



LAMPLIGHTER

First Evangelical Lutheran Church



On Maundy Thursday, 5 students received their First Holy Communion. Help us congratulate the following students: Ellie Kelchen, Vella Thein, Aubree Hood, Oliver Dotson, and Luke Klehm

313 East Fayette St.
Manchester, IA 52057
563-927-3420
www.firstlutheranmch.com

First Lutheran
Pastor
Jason Cooper
cooper_jd@yahoo.com

Church Office
Manager
Susi DuBois
firstlutheranmch@gmail.com

Communications
Coordinator
Kenzie Zumbach
kenziezumbach@gmail.com

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Cuthbertson Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the 2026 Cuthbertson Scholarship recipients! First Lutheran wishes you the best of luck in your future plans!

College Students	High School Students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payton Beaman: University of Iowa • Ashleigh Hartman: University of Northern Iowa • Lydia Heims: Missouri University of Science & Technology • Maddox Lott: Iowa State University • Griffin Lott: Iowa State University • Maggie Millenkamp: Iowa State University • Madeline Palas: University of Iowa • Owen Pettlon: Drake University • Eadie Tibbott: University of Northern Iowa • Kole Wright: Buena Vista University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lanni Beaman: Hawkeye Community College • Lance Feldmann: Wartburg College • Rachael Hoefler: University of Northern Iowa • Grady Millenkamp: Iowa State University • Ben Palas: University of Iowa • Karlee Wright: Northeast Iowa Community College

Congratulations to all!

MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS
at 9:00 A.M.

WEDNESDAYS
at 6:00 P.M.

We also offer a live radio broadcast of our Sunday service on KMCH 94.7 FM and a live video stream on our FaceBook page, First Evangelical Lutheran Church - NALC.

HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be offered each Sunday and Wednesday worship service.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Thank You to our May Radio & Flower Sponsors!

KMCH Radio Ministry Sponsors

May 3... Ron & Tirzah Wedewer
May 10...TBD
May 17...Brenda Saunders in memory of her father Leroy Glawe
May 24...Cliff & Susan Kehrl
May 31...TBD

Altar Flower Sponsors

May 3... TBD
May 10...Bill & Laura Thomas in memory of Gordon & Alice Schmidt
May 17...TBD
May 24... Glory of God and Confirmands
May 31...TBD

Fellowship Hour: Help Wanted!

We love our post-service coffee and treats, but we need your help to keep the tradition going!

How You Can Help:

- Host & Serve: Set the table, pour coffee, and greet friends.
- Provide Treats: Bring snacks or baked goods for a specific Sunday.
- Stock the Freezer: Leave labeled and dated "backup" treats in the upper freezer for unscheduled weeks.

Ready to sign up?

- In-Person: Use the sheets at the back of the sanctuary.
- Online: Use the Lay Ministry Need Schedule form.
- Contact: Call Cathy Glew (Social Ministry) at 563-608-1321.

Thank you to all our volunteers for making our Sundays so bright!

Homemade & Homegrown Sale

There's something for everyone at the 4th annual Homemade & Homegrown Sale! Plants (Perennials & House Plants), Crafts, and Baked Goods.

Join us on Saturday, May 16th from 8AM-12PM at 308 S Wayne Street Manchester, IA. Sponsored by the Manchester Methodist Church. All proceeds go to support shipping costs for Operation Christmas Child!



A Word From Pastor Jason

Do you know the history of “Mother’s Day”? In 1908 a woman from West Virginia named Anna Jarvis began petitioning prominent leaders, including President Woodrow Wilson, to officially establish a national day honoring mothers. Finally, in 1914 President Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother’s Day.

A couple interesting facts should be noted in the history of Mother’s Day



1. Anna Jarvis was continuing the work of her own mother (Ann Reeves Jarvis) who in the years before the Civil War helped start “Mothers’ Day Work Clubs” to teach local women how to properly care for their children. Later, in 1868 Ann Reeves Jarvis also organized “Mothers’ Friendship Day,” at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.
2. Anna Jarvis remained unmarried and childless her whole life. Her work was truly a passion to honor her mother and all mothers, seeking no recognition for herself.
3. Originally conceived as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families Anna Jarvis eventually resorted to an open campaign against Mother’s Day due to commercialization of the holiday by florists, chocolatiers and greeting card companies. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even lobbied to have it removed from the American calendar.

This made me wonder, “Is this holiday really necessary? Especially for Christians?” Do we need a special day encouraging us to “honor our mothers”? After all, hasn’t our Lord commanded us to honor our mothers every day? *“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.”* (Exodus 20:12)

Jesus echoed the words of Moses, *“For God commanded, saying, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and added ‘He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death’”* (Matthew 19:5). That which God commanded to be etched in stone by Moses was re-emphasized by the Son of God 1500 years later!

