



First Ev. Lutheran Church, 201 N. Davis, PO Box 152, Oakland, NE, 68045
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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

On a recent Sunday we looked at the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from the book of Daniel and we saw their amazing faith as they refused to bow down before an idol, even under the threat of being thrown into a fiery furnace.

From their lives and experience we were reminded that even though we may wonder, at times, if we can be helped in a trying situation there is always hope with God.

We were also encouraged to have a humble confidence in our God and to be unashamed of our faith in Jesus.

As we have this confidence in our God, we were reminded that we can have an "if not" faith. This is a faith that believes God will help us, but "if not," if he somehow does not seem to help us, we will still follow him and trust him. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego chose to stand with God even if he did not rescue them from the fiery furnace.

We were reminded that God can walk with us in our fiery furnaces, just as he did with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

Lastly, our passage taught us God's working in our lives is always perfect and complete. When Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego emerged from the fiery furnace they did not even smell like smoke. God's ministry to them was perfect and complete.

As we trust in Jesus as our Savior, may we follow him with the same kind of faith Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had, being willing to follow him, whatever may happen, and whatever the cost.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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FEBRUARY 2020 SPECIAL DAYS

Some of the special days celebrated in February are:

- Black History Month — February 1-29
- Groundhog Day — February 2
- Boy Scout Sunday — February 2
- Valentine's Day — February 14
- Presidents' Day — February 17
- Transfiguration Sunday — February 23
- Ash Wednesday — February 26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You to everyone who came on Saturday morning, January 11th, 2020 to help "un-decorate" the church.

If anyone would like to donate Thrivent dollars to First Ev. Lutheran Church, please notify Thrivent by the end of March

Winter Coat Drive. The Women of the Word (WOW) are planning a winter coats, mittens, and hats drive. We are going to try to keep these items in the area as there is a desperate need here. Please bring all gently used coats in any size, hats and mittens or gloves.

Please mark your calendars for our next "Movie Night at First Lutheran Church"!

Sunday, February 9th at 6:00 p.m. We will be showing "Aladdin (2018)." Everyone is welcome. You don't want to miss this! 🏠🍷👋🍷

The Annual Congregational Meeting of First Evangelical Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, January 26, 2020 following the worship service. There was a soup dinner following the meeting and Church Council met after the soup dinner. Thank you to last year's new council members for providing the soups and items for this meal!

Sunday School classes resumed Sunday Jan. 5th, 2020.

The Swedish Heritage Center is having a Pre-Super Bowl meal, February 2nd, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Free will donation. Come enjoy good food & fellowship. Thank you for your support.

There are sub-sandwiches available again for Super Bowl Sunday as a fundraiser, at a cost of \$5/sandwich. The forms are located in the multipurpose room and inside the bulletin. Please fill out and place in the offering plate.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We will be having our Valentine's Day Party February 16th! Our January Pay-It-Forward went to Mrs. Case, who is undergoing treatment for cancer. She is unable to work and we want to gift her to help with any expenses she has incurred with her cancer treatment. Mrs. Case is a long-time elementary teacher at Oakland-Craig and has impacted many kids that have gone through First Lutheran. Prayers to her and her family!

We will sing on: February 9, March 8, April 5 (Palm Sunday), and May 10 (Mother's Day).

BAPTISM

We welcomed Macklynn Kate Onken through holy baptism on January 26, 2020. Macklynn is the daughter of Nicholas and Katie Onken. She was born on September 24, 2019. Her sponsors are Justin and Courtney Onken, Ryan Brehmer and Regan Zach, Kyle and Sydnee Gutzmann and Alex Brehmer.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmands will meet every Wednesday of the month.

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP meets every Wednesday of the month. It is open to all current Junior High and Senior High students in the community.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am.



