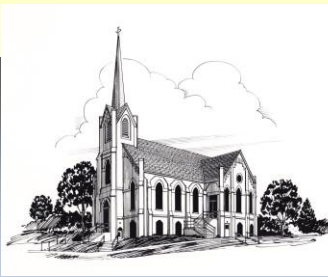


# THE SPIRE



September 2016  
Volume 4, Issue 8

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## Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

Recently, I returned from a wonderful cruise around the British Isles. I enjoyed the trip for many reasons, including being at sea, seeing the beauty of the land and taking in the history of these islands. Yet, I also enjoyed being reminded of the great spiritual heritage of Great Britain.

I saw the church where John Newton wrote the hymn "Amazing Grace." I saw the original painting, which has been copied many times, of Jesus knocking at the heart's door wanting to come in. This painting is based on Revelation 3:20. I also saw the grave of David Livingston, an incredible man of faith, which is in the floor of Westminster Abbey, the most famous Church in London.

Encountering this spiritual heritage filled me with a fresh appreciation of God's amazing grace which enabled me to believe in Jesus. This heritage also reminded me that Jesus can live in my heart by faith. Then as this faith overflows in my heart I can share it, which is what David Livingston did.

The spiritual heritage of Great Britain was also a reminder to me that just as a nation can have a spiritual heritage, we can also as individuals. David would write in Psalm 16 that God had given him a "goodly heritage." As we trust in and walk with Jesus he can give us a heritage of faith that can strengthen and bless as we go through life. May we as individuals be blessed with a great heritage of faith.

God bless,  
Pastor Mark

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Column	1
Announcements, Weddings	2
Thank You's, Sunday School	3
Bible Study News	4
Altar Committee, Sewing Meetings	4
Dorcas Society, W.O.W.	4
Birthdays and Anniversaries	5
Prayers of Concern	5
The September Calendar	6
Church Council Minutes	7
Ushers, Greeters, Acolytes	9
Video, Sound & Organists	9
Christian Humor to Tickle Your Life	10



### September 2016 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in September are:

- ✂ Labor Day — Sep 5
- ✂ Patriot Day — Sep 11
- ✂ National Grandparents Day — Sep 11
- ✂ First day of Autumn — Sep 22

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be sure to check out our bulletins board for updates in the coming weeks for volunteering opportunities.

Confirmation begins at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14, 2016. A letter is being sent to confirmands and their families regarding confirmation.

**SAVE THE DATE!** LCMC Heartland District Women of the Word Annual One-Day Retreat - "The Proverbs 31 Woman...Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow!" on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at the Word of Hope Lutheran Church - Ashland, Nebraska 9 am - 3 pm. The Presenter: Vicky Nielsen with Special Music: Patti Schofield Mission Emphasis: Orphan Grain Train & Youth for Christ.

The flowers at the front of church on August 21<sup>st</sup> were in honor of Vince Lindstrom's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY VINCE!!**

**CHOIR RESUMES.** If you would like to be part of our musical ministry, choir practice is every Wednesday, beginning Sep 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**FRIDAY NIGHT PUB.** We will be starting Luther's Pub again September 16<sup>th</sup>. The Pub will be for all home games. We are looking for volunteers to help us chaperone. Please contact Connie Larson (402)380-5101 or Tess Johnson (402)380-5660.

The coffee and rolls on Sunday August 21<sup>st</sup> were in honor of Pat Moseman's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAT!!**

We welcomed into our fellowship Myra Bunderson on Saturday, July 30, 2016 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. **WELCOME Myra!!**

## WEDDINGS

We extend our Congratulations and ask for God's blessing on Brittney Peterson and Cody Workman. They were joined in holy matrimony at First Lutheran Church on July 16, 2015. Brittany is the daughter of Bill and Lori Peterson. **CONGRATULATIONS MR & MRS WORKMAN!!**

**PAY IT FORWARD.** Recently in our church we have had a family whose been impacted by breast cancer. This family has found a way to make a positive out of a negative. Brad Bousquet wanted to get his wife, Alissa roses for her last chemotherapy treatment. But what came out of Brad's plan to include family and friends in the celebration of her last chemotherapy treatment is nothing short of miraculous. They were able to deliver 500 roses and more than \$4500 has been donated to the Susan G. Komen foundation in Alissa's name. Alissa chose to give many of the roses to others who were receiving cancer treatments. To see the news story here is the link: <http://www.kmtv.com/news/up-front-at-4/husband-gets-wife-500-roses-for-last-chemo>.

