

FIRST FORUM Newsletter

226 North Putnam St.
PO Box 516
Algona, IA 50511-0516

NOVEMBER 2011

What kind of music do you like? An older generation probably prefers the likes of Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin. Then there is Elvis and the Beatles. My generation grew up with classic rock, hard rock and soft rock. My daughters' generation is known for appreciating all sorts of different styles of music. The same young person can like country, hip hop, grunge, alternative and Indi. These are generational categories then there are also geographical, denominational and the choices of family and friends that influence our own unique personal preferences.

Which leads us to our worship music preferences we each have. Sometimes there is no rhyme or reason to preferences, a young person might love *"Amazing Grace"* or *"A Mighty Fortress"*, while an older person may appreciate *"Shout to the Lord"* or the more contemporary version of *"Amazing Grace"*. Yet, just as our preferences in secular music are influenced by a number of factors, the same is true for worship music.

If you grew up in the south your old favorites might come from the traditional Revival Camp Meetings, *"Just As I Am"* or *"Precious Lord"*, for example. On the other hand, if you grew up in a strong German

Lutheran Church your old favorites will probably be *"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"* or *"Joyful, Joyful"*.

There is a popular style of worship with chanted music called, Tazie. It comes from a French community with that name. Thousands of people travel to this community to experience it firsthand. As well, many young people are being drawn to worship music that is highly liturgical.

If you have been listening to contemporary Christian music you will appreciate Chris Tomlin or Michael W. Smith's songs. Contemporary Lutheran music will have writers such as John Ylvisker, Handt Hanson and Jay Beech. Contemporary Catholic music will be by John Michael Talbot and Rich Mullins. There is even a genre you could call Contemporary Missouri Synod Lutheran music.

The thing about worship music is that it has more than one purpose in worship. It is to both give God praise but also to touch our own hearts, minds and soul. Both are important purposes, but the former is more important than the later.

All worship music is expected to give praise to God. Just like I shared a couple months ago, the primary purpose of worship is by definition to give God honor and glory. Therefore the primary purpose of music within worship is to give God honor and

glory. That is not to say all music must be a praise style but that its ultimate goal is to create praise.

As we all know music has a unique way to touch our hearts, mind and soul, which then makes sense that we use it often in worship. In Deuteronomy it says we are to *"love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength"*. Music assists worshippers with that call or command.

The down side is that what is meaningful to one person may be abhorred by another, making it more painful than praiseful. And I imagine we each have some of both sides of the spectrum and many in between.

The important thing is to be respectful of others' preferences and know that others are respectful of yours. God has blessed us with a diverse congregation and it is good to appreciate that diversity, in our worship and in all the ways we serve God here at First Lutheran.

Pastor Marsha Smith



Community
Thanksgiving
Worship



The First Baptist Church will host this year's ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday,

November 23 at 7:00 p.m. The Algona Area Clergy Association sponsors this service.

**UPCOMING CONTEMPORARY
WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**November 12
November 26**

PROPOSED BYLAW

Below is the proposed bylaw to be voted on at the January annual meeting:

BE IT RESOLVED by the congregation of First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iowa, that the following Bylaw be added to the Constitution of First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Algona, Iowa:

Membership: E.1.

Removal from the roll due to inactivity demonstrated by having not completed both of the following for a period of two years:

- a. participated in Holy Communion
- b. made a contribution of record to this congregation's treasury

Said member shall be given written notice that their membership is about to terminate and the reasons for said termination of membership shall be clearly stated.

Membership may be maintained if a response is received from the member within the 30 day timeframe indicating a desire to remain active, however, both of the above acts must be completed for membership to remain active.

If at any time, after due and diligent search, a correct address is unable to be located for any existing member, the member will be automatically removed from the roll.



KICK

Kids in Christ's Kingdom
Grades 1-5

Early Out Fun Days

- **November 2:** 1:45-5:00 p.m.
- **November 11:** 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 - We'll bake cookies, play games, watch a movie and do some special activities to remember Veteran's Day.
- **November 16:** 1:45-5:00 p.m.