Linda Carlson and Laurie Schold



SEWING MEETINGS EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY MORNINGS
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Women of the Word

February 5Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m. ...Ruth
February 10... ..Executive Meeting 9 a.m.
February 12.....Group Meetings 9 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
February 21..... Ash Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m.



DORCAS SOCIETY

Dorcas Society
February 26th @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS


- 4 - Lois Schneekloth, Javar Larson, Myesha Larson
- 5 - Raymond Satree
- 6 - Denise Enstrom, Carl Magnusson,
- 7 - Loudon Pelan
- 8 - Carolyn Magnusson
- 9 - Elizabeth Moderow, Sara Anderson
- 10 - Tammy Deemer, Amy Rost, Helen Murray
- 11 - Merlin Anderson
- 12 - Karla Shelley, Daniel Tanksley, Dorothy Wallace
- 13 - Tom Mallette, Vernelle Nelson, Brittany Sznajder-Murray
- 16 - Dorothy Miller, Bryanna Olson, Perry Rogers, Sarah Wallace
- 17 - Joan Magnusson, Sharon Peterson
- 18 - Brian Stover, Sally Johnson
- 19 - Patrick Wonka
- 20 - Mona Tanksley
- 21 - Darrell Schneekloth
- 22 - Wyatt Seagren
- 24 - Adilen Rennerfeldt, Beverly Richards
- 25 - Joshua Deemer
- 26 - LaVerne Kellner
- 27 - Kathy Pearson
- 28 - Don Johnson



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 - Jon and Chloine Johnson
- 12 - Alan and Tammy Schinck
- 19 - Delwin and Sandra Slatt
- 20 - Vern and Lucetta Jensen
- 21 - James and Audrey Unwin

FEBRUARY - 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE
2 8:30 PM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL GROUND HOG DAY	3 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP	4 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP 7:30 AM A.A. MEETING	5 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	T	6 7	8 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
9 9:30AM YOUTH SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE	10 9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY	11 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP 7:30 AM A.A. MEETING	12 9:00AM & 5:00PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
16 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE	17 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP PRESIDENT'S DAY	18 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP 7:30 AM A.A. MEETING	19 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	20 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY	21	22 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
23 8:30 AM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL	24 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP	25 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP 7:30 AM A.A. MEETING	26 2:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY MEETING @ FELC 7:00 P.M. ASH WEDNESDAY SERVVICE	27	28	29 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE



First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, NE

The church council met January 6, 2020 at 7:01 p.m. In attendance were Nathan Anderson, Sam Schmidt, Tom Meyer, Linda Jones, Susan Mulder, Clendon Rost, Kathy Pearson, Jon Seagren and Pastor Mark. Devotions were given by Susan Mulder.

The minutes of the December meeting were read by Jon. There were no additions or corrections to the December minutes. The minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: Net income for year was \$12,973.90

Pastor's Report: Pastor gave his report.

Committee Reports: Discussed need to get reports in for Annual Meeting.

Old Business: The amount still needed to pay for the sign is \$5119.36. Clendon made motion to pay balance due on new sign from memorial fund. Jon seconded the motion. Motion passed. Only five Christmas ornaments celebrating our 150th Anniversary are left. Anyone interested in one should contact Susan Mulder at Corner Drug.

New Business: Discussed Annual Meeting and the lunch afterwards. Annual Meeting will be at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, January 26th. Kathy, Clendon, and Brad will provide soup for the meal afterwards. Susan will bring extras.

A special thank you to Jon Seagren and Linda Jones, who will be leaving council when their terms expire, for their service.

