

LEARNING, SERVING AND WORSHIP MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Explore All The Ways You Can Engage, Connect, Grow and Be In Community With Others

Take some time to explore the Ministry Directory and reflect on the various opportunities for learning, serving and worshipping in the coming year. Identify the ministries that resonate with you and that you wish to engage with or learn more about.

Next, log into your Realm Member Account on your computer and navigate to the “Serving” section. Click on Serving to open your Serving Profile. Click on the three dots to the right of “Skills” to edit and complete your skills and interests inventory.

If you use your Realm app, click on your profile photo and click on “My Profile.” Scroll down to Manage Skills to tell us what your personal skills, abilities and passions are. Continue to scroll down to Manage Interests to identify the ministry areas you are interested in engaging with or learning more about. This will assist ministry staff and leaders in connecting you with teams, groups or roles that matter to you.

Remember, you can update your profile anytime throughout the year as you discover new opportunities or develop new interests!



LEARNING MINISTRIES OF FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

FaithTrek - Sunday morning Christian education for 3-year-olds through 5th grade with a focus on Bible stories, prayer and service utilizing an experiential education style of learning where questions are welcomed and expected. Contact: Laura Grauly

Summer Vacation Bible School – Experience Bible stories through crafts, games, community engagement activities, music and story designed to challenge participants, ages 3-5th grade, to grow in their calling as disciples of Christ. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Middle & High School Youth Group - Connect with other middle and high school youth several times a month to build relationships and be part of a community that shares a love for God and serves the local community. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Middle School Learning – Sunday morning Christian education for 6th to 8th graders focusing on growing and living as a young disciple facing real life issues from a perspective of faith. Contact: Sharon Hardel

High School Learning – Sunday morning Christian education for 9th to 12th graders with an emphasis on current event, cultural awareness, Bible study, difficult topics and God in daily life. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Confirmation: Discipleship University – (7-8th Grade) Two-fold focus: 1) for confirmand to affirm her/his baptism and God's work that has already been going on since baptism and 2) to help their parents/mentors fulfill their baptismal promise. Confirmation is about building relationships with parents and youth sharing and growing in faith together. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Youth Summer Accompaniment Experience – (6 -12th Grade) A trip outside of familiar territory leads to a journey outside of comfort zones and experiencing God at the margins of life. This summer trip has more to do with how young people are in the world and less about the projects accomplished. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Intergenerational Learning Experiences – Participate in opportunities to learn with others of all ages, from the youngest to the oldest, throughout the year. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Adult Forum - Learn about a variety of topics every Sunday morning from 9:30-10:30 am that are relevant to our Christian faith and how they influence our growth as disciples of Jesus Christ. Please share ideas you have for speakers or topics you would like to explore in Adult Forum. Contact: Patrick Hayden Roy

Senior Ministry– Participate in fellowship, learning and serving events tailored specifically around the needs and interest of the young at heart. Contact: Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Spiritual Formation Workshops – Deepen your spirituality by learning different practices or disciplines, including prayer, meditation, chanting, breathing exercises and ceremonies or rituals. Contact: Carol Olson

Bible /Book Study - Each Tuesday evening at 5:45 pm and Wednesday morning at 10:30 am join the conversational study of scripture, exploring how the Living Word continues to speak to and impacts our daily lives. You can join the conversation at any time without previous Bible study experience. Contact: Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Gather & Gab – A weekly online discussion group that uses *Wired Word* to guide their discussion. *Wired Word* focuses on a news story from the previous week and allows participants to have a conversation about their role in society as Christians, to think outside the box, wrestle with difficult issues and consider ways they might respond to the world around them. Open to high school age or older and join as your schedule allows. Meets every Thursday from 8:00-9:00 pm. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Monday Coffee Group - Gather to talk about the Sunday sermon or a current event on Mondays at a local coffee shop from 1:30-2:30 pm. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Faith to Go! – Grab a cup of coffee and a bite to eat and settle in to learn more about one of your fellow congregants and how they live out their faith in daily life. Held at 6:30 am mornings on Zoom on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Contact: Tera Beermann

Saturday with the Guys - Join a group of guys who study and discuss a book together on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 8:00 am. Open to men of all ages. Contact: Jim Kisling

Women's Monthly Circles – Attend a monthly women's circle for fellowship, relationship building, projects and spiritual development. Contact: Mandy West

