FIRST GLANCE

A look at what's happening at First Lutheran Church

OCTOBER 18-25, 2026

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH!

If you've worshiped with us before, welcome back! If this is your first time, we're so glad you're here! We hope you feel surrounded by God's love, grace and mercy as you worship today— our ushers, greeters, staff or anyone nearby in the pews are happy to help with any questions, during or after worship.

EVERY BLESSING IN ABUNDANCE: WE BEGIN WITH GRATITUDE

Today we begin *Every Blessing in Abundance*, our four-week stewardship journey leading to Commitment Sunday, November 8. This week's theme, *Blessed in Abundance*, invites us to pause and recognize what we have received before considering what we can give.

"God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance..."
—2 Corinthians 9:8

God's blessings surround us—in relationships, faith, community, compassion, time and abilities. At First Lutheran, we experience that abundance through the care we receive, the opportunities we have to serve and the ministry we share.

Today, Laura Graulty will offer our first Temple Talk, reflecting on where she has experienced God's abundance through First Lutheran.

As you listen to Laura, consider what this week's theme means to you. What would you share in a Temple Talk? Write your anonymous response to the question on the reflection card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate during the offertory. We'll add it to the *Overflowing with Blessings* board in the Commons to celebrate God's abundance among us.

QUILT BLESSING: WRAPPED IN GOD'S LOVE

During worship today, we will bless the quilts our quilters have stitched with love, care and compassion for people around the world who will receive them through Lutheran World Relief.

Each quilt reminds us that we can accompany people we may never meet or know, embracing them in God's love through the work of our hands. This ministry is one of many ways God's abundance overflows through us—as we share our time and talents to bring warmth, comfort and hope to others.

KICKS FOR KIDS: LET'S GET PACKING!

Everyone—all ages—is invited to the Activity Center today from 9:30–10:30 AM to help sort and package the hundreds of shoes and socks purchased through our Kicks for Kids campaign. Let's get them onto the feet of the students who need them!

This is one way we accompany our neighbors, including some of the youngest. The students may never know who bought their shoes or packed their socks, but they will experience the care behind those gifts. Accompanying others means sharing that care without needing recognition or thanks—simply loving our neighbors as God asks us to.

SEASONED ADULTS: TOUR NEBRASKA PUBLIC MEDIA

Join the Seasoned Adults on Wednesday, October 21, from 10:00–11:30 AM for a behind-the-scenes tour of Nebraska Public Media at 33rd & Holdrege. Learn about NPM's work, including its campaign and election coverage, then enjoy lunch together at Villa Amore, 5353 North 27th Street.

RSVP to Kay Rockwell or sign up in the Gathering Area or on Realm. Seasoned Adults is geared toward those 65 and older, but adults of all ages are welcome to join the fun!

FALL FUN WITH THE WILD WOMEN!

Bring a friend and join the Wild Women of First on Monday, October 26, from 6–8 PM at The Forum (6301 S. 58th) for laughter, fall flavors and good company. Women of all ages are welcome!

We'll collect new hygiene items for Voices of Hope, supporting survivors of abuse and violence and their loved ones. Needed items include:

- Full-size shampoo, conditioner and body wash, including natural/ethnic hair products
- Adult and children's toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Deodorant, lotion, razors, cotton swabs and period products

RSVP on Realm or at wildwomenoffirst@gmail.com.

CELEBRATING OUR PASTORS

Join us during fellowship hour on Sunday, October 25, as we celebrate Pastor Erin, Pastor Andrew and Pastor Ron for Pastor Appreciation Sunday! Enjoy yummy treats, share words of thanks and help shower our pastors with appreciation for the gifts they bring to our community at First.

WEAR RED FOR REFORMATION SUNDAY

Next Sunday, October 25, we celebrate Reformation Sunday and the good news of God's grace that continues to shape our faith and life together. Wear red to worship—a shirt, sweater, scarf or even socks—to help mark the day. Red reminds us of the Holy Spirit's presence and work among us!

LOOKING AHEAD

- November 1 - All Saints Sunday
- November 8 - Commitment Sunday with a Catered Lunch by Chef au Chef at noon. No worship at 8:15 AM due to Good Life Halfsy. Worship at 10:45 AM only.
- November 29 - Advent Begins (Hanging of the Greens on November 22)
- December 2, 9 and 16 - Midweek Advent Worship at Noon and 6:30 PM
- December 5 and 6 - Gifts of Hope Market (Online and In-Person)

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

We hold in prayer all who are facing ongoing or recent health concerns or life challenges, including M. Joyce Hansen, Sylvia Kempf, Betty Miller, Mary Brass, Jeanette Metteer, Dennis Schuster, Vern Westberg, Rod Price, Margrett Wehland, Michael Dalton, Pastor Marsha Anderson, Beth Strasheim, Ruby Augustine, Velda Schmidt, Jane Zatechka, Julius Swen, Terry Lander, Tom Hoeft, Pat Frank, Cynthia Holt, Carl Kramer and Dan Horn.

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FIRST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 - Every Blessing in Abundance Stewardship Campaign Begins
8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:30 AM - Fellowship Time
9:30 AM - Kicks for Kids Shoes & Socks Packing
9:30 AM - Faithful Conversations
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19 - (Pastors Erin and Andrew gone to Fall Leadership Gathering through Wednesday)
9:00 AM - First Fitness
9:00 AM - Cook Lunch for Matt Talbot
1:30 PM - Coffee Talk

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20
11:00 AM - Serve Lunch at Matt Talbot
5:45 PM - Bible Study
6:00 PM - Nominating Committee
6:45 PM - Stephen Ministry Supervision

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21
9:30 AM - Martha Circle
10:00 AM - Seasoned Adults to NPM
6:00 PM - Confirmation and Supper
6:30 PM - High School Youth Group
7:00 PM - Stewardship Committee
7:10 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22
9:00 AM - Quilters
9:00 AM - First Fitness
6:30 PM - Spirit Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 PM - Gather & Gab
7:00 PM - Gather Lincoln Pub Theology (Brewsky's Haymarket)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24
8:00 AM - Saturday Morning With the Guys
5:00 PM - Worship in the Chapel

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 - Pastor Appreciation Sunday
8:15 AM - Worship with Livestream
9:30 AM - Fellowship Time
9:30 AM - Learning Hour for 3 Year Olds-12th Grade
9:30 AM - Adult Forum
9:30 AM - Faithful Conversations
10:45 AM - Worship
Noon - Nuer Worship