

THE INSPIRER

A monthly publication of First Lutheran Church

July 2024



Welcome to our community!

The First Lutheran Church is a congregation of the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#) and the [Northeastern Iowa Synod](#). We pray that worshipping with us will give you a sense of fellowship with Christ and with us as God's people, as well as comforts and strength for all your needs. Because we are inspired by God's great love, we seek to lead Christ centered lives, grow in faith and ignite generous spirits. And through our values we believe... YOU are loved, YOU belong, YOU are called, and YOU are gifted.

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420 1st Street NW
P.O. Box 191
Clarion, IA 50525

Mon–Fri 12:30–4:30 PM
515-532-3440
firstlutheranclarion@gmail.com

Food Pantry
2nd & 4th Thursdays
5–6:30 PM



firstlutheranclarion.com

Important notes

Pastoral care update

Since we've been without a pastor, consistent spiritual support outside of worship services hasn't been possible. But the Lord works in mysterious ways, and our shared ministry with Congregational UCC and Goldfield United Presbyterian has brought opportunity to our congregation...

Beginning July 1st, Kara Curry will be providing pastoral care to all three churches! Kathy Ringnalda (UCC Secretary) will be directing Kara in her duties and organizing requests for her.

Care Requests:

515-532-2269 • ucc@wmtel.net

Kara Curry, Pastoral Care Provider
515-851-1071
karadcurry@gmail.com

Her office hours are below, and are split between the three churches. Kara will fill in the rest of her time with visits, guidance, and bible study (in process). We are so EXCITED to welcome her into our community!

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
11-12 @ UCC	9-12 @ FLC 1-3 @ UCC	9-12 @ GUPC		

June Council notes

BARB MUSSMAN | COUNCIL SECRETARY

**Full minutes are sent via our email list and published on our website.*

JUNE 12—President Austin Charlson called the meeting to order and opened with prayer at 7:00 PM. Other members present were Michael McLoughlin, Gretta Bauman, Trudy Bloxham, Joyce Charlson, and Barb Mussman.

President's Report

- None

Secretary's Report

- Approved the May minutes

Treasurer's Report

**Last month's totals in parentheses.*

General Account: \$77,408.11 (\$71,187.02)

- Inflow: \$16,929.07 (\$6,920.18)
- Outflow: \$10,707.98 (\$5,329.87)
- First Citizens: \$16,885.58 (\$10,934.17)
- Good Samaritan: \$1,708.25 (\$1,708.25)
- Youth Funds: \$1,079.74 (\$1,079.04)
- Vanguard: \$60,522.52 (\$60,252.85)

Memorial Fund: \$19,781.57 (\$19,695.85)

- First Citizens: \$579.42 (\$579.42)
- Vanguard: \$19,202.15 (\$19,116.43)

Food Pantry: \$26,869.08 (\$25,343.32)

Parsonage: \$159,006.76 (\$152,913.50)

NOTES:

- Transferred \$1,800 from General Fund to Food Pantry that was incorrectly deposited
- Transferred \$8,000 from Memorial Fund to Vanguard last month
- Paid \$7,667.97 for security system
- Approved the May report
- Increased compensation to \$200 plus mileage for pulpit supply

Office Report

- None

Chairman Reports

FLCW:

- Fall Tailgate Party—Sep. 11

CHRISTIAN ED:

- None

PROP. & MAINTENANCE:

- None

FOOD PANTRY:

- None

Old Business

- Comm1 not yet installed*

New Business

- Approved further discussion on shared pastoral care between FLC, UCC & GUPC
 - Proposed by Kara Curry
 - Hospital & senior visits
 - Office hours 1 day/week/church
 - Prayer 1 day/week/church
 - Counseling
 - Available on Facebook & email
 - Attendance 1 Sun/month/church
 - More details to be determined
- Approved 2024 Ministry Site Profile
- Discussed membership comms
 - Updates—worship, Facebook, email
 - Fellowship small group Q&A with Council members
 - Profile, letter, and ballot mailed to membership for voting

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for July 10 at 7:00 PM.

Administration

Austin Charlson (Pres.)*
Zack Dahlgren (VP)*
Barb Mussman (Sec.)*

Finance

Michael McLoughlin
(Treasurer)*
Jim Dahlgren
LeAnn Johnson
Marcia Larsen

Worship

Joyce Charlson*
Austin Charlson*

Christian Education

Dani Scheffel*

Evangelism

Gretta Bauman*
Jerrine Cayler
Jane Dettman

Community

Trudy Bloxham*
Cathy Cramer
Pat Kirsten

Prop & Maintenance

Mark Cramer*
Rick Rasmussen*

Nominating

Mark & Cathy Cramer
Bruce & Joan Voigts

Auditing

Rod Brooks
Jean Ridenour
Bruce Voigts

Endowment

Zach Dahlgren*
Jane Dettman
Jean Ridenour
Arlan Urness

Staff

Shelby Fisher (Office)
Jackie Zeiger (Custodian)

**Council Member*

*06/25/24 Update

At the time of publication, Comm1 has been officially installed! No issues to report.



