Volume 72, Number 9 Sept. 10, 2026

The Light

Love Does.

Love Does Can Happen Any Time

Love Does is a congregation-wide study that looks at the Ten Commandments from a fresh perspective of love. What does love call us to do?

Often we think of the commandments more in terms of what we're not supposed to do than what we can do. We think of them as the list of the 10 "do nots". Do not steal, do not covet, do not bear false witness. When Martin Luther wrote a simple teaching on the 10 Commandments to be used in homes, he explained each commandment in two parts: 1) what we're not to do; 2) what love calls us to do.

Each week, we take a different commandment and ask how to live out of love. People can engage the study series through the sermons and worship, take home and use the worship series study guide, or participate in a small group study.

The *Love Does: Worship Series Study Guide* is available in print from the welcome center at church, or online by scanning the QR code or visiting firstlutherancr.org/love-does.

Use the guide for your personal devotion. Families can use questions to invite children to learn about the 10 Commandments and explore their meaning. There are a host of small groups meeting that are open to new participants. The guide includes times, places, and contact information.

More than just a sermons series, even our Children's and Youth ministries are focusing on the Ten Commandments this fall so households of all ages can talk together about what they are learning and feeling.

Also, every Sunday at 10 AM, a drop-in small group study takes place in the youth room with trained guides. It is open to anyone and everyone who is curious to learn more. You can come any or all weeks, no expectations.

Join us this fall as we discover how living out God's commandments can transform our hearts, our homes, and our community. No matter where you are on your faith journey, there is already a place for you here to learn, grow, and put love into action together.

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discover more : together

Come as you are and join us on Wednesday nights!

5-6 pm: Kids & Youth Music Rehearsals

5:15 p.m.: Meal (Pizza and other family friendly options)

6:30 pm: ECHO Worship
Youth-led, adult-supported

7:15 pm: Small Groups
Discovery Zone for Kids and age-specific youth groups, adults included!

ECHO Worship Returns!

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

ECHO Worship is a relaxed, welcoming worship experience for children, youth, families, and everyone in our congregation. With engaging music and a youth-led, adult-supported approach, ECHO creates a space where all ages can worship, connect, and participate together. Communion is celebrated each week, reminding us that everyone has a place at the table.

LOVE DOES. ECHO Worship Series for Sept-Nov

LOVE DOES is a new worship series for youth and families that connects what we're exploring in ECHO with the message we hear on Sunday mornings. Each week, we'll take a fresh look at the Ten Commandments through the lens of Jesus and discover what it means to put God's love into action.

Families Worshiping Together at ECHO

We believe worshiping together as a family matters. ECHO Worship gives parents, guardians, and youth a chance to worship side-by-side each week, to sing, pray, hear God's Word, receive Communion, and grow in faith together in a welcoming, relaxed worship space. As part of our Affirmation of Baptism ministry, ECHO is one-way families can practice and experience what it means to live out our baptismal promises together.

Faith isn't something we want youth to do on their own; it's something we hope families grow together.

Take your First Steps with First Lutheran

First Steps is the new 4-Week Introduction for anyone interested in becoming a member of First Lutheran Church! One-Hour sessions are led by a current member (First Friend) and include an Alpha faith-formation video and guided discussion.

Please select what sessions (Sunday or Wednesday) you will be attending in the selection type. Can't make a session? Videos will be available digitally after each session. You may also attend a session on a different day if you like.

Questions? Please contact Maddy Newhouse in the church office at maddyn@firstlutherancr.org
Date: Sundays/Wednesdays
Sept. 13, 2026 — Oct. 4, 2026
Time: 10 - 10:55 AM Sundays, 5-6 PM Wednesdays
RSVP: scan the QR code or visit
firstlutherancr.org/events/first-steps

A New Home Online at firstlutherancr.org

After a change in hosting companies our website has been revamped and streamlined for the best visitor experience and to keep you up-to-date on what's happening in the congregation.

- **The Homepage** is designed to help visitors find the information they need most, but scrolling to the bottom will also show you a feed of the latest Events and Ministry Blog Headlines.
- **The Events Page** will keep you informed of upcoming events sortable by category and give you links to register.
- **The Groups Page** can show you a variety of ways to get connected with others in study, service, and opportunities for fun!
- **The Resources Section** - our most-visited page - still has our worship and streaming information, announcements, Podcasts, Calendar and latest posts from the Ministry Blog.

Saying Goodbye to The Church App

If you have the Church App with this purple and white cross icon, it will no longer function and can be deleted.

This was tied to our previous website host who is closing the Clover Sites platform.

Our new website is a more mobile-friendly platform, and the Church Center App below has many of the same functions.

Simplifying Engagement

Planning Center brings tools together

Busy lives leave us all with a lot to keep track of – appointments, activity schedules, payments, and messages from all over. Multiply these for every school and workplace your household interacts with, and it can leave us feeling overwhelmed.

When it comes to engagement with First Lutheran, we've implemented a system to keep all of your interaction with us centralized in one hub; one place to go for schedules, offerings, volunteer opportunities and keeping in touch with one another. This tool is the Church Center platform, available online or on a smartphone app.