What an amazing story and an amazing family!!

## THANK YOU's:

For the gift of their voices during the church services at morning worship ~

- ✧ Mona Tanksley on July 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ✧ Mia Linder and Cindy Blanc for her accompaniment on July 24<sup>th</sup>.
- ✧ Bryan Bohn and his own accompaniment on July 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ✧ Debbie Anderson and her own accompaniment on August 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ✧ Patty Miller on August 14<sup>th</sup>.
- ✧ Vincent Lindstrom for the gift of his piano playing on August 21<sup>st</sup>.
- ✧ Becka Bedrnick on August 28<sup>th</sup>.



For leading the services~

- ✧ Mike Blanc and Gary Fugman the weekend of July 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ✧ Mike Blanc and Nancy Johnson the weekend of July 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>.
- ✧ Curt Hine and Mike Blanc the weekend of August 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>.
- ✧ Curt Hine and Gary Fugman weekend of August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

✧ **Greg Gahan and Curt Hine for visiting our ailing congregation members.**

✧ **Ruth Wallerstedt for so graciously lining up all our special music during the summer!!**

✧ **We would like to thank in a very special way, Mary Alice Pearson for providing lodging for the young man who lead our Vacation Bible School. In addition, we would like to thank Delwin and Myrna Swanson for providing meals. This helped to make VBS this year another great success!!!**

✧ **Thank you to everyone who brought treats for fellowship during the months of May and June.**

✧ **Thank you to Gerald and Judy Groene for the donation of their rolls on July 10<sup>th</sup> and for all of their years of making the wonderful rolls we cherish during our Sunday morning fellowship.**

✧ **Thank you to the Women's Groups for the brunch that was held for all the women of the church!**



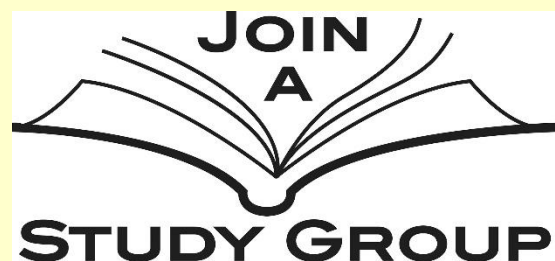
**Sunday School will be starting again on September 11<sup>th</sup> with an outing to the West Point Bowling Alley. Lunch will be provided. All families are welcome!!!**

**Our first day of Sunday School in the classroom will be September 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**The children will sing on the second Sunday of each month during the Praise service starting October 10<sup>th</sup>.**

## **BIBLE STUDY NEWS**

**YOUTH GROUP** will now be meeting every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. starting August 24<sup>th</sup>. A meal will be provided. It is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community. There is a sign-up sheet in the multipurpose room for anyone who wishes to donate for the meals.



**Men's Bible Study** is on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

**Koinoina Bible Study** is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

**Growing Together - Small Group Dates** - To be determined - Please contact Nancy Johnson (402) 620-5324 if you are interested in joining their group



**JOAN MAGNUSSON AND JULIE EASTON - September**



**SEWING MEETINGS** begin again on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.  
Meeting every Monday & Tuesday morning  
at 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Cleaning out the closets?? Or hitting the rummage sales and see some cheap bedsheets?** The Sewing Group would love to have any old drapes, mattress pads, blankets, etc. They can use most anything!! All help is welcome, no one is turned away.  
**ESPECIALLY HELP TIEING... JUST REMEMBER ANYONE CAN TIE A KNOT!!!**



**Dorcas Society** September 28<sup>th</sup> at Oakland Heights @ 2:00 p.m.



September 7.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 AM  
September 12.....Executive Meeting 9 AM  
September 14.....Group Meetings 9 AM, 2 PM, 5 PM

