



LAMPLIGHTER

First Evangelical Lutheran Church



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Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is scheduled for Sunday, November 1st following the 9:00 A.M. service.

The current eligible voters will be posted at the church on Sunday, October 4th. Voting members shall be those who are confirmed members in good standing as provided in the bylaws. The term "in good standing" shall be defined to include those who, during the current or preceding year, have:

1. partaken of Holy Communion;
2. contributed to the congregational treasury according to the congregation's record,
3. and participated in the life and worship of the congregation in the preceding 12 months per 1. and 2. above, and have participated in the life of the congregation according to 1. and 2. above at least 30 days prior to a meeting of the congregation.

If you do not see your name on the list and think this may be an error, please call the church office at 927-3420.



OCTOBER 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 October Radio & Flower Sponsors!

KMCH Radio Ministry Sponsors

Oct. 4... Brian and Jenny Pettlon & Family

Oct. 11... Ron & Tirzah Wedewer

Oct. 18... Brenda Saunders in memory of Craig Saunders

Oct. 25... Im Memory of Charlotte Leslein

Altar Flower Sponsors

Oct. 4...TBD

Oct. 11...Karen Hartman to the Glory of God and the Eastern Iowa Honor Flight

Oct. 18...TBD

Oct. 25...Bob & Lola Galiher in memory of their parents

Coffee Fellowship

Thank you to all who have signed up for Fellowship Hour after our 9AM services!

We are looking for additional people to help serve and/or provide food for weekly coffee fellowship.

If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Glew, Social Ministry



Mission of the Month (MOTM)

October's Mission of the Month for our noisy can offering is Operation Christmas Child. Read more about this mission on page 5.

We will be collecting for Operation Christmas Child on October 11th and 14th.



Our Iowa Mission District

Stronger Together: Living as One Body in Christ

In every generation, the Church faces moments when God gently reminds us that we were never meant to do ministry alone. Paul tells us plainly in *1 Corinthians 12* that we are **one body in Christ**, and that “if one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.” This is not just a beautiful metaphor—it is a practical, Spiritfilled, Church reality.



Across our Mission District (MD), we have faithful congregations, dedicated pastors, committed lay leaders, and facilities that have served generations of believers. We also have challenges: limited resources, aging buildings, pastoral vacancies, financial strain, and communities changing faster than any one congregation can respond to on its own. But none of these challenges are meant to be carried in isolation.

Scripture calls us to **bear one another's burdens**, not out of obligation, but out of love—because God has already given us gifts to do so. When one congregation struggles, the whole body feels it. When one congregation flourishes, the whole body is strengthened. The Holy Spirit binds us together so that we can share not only prayers and encouragement, but also **pastors, facilities, finances, and ministry opportunities**.

Why Shared Ministry Matters

Sharing resources is not a sign of weakness. It is a sign of wisdom, stewardship, and trust in the God who provides.

- **Shared pastoral leadership** allows congregations to receive consistent Word and Sacrament ministry even in seasons of transition. (At the MD Convocation I heard of congregations working together to share pastors (at least temporarily) while call processes continue.)
- **Shared facilities** open doors for joint worship, youth gatherings, Bible studies, and community outreach. (The facility at Nazareth Lutheran in Cedar Falls was a huge blessing for our MD Convocation at the end of August.)
- **Shared financial resources** help stabilize ministries, support mission work, and ensure that no congregation is left behind. (As a MD we do a great job supporting Disaster Relief and our annual Youth Mission Trip. At the August convocation we committed to a fund that will help provide an internship site in our MD.)
- **Shared vision** strengthens our witness to the Gospel in a world that desperately needs it. (Our Mission District continues to see growth in various ways and our NALC Vision guides us as we seek to be Christ-Centered, Mission-Driven, Traditionally-Grounded and Congregationally-Focused.)

As we work together, we become more than individual congregations—we become a **Mission District with a unified heartbeat**, beating in rhythm with Christ's love for His people.

The early Church grew not because each community operated independently, but because believers shared everything—prayers, meals, resources, and lives. We are heirs of that same Spiritdriven generosity. We should never think “What can our congregation do alone?” but “What can we do together for the sake of Christ's mission?”

Let us continue to move forward as one body, trusting that God will multiply our efforts, strengthen our relationships, and use our shared ministry to proclaim Christ with clarity and joy.

Soli Deo Glori!!