For the first time you can use one system for many interactions with First Lutheran:
- Keep track of volunteer ministries and request a substitute when your schedules changes.
- Registration and Check-for kids and youth ministries
- RSVP and make payments for events; and se if you have already signed up.
- Manage your offerings with one-time or recurring options.
- Send and receive messages through the directory without revealing personal details.

Church Center is one of the most widely-used and trusted church platforms available. The easy-to-use systems have great support, and offer the lowest rates for payment processing, meaning more of your contribution goes directly to ministry. To get started, scan this QR code, or click the Church Center link on our homepage at firstlutherancr.org

church center

Download the app today.

Google play

App Store

Discovery Zone for Kids

on Sundays -AND- Wednesdays!

- 10:15 a.m. on Sundays (PrK-4th Grade)
- Immediately following Echo Worship (1st-4th Grade)

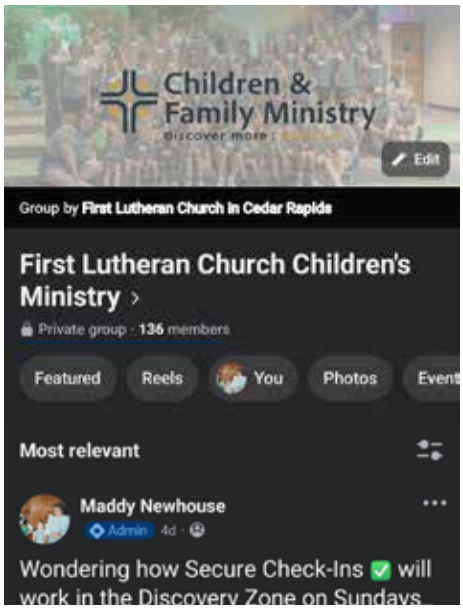
One weekly theme with *Two* different opportunities to join in the fun! Children in preschool through 4th grade are invited to learn about how *LOVE DOES* honor God and honor one another.

Our children's ministry is going to take a 10 week journey into the 10 Commandments following the fall *Love Does* worship series. We will have music, activities, and new this year – lots of hands-on servant projects along the way that allow for the entire family to make a tangible difference in our church & community.

This banner hanging in the Discovery Zone for Kidz hallway will be added to as our kids learn about each of the commandments on Sundays and Wednesdays over the next ten weeks.

SAVE THE DATE! November 22 will be a family-friendly servant project morning!

Join the CFM Facebook Group!



This private group, just for active families is where we will share our weekly lessons, announcements like how to use the Check-in system, and pictures from ministry events. Visit facebook.com/firstlutherancr and click on the "Groups" tab.

Check Out the Check In Process at First Lutheran

With the start of our 2026-27 ministry season we are implementing a child safety check-in system for all children's and youth ministry gatherings. The first step is to register your child for the year. This is a one-time process and all kids can be registered on one simple form. This gives us a clear way to keep in touch, and lets our volunteers and staff know any important information about your child's needs.

Maddy Newhouse and Pastor Katie Lowe Lancaster made two videos to walk through the check-in process. This first video is an on-screen demonstration of how to use the pre-checkin when you arrive at First Lutheran. This step can be done when you arrive at our building, before going upstairs to the check-in kiosk. After completing the pre-checkin on your phone, you can walk up to the kiosk and use the QR code on your phone to check in your child. In the second video, Pastor Katie and Maddy will walk you through the steps of checking in and picking up your child.

You can find both videos by scanning this QR code, or visiting the "Ministry Blog" or "Children and Families" pages on our website.

Youth & Family Ministry
discover more : together

ELCA Youth Gathering 2027

June 28- July 2 | Minneapolis, MN

What if one week could ignite your faith, spark lifelong connections, and show you what God can do when young leaders unite? Through powerful mass gatherings, hands-on service, and authentic community, the ELCA Youth Gathering is an unforgettable invitation to live out your faith boldly.

Interested in joining us for the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, June 28–July 2, 2027? If you'll be in 9th–12th grade this Fall 2026, pre-registration is currently open, so now is the time to take the next step!

Gathering Timeline:
- **September 30:** Deposit due to reserve your spot
- **October 15:** Group finalized and preparations begin

Need more information or have questions? Reach out to Michael—we'd love to help your student take part as we *Imagine More* together!

Calling all junior high students: Enjoy two nights of lodging in cabins, relevant Bible studies, quality meals & snacks, energetic camp counselors, active praise music, the High Ropes Course, campfires and much more! This special weekend at Ewalu will help you grow in faith and meet new friends.

- **WHO:** Grades 6-8 youth
- **WHEN:** 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, through 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 18
- **COST:** $100/youth, $75/chaperone
  All lodging, activities and meals included!

