



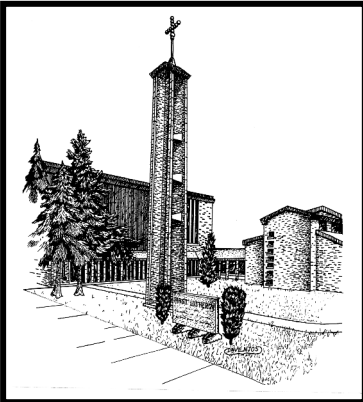
LACS

Letter to God's People



Vol. 26 No. 8 A monthly Publication of First Lutheran Church of Williston

August 2026



Remember our Mission:

**"The Mission of FLC is
To share God's Love by
Engaging, Inspiring and
Renewing."**

First Lutheran Staff:

**Pastor Stephen
Hilding**

**Pastor
Lynea Geinert**

**Deacon
Randi Jangula**

**Financial
Admin**

Beckie Youngs

**Office Manager
Meriel Lora**

**Music and Worship
Coordinator
Evan Lewis**

**Facilities Manager
Zach Myhrer**

**Sound Tech
Hailey Smith**

**Church School
Coordinator**

Gathered by Grace, Sent in Love

Dear Friends,

As summer begins to wind down and we prepare for a new season of ministry, I find myself filled with gratitude and excitement for what God is doing at First Lutheran Church!

Over these first months together, I have spent a great deal of time listening—to members, families, students, volunteers, staff and community members. Again and again, I hear a shared desire: that First Lutheran would continue to be a place where people encounter Christ, grow in faith, build meaningful relationships and discover their place in God's mission.

That desire is beautifully reflected in our congregation's mission:

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

As we move toward fall, several new opportunities will help us live more deeply into that mission.

Gathered by Grace

Throughout August, our Sunday worship will follow a new sermon series called **Gathered by Grace**.

Before Rally Day arrives, before calendars fill and programs begin again, Matthew's Gospel reminds us that **Christ first Gathers us**.

Across five weeks in our lectionary texts, we will see Jesus:

Feed hungry people with abundance

Reach frightened disciples in the storm

Widen the table of mercy

Center the church on himself

Lead us by the way of the cross

The message is simple and profound- that God acts before we do. Before we are sent in mission, Christ gathers us by grace. Before we share God's love with others, Christ first shares his love with us.

Then, on Rally Day (9/13 & 9/16) we will begin a new sermon series, **Engage. Inspire. Renew.** exploring what it means to live out our mission: to share God's love by engaging, inspiring, and renewing.

Gathered by grace & Sent in love. That is the journey we will begin together this fall!

A New Wednesday Rhythm/ Confirmation Reimagined

Beginning on Rally Wednesday September 16th, we will introduce a new Wednesday evening schedule centered on worship and intergenerational faith formation.

5:30 PM — Community Meal (For all ages)

6:00 PM — Midweek Worship (For all ages)

6:50 PM — Church School and Confirmation

7:30 PM — Youth Group

At the center of this new rhythm is a simple conviction:

Worship is the center from which everything else flows.

At the center of this new rhythm is worship, where we gather around Christ to hear God's Word, pray together, remember our baptism, and receive God's grace. From there, we continue into learning, mentoring, fellowship, service, and discipleship. **This is not a worship service only for families with children or students in confirmation; it is an invitation to the entire congregation to experience a weekly rhythm of gathering, belonging, and growing in faith together.**

This same vision is shaping our redesigned confirmation ministry. At First Lutheran, confirmation is not a graduation from church but a deeper step into the promises God made in baptism. Centered on worship, relationships, and participation in the life of the congregation, students will actively lead in worship, serve alongside adults, and grow through mentoring relationships that connect generations. Together, we are helping young people discover that they belong to Christ, have a place in the life of the church, and are called into a lifelong journey of discipleship.

September 16th, we ask parents to please join Confirmation for orientation night!