Caring for our College and Military Members

Letters and gift cards will be sent out in October to our college students and members of the military. Please send us addresses of those people you would like a gift card sent to! Any new students, updated locations, or even just confirming an existing address would be helpful! If anyone would like to contribute to this fund, just note that on your offering or turn it into the church office.

We would like to have this information by October 18.

Please send addresses to Jen Cassutt at jencassutt@gmail.com or by texting at 563-920-4173. You could also contact the church office.



Music Notes:

October Choir Schedule:

Oct. 11	Rehearsal at 10:15 AM
Oct. 18	Warm-up at 8:20 AM Sing at 9 AM Service Rehearsal at 10:15



Dishes:

Are you missing some dishes? There are multiple dishes that would like to return to their owner. There are pie pans, bowls, baking sheet pan. Please check the counter in the kitchen to see if you have any of your dishes are there.

Church Ladies' Lunch

The monthly Church Ladies Lunch will be on October 6th at 11:30 at Mixteca.

Please RSVP to Diane Childs at 563-608-1137.

2026 Contributions Deadlines

We know it is early to start thinking about end-of-year finances, but this is to let you know the final day for accepting offerings for 2026 will be Monday, December 28.

Those of you who mail in your offering or deliver your offering personally to the church office, please be sure to take into consideration this deadline if you want your offering listed on your church statement for 2026.

Operation Christmas Child

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.” Matthew 28:19

It is once again time to turn our thoughts and prayers to children around the world by participating in Operation Christmas Child. As we begin this yearly journey, let us start with **prayer** asking that our gifts may send the message “That It’s All About JESUS!” around the world.



As in previous years, there are four ways to contribute to OCC.

1. Take a box, a boy or girl gift suggestion sheet, a label, and a rubber band. Go shopping and fill the box until, when it is shaken, no more rattling is heard.
 - **Some have shared that taking a child or grandchild shopping with you to pick out the items is a wonderful experience for all!**
 - **Some have taken the OCC shoebox with them shopping! This helps with choosing items that will fit plus other shoppers may ask about the box!**
2. Take a boy or girl suggestion sheet, go shopping for items on the list and return those gifts to one of the boxes under the table. We will do the packing!
3. Give money – Funds may be designated for purchasing items for shoeboxes OR payment for processing and sending the boxes (\$10 per box). **Please make the check payable to Samaritan's Purse.**
4. A fourth way to give is sharing your time and talents. See Mary Maurer for examples and instructions of how to sew pillowcases/dresses and fishing kits.

****We need any extra shoeboxes you may have!**

****Please UNWRAP all items (except batteries). More items can fit in the shoeboxes plus they have no place to discard the packaging.**

Thanks for helping spread God's Word! The deadline is the middle of November. Together we can make a difference in the world!

Shoebox Gift Suggestions:

- Playing cards
- Small backpack or purse
- Stuffed animal
- All types of scissors
- Water bottle
- Toothbrush
- Flip-flops or shoes
- Hat
- Wristwatch
- Costume jewelry
- Hair accessories
- Playdough (store bought)
- Puzzles
- Jump rope
- Toothbrush
- Comb
- Flashlight

Items that are NOT acceptable:

- Soap
- Food, candy, or gum
- Toothpaste
- Used or damaged items
- Scary or war-related items
- Wearable traditional camouflage
- Seeds or organic matter
- Liquids
- Medication
- Money
- Breakable items
- Matches, fire starters, or aerosols
- Knives, saws, or razor blades

First Lutheran Church Council Minutes (*unapproved*)–September 14, 2026

The regular meeting of the First Lutheran Church was called to order at 6:02pm by President Millie Kehrli. Meeting was held in the Church Friendship Room.

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

Opening devotions were given by Pastor Cooper.

Approval of August Council Minutes: Motion by Dave, seconded by Cathy to approve the August 10th minutes; motion carried.

Approval of June, July and August Treasurer's Report: Church Council examined the Treasurer's Reports. Dave is working on setting up a financial review committee and budget committee. Motion by Duane, seconded by Billie to table the acceptance of the Treasurer's report for June, July and August.

