

# THE SPIRE



December 2020  
Volume 8, Issue 10

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

By Rev. Mark Eldal

Many names and descriptions are given to Jesus in Scripture. Perhaps one of the best known is Immanuel. He is also described as the Prince of Peace, Everlasting Father, and Mighty God. We especially hear of these names and descriptions given to Jesus at this time of year.

We are also reminded in this Christmas season that Scripture also describes Jesus as the Light of the world. And of course, the many Christmas lights can remind us that Jesus did indeed come to bring light to our broken, hurting world.

In the first chapter of John it says "the Light came into the world and the darkness did not overcome it."

As we approach the end of a difficult year we can especially remember that Jesus came as light into our world, and not even the difficulties or the darkness of 2020 can overcome it.

This Christmas may we delight in remembering that Jesus came to be the Light, to bring hope and peace to our lives as we trust in him.

God bless,  
Pastor Mark

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### December 2020 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in December are:

- ❄ Second Sunday of Advent — Dec 6
- ❄ Third Sunday of Advent — Dec 13
- ❄ First day of Winter — Dec 21
- ❄ Fourth Sunday of Advent — Dec 20
- ❄ Christmas Eve — Dec 24
- ❄ Christmas Day — Dec 25
- ❄ New Year's Eve — Dec 31

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Please join us for Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.**

**On Tuesday morning, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the sewing ladies packed and shipped quilts.** 46 quilts for Lutheran World Relief, 55 quilts for the Lydia House, 43 quilts to the Sienna Francis House, 52 quilts to the Open Door Mission, 21 quilts for the Bridge(Fremont Shelter) and 47 quilts for the Orphan Train. In addition, they gave out 10 quilts for graduation, 4 baptismal quilts, and 4 for local fire victims. **They truly appreciated all of the help packing and lifting the heavy boxes.** Our quilting ladies have made 300 quilts in the last year! This is the most they have ever created. **What an amazing group!!!!**

**We welcomed Greg Doffin** as a member of First Ev. Lutheran Church on Sunday October 11, 2020.

**We asked for God's blessing** on the following confirmation students that were to receive their first communion: Sonia Bedrincek, Caleb Bousquet, Landon Ehlers, Lyndsey Johnson, Javar Larson, Myesha Larson, Carolyn Magnusson, Colton Moseman, Preston Rost, Sage Sydow-Stock, Piper Tanksley, Mia Thomsen Grace Wallerstedt and Clohee Stucky.

**We extend our Congratulations** and ask for God's blessing on Tiegan Case and Kaley Enstrom. They were joined in holy matrimony at at First Ev. Lutheran Church on November 21, 2020. Tiegan is the son of Gary and Tammy Case and Kaley is the daughter of Dan Enstrom and Lisa Enstrom.

**CONGRATULATIONS MR & MRS CASE!**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

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Due to the COVID pandemic we are not presenting a Sunday School Christmas Program for 2020.

**Prayerfully,** Sunday School Class will resume January 10, 2021 after the children return back to school classes.

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES

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- Dec. 9 and 16 – CONFIRMATION - at 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m
- NO CONFIRMATION Dec. 23 and Dec. 30. We will resume classes January 6, 2021.

## YOUTH GROUP

**We will be** meeting December 9 and 16 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. It will resume again on January 6, 2021. A meal will be provided. It is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community.

**YOUTH GROUP MEAL SIGN UP SHEET** – We have added a Youth Group Meal Sign Up Sheet to the bulletin board. We are looking for volunteers to provide a meal, side dish or dessert every Wednesday night for 35-45 students throughout the school year. For planning, we would like to have volunteers sign up for meals, side dishes, dessert or donations at least a month in advance. **We currently only have meals scheduled through January 6, 2021.**

## BIBLE STUDY NEWS

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

**Growing Together – We meet at 11:00 a.m. Sunday mornings.** We are looking at Genesis. For more information contact Nancy Johnson or Pastor Mark. Everyone is welcome.

