



## First Lutheran Church Weekly Announcements

www.firstlutheranblair.org  
December 22 & 23, 2018

Welcome to First Lutheran Church. Please sign the registration pad found in your row.

If you are in need of pastoral care or have questions about First Lutheran Church, please contact the church office at 426-4073 or visit [www.firstlutheranblair.org](http://www.firstlutheranblair.org).

**Worship Times for December 29 & 30:** We will be having a worship on Saturday, December 29th at 6pm and we will be having only **ONE** Worship Service at 9am on Sunday, December 30th. Please Join Us!

**The church office will be closing at 12 Noon on Monday, December 24th and closed on Tuesday, December 25th for Christmas Day. The church office will also be closing at 12 Noon on Monday, December 31st and closed on Tuesday, January 1st for New Year's. Happy Holidays! Thank you!**

**Tuesday Evenings with Pastor Scott:** Join Pastor Scott for a Bible study each Tuesday from 7-8:15pm. The study will meet in the Chapel. **No Class on December 25th and January 1st, 2019.**

**Please help us welcome Amy Wemhoff, our new Ministry Support person at FLC.** Amy will focus mostly on our 3 yr old thru 5th grade program. Amy and her husband, Nick, live in Ft Calhoun and have 2 children, Wyatt and Gwen. They have been members of FLC for several years. We are excited to have Amy's passion for children and her desire to grow our children's program in many ways! Please welcome her when you see her with our kiddos!

**Note from Pastor Scott: I have received with regret the resignation of Wendy Grasz from the position of Parish Administrator of our congregation.** She has served the congregation for 14 years, and in the 5 years I have known her she has performed her work in creative and efficient ways, and more importantly she always sought to see God in the work she does. Her presence will be missed by many. Her last date of employment will be Friday, December 28, 2018, and she has agreed to work with the congregation in any way needed to make the transition. The staff will celebrate her time with us in a luncheon next week, and I hope the council can find a way to thank her for her work over the past 14 years with First Lutheran.

**2019 Offering Envelope boxes** are available to be picked up in the Narthex.



### WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

✠ Family of Dale Gentzler  
✠ Carol Haussermann – surgery & healing  
✠ Ronald Stork – healing  
✠ Larry Henson  
✠ Ruth McKay  
✠ Jeanette Moeller – strength & healing  
✠ Larry Kastrop – healing  
✠ Leo Aguilar-Hicks – healing for Leukemia  
✠ Shirley Wrich – healing  
✠ Gerald Gustafson  
✠ Patrick McKinnis - healing  
✠ Georgia - 5 year old with NF1 that has caused blindness  
✠ John Wolsmann  
✠ Pat Bentsen—Missionary  
✠ Lekura Parish  
✠ Habitat for Humanity  
*and all those we name in our hearts.*

**Please read and Help if and where you can:** We are in need of more volunteers for the Funeral luncheon ministry here at FLC. We may not be able to offer this ministry much longer if we do not get more volunteers for this task. Currently we have 7 ladies who are possibly available for this job plus a few other we can call if desperate. At least 5 of us are 70+ and can not or should not be working on our feet for 4 – 6 hours. This is also a task the can be shared, first half and last half. If you have a flexible work schedule or are retired please consider volunteering to help. Please indicate on the green sheets if you can help or call Emily Rasmussen (402-426-4869) or Tammy Fryman (402-426-5773).

**The LIFE Night Women’s Bible study has begun a special advent study on Wednesdays titled “Because of Bethlehem” by Max Lucado.** In this four session video with study guide Bible study, Max explores how the One who made everything chose to make himself nothing for us. Please join us in the Library from 6:50 to 7:45 as we usher in the beginning of the Christmas season and remember the remarkable Gift that came in an unremarkable package more than 2,000 years ago. (For additional information call Susan Pinguoch at (402) 426-8182 or e-mail spinguoch@gpcom.net)

**Mid Week Meal @ FLC:** All in the Blair community are invited to our **Mid Week Meal on Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30pm.** Come for food & fellowship; Leave with full hearts! Free will donation. Contact Martha Sorensen for more details. **PLEASE NOTE: We WILL serve a meal on Dec. 26th AND Jan. 2nd!!**

**End-of-the-Year Contributions:** In order for you to claim a deduction for contributions made to First Lutheran Church during 2018, the church office must receive your contribution by December 31, 2018. All contributions placed in the offering plates on any of the Christmas services or on Sunday, December 30 will be recorded as 2018 contributions. If you are hand-delivering checks, please have them to the church office by Noon on December 31. All checks must be dated in 2018 and if mailed, must be postmarked no later than December 31. First Lutheran Church will be following these tax rules when posting receipts.

