

First Fruits

Worship Ministry

November 2023
Volume 27, Number 11

REMEMBERING ALL GOD'S SAINTS

On **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5**, we will remember all God's saints. In the prayers that day, we will remember all those who have died since All Saints Sunday 2022. If you have a family member or close friend that you would like to include in this remembrance, please notify Susan in the church office via a note, email, or call before November 1.



Noisy offerings will continue!

"Noisy Offerings" will continue to be taken on Sundays. Please consider bringing your loose change to church and "noisily" depositing it in the pot!!



CHARITON COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

On **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21**, at 6:30 PM, the Community Thanksgiving Service sponsored by the Interchurch Council will be held at First Lutheran Church. Everyone is welcome to come and join in this worship celebration!



"THE STORY" DISCUSSION GROUP

will meet on Wednesdays, at 10 AM at First Lutheran through November 22. The discussion will be based on the previous Sunday's sermon. The group will resume meeting in January.



THANKOFFERING SUNDAY- NOVEMBER 19

Thankofferings are a long-standing custom among Lutheran women. We give in thanksgiving for blessings received—and we do receive so many blessings that we are grateful for, don't we! That's why we give Thankofferings.

Thankoffering will be during worship on **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19**, hosted by our congregational unit of Women of the ELCA. Everyone is welcome to give thankoffering that day!

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRAD & SARA SOBOTTA

on their marriage on September 30, 2023. Brad is the son of Chad & Stephanie Lukavsky.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

New members	2
Radio Broadcasts	2
Quilt Silent Auction.....	3
On The Vine	3
Stamp Collecting	3
Pastoral Pondering	4
Birthdays & Anniversaries ...	5
Ministry Center	5
Thank yous.....	5
Calendar	6

Worship Ministry (Continued)

NEW MEMBERS!

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH welcomed **ODIN WAYNE LUEHRING, OTTO IAN LUEHRING,** and **TITAN ROBERT REED** into their membership on October 11, 2023 by baptism. **RACHAEL COMSTOCK** was also welcomed on that day by affirmation of faith.



Discipleship Ministry

RADIO

BROADCAST



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS MINISTRY!!

The radio broadcast of Pastor Hutton's sermons is an ongoing ministry of First Lutheran and Christ the Servant. Ways to listen at 10:30 AM each Sunday morning:

KIIC Radio—96.7 FM (Albia)

kiicradio.com—website
(Click on "Listen Live")

If you miss Sunday, catch it as a podcast on church's website!

Broadcast Sponsors:

November 5: Jack & Arta Harman in honor of Arta's 90th birthday

November 12: Angie & Keith Dachenbach in honor of their 36th wedding anniversary

November 19: Susan Seufferer in honor of Katie Peter's birthday

November 26: Dana & Connie Holland in honor of their wedding anniversary

WE ARE NOW FILLING 2024 DATES! *With three members now in care facilities, the broadcast brings our worship to those, plus we have listeners all across southern Iowa. If you would like to sponsor a broadcast for 2024, please call the church office. Sponsorships are \$35. 641-774-4875 Thank you!*

Stewardship Ministry

FIRST LUTHERAN WOMEN OF THE

ELCA and BREAKFAST GALS will be holding a silent auction for a quilt made by Geraldine Wiig and given by her family. The quilt will be displayed in the Narthex with information on how you can bid on it! Bidding will end on November 19, 2023.



NOVEMBER IS BABY MONTH at the Ministries Center. Examples would be diapers, baby wipes, diaper cream, or any baby item. **Please consider helping with this ministry!**



ON THE VINE



PRAYER SHAWL/BABY AFGHAN GROUP will gather in the FLC Library, beginning at 1:30 PM, on Wednesday, November 1.

CTS WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, November 6 at 11 AM.

FLC WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet on Tuesday, November 7 at 10 AM.

THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA will gather on Thursday, November 9, at 1:00 PM at First Lutheran.

LAPLANDERS QUILT GUILD AT CTS will meet on Monday, November 13 beginning at 2 PM.

FLC COUNCIL MEETING on Monday, November 13 at 6:30 PM.

BREAKFAST GALS will meet at 8 AM on Tuesday, November 14 at Hardees.

“SHARING THE WEIGHT” BLANKET MAKING will take place on Tuesday, November 14 from 9 AM-3 PM at CTS.

LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP will meet on Sunday, November 19 at 5 PM. Duane & Cindy Bedford will be hosts. Please bring an item to share.

THE CTS WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY GROUP will meet on Tuesday, November 21, at Christ the Servant beginning at 11:30 AM.

STAMP COLLECTING

LAST COLLECTION DAY IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19!

The Lutheran contributor of canceled stamps as a fundraiser for shipping Lutheran World Relief kits and quilts over the world is discontinuing this program at the end of 2023. Our Texas contact who connected all the stamp savers with the stamp collectors is looking to retire from this and no replacement has been found. She has written us, “Probably best to just quit saving as general public is not mailing envelopes like in past years.” So, we’ll make one final effort to gather stamps and mail what we have on **NOVEMBER 19**. Please trim with ¼” around the stamps whatever canceled stamps you have and bring them to the box on the desk in the Fireside Room. Skip the U.S. Forever “flag” and Christmas stamps (unless for a designated amount), the nonprofit, bulk mail, and presorted. Especially look for commemorative stamps, “duck” stamps, high-value stamps (\$1 or more), and foreign stamps.