Pop Up Groups – Attend, plan and/or host a pop-up group or activity designed to connect and engage members, such as game night, walking group, dinner out or a day field trip. Contact: Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Book Discussions - See faith in the real world and in the lives of the characters in current best sellers and "everyone is reading" books. Authors and books vary. Contact: Shari Sorenson

Creation Care Educational Opportunities – Educational opportunities, special events and presentations aimed at helping us all take care of all God's creation. Contact: Rebecca Pfabe

Social Justice, Advocacy and Inclusion Events - Attend and/or plan events that support and challenge members to live up to our welcome statement at First Lutheran. Contact: Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Synod-Wide Events – Participate in lifelong learning opportunities offered in-person or online by the Nebraska Synod (e.g. Emmaus). Contact: Nebraska Syond website



SERVING MINISTRIES OF FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Casserole Caravan - Deliver a meal or treat to those just home from the hospital from illness, surgery or birth and families dealing with a death or family crisis. Contact: Gay Sutter

Funeral Lunches - Help provide, call for food to be donated and/or serve a funeral lunch as we assist families in grief by providing a place to gather and fellowship with family and friends. Contact: Cindy Timperley or Robin Westhoff

Prayer Shawls and Afghans – Combine a love of knitting or crocheting creating prayer shawls and afghans for those in need of comfort, as well as in celebration and joy. Not a stitcher? Be a delivery person taking a shawl or afghan to someone in need. Contact: Jan Mares to be a stitcher or Pastor Marsha Anderson to deliver.

Stephen Ministry - Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one Christian caring relationship for anyone who is going through a rough patch, pain, or struggle in life. It's not a ministry of giving answers, rather it's a ministry of listening with care, asking reflective questions and "holding space" for someone else. Training provided. Contact: Faye Doolittle

Visitation Ministry - Share your time and provide a bright spot in a homebound person's day. Contact: Pastor Erin Heidelberger

Eucharistic Ministry - Take communion to those homebound or recovering from illness or injury and not able to join us for worship. Contact: Harold Sutter

Transportation Ministry – Drive members to medical and other appointments or church activities. Contact: Linda Maack

Member Connections – Assist in connecting and engaging members in ways that support their emotional, mental and spiritual life. Person must be willing to ask questions, listen attentively and show care and compassion. Contact: Barb Johnson Frank or Kathleen Simley

Grief Support – Grief after the death of a loved one is hard to go through alone. If you find yourself in this situation, join our grief support class that meets several times during the year. Contact: Amy Tipton

Kicks for Kids - A fall project to provide new shoes and socks for elementary aged children identified by their teachers. Take a tag, which matches a specific child, purchase the needed items and return them to the church for distribution. Contact: Donice Kaspar

Meals on Wheels - Deliver meals to home bound seniors needing this service. First Lutheran has regular Sunday routes or contact Tabitha for a route that works for you. Contact: Sandy Latshaw

BackPack Program - Provide financial and/or volunteer support to provide a food-filled backpack every Friday for families at two LPS elementary schools. Contact: Cindy Lilleoien

Matt Talbot Outreach Kitchen- Donate fruit and dessert items for a monthly meal for Lincoln's homeless and working poor or come help with advance food preparation and/or serving the meal. Contact: Steve Lenzen

Lutheran Food Pantry - Donate non-perishable food and personal care items to be distributed by the pantry. Place items in the grocery cart located by the Chapel. Contact: Steve Lenzen

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief - A quilt brings warmth on a cold night, shelter from the sun, creates a bed or room divider. Quilts assembled throughout the year are shipped to Lutheran World Relief for distribution at home and abroad. Quilters and donations of specific materials are appreciated. No previous quilting experience needed. Contact: Mary Phelan or Karen Clementson

Immigrant & Refugee Support – Work with local refugee resettlement and other immigrant support programs. Donate furniture and household items, provide transportation, help with schoolwork, provide support navigating systems or be a friend and enjoy building a relationship with a newcomer. Contact: Trish Flury or Bettina Roundey

Gifts of Hope Alternative Market - This market, held the first weekend of December, provides alternatives to traditional Christmas gift shopping. Planning help is welcomed, along with people to assist during the market. Contact: Barb Johnson Frank

CROP Walk - Raise money to support local and international hunger relief programs. This annual city-wide effort is the 2nd Sunday of October. Contact: Sandy Latshaw