The new **Christ in Our Home** devotionals for January-March are available for you to pick up from the usher’s tables outside of the worship areas.

**There will be no printed Announcements for next weekend, December 29th and 30th.**

**Holiday Care Notes:** The Holidays can sometimes bring feelings of stress, sadness, loneliness, and depression. We want you to know that you are NOT alone. If you, or someone you know needs encouragement during this holiday season, please feel free to help yourself to the CareNotes located outside of the LIFE center.

### **Social Concerns...**

**There is still time to select an ALTERNATIVE GIFT** for that person who has everything! Check the **Alternative Gift Table** in the narthex where you will find a wide array of **alternative gifts** (over 50) featured in the **“ELCA Good Gifts”** catalogs or the **SERRV** catalogs for and do some good for others in the process! We are especially lifting up: 1)

**Lutheran Disaster Response** (note the terrible recent fires in California); 2) **God's Global Barnyard** from which you can purchase a number of different **farm animals for third world families**; and 3) our local Washington County Ministerial Association's **Good Samaritan Fund**, which provides aid for local residents who are struggling to make ends meet, or transients who may find themselves in a crisis situation. Prepared gift cards for these and other gifts of your choice (plus information on how you can pay for your choices located behind the cards), **Advent calendars**, and "**God's Global Barnyard**" Christmas **ornaments** (complete with gift information on the back) are also available there. Feel free to take an **ELCA Good Gifts** catalog and/or a **SERRV** catalog home with you to do your shopping. Happy alternative gift shopping!

**Please note the OUTERWEAR GATHERING BOX in the narthex** for collecting suitable winter outerwear of all types (new or lightly used) for small children to size XL. Local people in need and those served by **Lutheran Family Services** will be the recipients of your generosity for the cold winter days ahead. We will continue gathering clothing items until January 1. Thank you!

**Washington County Food Pantry** is very much in need of peanut butter, jam, hamburger helper, and toilet tissue. If you can donate these items it would be much appreciated!

### **FLC Youth...**

**678**

Confirmation will resume on Wednesday, January 9th

### **NINERS**

Niners will resume on Wednesday, January 9th



### **9 to 12**

Youth Group will resume on Sunday, January 6th

**Merry Christmas!! Much love to all - have a good break from school, and if boredom starts in over break, text me, and we'll catch a movie or something!! Love, Erika**

**The FLC Nursery:  
The FLC Nursery is not staffed, but it is open for  
use on Wednesday Evenings and Sunday  
Mornings.**



# Advent & Christmas Calender of Events



**Saturday, December 22 6pm Worship**

**Sunday, December 23 Fourth Sunday in Advent - (worship at 8:15 & 10:15)  
No Sunday School**

**Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve Worship Services with Holy  
Communion  
4pm in LIFE Center & Sanctuary  
6pm in Sanctuary  
and 10pm in Sanctuary**

**Tuesday, December 25 10am Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion**

**Wednesday, December 26 No LIFE Night Worship or Classes**

**Saturday, December 29 6pm Worship**

**Sunday, December 30 9am One Worship Service**

## Worship Assistants for December 22 & 23

**Greeters:** 6pm Rod & Pat Hansen  
8:15am & 10:15am Hospitality Teams

**Lectors:** 6pm Phil Larsen  
8:15am Joe Fryman  
10:15am Jane Heinrich

### **Communion**

**Assistants:** 10:15am Hospitality Team

**Sacristy:** 10:15am Martha Sorensen

**Coffee Hosts:** Molly Stirek

**TV Ministry:** In memory of Elda Misfeldt

**Flowers:** Poinsettias

## **Scripture Readings for this week**

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:39-45

## This week at First Lutheran

<b>Sun. Dec. 23</b>	<b>No Sunday School</b> 8:15am & 10:15am Worship 9:30am Adult Bible Study 9:30am Adult Choir Rehearsal
<b>Mon. Dec. 24</b>	7am Men's Bible Study <b>Christmas Eve Worship Services at 4pm, 6pm, &amp; 10pm</b>
<b>Tue. Dec. 25</b>	<b>Merry Christmas!</b> <b>10am Christmas Day Worship</b>
<b>Wed. Dec. 26</b>	11am Office Hours Web Series 5:30pm Meal <b>No LIFE Night Worship or Classes</b>
<b>Thu. Dec. 27</b>	6:30pm Men's Workshop
<b>Fri. Dec. 28</b>	9:30am Women's Bible Study
<b>Sat. Dec. 29</b>	6pm Worship
<b>Sun. Dec. 30</b>	<b>No Sunday School</b> 9am One Worship 9:30am Adult Bible Study



**Hearing Assistance Devices for all services are available  
from the Welcome Center.**