RECHARGE ~ FALL 2011
CENTERPOINT! (Hebrews 12:2)

Where: Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp

When:

- November 4-6 for Grades 6-9
- November 18-20 for Grades 9-12

Leave Church: 6:30 p.m. on Friday night

Return: 2:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon

Cost: \$39.00

Come for a weekend filled with games, music, skits, free time, chapel, fun, and a few surprises. The theme is "Centerpoint!" - Hebrews 12:2

Please contact Colleen Teeuwe at 281.207.4202 or youth@netamumail.com for more information or for a scholarship.



Grades 6-8

October Meetings for Campaigners

- **November 2:** 7-8:00 p.m.
Chaperones & Snacks: Teeuwe
- **November 9:** 7-8:00 p.m.
Chaperones & Snacks: R & B Meyer
- **November 16:** 7-8:00 p.m.
Chaperones & Snacks: Voss family
- **November 23:** NO Campaigners or Confirmation classes this night.
- **November 30:** 7-8:30 p.m.
Chaperones & Snacks: J & R Davis family



Lock-in

Where: First Lutheran

When: Thursday, November 10
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 a.m.

Bring: \$5 & friends

What: Bowling & Games

RSVP: By Wednesday, November 9, to Colleen at 281.701.4202 or youth@netamumail.com

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be NO Sunday School on November 27 due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Wisconsin Junior High Mission Trip

The date for the Junior High trip is July 25 thru July 31. We'll experience Wisconsin in a whole new way as we experience God's love in action as we serve alongside and learn from our WI neighbors.

Service opportunities may include things such as: planting a garden, painting, serving a meal, or packaging food. In addition to serving, we'll have a blast bonding and deepening your faith journey in daily devotions and worship. Along with time spent in service in the Racine, WI area, another highlight will be a day trip custom designed for our group exploring the big city of Chicago or Milwaukee.

Registration form for the trip along with a \$25 deposit is due by **December 1**. Friends are welcome to attend. Scholarships will be available please contact Colleen Teeuwe at 281.207.4202 or youth@netamumail.com. Forms for registration will be online and in my office.

IN BETWEEN SERVICE TREATS

Assignments to date are as follows:

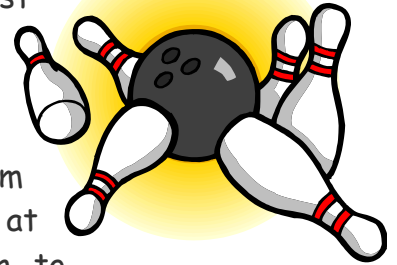
- November 6: Meyer family
- November 13: Benschoter family
- November 20: Teeuwe
- November 27: Klepper family

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Wanted: Individual or group of people who would like to have the privilege of directing or co-directing the children's Christmas program. Please contact Colleen or Jean Davis if you feel God calling you to this very rewarding opportunity!

FAMILY BOWLING

All are invited an evening of fellowship and fun at Sundance Lanes in Humboldt from 5-7:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 13. Cost is \$6 for two games and shoes. For dinner we'll order pizza from Pasquales. Meet at church at 4:30 p.m. to carpool. For any questions or to RSVP contact Colleen at 281.701.4202 or youth@netamumail.com.



LIVE GREETING CARD WINDOWS

This year we will be participating in this year's festivities doing a gingerbread craft.

The date is Monday, November 21, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. We invite all members of FLC to come and participate in this annual tradition in Algona. Contact Colleen at 281.701.4202 or youth@netamumail.com if you are interested in participating or would like more information.



CHRISTMAS DECORATING & CHILI

It's not too early to start thinking about Christmas! Mark your calendars for the beginning of December we'll have a chili supper, movie and decorate the church for the season. This is a family event for young and old. More details to follow in bulletins and December newsletter.



