

First Fruits

January 2019

Volume 23, Number 1

Worship Ministry

Christmas Eve Worship

Eucharist with Carols
and Candlelight

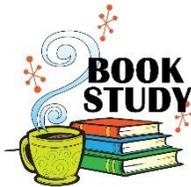
Corydon 4:30 PM
Chariton 6:30 PM



THERE WILL NOT BE SUNDAY SCHOOL
ON DECEMBER 23 or 30.
SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RESUME
ON JANUARY 6.

WE MAKE THE ROAD BY WALKING

A NEW BOOK/BIBLE STUDY BEGINS ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019 IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM AT FIRST LUTHERAN. We will be using our Bibles and reading through the book, *We Make the Road by Walking*, written by Brian McLaren. A Thrivent Action Team grant has been submitted to purchase the books. The group will meet from 4:00 – 5:30 PM on the second and fourth Sunday of the month. It is the kind of study that needs a commitment to attend as regularly as possible and the group size is limited. If you are interested, please talk with Pastor Sally.



COLEMAN CHILDREN BAPTISM

On Sunday, December 16, First Lutheran celebrated with the Coleman and Farrell families as their children were baptized. Baptized on this day were Marissa Marie Louise Coleman, Wesley Gabriel Coleman, Angelynne Elizabeth Coleman, and Callen Christian Coleman. They are the children of Makala Farrell and Christopher Coleman.



On Saturday, December 1, members of First Lutheran were invited to engage in a new worship experience, "Hanging of the Greens." Singing, praying, and asking for God's blessings was intertwined with decorating our worship area. At the conclusion, all were invited to enjoy a delicious soup supper. Sunday morning, the church was beautiful!



Dear Partners in the Gospel,

On November 25, we cancelled our morning worship services due to a heavy and blizzarding snowfall. Our Gospel reading for that day was John 18:33-37,

“Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

Strange to see these words in these days of Christmas? Not so strange as Jesus tells Pilate and all of us that he was *born* for truth-telling. In this time of fake news and the recent outrageous and divisive “truths” we witnessed in political ads, it is good to hear Jesus tell us just what **the truth is**.

If we are going to be honest, sometimes it is really hard to tell the truth from a lie. One person doesn’t acknowledge another in the grocery store. The second person feels snubbed and tells you. Is it true? The fact is, you don’t know. It might be true. The first person **may have** intentionally ignored your friend... or maybe didn’t see your friend. You don’t know. You may never know. Even if they were both in the room with you, you may not know.

For us, **Jesus** is the truth. The truth found in love, humble service, and peace for all people.

Our faith communities need to be places of truth-telling. places where the truth of this world is told, both in the realities of violence and fear and in the hope that God has overcome all of it. Places where the truth of God’s love sends us into the world to speak truth into broken places and into our broken hearts.

For **Jesus**, in John’s gospel, truth is not a dispute over facts, but something much bigger. Jesus is interested in the spiritual truth, like God is love, or being in relationship with God is what life is about. That’s the truth that changes our lives. Because Jesus came into the world we can step out in the world, knowing we’re not alone.

We can meet the people Christ met and continues to meet –the hungry, the prisoners, and the lost. We can love them like Jesus. Once we know and truly believe the truth, we can go into the world telling others of God’s love; God’s ultimate truth.

Happy truth-telling in the new year,
Pastor Sally

Worship Ministry

MY HEARTFELT THANKS goes to Pastor Sally Wilke for sharing the Christmas program with us. I also wish to thank the Sunday School teachers who help the kids prepare for this day and I certainly thank the parents for their wonderful children. We thank the Youth for the wonderful cinnamon rolls. We can always count on them. Last but not least, I thank each and every one of the children who “make my day” by sharing the Christmas story with all of you. God bless you this Season.

Gayle Bortz

Please enjoy the following pictures of the children’s Christmas program!!



Stewardship Ministry

Annual Meetings and Potluck Dinners

Christ the Servant Sunday, January 13, 2019

Everyone is welcome to attend the annual meeting for ministry at Christ the Servant in Corydon. The meeting will begin about noon following regular Sunday worship. A potluck meal will be shared after the business portion of the meeting is concluded.