St. Paul adds to the importance of honoring our mothers writing, *“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother,’ which is the first commandment with promise: ‘that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth’”* (Ephesians 6:1-3).

The mere fact that Christians would need a “Mother’s Day” to remind us to honor our mother doesn’t reflect well for us. Regardless of commercialization, honoring our mothers is simply a righteous thing to do – every day of our lives.

No, we should not need a day to honor our mothers. Yet what a wonderful reminder that when we do as God has commanded there is a blessing; *“that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.”* So why not send mom flowers, give her some chocolate and take time to pick just the right card letting her know how special she is because after all, we all know when momma is happy ... everyone is happy!

GLYSDI
Pastor Jason

Girls' Night Out with a Purpose

We are so excited to host Mandy McCleary for Girls' Night Out with a Purpose on Friday, May 1st. Doors open at 5:30 PM and Mandy starts at 6:15 PM with "You are Enough" in the Fellowship Hall.

Reminder: Please RSVP so we can prepare enough seating and snacks. You can sign the clipboard in the Narthex, or contact Leah Beaman or the church office to RSVP. See you there!



Music Notes

Adult Choir Schedule-May 2026

- May 3 Rehearsal @ 10:15AM
- May 17 Warm-up @ 8:20AM
Sing @ 9AM

A Musical Thank You

Thank you to the choir for their special anthems during Lent and Holy Week, and to the Easter Brass ensemble (Kolin Wright, Rachael Hoefler, Kathy Moorhouse and Dulcie Scripture) for their music at Easter worship.

Church Ladies' Lunch

The upcoming Ladies' Lunch will be on Tuesday, May 5th at 11:30 am at Mixteca Grill (behind Walmart). Please contact Cathy Glew to RSVP at 563-608-1321.

Summer Church Camp Camperships

First Lutheran Church is once again offering camperships for students who will be attending a summer church camp.

Contact the church office for additional info!

Graduate Recognition

We are excited to honor our 2026 graduates during the worship service on Sunday, May 10. Please join us as we recognize their achievements, with a special reception (*outside, weather permitting*) following the service.



Confirmation Sunday

On Sunday, May 24th we welcome you to come celebrate and witness with us the Confirmation of our 8th graders at our 9:00 a.m. worship service. A reception will follow outside the church (*weather permitting*).



Sunday School End of Year Carnival

Sunday School children, their families, and the congregation are invited to the Sunday School Carnival on Sunday, May 17th following the 9 a.m. worship service. Help us celebrate the last day of Sunday School with outdoor yard games and popcorn!



A Joyful Easter Celebration!

It was wonderful to see so many familiar and new faces as we celebrated the Resurrection together.

Easter Attendance: Sunrise Service (80), Easter Breakfast (80), Easter Worship Service (176).

Thank you for being part of such a blessed morning of fellowship and worship!

Grimm's Peony Farm Visit

Mark your calendars for Monday, June 8th, as we head to Lamont, Iowa, for a beautiful afternoon at Grimm's Peony Farm!

We will be meeting at the church at 11 AM, where we will carpool together. It is a little over 30 minute drive to get there. They will have tables and chairs for us to eat at but please bring a sack lunch and beverage to enjoy.



They have such a wide variety of day lilies and peonies. It is such a pretty place to enjoy the spring colors. Whether you're a gardener or simply looking for a peaceful afternoon in nature, we would love for you to join us!

Rain Date: June 11

Food Box Donations

Thank you for your ongoing support of our outdoor food box! Your generosity provides essential help to our neighbors in need.

How You Can Help:

- Drop Off: Place donations directly in the outdoor box or the narthex cabinet.
- Restock: If you see the outdoor box is empty, feel free to move items from the narthex cabinet into the box.

For questions, please contact Cathy Glew (Social Ministry). Thank you for being a blessing to our community!

First Lutheran Church Council Minutes –April 13, 2026

The regular meeting of the First Lutheran Church was called to order at 6:00pm by President Millie Kehrli. Meeting was held in the Church Friendship Room.

Members present: Millie Kehrli, Vance Knutson, Billie Zumbach, Donna Millenkamp, Dave Johnson, Duane Nieman, and Pastor Cooper. **Absent:** Leah Beaman, Cathy Glew, Brenda Palas, and Lucas Thomas.

Approval of March Council Minutes: Motion by Billie, seconded by Duane to approve the March 9th minutes; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – David Johnson:

- Income for the month of March was \$23,347.08, which \$665.42 under budget.
- Income YTD was \$129,632.09, which is \$26,442.91 under budget.
- Expenses for the month of March were \$25,972.73 which is \$470.09 under budget.
- Expenses YTD were \$158,971.56 which is \$309.24 over budget
- Net Operating Income for the month of March was (\$625.65) and YTD is (\$29,339.47).