February Communion Assistant: Susan Mulder

March Communion Assistant: Clendon Rost

March Meeting Devotion: Clendon Rost

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

January Finances

Regular	\$13,420.00
Designated	
Building Use	\$230.00
Pay It Forward	\$220.00
Annual Meeting	\$445.00
	<small>-Oakland Min. Assn</small>
Supplies-Coffee	\$118.00
Sunday School	\$ 35.00
Wed. Nite Youth	\$555.00
Misc.	\$270.00
TOTAL	\$15,293.00

January Attendance

4 & 5	149
11 & 12	142
18 & 19	110
25 & 26	149



IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN: Suzie Nelson, Judy Groene, Sally Nelson, Mattie Aubert (Arlene Carper's great-niece), Denise Enstrom, Marian Moseman, Bill Dix, Jody Faith, Judy Nelson, Ed Anderson, Clara Frahm, Karen Johnson, Tammy Case, Pat Moseman, Don Lagge, Joan Meade (Hilda Benne's sister-in-law), Krissa Schonert, Deloris Nielsen, Tony Kochel, Stacy Long, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Andy Kruse, Landon Johnson, our service men and women, and all those deployed to foreign countries, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.

PASTORAL ACTS – 2019

BAPTISMS

We welcomed into membership through holy baptism:

Joseph Alan Findlay, Jacob Tyler Findlay, Arista Marie Findlay and Isaiah William Findlay through holy baptism on Saturday, February 9th, 2019. Joseph was born on August 22, 2008. Joseph's sponsors are Amy and Jarvis Guill. Jacob was born on December 11, 2009. Jacob's sponsors are Matt and Sarah Garder. Arista was born on February 17, 2014. Arista's sponsors are Nikea and John Brady. Isaiah was born on May 29, 2016. Isaiah's sponsors are Kelsey and Terry Poland. Their parents are William and Kristine Findlay. **We would like to thank Rev. Mary Findlay for her assistance with the baptism.**

Harlow Marie Andersen on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. March 9, 2019 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Her parents are Kaleb and Luryn Andersen. Her sponsors are Tyler and Elyce Peterson. Harlow was born December 27, 2018 in Fremont, NE.

Kwynn Marie Case on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. March 10, 2019 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Her parents are Tanner and Kylee Case. Her sponsors are Shelby Andersen and Tiegan Case. Kwynn was born October 18, 2018 in Fremont, NE.

Brentley Kash Elsasser on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. March 16, 2019 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. His parents are Gerron and Kristin Elsasser. His sponsors are Emily Mauch and Roni Mauch. Brentley was born December 31, 2018 in Fremont, NE.

Freddie Bennett IV on Sunday, March 17, 2019. Freddie was born on October 20, 2018. His parents are Mackenzie Milks and Freddie Bennett. His sponsors are Chelsea and Owen Schernikau.

Ellie Catherine Brakenhoff on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. July 7, 2019 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Her parents are Brad and Brittany Brakenhoff. Her sponsors are Nathan Murray and Leslie Walters. Ellie was born August 15, 2018 at Ohio State University Hospital, Columbus OH.

Oliver Norman Elsasser on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. July 7, 2019 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. His parents are Trenton and Kiersten Elsasser. His sponsors are James and Allison Wallerstedt. Oliver was born March 9, 2019 in Fremont, NE.

Gus Franklin Johnson on Saturday, September 7 at 5:30 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. His parents are Jordan and Heidi Johnson. His sponsors are Mackenzie & Dan Kahlandt and Jennings & Natalie Johnson. Gus was born January 15, 2019. He joins three sisters, Georgia, Ivy and Margot and a brother Graham.

Reuben Jennings Johnson on Saturday, September 7 at 5:30 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. His parents are Natalie and Jennings Johnson. Reuben was born June 18, 2019. He joins two brothers Dean and Jeremiah. His sponsors are Selena Johnson and Dan and Mackenzie Kahlandt.

Jordan Ann Guenther on Sunday, September 22 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Jordan was born on July 22, 2019. Her parents are Jeremy and Natalie Guenther. Her sponsors are Brandon and Emily Motis and Jenna Bromm.

Victor Douglas Guill on Saturday, October 19, 2019. Victor was born on August 1, 2015. His parents are Jarvis and Amy Guill. He joins two brothers, Connor and Corbin.