**First Ev. Lutheran Church** was able to borrow the dvds for the Beth Moore's Bible Study "Beloved Disciple". It's on the book of John. Books are available for purchase at \$19.25. This Bible study is every **Sunday from 6:30-8:00 pm** in our church annex. Bottled water and coffee will be provided. Hope to see you all there!!



## IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN

**PLEASE INCLUDE:** Darrell Denker, Haylee Werth (Doc and Bev Peterson's Great Granddaughter), Sharon Peterson, Denise Hall Salzbrenner (Phil and Judy Hall's daughter), Landon Johnson, Cheryl Denker, Jane Stucky, Tim Dame, Jackie Kirkpatrick (Julie Gershon's mother), Bill Johnson, Suzanne Johnson, Denise Enstrom, Bill Dix, Jody Faith, Ed Anderson, Pat Moseman, Deloris Nielsen, Tony Kochel (Hilda Benne's nephew-in-law), Stacy Long, Lincoln Nobel Hangman (Julie Gershon's nephew), the family of Judy Nelson, Jim Peterson and Marilyn Baker, our service men and women and all those deployed to foreign countries, rescue workers, health care professionals and law enforcement officers and our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Brandon Bollinger, Teresa Rogers,  
Timothy Slatt, Keri Thomsen
- 4 - Luryn Andersen
- 5 - Natalie Bromm-Guenther, Avery Elsasser,  
Natalie Johnson
- 6 - William Ahrens
- 7 - Lura Johanson
- 8 - Rex Baldwin
- 9 - Selena Johnson
- 10 - Betty Hanna
- 11 - Bailey Pelan, Roxanne Lundquist
- 13 - Donna Peterson-Keesling
- 14 - Timothy Dame, Darrell Denker,  
Clare Wiltse, Garrett Seagren
- 15 - Valerie Lindstrom
- 16 - Ed Anderson
- 17 - Betty Homes, Natalie Johnson-Anderson,  
Travis Penke
- 19 - Mark Peterson, Jaxen Jorgensen
- 22 - Norman Wallerstedt, Peyton Miller
- 24 - Calvin Moseman
- 25 - Amber Shelley-Futhey
- 26 - Diane Lindstrom, Justin Beck,  
Landon Ehlers
- 27 - Tiffany Johnson
- 28 - Miles Lindstrom
- 29 - Gerald Benne, Lesley Wonka-Vigneri
- 30 - Jennings Johnson, Norm Johnson
- 31 - Chloine Johnson, Travis Thomsen



## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 - Kent & Joan Johnson  
Dave & Laurie Schold,
- 6 - Scott & Amy Krutilek  
Tony and Melanie Johanson
- 16 - Tanner and Kylee Case
- 17 - Roger & Patti Moderow
- 19 - Alan & Renae Johnson
- 23 - Leonard & Laurie Canarsky  
Jeremy and Natalie Guenther
- 27 - Jerry & Roberta Seick
- 28 - Ken & Kay Elsasser
- 29 - Jordan & Heidi Johnson
- 31 - Tracy & Paula Denton,  
Tony & Casey Moseman

**FIRST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH IS PART OF LCMC, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.**

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

Please check out our updated website: [www.firstlutheran-oakland.com](http://www.firstlutheran-oakland.com)

We are now on Facebook as well... come see our page...

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Lutheran-Church-Oakland-NE/308938792621977>

Please get your email address to Tess or Vanessa in the office to be signed up for our Right Now Media service.

*To Email our church - [firstlutheranchurch\\_152@q.com](mailto:firstlutheranchurch_152@q.com)*



## First Evangelical Lutheran Church Oakland, Nebraska

The church council met Nov 2, 2020 at 7:02 pm. Members in attendance were Pastor Eldal, Sam Schmidt, Mike Blanc, Susan Mulder, Tom Meyer, Clendon Rost and Kathy Pearson. Devotions were given by Pastor Mark

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed and discussed. There were no corrections or additions and approved as stated.

Pastor Mark presented his report for the month of October.

### Committee Reports:

#### Old Business:

Wish List Items: A donor has offered to sponsor the sanctuary monitor pending a quote from Jason.

