



First Ev. Lutheran Church, 201 N. Davis, PO Box 152, Oakland, NE, 68045  
[www.firstlutheranchurch-oakland.com](http://www.firstlutheranchurch-oakland.com), [firstlutheranchurch\\_152@q.com](mailto:firstlutheranchurch_152@q.com)

Office - (402) 685-5764  
Fax - (402) 685-5183

## Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

As we enter the month of December, many of our thoughts may begin to focus on Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus many years ago. It is for some people their favorite time of year, as there seems to be a special spirit to the season that can warm our hearts and give us a sense of God's blessing and peace.

One senses this spirit of the season may be God's Spirit freshly drawing us to him, as the good news that God would come to us, is heard again through Christmas songs and carols.

As our hearts are drawn to Christ, may we delight in freshly giving our hearts to him and claiming all that Jesus would come to do for us.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Column	1
Announcements	2
Sunday School & Confirmation	2
Youth Group	3
Bible Study News & Altar Committee	3
Sewing Meetings, W.O.W.	3
Birthdays and Anniversaries	4
Church Council Minutes	5
Prayers of Concern & Poinsettia Form	6
The December Calendar	7
Church Duties	8
Christian Humor to Tickle Your Life	10



### December 2021 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in December are:

- ❄️ Second Sunday of Advent — Dec 5
- ❄️ Third Sunday of Advent — Dec 12
- ❄️ First day of Winter — Dec 21
- ❄️ Fourth Sunday of Advent — Dec 19
- ❄️ Christmas Eve — Dec 24
- ❄️ Christmas Day — Dec 25
- ❄️ New Year's Eve — Dec 31



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

**Please join us for Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.**

**Please join us in welcoming Brenton Pankoke** as he became a member at First Ev. Lutheran Church. Brenton joined our fellowship during our Saturday evening, November 20, 2021 church service. **WELCOME BRENTON!!!**

### **Volunteers Needed!!**

First Ev. Lutheran Church needs volunteer support in several ways:

- Volunteers to run the computer for Sunday morning services and someone to video the services. Ideally, we would like to have three or four people available to fill either job. These could be filled by high school youth. If you are a high school student, this could be an option that fits your schedule and your talents. Please contact Tess if you have questions or are interested in helping.
- Provide meals for the youth group and confirmation. If you would like to sign up to provide any part of the meal, please contact Tess. If you just want to contribute to pay for a meal, that would also be greatly appreciated.

**Thanksgiving Eve Service** was held on November 24 at 7:30 p.m. Confirmands in seventh grade received their first communion. **We ask for God's blessing** on following confirmation students that received their first communion: Tate Penke, Joseph Findlay, Colton Tanklsey and Brody Tanksley.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

---

First Lutheran Sunday School will perform It's a Great BIG Story on Sunday, December 12 during the church service. We are excited to do a Pay It Forward for Miracle on Oakland Avenue during the service.

Grandparents and parents are invited to the basement for coffee and cookies after the program.

There will be no Sunday school on December 12 due to the Christmas break. Sunday School will resume on January 10th.

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES

---

- Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> – CONFIRMATION - at 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- NO CONFIRMATION Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> and Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>. We will resume classes January 6, 2022.

## YOUTH GROUP

---

We are meeting every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. 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 to donate for the meals.

## BIBLE STUDY NEWS

---

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

**Growing Together - Small Group**– The adult small group will be taking a short break and resume meeting on Jan 2. Over the month of December, we issued each other a challenge – read the Book of Luke. Please join us!! If you read one chapter of Luke each day, by Christmas you will have completed Luke's account of the life of Jesus - the perfect man and Savior. Luke, a gentile physician penned the most comprehensive of the Gospels focusing on Jesus' relationships with people, miracles, angels, prayer and praise. Questions to ask yourself while you read: "What does the passage reveal about God? What does it reveal about me? How can I apply what I've learned today?" We spend all advent preparing for Christmas – the celebration of the birth of our Savior. However, that's the middle of God's story. As a group, we have been studying Genesis and have seen Jesus in the very beginning pages of Bible. On Jan 2, we will regroup and share what God has revealed to us in our self-study of Luke. This would be a perfect time for anyone to join us!! Then we'll pick up with the reunion of Jacob and Esau in Genesis 33.