First Lutheran Sunday, January 20, 2019

On this day, Christ the Servant and First Lutheran will gather for joint worship at Chariton beginning at 9 AM. The business meeting will follow at around 10:15 AM. Following the business items of the day, we will join in the sharing of a potluck meal in the Fireside Room. Those who are able are invited to bring two dishes to share with others.

JANUARY 20 - CINNAMON ROLL SUNDAY

The youth attending the next Youth Gathering will be serving cinnamon rolls on Sunday, January 20, in exchange for a free-will donation. All donations will be put toward the next Youth Gathering!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH!



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY:



We will be doing a new pictorial directory as part of our 150th Anniversary Celebration. Lifetouch Church Directory will be taking family photos on April 25, 26, & 27 (Thursday-Saturday).

Our 150th Anniversary will be celebrated on September 15, 2019.

More information will be coming.

Re:Newed

January Baptismal Anniversaries

During this month, we remember and give thanks for the baptisms of:

1/3	Karen Wilker
1/3	Andrew Narber
1/7	Del Kray
1/9	Addison Peterson
1/11	Brody Krutsinger
1/13	Leanne Norton
1/14	Lucas Harders
1/15	Becky Allen
1/18	Rod Bortz
1/19	Sarah Peterson
1/21	Kenadee Peterson
1/21	Jackson Fisher
1/27	Karen Patterson
1/30	Angie Wilson

Thanks be to Jesus for the saving waters of baptism!

(In baptism, we all are made one in Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither male nor female, neither Chariton nor Corydon! Are we missing your baptismal anniversary? Let us know! Tell us the story of your baptism!)

⋮⋮⋮⋮ On the Vine

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will gather on **Wednesday, January 2**, at First Lutheran, beginning at 1:30 PM. All are invited to participate.

Women, Wine & Witness Group

(WWW): The Women, Wine and Witness group meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at the parsonage. In January, we will meet on **January 7 & 21**.

“Coffee, Conversation, Camaraderie” CCC@CTS on Friday, January 4. Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry will have their Thrivent Action Team Coffee shop open from 9-11 AM and will serve fair trade coffees and teas, and anyone is invited to attend. Community residents are invited to come with friends or come alone and make friends.



The Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, **January 10**, at the home of Geralda Wiig, beginning at 1 PM. All women are invited!

“Sharing the Weight” Blanket Making Parties at CTS are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 9 AM-3 PM. **Our next gathering will be on January 8.** We invite everyone to come and join us. We have sewing and non-sewing jobs so all skills are welcome. Come as early as you can and stay as long as you like.

The CTS (Christ the Servant) Women’s Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, January 15, at the home of Arta Harman. We will gather at Noon for lunch which will be followed by Bible study. We will only meet once in January.

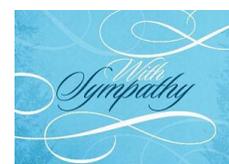
LAF :: Lutheran Adult Fellowship

A small group ministry of First Lutheran Church that gathers monthly to share food and fun. Newcomers are always welcome.

We will gather in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran beginning at **6 PM on Sunday, January 13**, for a potluck meal. Please bring a dish to share.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

goes to the family of Violet Hougland. Violet passed away on November 28, 2018. Please keep her husband, Glen, and all family and friends in your prayers.



WE WANT TO THANK our family and our 'church family' for making our 50th Anniversary a very special celebration! We enjoyed the beautiful cards and are so fortunate to feel the love from our family and friends!