BASIC

Brothers & Sisters in Christ Grades 9-12

November Meetings for BASIC

- November 9: 7-8:00 p.m.
 - Snacks: Klepper family
- November 30: 7-8:00 p.m.
 - Snacks: Urban/Sadler family

Lock-in

Where: FLC/Ames

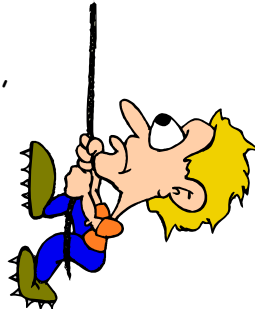
When: Saturday, November 12
4:00 p.m.-6:00 a.m.

What: Rock Wall Climbing,
Bowling, Pizza, & Hoonting

Cost: \$15

RSVP: By Wednesday,
November 9, to Colleen at
281.701.4202 or

youth@netamumail.com



Denver Urban Ministries Sr. High Mission Trip

We're heading to the Mile High City of Denver, CO on June 2 through June 9 for service through the Urban Education program with dates to still be decided. Opportunities to volunteer include: working with the homeless, low-income families, children, people with disabilities through

VBS, food and clothing banks. We'll also learn about the causes of poverty and homelessness thru experiential learning.

Cost for the trip is \$100 per youth includes transportation, gas, food and lodging in Denver, four days of service (lodging, food, preparation materials, ministry supplies, and staff) and two free days to raft, zipline, and other mountain adventures.

Registration form for the trip along with a \$25 deposit is due by **December 1**. Invite a friend or two!!! Scholarships will be available. Please contact Colleen Teeuwe at 281.207.4202 or youth@netamumail.com.



CROP WALK RECAP

Congratulations to all who participated in the 2011 Crop Walk. We had four members raise funds from First Lutheran and 78 total walkers. The amount raised to date for 2011 is nearly \$3,731.25 with monies still being received. First Lutheran raised \$1,343.25. The amounts raised by each walker are:



Linnea Holmer	\$768.00
Sandy Schenck	\$358.00
Steve Hertzke	\$107.25
Mark Hertzke	\$110.00

And, congratulations to Linnea Holmer, top fundraiser in Algona!



WE NEED YOU!

We are looking for individuals who may feel called to a leadership position at First Lutheran. We have four Council positions open for the 2012 year. We also need individuals passionate about outreach and evangelism ministry. In addition, any of the committees will welcome people interested in sharing their gifts, time and talents.

If you are interested in being considered, you may:

- let the office know your name
- talk to Pastor Marsha
- talk to someone on the Nominating Committee : Kathy Nelson, Dave Jenson, Kay Kinseth, Jim Hefti, Bill Lenz, and Keith Dwire.
- talk to someone presently on the Council: Mark Meyer, Kevin Benschoter, Donna Meyerink, Jean Davis, Brian Meyerink, Nathan Countryman, Tony Wiita, April Braun and Al Buyck.

I encourage you to prayerfully consider sharing your heart and hands in the ministries God has called us to at First Lutheran.

Pastor Marsha and the
Nominating Committee



ADULT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS!

Sunday morning Adult Bible Study will be starting on November 13. I have decided to start off the year with studying the Gospel of Mark. If happen to notice, I usually preach from a particular Gospel for a year. The year begins with Advent and follows along until Thanksgiving. This year the assigned preaching Gospel will be Mark. I thought it might be interesting to study more in depth the scriptures you will be hearing during the preaching time.

I hope you will join me from 9:10 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. in



the Chapel. Bring your Bible, grab a cup of coffee and a snack and learn more about Jesus' ministry from Mark's perspective.

A PRAYER FOR THANKSGIVING

Merciful and generous Lord, you open your loving hands and bless us abundantly every day of our lives. Even when we go through dark times — suffering, sorrow, pain, desperation — you assure us that your loving, everlasting arms will not let us go. How generous are all your benefits, how supportive, how comforting to experience.

Today we join with "the great cloud of witnesses" who once praised you on Earth and now glorify you in heaven, offering our deepest gratitude for all the gifts you so generously give.