Total Income YTD (August 2026)	\$206,970.80	Total Income previous YTD	\$199,419.64
Total Income YTD budgeted	\$286,137.50	Total Income YTD vs budget	\$(79,166.70)
Total Expenses YTD (August 2026)	\$261,242.94	Total Expenses Previous YTD	\$184,099.86
Total Expenses YTD Budgeted	\$290,880.92	Total Expenses YTD vs budget	\$(29,637.98)
Operating YTD Loss/Profit	(\$54,272.14)	Operating Previous YTD Profit	\$45,104.54

Treasurer's Report – David Johnson:

June:

- **Income** for the month of June was \$18,184.26, which is \$7,828.24 under budget.
- **Income YTD** was \$175,341.26, which is \$58,771.24 under budget.
- **Expenses** for the month of June were \$19,705.15 which is \$6,738.57 under budget.
- **Expenses YTD** were \$215,591.98 which is \$18,401.50 under budget.
- **Net Operating Income** for the month of June is (\$1,520.89) and YTD (\$44,250.72).

July:

- **Income** for the month of July was \$13,735.19, which is \$12,277.31 under budget.
- **Income YTD** was \$189,076.45, which is \$71,048.55 under budget.
- **Expenses** for the month of July were \$20,079.35 which is \$6,364.38 under budget.
- **Expenses YTD** were \$239,671.32 which is \$24,765.88 under budget.
- **Net Operating Income** for the month of July is (\$6,344.15) and YTD (\$50,594.87)

August:

- **Income** for the month of August was \$17,894.35, which is \$8,118.15 under budget.
- **Income YTD** was \$206,970.80, which is \$79,166.70 under budget.
- **Expenses** for the month of August were \$21,571.62 which is \$4,872.10 under budget.
- **Expenses YTD** were \$261,242.94 which is \$29,637.98 under budget.
- **Net Operating Income** for the month of August is (\$3,677.27) and YTD (\$54,272.14)

President – Millie Kehrli:

- Discussed how names are listed on prayer list. They should be listed however they are submitted.
- Will schedule a meeting with nominations committee asap.

President – Elect – Vance Knutson: No report**Christian Education – Lucas Thomas:** No report**Evangelism –Leah Beaman:** No report**Lay Ministry – Billie Zumbach:**

- Pastor Jason Services: Sunday September 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th @ 9AM
Wednesday, September 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th @ 6PM
- Sound System done
- September Liturgy-Now the Feast
- Mission District Convocation-August 29th @ Nazareth in Cedar Falls-Pastor shortage
- Mission For Christ-Saturday Services
- Does the nursery have sound to it?
- October 11th -13th Candidacy Committee meets. 17 participants
- Men's Group Theme-Why do we do, what we do

Properties – Duane Nieman:

- Cost for moving the sound booth-\$4,774 plus over 100 volunteer hours.
- Keypad system for office door has been ordered and waiting for parts to come in so installation can begin.
- Contacted Manchester signs regarding entrance and exit signs for parking lot.
- Don & Walt will be checking several items-faucet out front, valves in downstairs bathroom sink, faucet by friendship room and filter in kitchen.
- Questioning if water softener is working-will have Hauser's look at it.

Social Ministry – Cathy Glew:

- September 7 provided 2 cakes and volunteers for the Good Neighbor Home September birthday party.
- Last month 5 freezer meals/7 servings were provided. Freezer meals are available for those in need.
- Weekly Coffee Fellowship following Sunday worship service continues. Grateful to volunteers, need additional volunteers.
- Continued monthly visits by four volunteers visiting with 14 homebound, residents of the Meadows and the Good Neighbor Home. If anyone knows of someone who would like a visit, please contact Cathy.
- Continued need for food for the food box. Thank you to people who have contributed.

Stewardship – Donna Millenkamp: MOTM update:

- We raised \$54.50 for the Good Neighbor Home in August.
- We will be collecting for Lutheran World Relief on Sept. 13th and 16th.
- We will be collecting for Operation Christmas Child on October 11th and 14th.

Secretary of the Council –Brenda Palas: No report

Pastor Jason Cooper:

- Attended Mission District Convocation-August 29th @ Nazareth in Cedar Falls
- We need worship leaders
- All are welcome to attend the Wednesday night's Men's Bible Study

Old Business:

- Recommendations for disbursements of endowment funds
- Recommendations for disbursement of fair food stand profits
- Both items were discussed. Billie and Millie will report back to each with our list of recommended receipts.

New Business:

- October Council Meeting Date-moved meeting to October 19th
- Annual Meeting Date-Sunday, November 1st
- Church Checking Procedures -Discussed need for new procedures for groups that hold checkbooks.