Thinking About Church Membership?

As we begin this new season, I also want to extend an invitation to anyone interested in learning more about First Lutheran.

Our **New Member Orientation Classes** will be held after worship in the parlor on:

September 20th

September 27th

These gatherings are an opportunity to learn more about our ministry, our Lutheran faith and the mission God has given First Lutheran.

We will celebrate and welcome new members during **New Member Recognition Sunday on October 4th.**

If you have been considering making First Lutheran your church home, I would love to have you join us.

Looking Ahead

For more than 120 years, First Lutheran has been a place where people have gathered around Word and Sacrament, grown in faith, and been sent into the world to serve.

That story continues today.

As we enter this new season together, my prayer is that Christ would continue to gather us by grace, so that we might be sent in love **to share God's love by engaging, inspiring, and renewing** our community and world! Thank you for all you do to serve Christ our Lord!

God's Joy,

Pastor Stephen Hilding

From Deacon Lynea

It seems there is always work to be done. We feel like there is never time to just rest.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” An easy yoke . . . a light burden . . . what Jesus is offering sounds so good. But I’m more familiar with the long to-do lists both at church and at home. I’m more familiar with the Jesus who says, “take up your cross and follow me.” Or the one who talks about the narrow gate and the hard road that leads to life. If we’re always following that Jesus, we can’t really all be called to rest, can we?

Our world today is constantly moving and changing. If we don’t keep up, we can feel left behind. All we hear about is how people are screaming and even committing violence against those that don’t agree with them. Countries are at war. At church worship needs to be planned, information needs to get out about the next meeting or program, someone needs to be listened to, and in the middle of it all a funeral needs to be planned and a family taken care of. At home there is always cleaning, laundry, lawn mowing, and a ton of other chores to do. In the midst of all that, I expect that we are all just plain tired, anxious, and afraid. To this, Jesus says, “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” Now, doesn’t that sound nice?

Then Jesus says, “Take my yoke upon you and learn from me.” In Jesus’ day, the yoke was a common farm implement. Yokes are not something most of us use on a regular basis anymore.

Preacher Barbara Brown Taylor describes the difference between single yokes and shared yokes. A single yoke fits across a person’s shoulders with buckets hung from poles on each side. Taylor says that with a single yoke, “. . . human beings can carry almost as much as donkeys. They will tire easily and have to sit down to rest, and their shoulders will ache all the time . . . but still it is possible to move great loads from one place to another using a single creature under a single yoke.”

She says that a shared yoke works very differently. A well-matched pair of creatures can work all day because one can rest a little while the other pulls. “They can take turns bearing the brunt of the load; they can cover for each other without ever laying down their burden because their yoke is a shared one.” At the end of the day, they are tired, but not exhausted.”

Taylor suggests that some of us are tired because we are trying to wear single yokes, trying to do all the things and carry all the weight alone, while Jesus is calling us to a shared yoke. I know that I am guilty of this all the time, especially for the past two years. It is hard to believe that in a month Eric will have been gone for two years. During that time, I have been trying to carry all the weight of the changes in my life alone. I have not taken the time to see family, and I have thought I needed to “do it myself.” Fortunately, I have wonderful friends that continually remind me that I do not need to “do it all myself.” They are more than willing to help. I thank our Lord God every day for the wonderful people in my life.

