



THE SPIRE

First Ev. Lutheran Church, 201 N. Davis, PO Box 152, Oakland, NE, 68045
www.firstlutheranchurch-oakland.com, firstlutheranchurch_152@q.com

(402) 685-5764

Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

Psalm twenty seven is a beautiful psalm and part of it reads, "One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life."

This is a psalm of David in which he expresses his great desire to spend time with God and enjoy his company. It is a reminder of why David was called "a man after God's own heart," and it can be a reminder of the close fellowship we can have with God as we live in a relationship with him.

An old hymn has the words, "My God and I go through the fields together, we walk and talk as good friends should and do." We can indeed walk with God, and as we do so we can bring him our concerns and know he loves us and is available to help us with whatever burden we might be experiencing. He can be the friend that stays closer than a brother.

As we trust in Jesus, may this winter season be an opportunity to freshly seek a close relationship with God, enjoy his fellowship, and let him be that friend which stays closer than a brother in our lives.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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FEBRUARY 2019 SPECIAL DAYS

Some of the special days celebrated in February are:

- Black History Month – February 1-28
- Groundhog Day – February 2
- Boy Scout Sunday – February 3
- Valentine's Day – February 14
- Presidents' Day – February 18



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual Congregational Meeting of First Evangelical Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, January 27, 2019 following the worship service with 63 members present. 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!

Oakland Chamber of Commerce is having a Spaghetti Feed on Sunday, February 10 from 11:00-1:00pm in the Oakland Auditorium. Spaghetti, garlic bread and dessert will be served. Donations accepted to support Oakland Community Projects. Also Relay for Life is having a bake sale that day at the spaghetti feed.

The Swedish Heritage Center is having a Pre-Super Bowl Soup & Sandwich meal, February 3rd, 11:00 am -1:00 pm. Free will donation. Come enjoy good food & fellowship, plus get your raffle ticket for the cozy quilt that's on display. Thank You for your support.

We extend a thank you to Cal Anderson & Sons and Bill Ahrens for the new handrail in the basement.

Please join us in wishing Happy 95th birthday to Lillian Mueller. Her birthday was on January 28. What an amazing milestone!!! HAPPY BIRTHDAY LILLIAN!!!

There are sub-sandwiches available again for Super Bowl Sunday as a fundraiser, at a cost of \$4/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 sing this Sunday 2/3 (Communion Sunday) instead of 2/10 for scheduling changes. We will have our Valentine's Day party on 2/17♥. Our December Pay-it-Forward went to Oakland Women's Club - Miracle on Oakland Avenue program \$645. Our January Pay-it-Forward went to Don't Stress the Dress program for \$460. Stay warm everyone! Angie

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmands will meet February 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP meets every Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8:30 pm. A meal is 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 help serve or donate treats.

FRIDAY NIGHT PUB. "Luther's Pub" is after home games. We are looking for volunteers to help us chaperone. Please contact Connie Larson (402)380-5101 or Tess Johnson (402)380-5660, if you are interested.

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.**



February 6.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m. Ruth
 February 11.....Executive Meeting 9 a.m.
 February 13.....Group Meetings 9 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
 Clean Kitchen Youth Group



**Dorcas Society
February 27th @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights**



IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE: Delores Anderson, Ed Twohig, Marilyn Peterson, Leonard Canarsky, Ewald Dahlquist, Suzanne Johnson, Phil Hall, Elfie Nelson, Terri (Brudigam) Hanel, Rojane Linder, Kenneth Pearson, Duke Wagner, Paul Ueding, Betty Rogers, Don Binkley (Angela Bittner's father) Marlene Anderson, Krissa Schonert, Bill Johnson, Gary Elsasser, Denise (Hall) Salzbrenner, Chloe Coates, Deloris Nielsen, Candace Johnson, Tony Kochel, Mel Swenson, Stacy Long, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Andy Kruse, Landon Johnson, the families of Diane Marhenke, Bob Stromquist and Bernice Persson, our service men and women, and all those deployed to foreign countries, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.



FEBRUARY - 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE GROUND HOG DAY
3 8:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL	4 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP	5 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP 7:30 AM A.A. MEETING	6 9AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30 -8:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	7	8	9 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
10 9:30AM YOUTH SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE	11 9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP	12 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP 7:30 AM A.A. MEETING LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY	13 9AM & 5PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30 -8:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	14 6:30 PM BOY SCOUTS MEET VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
17 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY PRAISE SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE	18 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP PRESIDENT'S DAY	19 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP 7:30 AM A.A. MEETING	20 9AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30 -8:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	21	22	23 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY
24 8:45 AM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL	25 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP	26 8:30 AM SEWING GROUP 7:30 AM A.A. MEETING	27 2:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY MEETING @ O.H. 6:30 -8:30 P.M. CONFIRMATION & YOUTH GROUP	28 6:30 PM BOY SCOUTS MEET		



First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska

The church council met Jan 7, 2019 at 7:01pm. Members in attendance were Pastor Eldal, Nathan Anderson, Susan Mulder, Sandy Husar, Mike Blanc, Carole Johnson, Tom Meyer, Jon Seagren, Keri Thomsen, Linda Jones and Karl Lundquist.