Accept then our thanksgiving for your love, your grace and all the blessings you bestow on us daily. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

CHURCH OF THE DAMASCUS ROAD
ANNUAL MEETING

The Church of the Damascus Road (CoDR) Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, November 13 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Rockwell City. Registration and coffee will begin at 2:00 p.m. A Reentry Aftercare forum (a gathering of Reentry Aftercare Teams and anyone else interested in hearing about this ministry) will be held at 2:30 p.m. Registration for the Annual Meeting begins at 4:30 p.m. with the meal at 4:45 p.m. The cost for the meal is \$7.50.

All congregation and individual supporters of CoDR as well as any persons interested in the life and mission of CoDR are invited to attend. Please RSVP to Jeanine by November 4 if you would like to attend this meeting. Ray & Marilyn Nielsen plan on attending and will welcome two additional members to travel to Rockwell City with them.



CHURCH OF THE DAMASCUS ROAD
WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Ray Nielsen has scheduled a visit to the Church of the Damascus Road on Wednesday, November 9. On this visit we have room for 10 individuals. If you would like to attend this service, please check the table in front of Colleen's office for the sign-up sheet. Please sign-up before Friday, October 28.

Norwegian Supper
November 10, 2011

Badger Lutheran Church
Badger, Iowa

Serving 4:30-7:00 p.m.
All you can eat, served family style!

Menu:
Lutefisk, potato lefse, boiled potatoes, meatballs, green beans, cranberries, flotbrod, brown bread, gumme, fruit soup, spritz, rosette, kringla, krumkake

Tickets:
Adults...\$20.00
Children...6 to 12...\$10.00
Children...5 and under...FREE



Recent donations to the Memorial Fund include ~

- **Faye Knudsen** ~ From family & friends...\$55, plus a TV in the Messiah's Matinee SS room, and kitchen items
- **Wayne Warmbier** ~ From family & friends...\$1000 (to be used in decorating Sunday School rooms)
- **Marvin Gunder** ~ From family & friends... \$100
- **Tom Chicone** (Sandy Peterson's brother) ~ From friends...\$50

THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR

November 3: 9:00 a.m. Quilt Work Day. Shirley Habeger is the hostess.

November 8: 9:30 a.m. Rebecca Circle meets at the church. The group will discuss the lesson together.

November 15: 7:30 p.m. Priscilla Circle will meet with Lila Smith serving as hostess and Sandi Markla leading the Bible Study.

November 17: 1:30 p.m. Sarah Circle will meet at the church with Shirley Habeger serving as hostess and Shirley Johnson leading the Bible Study. Plan to stay after the meeting to help display quilts for the Thankoffering.

November 19/20: Women of the ELCA Thankoffering at all three weekend worship services. Please note the change of date!



WORLD HUNGER QUARTERS



10-2	\$7.75
10-9	\$20.25
10-16	\$8.75
10-23	\$12.25
10-30	NA

TOTAL GIVEN IN 2011: \$708.00
TOTAL GIVEN SINCE AUGUST 2001:
\$8,914.75!!!



THANKOFFERING 2012



During the worship services on November 19 and 20, the Women of the ELCA of our congregation will conduct their annual Thankoffering service.

This worship service is a tradition grounded in our celebration of community, meeting together as faithful women joyfully giving thanks and praise for what God has given us.

Thankoffering dollars are used to support the ministry of the national Women of the ELCA to equip women, support them in their callings, and to be a witness to the church, our society, and the world.



Election of officers was held at the September. Those who will serve as our Executive Board in 2012 include:

President: Judy Reinking

Secretary: Marcia Sundet

Treasurer: Sandy Peterson

Mission: Growth:

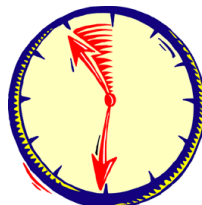
Two positions are open!!