Approval of March Treasurer's Report: Motion by Donna, seconded by Duane to approve treasurer's report with potential revisions; motion carried.

President – Millie Kehrli: No Report

President – Elect – Vance Knutson: No report

Christian Education – Lucas Thomas: Nothing to Report

Evangelism –Leah Beaman:

- We will be hosting a “Girls’ Night Out with a Purpose” on Friday, May 1 for girls and women (7th grade and up suggested) in our fellowship hall. We will start with snacks and fellowship (doors will open at 5:30 PM) and then Christian speaker Mandy McCleary will be speaking on the topic of “You Are Enough” at 6:15. We are asking people to RSVP either on the clipboard in the narthex, let the office know, or contact Leah so we can plan ahead for seating and food.

Lay Ministry – Billie Zumbach:

- Sunday April 19th Service @ 9:00 AM Godspeed Equine-Al and Kelly Lorenzen
- Sunday May 10th Service @ 9:00 AM-Honor the Graduates
- Sunday May 24th Service @ 9:00 AM-Confirmation
- Sunday May 31st Service @ 9:00 AM Seeds for Hope-Pastor Mark Swanson
- Sunday May 28th -June 6th Pastor Cooper on Vacation
- Wednesday June 3rd @ 6:00 PM Possibly David Wendel on U-Tube
- NO Wednesday Night Services in July-Month of Service-Fair Week, Mission Trip, Bible School
- Attendance-Easter Sunrise-80, Easter Service-176, Easter Breakfast-80

Properties – Duane Nieman:

- Sunday School restrooms are complete.
- Restroom by the Quilting room will be painted soon.
- Handrail on the east side of stairs to balcony is installed.

- TV in fellowship hall went bad and was replaced and can now be run by AV both to show church services. Other monitors for church services have been installed on a trial basis.
- Boilers have been repaired and will be reinspected.
- After meeting with the city, moveable handicap markers will be ordered to add two additional handicap parking spots.

Social Ministry – Cathy Glew:

- Ongoing weekly Coffee Fellowship following Sunday worship service is well attended. Thank you to the many volunteers! Easter breakfast was well attended. Need ongoing volunteers. Food will be provided if anyone is willing to serve.
- May 10 is graduation reception following worship service. Will be held outside weather permitting.
- Continued monthly visits by five volunteers meeting with homebound, residents of the Meadows and the Good Neighbor Home. If anyone knows of someone who would like a visit, please contact Cathy.
- Congregation continues to provide food for the community using the outside food box. The backup food is almost used up. Need ongoing donations.
- Freezer meals are available for those in need. This month 8 meals were provided, totaling 13 servings.

Stewardship – Donna Millenkamp: MOTM update:

- We raised \$111.19 for Trinity Lutheran in March.
- We will be collecting for God Speed Equine on April 19th and 22nd.

Secretary of the Council –Brenda Palas: No report**Pastor Jason Cooper:**

- The following vacation dates were requested by Pastor Cooper and approved: May 29 – June 6, and August 9-15 (Pastor will conduct service on the 9th .)
- Pastor will be taking part in the Mission Trip on July 26 – August 2.
- New Members will be welcomed, and a reception will follow services on May 3.
- Pastor and Millie will be meeting with Mission in Christ to discuss obtaining an intern for Strawberry Point.
- A discussion was held regarding additional attendees and how to improve the flow of service.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Next meeting will be held on May 11, 2026 @ 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Vance Knutson

Mission of the Month (MOTM)

Our May Mission of the Month for our noisy can offering is Seeds For Hope. Seeds for Hope of NE Iowa is a part of the worldwide charity called Growing Hope Globally.

Founded in 2004, Seeds involves 11 churches from Ryan to Strawberry Point. Manchester churches include First Lutheran, Our Savior Lutheran and St. Mary’s. A portion of our fair food stand profits is donated to the charity each year.

Seeds for Hope provides opportunities for people in developing countries to do things like grow their own food, create clean water sources and sewer systems. Some of the countries and programs that have been supported by Seeds include: Myanmar Nyaungdon, Honduras Macuelizo, Indonesia West Timor, Lebanon South, Haiti Jean Rabel, Bangladesh Kendua, Colombia Choco, and many more.

Approximately 94% of funds raised go directly to these programs. Administrative costs are low.

Local groups may choose which programs they wish to support. There are approximately 80 acres near Ryan, Manchester, and Strawberry Point farmed by volunteers whose crops are used to benefit Seeds for Hope.

Over the past 20 years, over \$900,000 has been raised and 16,403 people have been made food independent.

If you have any questions about Seeds for Hope, please contact Doran Zumbach. Donations will be collected on May 10th and 13th . Please consider giving to this worthy cause.