## ALTAR COMMITTEE

---

**December – Sandy Mallette and Shirley Olson**

**January 2022 – Roxanne Lundquist and Audrey Unwin**

## SEWING GROUP

---

Meets every Monday & Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**On Tuesday morning, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the sewing ladies packed and shipped quilts.** They shipped to the: Orphan Train – 31 Book Bags (WOW filled) and 47 quilts; Open Door Mission – 87 quilts and several throws; Lutheran World Relief – 104 quilts; Lydia House – 64 quilts; Sienna House 39 quilts; Caring Bridge – 10 throws.

**They truly appreciated all of the help packing and lifting the heavy boxes.** Our quilting ladies have made 347 quilts in the last year! This is the most they have ever created. **What an amazing group!!!!**

**If you would like to donate monetarily...for every \$1 you give to the LWR Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund, someone in need receives \$8 worth of essential personal items.** To donate directly to LWR the address is: Lutheran World Relief, Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21198-9832. Be sure to note "Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund" in the memo.

## WOMEN OF THE WORD

---

Executive Meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 a.m.

Group Luncheon on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m.

## 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,  
Jacob Findlay
- 13 – Donna Peterson-Keesling
- 14 – Timothy Dame, Darrell Denker,  
Clare Wiltse, Garrett Seagren
- 15 – Valerie Lindstrom
- 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, Harlow Andersen
- 28 – Miles Lindstrom
- 29 – Gerald Benne, Lesley Wonka-Vigneri
- 30 – Jennings Johnson, Norm Johnson
- 31 – Chloine Johnson, Travis Thomsen,  
Bentley Elsasser



## 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 & Natalie Guenther
- 27 – Jerry & Roberta Sieck
- 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 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 - [firstlutheran152@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutheran152@gmail.com)**



## First Evangelical Lutheran Church Oakland, Nebraska

The church council met Nov 1, 2021 at 7:08 pm. Members in attendance were Pastor Eldal, Mike Blanc, Susan Mulder, Brad Bousquet and Keri Thomsen, and Melanie Johanson. The council welcomed Scott Gatewood who has agreed to replace Jack Carstensen for the remainder of Jack's term.

Devotions were given by Brad Bousquet.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report, presented by Susan Mulder, was reviewed, and discussed. The October Profit & Loss statement reflected month-to-date income and expenses. There were no corrections or additions and approved as stated.

Pastor Mark provided copies of his report with a brief review for the month of October.

Committee Reports: Pastor Mark shared his notes from the Evangelism Committee.

### Old Business:

- 1) Hymnals – Mike provided information on the Lutheran lectionary and liturgy. He is continuing to research a single resource that will provide a concise updated version of both the lectionary and liturgy.
- 2) Property Concerns:
  - a) Brad reported that the scope of work for the front church steps is growing the more he looks into the project. Plan is to bring in a metal fabricator to look at the project. The work will be postponed until spring when weather allows the project to be completed with minimal loss of use of the front steps.
  - b) Pastor Mark noted that the concrete at the bottom of the north access ramp to the church needs replaced.

### New Business:

1. Hardwire Internet to Streaming Station – Skywave will be in to hardwire the internet to the sound equipment to overcome buffering issues while streaming.
2. Band for Youth Service –looking into inviting the group from Lincoln to return for our Your Service.

Nov Communion: Susan Mulder

Dec Communion: Mike Blanc

Dec Devotions: Keri Thomsen

Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting: Nov 29, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Pastor Mark and Jacque will host dinner at their home at 6:00pm prior to the meeting.