Bingo.....Hannah  
Clean Kitchen .....Ruth



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 - Reg Linder
- 4 - Paxton Miller, Tate Penke, Danielle Pelan
- 5 - Curtis Johnson, Sandra Johnson, Jerri Case
- 8 - Linda Jones
- 9 - Judy Groene
- 10 - Casey Moseman
- 11 - Jason Penke, Britney Stevenson
- 12 - Luke Blanc, Ayden Lierman, Mildred Sandquist, Ava Rennerfeldt, Brayden Selk
- 13 - Chad Christofferson, Dr. G.E. Peterson,
- 14 - Julie Johnson
- 15 - Ed Hanna, Joshua Mulder, Jim VonEssen
- 17 - Karl Lundquist, Jayden Wobken
- 18 - Nicole Parcel, Julie Lindstrom, Ben Wallace
- 19 - Lorna Olson, Adam Wallace
- 20 - Vicki Nelson, Samantha Popma
- 21 - Connie Peterson
- 22 - Suzanne Blanc, David Jones, Jim Nelson, Don Wallen, Kenneth Pearson, Don Wallen, Preston Rost
- 23 - Larry Osterndorff, Judy Nelson, Cole Blanc, Barbara Ashton, Boyd Blomenkamp, Karen Rosenboom
- 24 - Jay Lindstrom, Ryan Peterson
- 25 - Jane Stucky, Bruce Anderson, Bobby Larson, Bruce Linden
- 26 - Lance Blanc, Mackenzie Kahlandt, Paula Stevenson
- 27 - Nancy Bromm
- 28 - Janna Kloth, Camryn Miller, Jovi Huntington, Derek Bittner
- 30 - Candace Johnson, Connie Rokusek, Blayke Olson, Kay Elnesser

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES





- 2 - Mike & Mattie Nelson
- 3 - Russell & Connie Peterson
- 5 - Mark and Jodi Peterson, Nathaniel & Betty Dixon
- 6 - Bill & Karen Ahrens, Harley & Vernelle Nelson
- 7- Bill & Judee Dix
- 9 - Don & Candace Johnson
- 10 - David & Tammy Deemer
- 12 - Gerron & Kristin Elsasser
- 17 - Roger & Elaine Peterson
- 19 - Bill & Sandra Johnson
- 23 - Dillon & Kelli Johnson
- 24 - Timothy & Sheri Slatt, Lance & Jeanette Blanc
- 27 - Lonnie & Denise Enstrom,



### IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

Bernice Perrson, Gerald Groene, Joan Johnson, Millie Sandquist, Alissa Bousquet, Jess Kroger, Clara Frahm, Ron Badje, Arizona Riecken, Doug Carlson, Alicia Nebuda (safe delivery and healthy babies), Stacey Long (Marilyn Peterson's daughter), Marilyn Bures, Moe Johnson, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Janelle McClusky (Donna Preston's Daughter), Andy Kruse, Sandra Johnson, Landon Johnson, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, and Grace Meints, The families of Chuck Frahm and Donna Baldwin all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.

# September 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 <p><b>Honoring Grandparents</b></p>	<p><b>September 11</b></p>		 <p><b>PATRIOT DAY</b></p>	<p>1 8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>		<p>3 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE</p>
<p>4 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>5  <b>LABOR DAY</b></p>	<p>6 7:30PM A.A. MEETING 7:00 PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS</p>	<p>7 9:00 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>8 8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>11 9:30AM PRAISE SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF @ WEST POINT BOWLING ALLEY</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING</p>	<p>13 3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY 7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>14 9AM, 2PM, 5PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP &amp; CONFIRMATION 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>15 8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>16 LUTHER'S PUB AFTER HOME FOOTBALL GAME UNTIL 11PM</p>	<p>17 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>18 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP 6:00 PM KOINONIA MEETING</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>21 9:00 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP &amp; CONFIRMATION 7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>22 8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS  <b>First Day of Autumn</b></p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>25 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY 7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>28 2:00 PM DORCAS SOCIETY MEETING @ O.H. 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP &amp; CONFIRMATION 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>29 8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>30</p>	



## First Evangelical Lutheran Church Oakland, Nebraska

The church council met for a brief meeting July 5, 2016 with the following persons present: Greg Johnson, Sandy Husar, Jon Seagren, Mona Tanksley and Kylie Penke. Also present was Pastor Eldal.

The meeting began with devotions given by Sandy Husar. The minutes from the last meeting were deferred until the next meeting. The treasurer's report was reviewed noting that year to date that expenses exceed income by \$5985.

**Old Business:** The heating and air conditioning project was discussed. Greg reported that he had checked to see if financing is available through the Lennox company and found there was none. Clay Olson entered the meeting and presented information on the heating/air conditioning installation process. This information will be shared with the members at the congregational meeting scheduled for July 17.