Love you all, Del and Karen Kray

FREEDOM FOR YOUTH INVITES YOU

TO...Chariton Youth Center Interest Meeting on **Thursday, January 10**, 6 PM, at The Porch Coffee House (705 Auburn Ave., Chariton). A free, faith-based after-school program will be launching in Chariton this spring. Come and learn more about ways to get involved! For more information, contact Leanna Mullen at 515-460-3695 or lmullen@freedomforyouth.org





First Lutheran Church
Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

1004 Curtis Ave • Chariton, Iowa 50049

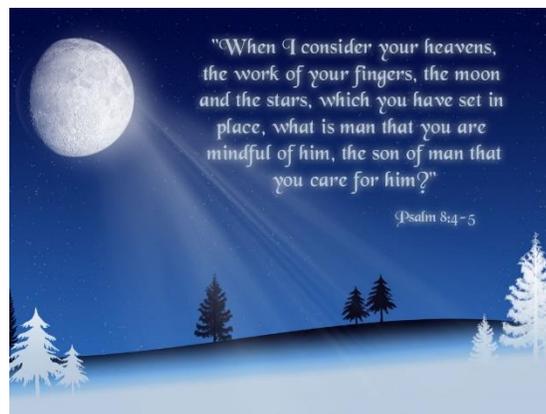
Pastor Sally Wilke
email: flcchariton@iowatelecom.net
FaceBook: First Lutheran Church ELCA, Chariton, IA
and Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry
phone: 641-774-4875

January

- ** CTS ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK**
-- Sunday, January 13
- ** FLC & CTS COMBINED WORSHIP,
ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK**
-- Sunday, January 20
- ** NEW BOOK/BIBLE STUDY at FLC**
- begins on January 13
- ** Pictures of the Children's
Christmas Program**

Be Bold in our Faith as Children of God and Share the Good News of Salvation with All People

(First Lutheran Mission Statement)



Share the Joy of Christ, and Serve Others

(Christ the Servant Mission Statement)

follow flc and cts on twitter
<http://twitter.com/iowalutheran>



First Lutheran Church Chariton, IA
 flcchariton@iowatelecom.net
 (641)774-4875
 Worship 9 AM
 Sunday School 10:15 AM

Pastor Sally Wilke

Christ the Servant Corydon, IA
 Office: 641-774-4875
 Worship 11 AM

January 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AA – Alcoholics Anonymous		1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 1:30 pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry at FLC	3 9 am – FLC Quilting	4 9-11 am – CCC at CTS Office Closed 7 pm – Slavic Worship	5 8 pm – AA @ CTS
6 Holy Communion 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC 1 pm – Slavic Worship 2 pm – Council at FLC	7 10 am – FLC Worship Committee Noon – ICC Homeless- ness Committee 6 pm – WWW at the parsonage	8 8 am – Breakfast Gals 9 am-3 pm – Blanket Making Party at CTS 11:30 am – Lucas Co. ICC at Comm. of Christ	9 8 pm – AA @ CTS	10 9 am – FLC Quilting 1 pm – Women of the ELCA 6 pm – Youth Center Interest Meeting at The Porch	11 Office Closed 7 pm – Slavic Worship	12 8 pm – AA @ CTS
13 Holy Communion 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC Noon – CTS Annual Mtg. & Potluck 1 pm – Slavic Worship 4-5:30 pm – Book/Bible Study at FLC 6 pm – Lutheran Adult Fellowship	14 2 pm – Laplanders Quilt Guild at CTS	15 Noon – CTS Women's Bible Study at Arta Harman's 3:30 pm – CTS Worship Committee 4:30 pm – CTS Task Force	16 2-5 pm – GiF: Year 1 8 pm – AA @ CTS	17 9 am – FLC Quilting Noon – WCMA	18 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline! 7 pm – Slavic Worship	19 8 pm – AA @ CTS
20 Holy Communion Cinnamon Roll Sunday 9 am – Joint Worship at FLC 10:15 am – Annual Meeting -FLC 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC 11 am – Potluck at FLC 1 pm – Slavic Worship	21 6 pm – WWW at the parsonage	22	23 8 pm – AA @ CTS	24 9 am – FLC Quilting	25 Office Closed 7 pm – Slavic Worship	26 8 pm – AA @ CTS
27 Holy Communion 10:15 am – Sunday School at FLC 1 pm – Slavic Worship 4-5:30 pm – Book/Bible Study at FLC	28	29	30 8 pm – AA @ CTS	31 9 am – FLC Quilting		