Taylor tells a story that I think describes shared yokes well. “Some years ago, my family went to Mackinac Island in Michigan. There are no cars there, but a lot of horses. Many of those horses pull carriages for tourists. Pairs of horses, always the same pair, are connected to each other. All day long, together, they transport people all over the island. Someone told us where to find the off-duty horses, the ones that were on their own in the paddock after hours. So, we did, and what we saw was that the horses who had been yoked together all day chose to stay together in their off time. The one that was always harnessed on the left stayed on the left, the one harnessed on the right stayed on the right, even without the harness. And the two horses walked together, in matched step, in their off hours just as they did when working. The yoke has a power to create relationships, to establish strong connections even when the yoke is no longer physically present.” [1]

As we prepare for the busy Fall with all the outside work at home, the beginning of the school year, and programs starting up at church let’s remember what Barbara Taylor teaches with her words, “A shared yoke has the power to create relationships, to establish strong connections even when the work is done.” [paraphrase]

The tie that binds us is the yoked life with God, the call to a way of life intent on Shalom, the restful wellbeing and peace which God desires for all creation. It is work, but work shared with Jesus and with each other. We may get tired, but not exhausted, because we move with Jesus in Sabbath rhythm.

Rev. Shannon Kershner writes:

“Come to me,” Jesus says.

“All you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens,”

Come to me.

All you who are tired of trying to figure it out all by yourself.

Come to me.

All you who are worn out from trying to keep life under your control.

All you who think the world is growing scarier day by day.

All you who are confused and scared, grieving, and exhausted, lost, and lonely.

Come to me.

“Come to me.

For my yoke is easy and my burden is light, and you will find rest.” Amen. [2]

Blessings until I see you again August 16.

Deacon Lynea

[1] Barbara Brown Taylor, “The Open Yoke” in *The Seeds of Heaven: Sermons of the Gospel of Matthew* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2004), p. 21.

[2] This beautiful phrasing is the work of the Rev. Shannon J. Kershner in her sermon, *Burdens*, <http://fourthchurch.org/sermons/2014/070614.html>

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
July 14, 2026 – (Unapproved)

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice Pres Steve Slocum. Prayer was shared by all.

Roll Call: Travis Feiring, Jean Lindvig, Beverly Conway, Kathleen Sinclair, Phyllis Stokke, Pauline Everson, Steve Slocum, Baylee Hanson, Deacon Lynea Geinert, and Pastor Stephen Hilding.

Others: Bill Glen and Cindy Sorenson.

Devotions: Pastor Stephen reflected on I Corinthians, we have a variety of gifts but the same spirit and mission. Maintenance gets us into the mission. We gave thanks for our gifts.

Minutes June 9, 2026 minutes were reviewed. Motion made by Kathleen Sinclair to accept minutes as corrected, seconded by Pauline Everson. Minutes were approved. **Kathleen or Baylee will take minutes for August council meeting.**

Consent Agenda added 12.c Boy Scout Request – Bill and Cindy. Motion by Steve Slocum and 2nd by Pauline Everson to accept the agenda as amended. Motion passed.

Pastor Report – *Attached.* Pastor Stephen shared a proposed plan for confirmation to begin in the fall. Motion by Steve Slocum and 2nd by Pauline Everson to give Council's blessing to this plan for Wednesday Worship and Faith Formation and leave the details to the committees involved. Motion passed. Ron Wright will be leading worship August 2. Further discussion was had about sermon series for August and September, Songs and S'mores, and event dates in the coming months.

Deacon Report – *Attached.* Lynea presented a new ministry with Providence House, Family Crisis Shelter and Gloria Dei involving assembling and distributing personal hygiene kits to students grades 6-12. There will be service nights Wednesdays to work on this and it will have a kick-off August 16.

Staff Reports – Zach and Pastor Stephen are continuing to work on the website and planning ministry events.

Manager Report – *Attached.* Request for facility use by WHS Class of '71 for use of the Chapel 9/19/26 for a memorial service. Pauline is a part of this class. Motion for approval made by Kathleen Sinclair, 2nd by Baylee Hanson, with Pauline in charge of south door access. Beckie also requested that she be allowed to create an ad hoc committee for the purpose of reviewing FLC Wedding Guidelines. The committee will submit a recommendation to council for approval after completing the review. This was approved without a motion.

Financial Report – General Fund balance is \$77,150.94. We are at 59% of budgeted giving.