Devotions were given by Mike Blanc.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer’s report was reviewed and discussed. Month-to-date income exceeded expenses by \$11,091.57. Year-to-date expenses have exceeded income by \$5,216.10(deficit). There were no corrections or additions and approved as stated.

Pastor presented his report for the month of December.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports given. Nathan stated that committee reports for the annual meeting are due to Tess by January 15th.

Old Business

TV Sync: Temporary upgrades were completed prior to the Christmas Eve service by Black Diamond Electric. While implementing the upgrades, Jason Parcel noted that the current video camera is a high definition model which will accommodate future upgrades to the system.

Elevator: Access Elevator & Lifts Inc is scheduling us for a 1st quarter inspection and service visit. The kitchen elevator threshold spacing has been corrected to alleviate the elevator from catching on the threshold. The basement elevator access ramp handrail is complete and awaiting installation.

Basement kitchen refrigerator: Sandy stated that a service call on the refrigerator was conducted and defrosting the unit brought it back into working condition...for now.

New Business

Thank you: Nathan paused to thank outgoing council members; Sandy Husar, Carole Johnson, Karl Lundquist and Jim Pelan for their commitment and service to the board and our congregation.

February/March Communion Assistant: To be assigned following annual meeting

March Meeting Devotion: To be assigned following annual meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm with the Lord’s Prayer.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting; March 4, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Mike Blanc, Secretary

January Attendance	
5 & 6	154
12&13	112
20&21	134
27&28	149

January Finances	
Regular	\$13,495.00
Designated	
Building Use	\$235.00
Memorial	\$ 25.00
Pay It Forward	\$460.00
Annual Meeting- S. Embury	\$390.00
Supplies-Coffee	\$141.00
Sunday School	\$ 7.00
Wed. Nite Youth	\$372.00
Misc.	\$239.00
TOTAL	\$15,364.00

PASTORAL ACTS – 2018

BAPTISMS

We welcomed into membership through holy baptism:

Axton Edward Anderson on Sunday, March 25, 2018. Axton was born on December 1, 2017. His parents are Nicholas Anderson and Cassidy Jaster. His sponsors are Cheyenne Engstrom, Chase Jaster, Spencer Anderson, Stacie Anderson and Carter Anderson. His grandparents are Ted and Jeanette Anderson and Bob and Becky Jaster. Great-grandparents are Ed and Connie Anderson;

Faye Rose Lindstrom on Sunday, April 29, 2018. Faye was born on April 4, 2018. Her parents are Miles and Lauren Lindstrom. Her sponsors are Dustin and Karen Lindstrom. Her grandparents are Jay and Diane Lindstrom and Jeffery and Maria Rosen and her great grandfather is Vince Lindstrom.

Everett John Mieth on Sunday, September 23, 2018. Everett was born on August 9, 2018. His parents are Dylan and Ashlie Mieth. His sponsors are Jon and Kara Hinrichs. His grandparents are Tim and Sherri Slatt and Bruce and Carla Mieth. Great-grandparents are Del and Sandy Slatt and Ramon Mieth and Pam Seminara.

Sage Sydow-Stock on Saturday, September 29, 2018. Sage was born on December 31, 2007. His parents are Dan and Jody Sydow-Stock.

Otto Thomas Anderson on Saturday, October 13, 2018. Otto was born on August 6, 2018. His parents are Mitchell and Natalie Anderson. His sponsors are Aaron Johnson and Matthew Anderson. His grandparents are Alan and Renee Johnson and Mike and Mary Anderson. Great-grandparents are Carl and Irene Marhenke and Bob and Joan Anderson.

Hope Sydow-Stock on Saturday, October 27, 2018. Hope was born on November 25, 2009. Her parents are Dan and Jody Sydow-Stock.

Adley Danielle Parcel on Saturday, November 3rd, 2018. Adley was born on June 7, 2018. Her parents are Austin and Nicole Parcel. Her sponsors are Jason and Ashley Parcel and Trevor Enstrom. Her grandparents are Lonnie and Denise Enstrom and Jeff and Lisa Parcel.

Ruby Elizabeth Rhonda Throener on Sunday, November 11th, 2018. Ruby was born on September 21, 2018. Her parents are Jessie Daene and Robert Throener. Her sponsors are Starrlynn Lindstrom and Timothy Daene.

Beckett Jo Harbin on Sunday, November 11th, 2018. Beckett was born on August 29, 2018. Her parents are Jennie and Stewart Harbin. Her sponsors are Will & Stephanie Johnson; Will & Abigail Harbin and Natalie and Jeremy Guenther. Her grandparents are Melinda and Johnnie Johnson and Lyn Harbin and the late William Harbin. Her great grandparents are Norm and Sallie Johnson.