CONFIRMATIONS

EIGHT OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE were confirmed this year: Gabi Linder, Hannah Deemer, Kara Peterson, Johnna Peterson, Carter Bousquet, Grant Seagren, Brayden Selk and Daniel Bedrnicek. We're grateful for their faithfulness to be involved in this educational ministry. We're also grateful for Pastor Mark and **Jean Swanson** and the parents of our confirmands for all their help with those who were confirmed this past year.

WEDDINGS

We extended our congratulations and asked for God's blessing on: Lynna Webster and Tanner Heineman. They were joined in holy matrimony at First Lutheran Church on October 5, 2019. Tanner is the son of Brad and Lela Heineman. Lynna is the daughter of Greg and Kathy Webster. **CONGRATULATIONS MR & MRS HEINEMAN!!**

FUNERALS

We commended into God's Hands:

At the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oakland with Pastor Mark Eldal officiating:

Bernice Persson	– Funeral Service – January 10, 2019
Stephanie Benjamin	– Funeral Service – March 1, 2019
Ewald O. Dahlquist	– Funeral Service – April 6, 2019
Wendi (Nathan) Landholm	– Visitation Service – June 6, 2019
Mary L Paulsen	– Funeral Service – June 25, 2019
Dolores L. Anderson	– Funeral Service – June 29, 2019
Lillian D. Mueller	– Funeral Service – July 8, 2019
Betty A. Rogers	– Memorial Service – August 3, 2019
Franklin "Frank" Johnson	– Memorial Service – November 25, 2019

At the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oakland with Rev. Tyler Gubsch officiating:

Diane Lynn Marhenke	– Funeral Service – January 16, 2019
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At the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oakland with Pastor Curt Hineline officiating:

Brian F. Koehler	– Memorial Service – August 20, 2019
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At Evangelical Free Church, Oakland NE with Pastor Mark Eldal officiating:

Robert "Bob" Stromquist	– Funeral Service – January 14, 2019
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At Calvary Lutheran Church, Swede Home, NE with Pastor Mark Eldal officiating:

Rev. Betty Hadley	– Funeral Service – March 11, 2019
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At Dugan Funeral Chapel in Fremont, NE with Pastor Mark Eldal officiating:

Elaine Gregg	– Funeral Service – April 8, 2019
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At First United Methodist Church in Oakland, NE with Pastor Mark Eldal officiating:

Dean K. Charling	– Funeral Service – May 31, 2019
Virginia Larson	– Funeral Service – September 10, 2019

At First United Methodist Church in Oakland, NE with Pastor Mark Eldal assisting:

Alice M. Douglas	– Memorial Service – December 6, 2019
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At Oakland Cemetery in Oakland, Ne with Pastor Mark Eldal officiating:

Harold Linden	– Graveside Committal – May 4, 2019
Glenn Barth	– Graveside Committal – June 26, 2019
Eunice Persson	– Graveside Committal – August 30, 2019