Pastoral Pondering

May the glory of the Lord endure forever,
May the Lord rejoice in his works –
Who looks on the earth and it trembles,
Who touches the mountains and they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being (Psalm 104:31-33)

Space Shuttle Astronaut Mike Massamino wrote a book a few years ago entitled *Spaceman*. In it he described what it was like to be involved in a spacewalk. When asked to describe what it was like to do an EVA (“extravehicular activity”) he said: “It’s very emotional. ... And viewing our planet was so compelling. Words like beautiful and awesome just don’t do it justice. I felt that I was looking at a paradise.... I can’t imagine any place being more beautiful than our planet and how lucky we are to be able to live here.” You sense as you listen to a man talking like this that it’s a kind of “words fail me” sort of moment. Why? Not only is the earth our home, and as astronauts often point out, the ONE home of all nations on earth.

Not only is the earth a marvelous creation of the God... the earth is declared by God to be good. The creatures that live and thrive on this terrestrial ball are even used by Jesus as a focus for all who are at times set upon by worries they feel they can never escape. To put it simply, Massamino saw the BIG PICTURE from out there. Yeah, he had a job to do... to fix the Hubble telescope... to perform a million-dollar job on a billion-dollar instrument. And yes, as he described the experience, he ended up stripping the bolts of a handrail the crew would end up tearing off the Hubble so they could do their job!

But in the midst of the stress and expectations that were riding on the line... Massamino saw a BIGGER picture. In the dead empty parts of space, the earth was to him a thing of beauty. A person can’t help sweating the little things... the up-close parts of life... but seen in light of the BIG PICTURE that Massamino saw, it’s hard not to see how truly blessed we all are.

As the psalmist writes, “I will praise God”, we too shall praise God on... All Saints Sunday (Nov. 5) ... will honor our veterans (Nov. 11) ...join the Women of the ELCA Thank Offering Sunday (Nov. 19) ... join the Community Thanksgiving Service (Nov 21)...pause with family and friends on Thanksgiving (Nov. 23)...and rejoice on Christ the King Sunday (Nov. 26) - God sent His Son to earth for a purpose: to accomplish His salvation plan.

“Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God You are very great. You are clothed with honor and majesty” (104:1). November is the month to look at the big picture of what God has gifted each of us, or as Martin Luther puts it, not only has God the Father created the beautiful world and all creatures, He has also given me “my body and soul, eyes, ears and all my members, my reason and all my senses... clothing, shoes, food and drink, house and home...” In the area of our financial gifts, which are also gifts from God’s hand, we once again encourage one another to consider what portion of the blessings God has entrusted to us that we can dedicate toward kingdom work here at First Lutheran and Christ the Servant Lutheran.

We have all been richly blessed by God, and it is a privilege to be used by God to serve a much larger world and say "thank you!" for all that God has done for each of us. Whether our offerings to God are big or small is not the point. Rather, seeing the big picture of all that has been gifted to us, we do what God allows us to do on behalf of the greater good!

Come let us give Thanks!

Blessings,

Pastor Dick

Re:Newed

November Baptismal Anniversaries



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

11/5	Scott Morrett	11/23	John Thiel
11/5	Maverick Gobin	11/24	LuAnn Mosbach
11/6	Canon Wilson	11/25	Brooklin Atwell
11/9	Hadley Dachenbach	11/27	Patti Bisgard
11/13	Lana Kuball	11/27	Lisa Wood
11/17	Mary Ann Evitt	11/27	Abby Cunningham
11/21	Patty Mason	11/27	Rae Luehring
11/21	Mike Thiel	11/28	Dennis Bisgard
11/22	Jackson Allen	11/28	James Moore
11/22	Carson Oxenreider	11/29	Amanda Buckalew
		11/29	Mary Jo Fisher

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!)

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

CORYDON

- 11/2 Judd Kruse
- 11/9 Arta Harman
- 11/27 Brad Harman



CHARITON

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------------|-------|-----------------|
| 11/14 | Glenda Johansen | 11/20 | Easton Wilson |
| 11/14 | LuAnn Mosbach | 11/20 | Alex Oxenreider |
| 11/16 | Hunter Wilson | 11/22 | Deb Clark |
| 11/17 | Angela Wilson | 11/28 | Andy Peterson |
| 11/19 | Beckett Dachenbach | 11/28 | Bernie Aulwes |

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

CORYDON

- 11/8 Jason & Christy Allen
- 11/19 Nathan & Grace Forbes
- 11/29 Ann & Brian Sipma

CHARITON

- 11/2 Fay & David Utesch
- 11/11 Courtney & Hilary Shriver
- 11/23 Dana & Connie Holland
- 11/28 Angela & Keith Dachenbach



Denny and I want to thank our church family for the loving concern these past 6 weeks. The prayers offered, the calls, the text messages, food delivered and then all the cards received when we finally arrived home on Oct 5th. All of

this has been so very much appreciated. This unique illness had been truly one of the hardest journeys we have endured. To have it happen 500 miles from home only made it harder. Having the support of all you helped more than you will ever know. We are humbled, grateful and truly blessed to live in this community and to be members of First Lutheran Church. Thank you – thank you to our wonderful church family. —Sincerely, Patti and Denny

Thank You

CHRIST THE SERVANT members filled 76 school kits. Thanks to everyone who helped!



Dear FLC,

Thank you for your support and prayers in the journey of matrimony for Brad and Sara. We were so blessed to have Pastor be a part of this as well. Your continued prayers, congratulations, and words of wisdom are greatly appreciated.

Thank You

—The Lukavsky's and Sobotta's

Minutes and Reports

Copies of recent meeting minutes and financial reports are available on site at both First Lutheran and Christ the Servant. At FLC, please look on the bulletin board outside the church office. At CTS, check the table by the windows on the lower level.