Emmett Donald Johanson on Saturday, December 15th, 2018. Emmett was born on July 20, 2018. His parents are Anthony and Melanie Johanson. His sponsors are Tyler and Jacque Fredrickson. His grandparents are Marlin and Pat Matulka and Gary and Gail Elsasser and the late Scott Johanson.

CONFIRMATIONS

SEVEN OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE confirmed their faith on Sunday, April 22, 2018: Connor Guill, Aiden Jorgensen, Ayden Lierman, Mia Linder, Ellen Magnusson, Carson Thomsen and Jonathan Dixon. We're grateful for their faithfulness to be involved in this educational ministry. We're also grateful for their parents and Pastor Mark. **Please join us in giving a special Thank You** to Jean Swanson for all her help and guidance during confirmation.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 - Lois Schneekloth, Javar Larson, Myesha Larson
- 5 - Raymond Satee
- 6 - Denise Enstrom, Carl Magnusson
- 7 - Louden Pelan
- 8 - Carolyn Magnusson
- 9 - Elizabeth Moderow, Sara Anderson
- 10 - Tammy Deemer, Amy Rost, Helen Murray, Betty Rogers
- 11 - Merlin Anderson, Leon Uman
- 12 - Daniel Tanksley, Dorothy Wallace
- 13 - Tom Mallette, Vernelle Nelson, Brittany Sznajder-Murray
- 16 - Dorothy Miller, Bryanna Olson, Perry Rogers
- 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 "Jean" Richards
- 25 - Joshua Deemer
- 26 - LaVerne Kellner
- 27 - Kathleen 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



USHERS - Sunday Mornings



Feb 3rd - Roger Moderow, Sam Schmidt, Job Egbers and Ken Elsasser
 Feb 10th - Larry Johnson, Aiden Jorgenson and Ayden Lierman
 Feb 17th - Dr. Charlie Seagren, Ron Brudigam and Andrew Brudigam
 Feb 24th - Clare Wiltse, Merlin Anderson and Curt Mallette
 Mar 5 - Sam Schmidt & Roger Moderow,

GREETERS



Feb 3rd - Teresa Egbers and Allison Elsasser
 Feb 10th - Ellen Magnuson and Mia Linder
 Feb 17th - Delaney Brudigam and Stephanie Brudigam
 Feb 24th - Rosemary Anderson and Carla Corwine



ACOLYTES

Feb 3 - Daniel Bedrnicek
 10 - Samantha Canarsky
 17 - Kyler Case
 24 - Lillian Ehlers
 March 3 - Anisten Rennerfeldt
 (Ash Wed) 6 - Carson Vecera



VIDEO

Feb 3 - Gabi Linder
 10 - Daniel Bedrnicek
 17 - Samantha Canarsky
 24 - Kyler Case
 March 3 - Lillian Ehlers
 (Ash Wed) 6 - Anisten Rennerfeldt



ORGANISTS

Feb. 3rd - Bryan Bohn
 10th - Billye Pearson
 17th - Ruth Wallerstedt
 24th - Bryan Bohn
 Mar. 3rd - Bryan Bohn
 6th - Bryan Bohn



SOUND

Feb. 3rd - Dan Tanksley
 10th - Tess Johnson / Rachel Nelson
 17th - Dan Tanksley / Jim Nelson
 24th - Tess Johnson
 Mar 3rd - Dan Tanksley
 6th - Tess Johnson

*** If anyone would be interested in running the sound on Sundays, please contact either Dan or Tess. We would be happy to train you!!!**

FELLOWSHIP
 SERVERS
 THIS
 MONTH



Sandy Husar and Alicia Isner	Sunday, February 3, 2019
Carole Johnson and Tess Johnson	Sunday, February 10, 2019
Julie Johnson and Kelli Johnson	Sunday, February 17, 2019
Melinda Johnson and Nancy Johnson	Sunday, February 24, 2019
Sandra Johnson and JoAnn Brudigam	Sunday, March 3, 2019
Laurie Canarsky and Leann Jorgensen	Sunday, March 10, 2019
Heather Klausen and Connie Larson	Sunday, March 17, 2019
Julie Jones and Linda Jones	Sunday, March 24, 2019
Elisabeth Linder and Pam Linder	Sunday, March 31, 2019

**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



First Ev. Lutheran Church
PO Box 152, 201 N. Davis
Oakland, NE 68045

Phone:

402-685-5764

Fax:

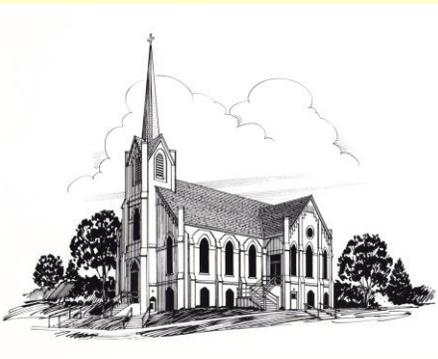
402-685-5183

E-Mail:

firstlutheranchurch_152@q.com

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To find information regarding our synod –
<http://www.lcmc.net/>