Fellowship Events – Plan and implement fellowship events throughout the year. Contact: Judy Batterman

Pep Squad - Cheer on our youth at their extracurricular events (i.e. sports, concerts, dramas, art shows). Contact: Sharon Hardel

Vacation Bible School Volunteer - Help with decorating, registration, crafts, games, music, storytelling, snacks or drama. Be a group leader or maybe you have another gift or talent we can use! Contact: Sharon Hardel

FaithTrek Teacher – Serve as a facilitator for the Sunday morning learning hour (Sunday School). A team of guides are assigned a specific age group, 3 year olds through 5th grade, with two adults serving each Sunday. Curriculum, training and support provided. Contact: Laura Graulty

Middle School Learning Leader – This is a privileged opportunity to engage with adolescents who are growing as disciples at the intersection of their faith and the world around them. The role is more of a facilitator of a conversation than an expert in religion. Training provided. Contact: Sharon Hardel

High School Learning Leader - This is a privileged opportunity to engage with adolescents who are growing as disciples at the intersection of their faith and the world around them. The role is more of a facilitator of a conversation than an expert in religion. Training provided. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Middle & High School Youth Group Helper – Assist (e.g. drive, chaperone, help with special events), as needed, with the middle school and high school youth groups. Contact: Sharon Hardel

Serve in an Elected Position – Say “yes” to being a nominee for an elected leadership position, such as Church Council, Endowment Board, Nominating Committee or Synod Assembly Delegate. Contact: Tera Beermann

Serve on a Team – Choose a team to serve based on your interest, passion and skills, such as Property, Fellowship, Worship & Music, Columbarium, Endowment, Social Ministry or Stewardship. Contact: Pastor Erin Heidelberger



WORSHIP AND PRAYER MINISTRIES OF FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pray Daily – Offer prayer each day for family, faith community and the needs of the world. Contact: Mandy West

Prayer Learning Opportunities - Opportunities are offered periodically on how to deepen one's prayer life. Contact: Carol Olson

Prayer Team - Receive a weekly list of those needing prayers within and beyond the congregation. Pray daily for those on the list. Contact: Mandy West

Attend Worship Regularly or on Livestream - Gather weekly with our faith community for worship and prayer in-person or virtually through our live stream worship.

Livestream Worship Assistant – Assist with livestreaming worship on Sunday mornings at 8:15 am. Contact: Kathleen Simley

Choir Member – Each choir welcomes all who are willing to gather their voices in praise. Adult Choir (high school and up) encourages congregational singing and offers an anthem to lead deeper reflection to the Words shared. The Adult Choir sings most Sundays, except the first Sunday of the month. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays during the school year at 7:10 pm. Contact: Boyd or Masako Bacon

Soloist or Cantor - Lead singing of the Psalm, sing during Communion or occasionally during the Offering. Contact: Masako Bacon

Instrumental Solo or Ensemble - Bring your instrument and play worship music for a designated Sunday as a soloist or part of a jazz, string, brass, wind or Orff ensemble. Contact: Masako Bacon

Handbells - Spirit Ringers rehearse every Thursday at 6:30 pm during the school year and play on the 3rd Sunday and other festive Sundays. Youth Bells are scheduled as a short-term group. Contact: Masako Bacon

Bible Bearer - Carry the lectionary Bible into the worship service in the procession and carry it out in the recessional. Contact: Harold Sutter

Crucifier - Carry the cross in the processional and recessional. Contact: Harold Sutter

Reader - Read the first and second lessons and occasionally lead the psalm in the worship service. Contact: Kathleen Simley

Communion Assistant - Participate in the processional and recessional and pour the wine during communion. Contact: Harold Sutter

Eucharistic Assistant - Serve bread and wine during communion to worshipers unable to come to the communion rail. Contact: Harold Sutter

Usher - Distribute worship bulletins, collect the offering, direct people to the communion rail and provide security during the worship service. Contact: Al Williams

Greeter - Greet worshipers as they enter the church at each entrance. Perfect for a couple or family to do together. Contact: Kathleen Simley

Altar Guild (Communion Set Up and Clean Up) - Set up the communion elements before worship and then clean the dishes and glasses and chancel area following the worship services. Contact: Bonita Thomsen and Jan Wigodsky

Wash Robes/Albs - Wash worship robes/albs monthly. Check the robes frequently so they can be washed more, if needed. Contact: Gay Sutter