Next meeting will be held on October 19, 2026 @ 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Palas

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	\$16,284.63
May	\$25,993.18	\$18,624.85	\$13,893.45	\$12,975.65
June	\$22,744.81	\$13,614.20	\$15,796.30	\$17,420.88
July	\$28,784.78	\$15,272.71	\$13,557.29	\$12,760.66
August	\$22,196.56	\$15,206.24	\$13,397.73	\$17,251.06
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	\$132,766.42

SCRIP ORDER FORM

BUSINESS	%	DENOMINATIONS	BUSINESS	%	DENOMINATIONS
Amazon	2%	10____ 25____ 100____	Kohls	4%	25____ 100____
American Eagle	10%	25____	Kwik Trip (grocery only)	10%	25____
Applebee's	8%	25____	Kwik Trip	4%	25____ 50____ 100____
Arby's	8%	10____	Lowe's	4%	25____
Aunt Emmy's (L)	4%	10____ 25____ 50____	Maurices	8%	20____
Barnes & Noble	8%	5____ 10____ 25____	Menards	3%	25____ 100____ <*>_
Bath & Body	12%	10____ 25____	Michaels	8%	25____
Best Buy	4%	25____	Old Navy (see Gap)	14%	25____
Boubin Tires (L)	5%	See Brenda	Olive Garden (see Darden)	8%	25____ 100____
BP Gas	2%	50____ 100____	Palmer Hdwe. (L)	5%	See Brenda
Buckle	8%	25____	JCPenney	7%	25____ <*>_
Buffalo Wild Wings	8%	25____	Pizza Ranch	8%	25____
Burger King	7%	10____	Posy Place (L)	5%	See Brenda
Bushel & A Peck (L)	3%	10____	Red Lobster	8%	10____
Cabela's	9%	25____	Red Robin	9%	25____
Casey's	3%	25____ 50____ 100____	Staples	5%	25____
Castle Theatre (L)	20%	5____	Starbucks	5%	10____ 25____
Cenex	3%	25____	Subway	6%	10____
Chili's	10%	25____	Sunset (L)	10%	10____ 20____
Chuong Garden (L)	10%	10____ 25____	Target	3%	10____ 25____ 100____
Culvers	5%	10____	Texas Roadhouse	8%	25____ 100____ <*>_
Dairy Queen (L)	7%	5____ 10____	TJ Maxx	6%	25____
Darden/Olive Garden/Cheddars	8%	10____ 25____	Ulta Salons	7%	25____
Dick's Sporting Goods	8%	25____ 100____	Visa pre-paid (CC)	1%	50____ <*>_ 100____
Dolce Vita (L)	15%	25____	Walmart	3%	10____ 25____ 100____
Dollar Fresh	3%	25____ 100____			
Exxon/Mobile	2%	50____ <*>_			
Fareway	3%	25____ 100____			
Gap/Old Navy	14%	25____			
Gift Holder	10%	2____			
Hardees	5%	10____			
Home Depot	4%	25____			
Honey Creek Furn.	3%	See Brenda			

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

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

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

First Lutheran has participated in the SCRIP program since 2001. Proceeds of the profits have primarily been donated to support the youth groups at First Lutheran and the Feast at First mission. Through our 25+ years, SCRIP has donated over \$75,000 to mission causes. Thank you for your continued support.



OCTOBER 2026

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Fellowship Sunday School	5	6 9:00 a.m. Quilting 11:30 a.m. Church Ladies Lunch	7 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. GIG Men's Bible Study Confirmation	8	9	10
11 9:00 a.m. Worship <i>MOTM-Noisy Can Offering</i> 10:15 a.m. Fellowship Sunday School Choir Rehearsal	12	13 9:00 a.m. Quilting	14 6:00 p.m. Worship <i>MOTM-Noisy Can Offering</i> 7:00 p.m. GIG Men's Bible Study Confirmation	15	16	17
18 8:20 a.m. Choir Warm-up 9:00 a.m. Worship Choir Sings 10:15 a.m. Fellowship Sunday School Choir Rehearsal 3:00 p.m. NALC Donor Event Friendship Room <i>College/Military Care Package Info due</i>	19 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting	20 9:00 a.m. Quilting	21 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. GIG Men's Bible Study Confirmation	22	23 November Lamplighter Deadline	24
25 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Fellowship Sunday School	26	27 9:00 a.m. Quilting	28 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. GIG Men's Bible Study Confirmation	29	30	31