Date of Service	Duties	Name
Sunday, Feb. 2	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Head Usher Reader Sound Communion Helper Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Gordon & Shirley Olson - - Roger Moderow and Sam Schmidt - Mona Tanksley - Dan Tanksley and Travis Thomsen - Susan Mulder - Gretchen Seagren - River Wallerstedt - - Bryan Bohn
Sunday, Feb. 9	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee Head Usher Reader Sound Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Nick, Katie, Parker and Macklynn Onken - Doc & Bev Peterson - Elaine Peterson - Larry Johnson - Selena Johnson - T. Johnson, Jim Jorgensen & Nathan Anderson - Jaxen Jorgensen - Gretchen Seagren - - Bryan Bohn
Sunday, Feb. 16	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Head Usher Reader Sound Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Mark & Jodi Peterson - Sharon & Lee Peterson - Brad Bousquet - Patty Miller - Dan Tanksley, Jim Jorgensen & Nathan Anderson - Garrett Klausen - Jaxen Jorgensen - Billye Pearson - Billye Pearson
Sunday, Feb. 23	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee Head Usher Reader Sound Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Gary & Joann Powell - Greg & Deanna Ray - Kiley Penke - Clare Wiltse - - Tess Johnson and Travis Thomsen - Bailey Pelan - Garrett Klausen - Carter Anderson - Bryan Bohn
Wednesday, Feb. 26 ASH WEDNESDAY	Head Usher Sound Acolyte Video Ash Wednesday Accomp.	- Clare Wiltse - Tess Johnson - Braylon Anderson - Bailey Pelan - Bryan Bohn
Sunday, March 1	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee Head Usher Reader Sound Communion Helper Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Steve & Connie Rokusek - Sam & Elisa Schmidt - Linda Jones - Roger Moderow - Linda Jones - Dan Tanksley - Clendon Rost - Ostern Heineman - Braylon Anderson - Ruth Wallerstedt - Bryan Bohn

**Thank you for your help in these important areas.
If you can't be here, please find someone to take your place.**

Wednesday, March 4 Lenten Service	Head Usher Sound Acolyte Video Lenten Service Accomp.	- Roger Moderow - Dan Tanksley - Samantha Canarsky - Ostern Heineman - Bryan Bohn
Sunday, March 8	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee Head Usher Reader Sound Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Mark & Jean Schafersman - Dave and Laurie Schold - Karen Rosenboom - Larry Johnson - Ian Lundquist - Tess Johnson - Kyler Case - Samantha Canarsky - Danny Bedrineck - Bryan Bohn
Wednesday, March 11 Lenten Service	Head Usher Sound Acolyte Video Lenten Service Accomp.	- Larry Johnson - Tess Johnson - Lillian Ehlers - Kyler Case - Bryan Bohn
Sunday, March 15	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Head Usher Reader Sound Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Cheryl & Darrel Dencker - Amy & Clendon Rost - Brad Bousquet and Charles Seagren - Wyatt Seagren - Jim Jorgensen - Anisten Rennerfeldt - Lillian Ehlers - Billye Pearson - Billye Pearson
Wednesday, March 18 Lenten Service	Head Usher Acolyte Video Lenten Service Accomp.	- Brad Bousquet and Charles Seagren - Adilen Rennerfeldt - Anisten Rennerfeldt - Bryan Bohn
Sunday, March 22	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Head Usher Reader Sound Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Danny, Jeanie, Piper, Colton & Brody Tanksley - Dan and Mona Tanksley - Clare Wiltse - Beverly Peterson - Dan Tanksley and Travis Thomsen - Nolan Magnusson - Adilen Rennerfeldt - Carter Anderson - Bryan Bohn
Wednesday, March 25 Lenten Service	Head Usher Acolyte - Corbin Guill Lenten Service Accomp.	- Clare Wiltse Video - Nolan Magnusson - Bryan Bohn
Sunday, March 29	Coffee, Greeting & Usher Coffee, Greeting & Usher Head Ushers Reader Sound Acolyte Video Saturday Night Pianist Sunday Morning Accomp.	- Josh, Sara, River, Grace and Emma Wallerstedt - Mike, Katie, Brayden and Chloe Selk - Norm Wallerstedt and Josh Wallerstedt - Patty Miller - Tess Johnson - River Wallerstedt - Corbin Guill - - Bryan Bohn
Wednesday, April 1 Lenten Service	Head Usher Acolyte - Gretchen Seagren Lenten Service Accomp.	- Norm Wallerstedt and Josh Wallerstedt Video - River Wallerstedt - Bryan Bohn

CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
Permit No. 11
Oakland, NE
68045



Feb 26th - 7:00 PM - Ash Wednesday Services

**FIRST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH IS PART OF LCMC,
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.**
To find information regarding our synod –
<http://www.lcmc.net/>