New Business: The council discussed moving the 10:00 p.m. Christmas service to 7:00 p.m.

Dec Meeting Devotion: Mike Blanc.

Dec Communion: Clendon Rost

Thanksgiving Eve Service Communion: Mike Blanc

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

Next Regular Monthly Meeting: Dec 7, 2020 at 7:00pm

The council will conduct their December meeting following a 6:00pm potluck supper in the basement of the church.

Mike Blanc, Secretary

#### November Attendance

7 & 8 .....

14 & 15 .....

21 & 22 .....

25 (Thanksgiving Eve)...

28 & 29.....

#### November Finances

Commitments	\$ 14,268.36
<b>Designated</b>	
Camera System	\$ 500.00
Wed.Nite Youth	\$ 235.00
Scholarship	\$ 50.00
PayItForward	\$
Coffee Fund	\$ 138.00
Poinsettia	\$ 48.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 2,075.00
Memorial	\$ 2,660.00
Misc	\$ 83.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 20,057.36</b>





**Dorcas has been postponed until further notice.**



**DECEMBER 2020**

Sandy Mallette  
Shirley Olson  
Tom Wallerstedt - 402-260-9023

**JANUARY--2021**

Elisabeth Linder  
Roxanne Lundquist



**SEWING GROUP - The quilters will resume their activities after the first of the New Year.**



**WOMEN OF THE WORD (WOW):**

➤ **Postponed until further notice**



**Poinsettia for Christmas.** If you would like to purchase a poinsettia from Allie's Flower Shoppe to decorate the sanctuary of church, you can complete a flower order form (enclosed in this newsletter), and include a check for \$16 made out to First Lutheran Church. You may bring this to church or send them in the mail to First Lutheran Church, PO Box 152, Oakland, NE 68045.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

You may also give this form to Tess in the office or leave in the offering plate on Sunday. Thank you!

# December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>28</b> 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
<b>29</b> 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	<b>30</b> NO SEWING	<b>1</b> NO SEWING 7:30PM A.A. MEETINGS	<b>2</b> 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:00AM- Church Decorating Begins 10:00AM-Hanging of the Greenery 6:30-8:30 pm – Youth Group and Confirmation	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE
<b>6</b> 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	<b>7</b> NO SEWING 7:00 PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING	<b>8</b> NO SEWING 7:30PM A.A. MEETINGS	<b>9</b> 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
<b>13</b> 9:30AM YOUTH SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	<b>14</b> NO SEWING	<b>15</b> NO SEWING 7:30PM A.A. MEETINGS	<b>16</b> 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
<b>20</b> 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	<b>21</b> NO SEWING OC School Winter Vacation Begins	<b>22</b> NO SEWING	<b>23</b> NO YOUTH GROUP NO CONFIRMATION	<b>24</b> 5PM & 7PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES	<b>25</b>  CHRISTMAS DAY	<b>26</b> NO SERVICES
<b>27</b> 9:30AM REVERE SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	<b>28</b> NO SEWING	<b>29</b> NO SEWING	<b>30</b> NO YOUTH GROUP NO CONFIRMATION	<b>31</b>  New Year's Eve NEW YEAR'S EVE	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> NO SERVICES

## CHURCH DUTIES - DECEMBER 2020

### **December 6, 2020 – WORSHIP SERVICE**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Phyliss and Tom Meyer  
 Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Rachel and Gordon Nelson  
 Head Usher - Sam Schmidt and Roger Moderow  
 Communion Helper - Clendon Rost  
 Reader - Betty Hanna  
 Sound - Dan Tanksley  
 Acolyte - Carolyn Magnusson  
 Organist - Bryan Bohn  
 Screen - Tess Johnson  
 Video - Myesha Larson

### **December 13, 2020 – YOUTH SERVICE**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Tim, Annie, Ellen, Nolan and Carolyn Magnusson  
 Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Andy, Angela, Ashten, Anisten, Adilen and Ava Rennderfeldt  
 Reader - Youth Group  
 Organist - Billye Pearson  
 Sound - Tess Johnson  
 Acolyte - Colton Moseman  
 Head Usher - Larry Johnson  
 Screen - Brayden Selk  
 Video - Carolyn Magnusson