Committee reports –

Finance Committee – *Report attached.* The Stewardship project was under budgeted and the committee recommends requesting from Memorial funds to complete the 2026 campaign. Motion by Steve Slocum, 2nd by Beverly Conway, to accept and approve the Financial Committee report.

Marketing Committee – Report on marketing not done for cantata and July 11 event. No FLC marketing for VBS. A couple radio morning news spots are set for July 21 for Songs and S'mores with Pastor Stephen, and VBS on July 24 with Baylee Hanson.

Personnel Committee – Met and discussed proposed position (see NB 12.b.)

Call Committee – Discussed moving forward with search for Associate Pastor. No communication has been had with former headhunter company. Current committee members can be asked if they wish to stay on or be replaced.

Youth and Congregational Life – VBS volunteer numbers are good. There is a meeting 4:00 p.m. Sunday July 26 for volunteers with Springbrook Bible Camp counselors, with a meal to follow. Songs and S'mores event is ready to go with banner ordered and radio spots set. Youth numbers are growing as reported by camp personnel.

OLD BUSINESS –

11a Preschool lease - There was confusion in the last meeting time. Reset for next week.

11b Bible Camp – VBS – Council is serving lunch Wednesday. Volunteers confirmed.

11c Sunday Service Groups – this is a place holder for future attention.

11d Website App Subgroup – Pastor Stephen presented an FLC Website Redesign Survey to be filled out, which will provide congregational feedback. They are obtaining website content information.

OLD BUSINESS (Continued)

11e Summer Concert Event – A vote held by email (attached) by Motion of Steven Slocum and 2nd by Pauline Everson to cancel the July 11 event was ratified by motion to certify the email on this event recognizing that it was unanimous response from council members.

11f Weiderander's Art – tabled to September. Appraisal will be shared for review.

NEW BUSINESS

12a Confirmation – discussed in Pastor's Report. Discussion was had on chapel screens and projection, as well as seating and capacity.

12b Position – A handout was passed around for a proposed position to ensure that the church's administrative, financial and facility systems are aligned, well-managed and supportive of our mission to "share God's love by Engaging, Inspiring and Renewing. This will be reviewed and on the agenda for August.

12c Boy Scouts – Bill Glen presented a recommendation that FLC become the supporting charter for local Boy Scout Troop 316. Cindy Sorenson would be the rep with Bill leaving the community. Discussion was had regarding meeting time and frequency, space needed. The troop has a van and trailer, and insurance and use was also discussed. All adults in the organization have had or will have background checks in accordance with policies. Motion by Steve Slocum and 2nd by Beverly Conway that we approve FLC being the Charter rep for Troop 316. Motion passed, and will be effective August 2026.

NOTE: Travis reminded us that Trust requests are due mid-September.

Consent agenda. Motion by Kathleen Sinclair, 2nd by Pauline Everson to approve the consent agenda and all items and reports offered without motions made previously. Motion passed.

The meeting closed at 8:17 after prayer for congregation members and Blessing.

August Exec Committee meeting will be Aug 4, 2026 @ 5:00 p.m..

August Council meeting will be Aug 11, 2026 @ 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jean Lindvig, Council Secretary.

Approved _____, 2026.

Council President

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
WILLISTON, NORTH DAKOTA

TOGETHER
in Faith

GROWING
IN FAITH.
SERVING
TOGETHER.

FALL PROGRAMMING *Starts with You!*

SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS

WEDNESDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
COMMUNITY MEALS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
WORSHIP

CONFIRMATION

SHARE YOUR GIFTS. MAKE A DIFFERENCE. BE THE CHURCH.
Watch for sign-up opportunities coming soon!

Fall Ministry Is Coming... and We Need You!

Mark your calendars and watch for upcoming volunteer sign-ups! Opportunities will be available for Sunday School, Wednesday School, community meals, Wednesday worship, and Confirmation mentoring. Your gifts can help nurture faith, build community, and strengthen our congregation.