Mike Blanc, Secretary

### November Finances

Commitments	\$ 16,275.00
<b>Designated</b>	
Quilting Fund	\$ 275.00
Wed. Nite Youth	\$ 770.00
Scholarship	\$ 550.00
PayItForward	\$ 735.00
Coffee Fund	\$ 138.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 1,750.00
Sunday School	\$ 50.00
Memorial	\$ 115.00
Misc	\$ 154.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 20,929.00</b>

# PRAYERS OF CONCERN -

**IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:** Gloria Wedegren, Janelle Dirksen (**Greg Doffin's mother**), Arlene Carper, Aaron Anderson, Ray Satee, Teresa Egbers, Connie Peterson, Regina Culbertson, Larry Starman, John Mead (**Hilda Benne's nephew**), Lauren Sigmun (**Janice Johnson's granddaughter**), Barbara Ashton, Laurie Canarsky, Paul Anderson, Haylee Werth (**Doc & Bev Peterson's Great Granddaughter**), Denise Hall Salzbrenner (**Phil and Judy Hall's daughter**), Landon Johnson, Jane Stucky, Jackie Kirkpatrick (**Julie Gershon's mother**), Bill Dix, Deloris Nielsen, Tony Kochel (**Hilda Benne's nephew-in-law**), Stacy Long, Lincoln Nobel Hangman (**Julie Gershon's nephew**), **the families of Dorothy Wallace, James Toohey, Suzanne Johnson and Thomas Hultquist**, our service men and women and all those deployed to foreign countries, rescue workers, and law enforcement officers and our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.



**Poinsettia for Christmas.** If you would like to purchase a poinsettia from Simple Blossom 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 2021

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

## **CHURCH DUTIES FOR DECEMBER 2021**

---

### **Sunday December 5, 2021**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Dave & Laurie Schold and Sam & Elisa Schmidt	Reader - River Wallerstedt
Head Usher - Sam Schmidt and Roger Moderow	Screen - Gretchen Seagren
Sound - Dan Tanksley	Video - Colton Moseman
Acolyte - Carolyn Magnusson	Sun Morning Accomp. - Bryan Bohn
Sat. Night Pianist - Cindy Blanc	

---

### **Sunday December 12, 2021 - Sunday School Program**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher -	Sound - Tess Johnson
Head Usher - Larry Johnson	Video - Sage Sydow-Stock
Screen - Grady Seagren	Sun Morning Accomp. - Cindy Blanc
Acolyte - Colton Moseman	
Sat. Night Pianist - Ruth Wallerstedt	

---

### **Sunday December 19, 2021**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Mark & Jean Schafersmen and Cheryl & Darrell Denker	Reader - Sandy Husar
Head Usher - Brad Bousquet/Dr. Charlie Seagren	Screen - Grant Seagren
Sound - Travis Thomsen	Video - Preston Rost
Acolyte - Sage Sydow-Stock	Sun Morning Accomp. - Bryan Bohn
Sat. Night Pianist - Danny Bedrnicek	

---

## **December 24, 2021 – CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

<b>Early</b>	Greeting & Usher -	
	Head Usher -	
	Reader - Beverly Peterson	Organist - Bryan Bohn
	Sound - Dan Tanksley	Screen - Tess Johnson
	Acolyte - Preston Rost	Video - Sage Sydow Stock
<b>Late</b>	Greeting & Usher -	
	Head Usher - Larry Johnson	
	Reader - Sandra Johnson	Organist -
	Sound - Tess Johnson	Screen -
	Acolyte - Lyndsey Johnson	Video -

---

### **December 26, 2021**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Mike, Katie, Brayden and Chloe Selk	
Head Usher - Clare Wiltse	
Reader - Patty Miller	Organist - Bryan Bohn
Sound - Dan Tanksley	Screen - Tess Johnson
Acolyte - Piper Tanksley	Video - Preston Rost
Sat. Night Pianist - Ruth Wallerstedt	Sun Morning Accomp. - Bryan Bohn