**New Business:** It was reported that Gerald Groene will supply rolls for Sunday morning coffee twice a month. Sandy Husar will look into other options of where we can get rolls for the remaining Sundays.

The next meeting will be August 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Sandy Husar will do devotions.

Communion Helpers: July 17 - Mona Tanksley  
August 7 - Greg Johnson

The meeting adjourned with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Mona Tanksley, Secretary



## First Evangelical Lutheran Church Oakland, Nebraska

A special meeting of the congregation of First Evangelical Lutheran Church was held July 17, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was met with over 50 members in attendance.

The purpose of the meeting was to vote on replacing the heating and air conditioning systems in the church.

Vice President, Cheryl Denker, called the meeting to order in place of President, Greg Johnson. Mona Tanksley read a portion of the June regular church council meeting where a motion was made and carried to accept the bid from Olson Heating and Plumbing to replace and heating and cooling systems and to take money from the parsonage fund to pay for the project and repay the amount borrowed using funds from the Outreach fund over a five year period. Cheryl Denker then presented additional information regarding the project explaining the system and what is included in the bid of \$30,000 noting that the project will commence in September. There was some discussion regarding cleaning of the present ductwork noting this is included in the bid.

A motion was made by Ed Anderson, seconded by Darrel Denker that we accept the bid as presented from Olson Plumbing and Heating to replace the furnaces and air conditioners.

The vote was by showing of hands and the motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

### July Attendance

2 & 3 .....	102
9 & 10.....	116
16 & 17 .....	127
23 & 24.....	137
30 & 31.....	148

### July Finances

Commitments	\$14,515.00
<b>Designated</b>	
Memorial	\$
Supplies	\$ 121.00
Misc	\$ 569.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,205.00</b>



## First Evangelical Lutheran Church Oakland, Nebraska

The church council met August 1, 2016 at 7:30 pm. In attendance were Greg Johnson, Carole Johnson, Jim Pelan, Rachel Wise, Cheryl Denker, Carl Magnusson, Sandy Husar, Sam Schmidt and Mona Tanksley. Also in attendance was Pastor Eldal. Absent were Jon Seagren, Karl Lundquist and Kylie Penke.

The meeting opened with devotions given by Sandy Husar. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Karen Blanc entered the meeting and discussed with the group her offer to purchase Bibles to have available in the pews as well as hymnals which would expand our music selections. After discussion a motion was made by Rachel to accept the donation of Bibles to place in the pews and to have Pastor work with the donor to decide on which version to purchase. Motion was seconded and carried. It was decided to have Karen get a couple of the hymnals to have for the Worship Committee to review before deciding on whether to purchase more of them. There was no treasurer's report available to review.

Pastor presented his reports for June and July. He also reported that he will be on vacation from August 9-26. Curt Hineline will fill in on Saturday nights and Mike Blanc and Gary Fugman will cover on Sundays.

Old Business: Greg thanked Cheryl Denker for presiding at the July 17 special congregational meeting in his absence. While discussing the heating/air conditioning project, it was decided to have Clay Olson check out the heating situation in the secretary's office to see if there can be improved regulation of temperature in that room. Sandy Husar reported that Gerald Groene will provide rolls for Sunday morning coffee hour on the second and fourth Sundays while Julie Johnson will provide for the other Sundays. Kylie Penke has indicated that she wishes to resign from the church council due to scheduling concerns though she wishes to remain on the Evangelism Committee. Greg will work on finding a replacement to fill out her term. Mona reported that she has checked on the price and brand of an AED and found that the cost would be in the \$2000 range. There was more discussion on the listening devices that are being considered to purchase. Greg explained how the system would work and the approximate cost of between \$1700 and \$1800.

Jim reported for the Property Committee discussing possible options for the window well coverings and he will continue to look for solutions. The screen will be replaced in the upstairs Sunday school room. Jim will also look into replacing the southwest door downstairs. It was reported that the white altar cloth has been cleaned. There was discussion about the need for a fire proof cabinet to use for storage of church records. Sam agreed to research what is available that suit our needs.

The Evangelism Committee will soon post a calendar listing youth activities where volunteers can sign up to help with meals, etc. Extra adult support would be appreciated to help with the youth activities. Nancy Johnson has worked with organizing the faith milestones that will be incorporated into the curriculum for all of our young people. The Sunday School round-up will kick off the new year on September 11. A praise service is scheduled for August 14 and we will try to keep that service the second Sunday of the month. We will utilize the youth and Sunday school children in this service.