There's a place for everyone to serve!

FLC Sunday/Wednesday School Calendar 2026/2027

September 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
	31	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 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

November 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					

December 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		

Sunday Schools

Wednesday Schools

No Sunday School or Wednesday School

First Day/Last Day

Special Event

Family and Youth Committee Meeting

January 2027

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 2027

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 2027

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 2027

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 2027

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 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

Tentative 206-27 Youth and Children's Ministry Calendar*

*All Dates are subject to change

Month	Date	Key	Event
August	31		Youth Committee Meeting
September	13th		Rally Sunday
	16th		Rally Wednesday
			1st Day of Confirmation- Parent & Student Meeting Grade 6-10
	21st		1st Day of Sunday School
October	TBD		Special Event
November	1st		3rd Grade Bibles
	22nd		Turkey Bingo
December			Advent Services
	13th		Christmas Program
			Gingerbread Houses
January	TBD		Special Event
February	TBD		Special Event
March	TBD		Special Event
	10th		Ash Wednesday ?classes
		†	Lenten Services
	21st		Palm Sunday
	24th		Holy Week- Serve night
	25th		First Communion (Maundy Thursday)
	28th		Easter
April	TBD		Special Event
	25th		Last Day of Sunday School
	28th		Last Day of Wednesday School
May	2nd		10th Grade Confirmation
	9th		Muffins with Mom or Someone Special
June	20th		Donut with Dad or Someone Special

MEMORIALS

MUSIC MINISTRY

Claus Harris Paradies

Tim Ritter

Ardean Aafedt

Tim Ritter

Luelle Dix

Tim Ritter

Bob Lobsinger

Tim Ritter

Richard Hickok

Tim Ritter

FUNERAL COMMITTEE

Ardean Aafedt

Greg Everson



YOUTH LEGO FUND

Ardean Aafedt

Ann Arnson

UNDESIGNATED

Gordon Postovit

Nancy Hoffelt

Stephen Hughes

Nancy Hoffelt

BUILDING FUND

Ardean Aafedt

Tim Ritter

RADIO FUND

Ardean Aafedt

Lowell & Carol Jean Sandvik

Ron & Liz Lund

Memorial Donations

The Memorial Committee offers three categories for those who are interested in making contributions. These categories are:

Property: Donations can be directed toward property, supporting the acquisition, maintenance, or enhancement of physical assets.

Programs: Contributions may be allocated to support various programs, ensuring the continuation and growth of initiatives within the church.

Undesignated: Gifts can also be made without a specific designation, allowing the committee to allocate resources where they are most needed.



**SOUND AND TECH
VOLUNTEER TEAM
MEMBERS NEEDED**

**Please Contact Zach Myhrer for
more info!**

Email: zach@flcwilliston.com

TRUST FUND REQUESTS

Please fill out any FLC Trust Fund requests for 2027 and return to the office by

**September
(Deadline Date to be announced shortly).**

The forms are on the reception desk.
Thank you!

Trust Committee

STEWARDSHIP

YTD Contributions 2026

2026		7/26/2026
Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
\$620,000	\$361,666	\$391,271

WORSHIP & ATTENDANCE

Sunday

July	7/5/2026	40
July	7/12/2026	70
July	7/19/2026	98
July	7/26/2-26	89

COMMUNITY

Office Hours

Mon-Thur 8 am - 4 pm
Fri - 8 am - 2 pm

Gospel Music Group

The Gospel Choir Group is holding practice.

All are welcome!

Contact Karla Osborn 701-572-3987 for more information.

On the 2nd Sunday of each month the Gospel Choir practices in the Parlor before the 9 : 30 am church service.

On the 4th Sunday of each month, the Gospel Choir sings in church.