### **December 20, 2020 – WORSHIP SERVICE**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Rick, Susan and Marissa Mulder  
 Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Dan, Jody, Sage and Hope Sydow Stock  
 Head Usher - Brad Bousquet or Dr. Charlie Seagren  
 Sound - Dan Tanksley  
 Organist - Bryan Bohn  
 Acolyte - Sage Sydow Stock  
 Screen - Anisten Rennerfeldt  
 Video - Colton Moseman

### **December 24, 2020 – CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

**Early** Greeting & Usher - Clendon, Amy Preston, Sabrina and Celeste Rost  
 Head Usher - Sam Schmidt  
 Reader - Organist - Bryan Bohn  
 Sound - Dan Tanksley Screen - Tess Johnson  
 Acolyte - Preston Rost Video - Sage Sydow Stock

**Late** Greeting & Usher -  
 Greeting & Usher -  
 Head Usher - Larry Johnson  
 Reader - Organist -  
 Sound - Tess Johnson Screen -  
 Acolyte - Lyndsey Johnson Video -

### **December 27, 2020 – REVERE SERVICES**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Nick, Katie, Parker and Macklin Onken  
 Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Doc & Bev Peterson  
 Head Usher - Clare Wiltse  
 Reader - Betty Hanna  
 Sound - Dan Tanksley  
 Acolyte - Piper Tanksley  
 Organist - Bryan Bohn  
 Screen - Tess Johnson  
 Video - Preston Rost

Thank you for  
 your help in  
 these important  
 areas!!

**If you can't be  
 here, please find  
 someone to take  
 your place.**



## CHURCH DUTIES - JANUARY 2021

### **Sunday, January 3, 2021- Communion Service**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Mark, Jodi Lane, Kara and Johnna Peterson  
Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Sharon & Lee Peterson  
Head Usher - Sam Schmidt and Roger Moderow  
Reader -  
Screen &- Tess Johnson  
Acolyte -Mia Thomsen  
Saturday Night Pianist-  
Video - Piper Tanksley  
Sunday Morning Organist - Bryan Bohn

### **Sunday, January 10, 2021 - Youth**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Derrick, Angela, Adrienna, Clara, Alivia Bittner  
Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Greg & Deanna Ray  
Head Usher- Larry Johnson  
Reader-  
Sound - Tess Johnson  
Acolyte- Grace Wallerstedt  
Saturday Night Pianist - Billye Pearson  
Screen- Brayden Selk  
Video - Mia Thomsen  
Sunday Morning Accomp.- Billye Pearson

### **Sunday, January 17, 2021**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Jim, Danielle, Bailey and Loudon Pelan  
Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Gary and Joann Powell  
Head Usher - Brad Bousquet  
Reader -  
Sound - Dan Tanksley  
Acolyte - Adilen Rennerfeldt  
Saturday Night Pianist -  
Screen-  
Video - Grace Wallerstedt  
Sunday Morning Organist - Bryan Bohn

### **Sunday, January 24, 2021**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher -Dave & Laure Schold  
Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Sam & Elisa Schmidt  
Head Usher - Clare Wiltse  
Reader-  
Sound- Tess Johnson  
Acolyte- Nolan Magnusson  
Saturday Night Pianist -  
Video - Adi Rennerfeldt  
Sunday Morning Organist - Bryan Bohn

### **Sunday, January 31, 2021**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher-Mark & Jean Schafersmen  
Coffee, Greeting & Usher-Mike, Katie, Brayden and Chloe Selk  
Head Usher -Larry Johnson  
Reader-  
Sound-Tess Johnson  
Acolyte-Corbin Guill  
Saturday Night Pianist -  
Video - Nolan Magnuson  
Sunday Morning Organist - Billye Pearson

# CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
AT 5:00PM & 7:00 PM

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



*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

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