After discussion, a motion was made by Carole to present a gift card to Gerald and Judy Groene to thank them for the years of providing rolls for the Sunday morning coffee. Motion seconded by Cheryl and carried.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Communion helpers August 6 - Arla Ogden  
August 7 - Greg Johnson  
Sept. 3- Arla Ogden  
Sept. 4 - Cheryl Denker

Devotions for Sept. meeting - Rachel Wise

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

### August Attendance

6 & 7 .....	142
13 & 14.....	98
20 & 21 .....	125
27 & 28.....	174

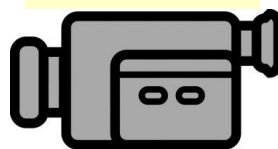
### August Financials

Commitments	\$9,095.00
<b>Designated</b>	
Supplies	\$ 111.00
Memorial	\$ 20.00
Misc	\$ 307.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,533.00</b>



**Sept 2016 Ushers**4<sup>th</sup> - Sam Schmidt and Roger Moderow11<sup>th</sup> - Norm Case, Jim Nelson, Don Johnson and Tony Johanson18<sup>th</sup> - Norm Case, Dr. Charlie Seagren, Loren Ehlers and Carl Magnusson25<sup>th</sup> - C. Wiltse, Norm Case, Ken Elsasser and Nathan Anderson**Sept 2016 Greeters**4<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> - Candace Johnson and Melanie and Hayden Johanson18<sup>th</sup> - Julie Lillian, Landon and Logan Ehlers and Joan Magnusson25<sup>th</sup> - Allison Elsasser and Jennifer, Ivy and Noah Anderson

Sep 4 - Zoe Linder  
 11 - Colton Thomsen  
 18 - Selena Johnson  
 25 - Wyatt Seagren  
 Oct 2 - Ashten Rennerfeldt  
 9 - Marissa Mulder



Video

Sep 4 - Ian Lundquist  
 11 - Zoe Linder  
 18 - Colton Thomsen  
 25 - Selena Johnson  
 Oct 2 - Wyatt Seagren  
 9 - Ashten Rennerfeldt



Sep 4 - Bryan Bohn  
 11 - Billye Pearson  
 18 - Ruth Wallerstedt  
 25 - Bryan Bohn



Sep 4 - Dan Tanksley  
 11 - Tess Johnson  
 18 - Jim/Dan  
 25 - Jim Pelan

**COFFEE SERVERS****DATE**

Arla Ogden and AnnaBelle Olson

Sunday, September 4, 2016

Sheri Slatt and Sandra Mallette

Sunday, September 11, 2016

Shirley Olson and Mary Paulsen

Sunday, September 18, 2016

Earlene Paulson and Kathy Pearson

Sunday, September 25, 2016

Danielle Pelan and Kylie Penke

Sunday, October 2, 2016

Beverly Peterson and Elaine Peterson

Sunday, October 9, 2016

Jodi Peterson and Sharon Peterson

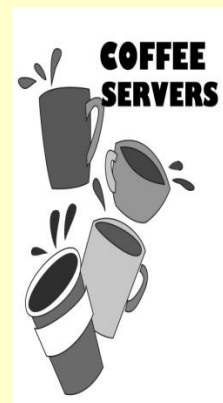
Sunday, October 16, 2016

Deanna Ray and Tess Johnson

Sunday, October 23, 2016

Teresa Rogers and Karen Rosenboom

Sunday, October 30, 2016



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

# CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



"When I type in your name and 'sin,' sir, there are over 20 million results."

©Marty Bucella www.martybucella.com



"Something wrong? You haven't taken a photo of your meal."

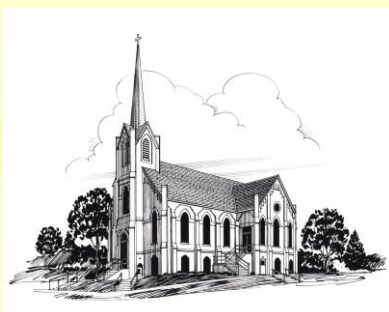
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We are committed to providing  
spiritual enrichment to ALL who  
seek the Lord.



*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.firstlutheran-oakland.com](http://www.firstlutheran-oakland.com)