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

email addresses for FLC

Pastor Stephen Hilding:

stephen@flcwilliston.com

Lynea Geinert: LGeinert@flcwilliston.com

Meriel Lora: meriel@flcwilliston.com

Evan Lewis: evan@flcwilliston.com

Travis Feiring: twfeiring@gmail.com

Beckie Youngs: rebecca@flcwilliston.com

Hailey Smith: haileyb2555@gmail.com

Zach Myhrer: zach@flcwilliston.com



Don't forget our Radio Broadcast's in honor or memory of your loved ones!!!

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!!



A New Wednesday Rhythm: Rooted in Faith, Growing Together

One of the most exciting opportunities this fall is the launch of a new Wednesday evening rhythm designed to place worship, relationships, and faith formation at the center of our life together.

Beginning on **Rally Wednesday, September 16**, we will gather each week for:

- 5:30 PM — Community Meal (For All Ages)**
- 6:00 PM — Midweek Worship (For All Ages)**
- 6:50 PM — Church School & Confirmation**
- 7:30 PM — Youth Group**

At First Lutheran, we believe faith is formed through worship, community, service, and relationships. That's why this new schedule is intentionally built around a simple conviction:

Worship is the center from which everything else flows.

Each Wednesday begins with a shared meal where children, youth, parents, grandparents, and members of every generation can gather around the table, build relationships, and experience the gift of Christian community. From there, we move into worship, where we hear God's Word, pray together, remember our baptism, and receive God's grace.

This worship service is not just for families with children. It is for the entire congregation. Whether you are six or ninety-six, lifelong Lutheran or newer to First Lutheran, Wednesday worship is an opportunity to gather around Christ together in the middle of the week.

A Renewed Vision for Confirmation

This same vision is shaping our confirmation ministry.

For over 120 years, First Lutheran has helped young people grow in faith. As we look to the future, we are building on that tradition with a renewed emphasis on worship, relationships, service, and baptismal identity.

At First Lutheran, confirmation is not a graduation from church or a finish line for faith. Confirmation is a deeper step into the promises God has already made in baptism and a growing participation in the life and mission of Christ's church.

Students will gather weekly for worship, pastoral teaching, small-group discussion, service and mentoring. They will learn Scripture, the Small Catechism, Lutheran theology and what it means to follow Jesus in everyday life. Just as importantly, they will learn by doing.

Students will actively participate in worship leadership through reading Scripture, serving as ushers and greeters, assisting with communion, helping with technology and music, participating in service projects, and serving alongside adults throughout the congregation.

Research consistently confirms what the church has long known: faith grows through meaningful relationships. Young people develop lasting faith when they are known, encouraged, prayed for, and supported by caring Christian adults.

Because of that conviction, this year will also serve as an important transition. **Our current 9th and 10th grade students will be confirmed together in the spring of 2027**, allowing us to honor the work they have already completed while creating a clear path forward for future classes.

Beginning next year, **9th grade will become a year of preparation for Affirmation of Baptism**, while **10th grade will become a mentor year focused on leadership, service, vocation, and helping guide younger students in faith.**

This reflects a deeply Lutheran conviction:

Affirmation of Baptism is not the end of faith formation—it is a milestone within a lifelong journey of discipleship.

A Call for Confirmation Guides and Mentors

This vision cannot happen without caring adults.

We are looking for **Confirmation Guides, Mentors, and Wednesday evening volunteers** who are willing to walk alongside our students. You do not need a theology degree or all the answers. We simply need adults who are willing to listen, encourage, ask good questions, share their faith, and remind young people of God's promises. Many of us can name a Sunday school teacher, youth leader, choir director, grandparent, or faithful church member who helped shape our faith. Now we have the opportunity to become those people for the next generation.

If you feel called to serve as a guide, mentor, small-group leader, worship coach, kitchen volunteer, or Wednesday helper, I would love to visit with you.

Join Us

Parents and students are invited to attend Confirmation Orientation Night on Wednesday, September 16, as we launch this exciting new season together.