Sunday Service Host Schedule

July
Congregational UCC

August
First Lutheran



ELCA Prayer Ventures

Promise God to cherish and not abuse the blessings of liberty, to work for change wherever there is injustice and inequity, and to accompany our global neighbors and companion churches in striving for freedom, justice and voice.



Ingham Okoboji

712-337-3306
registrar@okoboji.org

Riverside

515-733-5271
rlbc@riversidelbc.org

Ewalu Retreat Center

563-933-4700
camp@ewalu.org

Our community

06 [Independence Day at the Lake](#)
Lake Cornelia • 8 AM-10:30 PM

09-14 [Wright County Fair](#)
Downtown Clarion • 5-7 PM

26-27 [Ridiculous Days](#)
Downtown Clarion • 5-7 PM

27 [Heartland Truck Show](#)
Main Street • 5 PM-12 AM

28 [Heartland Truck Show](#)
Main Street • 10 AM-4 PM

[Clarion Farmers Market \(Jun-Sep\)](#)
Main Street • Saturdays 9-11 AM

[Wright Community Connections](#)
215 N. Main Street • Hours vary

[Weekly Card Games \(TWF\)](#)
Senior Citizens Center • 1:30-3:30 PM

Bible camp news



HELP MAKE LEFSE FOR THE
Scandinavian Feast

WHEN: JULY 13TH, 9AM UNTIL FINISHED
WHERE: OKOBOJI CAMP KITCHEN

HOUSING IS PROVIDED FOR THOSE WANTING TO HELP.

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CALL CAMP IF INTERESTED
+712-337-3306

August 3

is Riverside's annual 5K and Quilt Day!



We are now accepting quilts for our quilt auction.
You can find the 2024 Quilt Donation Form on our "5K and Quilt Day" page under "Events" on our website.

Why are grouchy people popular at parties?

They can turn anything into wine.

God's Work, Our Hands

DEB WHITFORD | LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA

It's nearly that time of year again – God's Work, Our Hands! Though the official day is in September, it's not too late to plan how your congregation can engage with GWOH Day.

One of the best ways to practice GWOH is through volunteering. At LSI, we have volunteer opportunities for individuals of nearly every age, ability, and schedule. Additionally, we offer group volunteer projects – the perfect opportunity for this upcoming day of service.

If you are interested in volunteering with LSI for God's Work, Our Hands, talk to your pastor and have them contact philanthropy@LSIowa.org.

For more information please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

This month in history

Apostle Thomas

JULY 3—Thomas is perhaps best remembered as "Doubting Thomas." But alongside this doubt, the Gospel of John shows Thomas as fiercely loyal: "Let us also go, that we may die with him" (John 11:16). And John's gospel shows Thomas moving from doubt to deep faith. Thomas makes one of the strongest confessions of faith in the New Testament, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). From this confession of faith, ancient stories tell of Thomas' missionary work to India, where Christian communities were flourishing a thousand years before the arrival of sixteenth-century missionaries.

Church Q&A

Is there a bible study?

Kara Curry plans to host a weekly bible study which will also be available through Zoom for those with busy schedules. More information to come once plans are finalized.

In the meantime, don't forget about the Summer Short-Term Studies at Church of Christ (420 N Main Street)! Participants meet at 7 PM on Thursdays in the church basement.

Current series: "Suicide"

July 11, July 18, July 25, August 1, August 8, August 15

When is communion?

The next Lord's Supper will be offered on July 21 at Congregational UCC during service. Everyone is invited to participate!

What if I miss service?

No worries! Life happens.

Catch up on worship:

[Facebook](#) • [YouTube](#) • [Email](#)



July 1–July 6

2 Corinthians 8:16–24
2 Corinthians 9:1–5
Mark 9:14–29
1 Corinthians 4:8–13
2 Corinthians 10:7–11
Matthew 8:18–22

July 8–July 13

2 Corinthians 11:16–33
James 5:7–12
John 7:1–9
Colossians 2:1–5
Colossians 4:2–18
Luke 1:57–80

July 15–July 20

Acts 21:27–39
Acts 23:12–35
Luke 7:31–35
Colossians 1:15–23
Acts 17:16–31
Luke 18:35–43

July 22–July 27

Hebrews 13:17–25
Acts 20:17–38
Luke 15:1–7
Colossians 1:9–14
Colossians 3:12–17
John 4:31–38

July 29–August 3

Philippians 4:10–20
Romans 15:22–33
Mark 6:35–44
1 Corinthians 11:17–22
1 Corinthians 11:27–34
Matthew 16:5–12