



**NewAldaya Welcomes a new CEO
Erin O'Neill-Gleason
pictured with Bev Lupkes & Pastor Lee**



**Pastor Lee had a lot of friends join
him for Kids Time**



**Choir
in
December**

*hello
Winter*

Practices:
Sundays,
December 7 and 21
at 8:45 a.m.

Performance:
Sunday, December 21
during service

*All are
Welcome*



DECEMBER 14

Christmas Tree Dancing

Kid's Christmas Program

Soups,
sandwiches, and
desserts provided



**All are
welcome**



**Razzle
Dazzle**

**In Dike
December 3, 5 - 8 pm**

Please email the church if you
are interested in creating an
activity and/or being in the
booth



**Christmas Eve
Candlelight**

*** Worship
5:30 PM**



PASTOR DENA & PASTOR LEE INVITE YOU

**ADVENT OPEN
HOUSE**

DEC | 20 | 2-4 PM

32692 150th Street
Cedar Falls



**Sunday
December 28th**

Carols & Lessons

Worship Readings, Prayers, & Introductions from SundayandSeasons.com

Sunday, December 7 - 2nd Sunday in Advent Blue

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- Isaiah 11:1-10 - From David's line, a ruler bringing justice and peace
- Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 - May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)
- Romans 15:4-13 - Live in harmony, welcoming one another
- Matthew 3:1-12 = A voice cries: Prepare the way of the Lord

Sunday, December 14 - 3rd Sunday of Advent Blue

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- Isaiah 35:1-10 - The desert blooms as God's people return from exile
- Psalm 146:5-10 - The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps. 146:8)
- James 5:7-10 - Patience until the coming of the Lord
- Luke 1:46b-55 (alternate) - My spirit rejoices in God my Savior. (Lk. 1:47)

Sunday, December 21 - 4th Sunday in Advent Blue

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

- Isaiah 7:10-16 - The sign of Immanuel
- Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 - Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)
- Romans 1:1-7 - Paul's greeting to the church at Rome
- Matthew 1:18-25 - A God near at hand

Worship Readings, Prayers, & Introductions from SundayandSeasons.com

Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

White

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- Isaiah 9:2-7 - Light shines: a child is born for us
- Psalm 96 - Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. (Ps. 96:11)
- Titus 2:11-14 - The grace of God has appeared
- Luke 2:1-20 - God with us

Sunday, December 28 - 1st Sunday of Christmas

White

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- Isaiah 63:7-9 - Israel saved by God's own presence
- Psalm 148 - The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)
- Hebrews 2:10-18 - Christ shares flesh and blood to free humankind
- Matthew 2:13-23 - The slaughter of innocent children

Sunday, January 4 - 2nd Sunday of Christmas

White

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

- Jeremiah 31:7-14 - Joy at the gathering of God's scattered flock
- Psalm 147:12-20 - Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. (Ps. 147:12)
- Ephesians 1:3-14 - The will of God made known in Christ
- John 1:1-18 - God with us: the incarnation of the Word

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Bible Study 9:00 am	3 Razzle Dazzle in DIke	4 Quilters 9:00-11:30 am	5 Fancy Fingers Pastor's Day Off	6
7 Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Christmas Play Practice 5pm - supper 6pm - practice	8	9 Bible Study 9:00 am Sew Pillowcase Dresses 12:00-4:00 pm	10 Confirmation 6:30-8:00 pm Christmas Play Practice 6 -7 PM	11 Quilters 9:00-11:30 am	12 Pastor's Day Off	13
14 Worship 9:30 am Children's Christmas Play Sunday School 10:30 am 	15	16 Bible Study 9:00 am	17 Confirmation 6:30-8:00 pm	18 Quilters 9:00-11:30 am	19 Pastor's Day Off	20 Advent Open House at the Parsonage 2:00-4:00 pm 
21 Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	22	23 Bible Study 9:00 am	24 Candlight Worship 5:30 pm 	25 	26 Pastor's Day Off	27
28 Lessons & Carols Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	29	30 Bible Study 9:00 am	31 	Looking Ahead		 Jan. 24 Growing Faith for Climate Action