## **CHURCH DUTIES FOR JANUARY 2022**

---

### **Sunday, January 2, 2022- Communion Service**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Josh, Sara, River, Grace and Emma Wallerstedt  
 Head Ushers - Sam Schmidt & Roger Moderow Reader -  
 Sound - Dan Tanksley Broadcast - Anisten Rennerfeldt  
 Acolyte - Brody Tanksley Screen - Mia Thomsen  
 Sat. Night Pianist - Cindy Blanc Sun Morning Accomp. Bryan Bohn

---

### **Sunday, January 9, 2022- Youth Service**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Danny, Jeanie, Piper, Colton & Brody Tanksley  
 Dan and Mona Tanksley  
 Head Usher - Larry Johnson Reader -  
 Sound - Tess Johnson Broadcast - Lilian Ehlers  
 Acolyte - Colton Tanksley Screen - Brody Tanksley  
 Sat. Night Pianist - Ruth Wallerstedt Sun Morning Accomp. WE THE MANY

---

### **Sunday, January 16, 2022- Revere Service**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Travis, Keri, Colton, Carson and Mia Thomsen  
 Head Usher - Brad Bousquet Reader - Linda Jones  
 Sound - Dan Tanksley Broadcast - Gretchen Seagren  
 Acolyte - Brody Tanksley Screen - Caleb Bousquet  
 Sat. Night Pianist Danny Bedrnick Sun Morning Accomp. Bryan Bohn

---

### **Sunday, January 23, 2022**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Jon, Janelle, Wyatt, Grant and Gretchen Seagren  
 Head Usher - Dr. Charlie Seagren Reader - Kathy Pearson  
 Sound - Tess Johnson Broadcast - Grady Gatewood  
 Acolyte - Caleb Bousquet Screen - Landon Ehlers  
 Sat. Night Pianist Ruth Wallerstedt Sun Morning Accomp. Bryan Bohn

---

### **Sunday, January 30, 2022**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Tim and Sherri Slatt and Sandy and Del Slatt  
 Head Usher - Clare Wiltse Reader -  
 Sound - Tess Johnson Broadcast - Grant Seagren  
 Acolyte - Landon Ehlers Screen - Lyndsey Johnson  
 Sat. Night Pianist - Sun Morning Accomp. Bryan Bohn

---

## **CHURCH DUTIES - FEBRUARY 2022**

---

### **Sunday, February 6, 2022**

Coffee, Greeting & Usher - Jim & Tammy VonEssen and Dexter, Ashten and VonEssen  
 Head Ushers - Sam Schmidt & Roger Moderow Reader -  
 Sound - Dan Tanksley Broadcast - Adilen Rennerfeldt  
 Acolyte - Lyndsey Johnson Screen - Javar Larson  
 Sat. Night Pianist Ruth Wallerstedt Sun Morning Accomp. Bryan Bohn

# CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



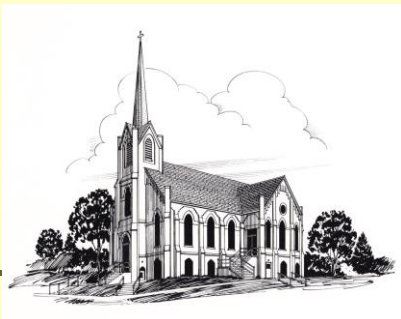
First Ev. Lutheran Church  
 PO Box 152, 201 N. Davis  
 Oakland, NE 68045  
 Phone:  
 402-685-5764  
 Fax:  
 402-685-5183  
 E-Mail:  
[firstlutheran152@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutheran152@gmail.com)  
 We are committed to providing  
 spiritual enrichment to ALL who  
 seek the Lord.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

AT 5:00PM & 10:00 PM

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



Visit us at:

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