We truly believe this new Wednesday rhythm has the potential to strengthen our entire congregation. Through meals, worship, learning, mentoring, service, and relationships, we are creating opportunities for all generations to grow together as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our hope is simple:

That every child, youth, and adult will know they are claimed by God in baptism belong to Christ, have gifts to share, and have a place within the life and mission of First Lutheran Church.

We can't wait to begin this journey together.



Student Registration:

Register here by scanning the QR Code or complete a paper copy of the registration form. Paper Copies are available at the church reception desk Sunday – Friday.



JULY 27-30, 2020

Vacation Bible School MEMORIES

What a week!
Learning, laughing, and
growing closer to Jesus.



SO MUCH FUN
AND SO MUCH JOY!

Thank you Springbrook Bible
Camp Staff, our amazing
volunteers and families for
making VBS so special!



New friends,
big faith,
forever changed.



JESUS
LOVES
ME



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
WILLISTON, NORTH DAKOTA



Website Redesign Survey

We're redesigning the First Lutheran Church website to better serve our congregation and welcome visitors. Your feedback will help us create a website that reflects our church and supports our ministry.



Additional forms are available in the Narthex and at the Reception Desk.
Thank you for sharing your thoughts!

*Your voice matters as we build a better online presence for
First Lutheran Church.*

Scan the QR Code or Complete a Paper Survey located below:

Survey

We're redesigning the First Lutheran Church website to better serve members, welcome visitors, and share what makes our church special. Your feedback will help guide the new site.

1. Which best describes you? (Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Regular Attendee ☐ Member ☐ Volunteer ☐ Ministry Leader
☐ Staff Member ☐ Church Council Member ☐ Parent ☐ Student

2. How long have you attended First Lutheran?

- ☐ Less than 6 months ☐ 6 months–2 years ☐ 3–10 years ☐ More than 10 years

3. What type of photos/videos would you prefer on the website?

- ☐ Mostly authentic member photos/videos
☐ Mostly professionally produced photos/videos
☐ A mix of both

4. Which photos/videos best represent First Lutheran? (Choose 3.)

- ☐ Worship ☐ Families ☐ Children ☐ Fellowship ☐ Volunteers ☐ Meals
☐ Outdoor Activities ☐ Music Groups ☐ Baptisms ☐ Confirmation ☐ Historic Photos

5. What makes First Lutheran different from other Churches _____

6. What three words or short phrases best describe First Lutheran?

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____

7. What traditions, ministries, or events best represent the heart of First Lutheran? (List up to 3.)

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____

8. After visiting the website, what should a first-time visitor Know, Feel, and Want to do next?

Know: _____

Feel: _____

Do Next: _____

9. Which five things are most important for the website to help you do?

- ☐ Find service times ☐ Watch worship services ☐ Read/watch Sermons ☐ View events
☐ Read Newsletters ☐ Give online ☐ Find ministries ☐ Volunteer
☐ Submit prayer requests ☐ Contact staff ☐ Learn about the church ☐ Sign up for events
☐ Join a group ☐ Find Livestream ☐ Other _____

10. If someone attended First Lutheran for six months, what would you hope they would say about the church_____

11. What pages or information do you use most often or would use on the website?

12. Which five items should appear first on the homepage?

- ☐ Service Times ☐ Watch Lives stream ☐ Upcoming Events ☐ About Us ☐ Get Connected
☐ Give ☐ Prayer Request ☐ Newsletter ☐ Ministries ☐ Contact Info

13. What questions or concerns might a first-time visitor have? _____

14. What information should a first-time visitor never have to call the church office to find? _____

15. What information is currently difficult to find on the website? _____

16. Imagine it is three years from now and the website has been a success.

What happened? _____

Thank you for helping shape the future website of First Lutheran Church. Please return this survey to Pastor Stephen, Beckie, or Zach.