Monthly Offering Comparison

Year	2023	2024	2025	2026
January	\$18,937.13	\$21,906.87	\$13,353.69	\$19,063.72
February	\$28,414.39	\$17,120.64	\$16,450.02	\$12,840.42
March	\$33,049.82	\$18,216.41	\$18,306.05	\$24,169.40
April	\$20,542.21	\$20,210.51	\$17,359.59	
May	\$25,993.18	\$18,624.85	\$13,893.45	
June	\$22,744.81	\$13,614.20	\$15,796.30	
July	\$28,784.78	\$15,272.71	\$13,557.29	
August	\$22,196.56	\$15,206.24	\$13,397.73	
September	\$23,810.07	\$12,636.67	\$13,114.42	
October	\$29,430.84	\$16,694.94	\$16,919.28	
November	\$20,937.08	\$11,898.12	\$19,161.69	
December	\$32,662.87	\$8,854.54	\$22,911.47	
Yearly Totals	\$307,503.74	\$190,256.70	\$180,823.25	\$56,073.54

SCRIP ORDER FORM

BUSINESS	%	DENOMINATIONS	BUSINESS	%	DENOMINATIONS
Amazon.com	2%	10____25____100____	Exxon/Mobile <*>	2%	50____
American Eagle	10%	25____	Fareway	3%	25____100____
Applebee's	8%	25____	Gap/Old Navy	14%	25____
Arby's	8%	10____	Gift Holder	10%	2____
Aunt Emmy's (L)	4%	10____25____50____	JCPenney(CC)<*>	5%	25____
Barnes & Noble	9%	5____10____25____	Maurices	7%	20____
Bath & Body	13%	10____25____	Menards <*>	3%	25____100____
Best Buy	4%	25____	Michaels	4%	25____
Boubin Tires (L)	5%	See Brenda	Outback Steakhouse	8%	50____
BP Gas	2%	50____100____	Palmer Hdwe. (L)	5%	See Brenda
Buckle	8%	25____	Pizza Ranch (L)	8%	5____25____
Bushel & A Peck	3%	10____	Posy Place (L)	5%	10____
Burger King	4%	10____	Red Lobster	8%	10____25____
Cabela's	8%	25____	Red Robin	9%	25____
Casey's	3%	25____50____100____	Staples	5%	25____
Castle Theatre (L)	10%	5____	Starbucks	7%	10____25____
Cenex	3%	25____	Subway	6%	10____
Chili's	11%	25____	Sunset (L)	10%	10____20____
Chuong Garden (L)	10%	10____25____	Target	3%	10____25____100____
Culvers Restaurant	5%	10____	Texas Roadhouse	8%	25____100____<*>__
Dairy Queen (L)	10%	5____10____	TJ Maxx	7%	25____
Darden/Olive Garden/Cheddars	8%	10____25____	Ulta Salons	4%	25____
Dick's Sporting Goods	8%	25____100____	Visa/Discover pp (CC)	1%	<*> 50____100____
			Walmart	3%	10____25____100____

KEY TO SYMBOLS

- <*> Not stocked, can be ordered
- *** See Brenda for special details
- (L) Local participating businesses
- (CC) Can be used to pay on credit card

Contact Brenda Saunders with questions: 563-920-3191.

If you need scrip mid-week, see Susi DuBois during office hours.

**For a full list of what can be offered go to:
raiserright.com**



MAY 2026

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 9:00 a.m. Worship New Member Welcome 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship Choir Rehearsal New Member Reception	4	5 9:00 a.m. Quilting 11:30 a.m. Church Ladies Lunch 6:00 p.m. Lay Ministry Meeting	6 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. GIG Mens Bible Study Heaven Bound Confirmation	7	1 5:30 p.m. Girls' Night Out with a Purpose 8	2 9
10 9:00 a.m. Worship Graduate Recognition MOTM- <i>Noisy Can</i> <i>Offering</i> 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Graduate Reception	11 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting	12 9:00 a.m. Quilting	13 6:00 p.m. Worship MOTM- <i>Noisy Can</i> <i>Offering</i> 7:00 p.m. GIG Mens Bible Study Heaven Bound Confirmation	14	15	16 8AM-12PM Homemade & Homegrown Sale
17 8:20 a.m. Choir Warm-up 9:00 a.m. Worship Choir Sings 10:15 a.m. SS End of Year Carnival Fellowship	18	19 9:00 a.m. Quilting	20 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. GIG Mens Bible Study Heaven Bound Confirmation	21	22 June Lamplighter Deadline	23
24 9:00 a.m. Worship Confirmation Sunday 10:15 a.m. Fellowship Confirmation Reception	25 OFFICE CLOSED  MEMORIAL DAY	26 9:00 a.m. Quilting	27 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. GIG Mens Bible Study Heaven Bound	28	29	30
31 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Fellowship						