Mission: Action:

Karilyn Claude, Sandy Peterson

Mission: Service:

Betty Holtz, Carol Merrill



**TURN YOUR
CLOCKS
BACK!**

Daylight Savings Time ends
at 2:00 a.m. on
November 6, 2011



Our records show that the following members celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in November. We pray for their health and happiness as we share in their celebration. We appreciate being notified of any errors or omissions.

- 11-1 Nancy Kissner, Jenna Simpson
Alexis Reinking
- 11-2 Steve Weaver
- 11-3 John Lande, Chris Lucas,
Jennifer Forgey, Briana Meyerink
Abby Nelton
- 11-5 Lyn Anderson
- 11-6 Barb Massey, Sydney Seebecker
- 11-7 Janelle Gates, Julie Herbst-Ulmer
Mark Meyer
- 11-8 Sue Brynsaas, Jean Sabin,
Audrey Schuttler, Bill Parker,
Rich Collison
- 11-11 Katie Omdahl
- 11-12 Bill Lenz, Julie Murphy,
Karen Speich, Carrie Snider
- 11-15 Rebecca Esser
- 11-16 Mary Rahe, Derald Goetz,
Mary Haverkamp
- 11-17 Greg Gunderson
- 11-18 Anna Johnson
- 11-19 Abigail Wiita
- 11-20 Brian Klein
- 11-21 Cassidy Weaver
- 11-22 Duane Brincks
- 11-23 Jennifer Erpelding
- 11-24 Al Buyck, Dan Peterson
Fred Johnson
- 11-25 Marcia Beisch, Christian Davis

- 11-26 Paul Lenz, Sandy Christensen
- 11-27 Jean Davis, Curt Schipper
Randy Holmes
- 11-29 Derrick Fenchel
- 11-30 Scott Jenson, Kevin Speich
Blake Ludwig

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...

- 11-7 Harry & Jeanine Haack (24 years)
Mark & Amy Dreyer (13 years)
- 11-8 Brian & Karissa Thacker (8 years)
- 11-13 Matthew & Amber Cooper (1 year)
- 11-18 Robert & Chaunez Tran (11 years)
- 11-23 Tom & Jayne Lipps (27 years)
Mark & Colleen Teeuwe (32 Years)
- 11-26 Dennis & Pam Schuttler (28 years)



Births in the Church Family

Lyla Marie Schipper
Born: October 10, 2011
Parents: Kyle & Jessi Schipper
Grandparents:
Curt & Twyla Schipper



Thank you to all who recently helped or furnished bars for the Western Iowa Synod Women's Organization officer training meeting. Also the people who walked in the CROP walk enjoyed the bars that were served after their walk. Thank you so much for helping when you are asked!



A very special thank you to the women who helped to clean the kitchen recently- Beverly Nordman, Susan Legore, Betty Holtz, Shirley Habeger, Carol Merrill, Sandy Peterson, Linnea Holmer and Marilyn Nielsen. The members of our congregation use the kitchen and Fellowship Hall for many different activities. If you have enjoyed an activity in the Fellowship Hall and have used the kitchen, please check the kitchen and fellowship use guidelines that are posted on the refrigerator. Thank you in advance for helping to keep the kitchen and Fellowship Hall clean and organized.

WELCA Mission Service chairpersons
Betty Holtz and Carol Merrill



Many thanks to John Nordman for the handmade oak shelf that is in now at home in the Messiah's Matinee Sunday School room.



HOLY COMMUNION

November 5 & 6, 2011
November 19 & 20, 2011

Bake Bread
Marlis Beenken

Preparation & Clean-up
Kay Kinseth

Communion Assistants for November

November 5 (5:30 pm): Dan Peterson
November 6 (8:00 am): Don Hansen
November 6 (10:30 am): Nathan Countryman
November 19 (5:30 pm): Joan Wiemann
November 20 (8:00 am): Connie Mechler
November 20 (10:30 am): Chris VanDeventer