Sunday, August 2

9:30 am Worship Service-S

10:30 am Coffee Hour-FH

Monday, August 3

8:00 am Pastor's/Lay Preacher's
Text Study

1-3 pm Quilting for adults-QR

Tuesday, August 4

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's

1 pm Staff Meeting-MR

5 pm Council Exec Committee-MR

6:30 pm Personnel Committee - MR

Wednesday, August 5

1 pm Golden Estates

2 pm Women's Bible Study-P

Thursday, August 6

10:00 Coffee Group-P

11:00 am Finance-MR

1:30 pm Pray, Knit, Chat-P

Friday, August 7

Saturday, August 8

Private Wedding—Sanctuary

Sunday, August 9

9:30 am Worship Service-S

Baptismal Service

10:30 am Coffee Hour-FH

Monday, August 10

8:00 am Pastors/Lay

Preachers text study

1-3 pm Quilting for adults-QR

6 pm Youth Committee-P

Tuesday, August 11

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's

1 pm Staff Meeting-MR

6 pm Council-MR

Wednesday, August 12

2 pm Women's Bible Study-P

Thursday, August 13

10 am Coffee Group-P

1-3 pm Quilting for adults-QR

1:30 Pray, Knit, Chat-P

Friday, August 14

Saturday, August 15

Sunday, August 16

9:30 am Worship Service-S

10:30 am Coffee Hour-FH

Monday, August 17

8:00 am Pastor's/Lay Preacher's
Text Study

1 pm Arbor House

1-3 pm Quilting for adults-QR

6:30 pm Music Committee-P

Tuesday, August 18

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's

1 pm Staff Meeting-MR

Wednesday, August 19

2 pm Women's Bible Study-P

Thursday, August 20

10 am Coffee Group-P

12 noon - Trust-MR

1 - 3 pm Quilting for adults-QR

1:30 Pray, Knit, Chat-P

Friday, August 21

Saturday, August 22

Sunday, August 23

9:30 am Worship Service-S

10:30 am Coffee Hour-FH

Monday, August 24

8:00 am Pastors/Lay

Preachers text study

1-3 pm Quilting for adults-QR

Time TBD Boy Scouts - FH

Tuesday August 25

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

Gramma Sharon's

1:30 pm Staff Meeting

4 pm—8:30 PM Private Meeting - P

Wednesday, August 26

Thursday, August 27

10 am Coffee Group-P

1-3 pm Quilting for adults-QR

1:30 pm Pray Knit Cha't

Friday, August 28

Saturday, August 29

Sunday, August 30

9:30 am Worship Service-S

10:30 am Coffee Hour-FH

Monday, August 31

8:00 am Pastors/Lay

Preachers text study

1-3 pm Quilting for adults-QR

Upcoming Events

**Sunday School/Wednesday School
Volunteer Teacher Training –
Date to Be Determined**

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION CLASS

September 20 and 27 following
Worship - P

Rally Sunday - September 13

More info coming soon!

Rally Wednesday - September 16

Wednesday School and
**Parent/Youth Confirmation
Orientation grades 6-10**

Sunday, September 20

First Day of Sunday School

Wednesday, September 23

First Day of Wed Meal,
Wed Worship,
Wed School and Confirmation
Classes

NEW – REVISED FORMAT

*Your New Wednesday Night
Routine*

5:30 PM – Community Meal:

6:00 PM – Worship Service:

6:50 PM – Renewed Confirmation
& Children's Church

7:30 PM – Youth Group

Sunday, October 4

9:30 am Worship & New Member
Recognition Sunday on
October 4th.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
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flcwilliston.com

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If you have questions please call 701-572-6363.*

_____ \$150 for one Sunday - Date Requested: _____
(PLEASE CALL TO VERIFY DATE IS AVAILABLE)

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Optional: In Honor/Memory (circle one) of:

_____ I/We give permission to have my/our name(s) printed in the bulletin and/or in the worship
announcements as sponsors of that Sunday's radio broadcast.