Communion Assistants for December

December 3 (5:30 pm): Gen Blumer
December 4 (8:00 am): Mark Meyer
December 4 (10:30 am): Julie Murphy
December 17 (5:30 pm): Kathy Nelson
December 18 (8:00 am): Derald Goetz
December 18 (10:30 am): Brian Meyerink
December 24 (4:00 pm): **Volunteer**
December 24 (7:00 pm): **Volunteer**
December 25 (10:30 am): Susan Legore
December 31 (5:30 pm): Marilyn Nielsen
January 1, 2012: (10:30): Dave VanDeventer

SIXTY PLUS POTLUCK



Sixty Plus

The next potluck for those "Sixty Plus" will be Friday, November 11 at 12:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share with the group as well as your own table service. A program will be given by SHIIP (Senior Health Information Program) Coordinator Diana Moeller. Hosts for November have not been determined.



- Cans of peas
- Cans of beans
- Cans of corn
- Boxes of crackers

Items may be placed in the grocery cart in the south hallway or delivered to the Algona Food Pantry.



A NOTE OF



Thank you to everyone for all your prayers, visits and well wishes during my recent surgeries. A special thank you to those who brought meals and provided "taxi service" for Dayne and myself. We are truly blessed to have such a kind and gracious church family.

Brian & Donna Meyerink & family

CAD EVENT: NOVEMBER 6

You who are "sowers" of God's word, "sowers" of His land, and "sowers" of disciples are invited to embrace and empower those in our companion synod, the Southern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. Plan to attend the Center for Agricultural Development Partnership Event II, November. 6, 2011, 5:00 pm, Clay County Regional Events Center, Spencer, Iowa.

For information and a registration form contact Cindy Wells, WIS Global Programs Coordinator wiscw@wisynod.org, 712-732-4968 Ext. 441.

Asantesana (Thank you very much) and Mungu Awabariki (God Bless you all)!



Alex Habeger, in Iraq
Erik Kloster, in Oklahoma
Paul Lenz, in Washington (state)
Gary Schaffer, in Afghanistan
Brian Thacker, in Germany

Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

Albert Schweitzer

BULLETINS FROM TRAVELING WORSHIPPERS

If you have been traveling and would like to share the bulletin from the church of which you visited, please drop it off in the



church office at your convenience. Every month in the newsletter we will note all our travelers.

September 25, 2011: Chuck & Chloe Sheakley attended the Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

October 9, 2011: Vern & Kathy Nelson attended worship services at the Third Church in Pella, Iowa.

October 9, 2011: John & Bev Nordman attended the Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church in St. John, Indiana.

October 9, 2011: Dennis & Iris Erdmann attended the Peace Lutheran Church in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

October 15, 2011: Bill & Betty Holtz, Robert & Karen Speich, Judy & Christie Reinking and Pastor Mark & Linnea Holmer attended the installation service of former intern Pastor Jerry Wittmus to the Bethany Lutheran Church in Laurens, Iowa.

October 16, 2011: Dana Haverkamp attended the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Independence, Iowa.

EO FUNDRAISER

Exceptional Opportunities is sponsoring a campaign this fall to raise funds to remodel the kitchens of all three ICF homes in Burt. The South Home project has already been approved and work will begin this fall. Please see the letter from Exceptional Opportunities posted on the narthex bulletin board for more information on this fundraiser.



TAPS

This Veterans Day the well-known sound of "Taps" will be played at observances throughout our country. It was composed by Major General Daniel Butterfield, a member of the Army of the Potomac during the Civil War. He is buried in the Post Cemetery at the United States Military Academy at West Point. There are no official words to accompany the music, and many versions can be found. Here is a sampling of a few verses.



Fading light dims the sight,
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright.
From afar drawing nigh - Falls the night.

Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky.
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Then good night, peaceful night,
Till the light of the dawn shineth bright,
God is near, do not fear - Friend, good night.

SATURDAY

SERVERS

GREETERS

Nov. 5 Dan & Sandy Peterson
 Nov. 12 Jerry & Nancy Kissner
 Nov. 19 Dave & Sandi Markla
 Nov. 26 Richard & Judy Schiek

GREETERS

Dec. 3 Jim & Sharol Hefti
 Dec. 10 Julie Collison, Connie Farnham
 Dec. 17 Betty Murphy, Jen Sadler
 Dec. 24 **Christmas Eve**
 Dec. 31 Clark & Pat Conner

ACOLYTES

Nov. 5 **Volunteer Needed**
 Nov. 12 Rachel Meyer
 Nov. 19 Hannah Sadler
 Nov. 26 Levi Penning

ACOLYTES

Dec. 3 Rebekka Voss
 Dec. 10 Alexis Bryant
 Dec. 17 Hannah Sadler
 Dec. 24 **Christmas Eve**
 Dec. 31 Myra Meyer

LECTORS

Nov. 5 Marcia Sundet
 Nov. 12 Betty Holtz
 Nov. 19 Carol Merrill
 Nov. 26 Marcia Sundet

LECTORS

Dec. 3 Reggie Alt
 Dec. 10 Bruce Knudsen
 Dec. 17 Jodie Knoner
 Dec. 24 **Christmas Eve**
 Dec. 31 Dan Peterson

USHERS

Nov. 5 Vern & Kathy Nelson
 Nov. 12 Gerald & Laura Zwiefel
 Nov. 19 Tom & Jayne Lipps
 Nov. 26 **Volunteers Needed**

USHERS

Dec. 3 Brian & Sande Rodemeyer
 Dec. 10 Larry & Gen Blumer
 Dec. 17 Vern & Kathy Nelson
 Dec. 24 **Christmas Eve**
 Dec. 31 Bruce & Kim Knudsen

Please remember that if you can't serve, you are to find your own replacement
 and notify the Church Office so the change may be printed in the bulletin.
 Thank you!

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE NOTES

The Congregation Council met on October 11, 2011 for a Congregation Council meeting. Present: Jean Davis, Mark Meyer, Al Buyck, Tony Wiita, Kevin Benschoter, Nathan Countryman, Jim Hefti, April Braun, Keith Dwire, Bill Lenz, Colleen Teeuwe, and Pastor Marsha Smith. Absent: Donna Meyerink, Brian Meyerink

Old Business

- **Mold Report:** Written report was received and all is good. Pastor will still run it past the extension service experts and see what they have to say. We should have no worries and much thanks to all those who helped clean carpets and moved furniture.
- **Injury Policy:** Tony Wiita will bring an update to the November meeting.
- **Committee Job Descriptions:** Property Committee is working on completing changes to their committee job description.
- **Nominations for Committee Members:** Current committee members are Dave Jenson, Kathy Nelson, Keith Dwire, Jim Hefti, Bill Lenz and Kay Kinseth. An outline of procedures and timeline have been provided by Pastor Marsha.
- **Removal of Inactives:** Bylaw revision was passed with a motion from Jim Hefti and a second by Jean Davis. (Please see elsewhere in the newsletter for the bylaw revision to be voted on at the January annual meeting).
- **Thrivent Funds:** Motion was made by Kevin Benschoter to designate Thrivent Funds to be used by Contemporary Worship to purchase and install equipment.

New Business

- **Correspondence:** Reviewed the letter from Church of the Damascus Road. They are having their annual meeting on November 13 at Rockwell City.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Worship and Music

Seven members present. We will be switching to Setting Two on the First Sunday of Advent (November 27). Holden Evening Prayer will be used for Advent once again. Contemporary Worship purchased a keyboard using savings and donations. May have issues with the current soundboard having enough open channels with all the additions in the last few months. Will monitor. Reviewed worship planning schedule for Pastor's upcoming absences. Discussed sanctuary decorations for Christmas. Sande Rodemeyer will check on committee to decorate.

Property Committee

The Property Committee did not meet.

Christian Education

Four members present. Thanks to Karilyn Claude, Margo Adams and Donna Kitzinger for helping to organize the supply room. We are in the process of renovating Messiah's Matinee. TV has been mounted, John Nordman is making a shelf for the VCR, movie posters are here and we are going to paint and put up blinds. We discussed next year's VBS. We are going to have Youth Encounter help us with programming and will run the program from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., hopefully one week in June. We are seeking a person to direct the Sunday School Christmas program with Colleen.

Youth Ministry

Four members present. Boy Scout initiative was discussed. If Robert Nelton is willing to lead this part of the Boy Scout program, the Youth Committee will support it. Eight youth and three adults are registered to go to the National Youth Gathering this summer. Need one more male chaperone. Oktoberfest is coming up on October 30. Want to plan a family bowling opportunity in November. A multi-generational decorating for Christmas was discussed.

Stewardship/Finance

Six members were present. Stewardship was the main discussion. Pastor has created a flyer and a plan for implementation. The process will start on October 16 with a clipboard in church with an opportunity to sign up for time and talent volunteering. There will be Temple Talks in November along with an information booth to answer questions. On November 20, there will be a celebration of the completion of a successful "Giving of an Abundant Heart" campaign.

Evangelism/Social Ministry

Five members were present. There will be a request of individuals to attend the Church of the Damascus Road. This service is planned for Wednesday, November 2 (NOTE: this has now been changed to November 9). Planning a ditch cleaning for Saturday, October 29. A suggestion box for the narthex is still being explored. Pastor has concern that a suggestion box is not a healthy form of communication. It will be discussed again in November.



Attendance and Offering Report

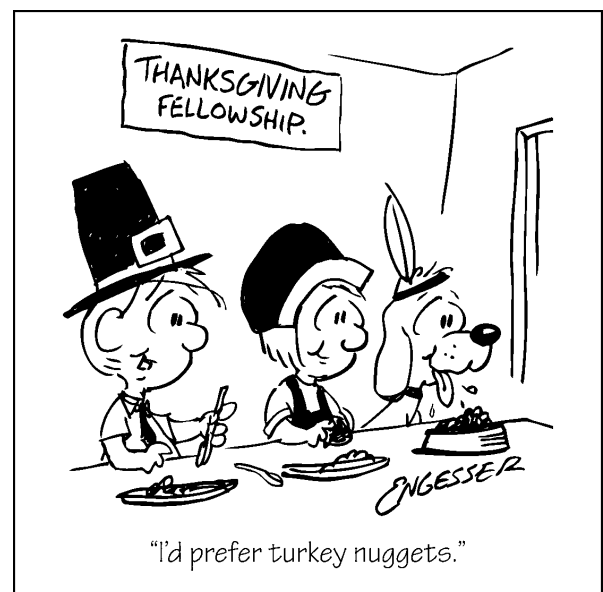
OCTOBER 2011

ATTENDANCE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
10-2	27	111	138
10-9	34	94	128
10-16	55 (CW)	86	141
10-23	39	89	128
10-30	NA	NA	NA

2011 OFFERINGS

10-2	\$4,430.30
10-9	\$7,233.25
10-16	\$3,165.75
10-23	\$2,006.25
10-30	NA
Received in 2011	\$205,233.83
Pledged in 2011	\$239,702.59



First Lutheran Church
226 N. Putnam Street
PO Box 516
Algona, IA 50511

Phone: 515-295-3758
Fax: 515-295-2194

Web: www.firstlutheranalgona.org

Pastor

Rev. Marsha Smith
Home Phone: 515-395-3555
Cell Phone: 515-320-5776
flcpastor@netamunmail.com

**Director of Youth &
Family Ministries**

Deaconess Colleen Teeuwe
Cell Phone: 281-701-4202
youth@netamunmail.com

Secretary

Jeanine Haack
Home Phone: 515-295-7865
firstlutheran@netamunmail.com

Organist

Linnea Holmer

Choir Directors

Todd Herbst-Ulmer
Julie Murphy
Chris VanDeventer

Contemporary Music

Director
Kurt Kissinger

Custodians

Carolyn Mosher
Bob Speich

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PERMIT #1110
ALGONA IA 50511
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

November