Register at EWALU's website and let Michael know you are going; the church will help organize a carpool. If you are interested in chaperoning, please let Michael know and we'll pay for your weekend! **Ewalu.org/Dirty-Feet-Retreat**

Upcoming Youth & Family Ministries

ECHO Worship- Wednesdays September 16, 23, 30

9th Grade Discernment Day Retreat- Sunday, Sept. 20

High School Ministry Sunday Nights - September 20

Coming Soon... Affirmation of Baptism, Dirty Feet Retreat, Fall Lock-In

Follow us at:
@FLCRYouth

Spiritual Formation Opportunities

Group Spiritual Direction

Group Spiritual Direction returns this fall beginning Thursday, September 17, from 6–8 PM and will continue meeting on the third Thursday of each month. This monthly gathering offers a space to slow down, listen deeply, and notice where God is present in our lives. Through prayer, reflection, and conversation, we journey together as we grow in awareness of God's work in every season of life. Whether you are new to spiritual direction or have participated before, you are invited to join this meaningful practice of faith and reflection.

For more information contact Michael Beckmann at michaelb@firstlutherancr.org.
You can sign up in the Church Center App, or by scanning this QR code.

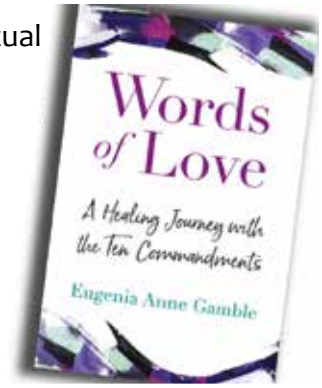
Individual Spiritual Direction

Individual Spiritual Direction will also be available this fall. These one-on-one conversations provide space to slow down, reflect, and pay attention to where God is present and active in your life.

Spiritual direction is an opportunity to explore your faith, questions, transitions, and experiences with a trusted companion who listens and walks alongside you. Whether you are seeking clarity, a deeper connection with God, or simply a space to reflect, spiritual direction is a meaningful part of the lifelong journey of faith.

If you are curious about spiritual direction or would like to schedule a session this fall, contact Michael at michaelb@firstlutherancr.org

Words of Love Renovaré Book study



The *Renovaré* approach emphasizes spiritual formation, the lifelong process of being transformed into the likeness of Christ through practices such as prayer, Scripture, community, and reflection. Rather than simply gaining information, the goal is to create space for God to shape our hearts and lives.

Spiritual Formation: A New Journey with the Ten Commandments

This fall, Spiritual Formation will begin a new Renovaré book study journey as we gather around Words of Love: A Healing Journey with the Ten Commandments. This book invites us to look at the Ten Commandments through a new lens, not simply as rules to follow, but as words of love from God that guide us toward deeper relationship with God, ourselves, and one another.

Together, we'll explore how these ancient words continue to speak into our lives today and how God's invitation to love shapes the way we live, worship, and grow in faith. As with all Spiritual Formation opportunities, this will be a space for conversation, reflection, and discovering how God is present in every season of our journey. The cost of the book is $15 which can be paid online when you sign up, or in-person with cash or check in the church office.

At this time the Monday Evening Book Study has been canceled. We will meet on Wednesday Mornings, Starting September 16, 10:00 AM- 11:30 AM

Whether you have participated in a Spiritual Formation group before or this is your first time, you are warmly invited to join us. You don't need to have all the answers, just a willingness to read, reflect, and journey together. Our spiritual formation is a lifelong journey, and we grow through the stories, questions, and insights we share with one another. We hope you'll join us as we explore the Words of Love God continues to speak into our lives. For more information contact Michael at michaelb@firstlutherancr.org. You can register for either opportunity in the Church Center App, by scanning the QR code, or visiting firstlutherancr.org/bookstudy

Even if you can't join the group, you are still welcome to pick up a read a copy of the book!

First Lutheran Senior Adults

October Road Trip!

In October we will be foregoing our regular monthly luncheon hosted by the Sr. Adults to go on a beautiful fall road trip! Gather together with other members and friends of the congregation on Thursday, October 8 as we take a road trip down to West Branch, IA to visit the newly updated Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. The museum just underwent an 18-month renovation, reopening to the public in August. After visiting the museum we will enjoy lunch at Mexico Lindo (at your cost) in West Branch before returning to Cedar Rapids.

Admission to the museum is $10 for those over 62; $12 for those younger. We will be connecting people to arrange individual carpools, leaving Cedar Rapids by 9 a.m. and returning around 3 p.m. To RSVP, sign up at the welcome center at church or call the church office at 319-365-1494. We can help match people to carpool drivers if need be.

Weekly Men's Meet-up this Fall

Men, join us for Theology on Tap at 7-8 p.m. each Thursday now through Oct. 15 for a cold one and conversation with Pr. Craig. Bring your questions about God, the Bible and Life and join in the conversation about our *Love Does* worship series. Locations are rotating and you decide where we go next.

To find out where we are heading, RSVP to receive a weekly text update. Friends are welcome! RVSP in the Church Center app, with this QR code, or by visiting firstlutherancr.org/ontap.

Ladies' Night Out

Ladies Night Out is a monthly get-together just for the fun of spending time with friends united in Christ's love. All the women and friends of First Lutheran, especially new members and visitors, are invited to gather once a month at a restaurant for food and fellowship.

On Monday, September 28, 2026 we will meet at 5:30 PM at the Olive Garden, 367 Collins Road NE in Cedar Rapids. Oline Stigers is this month's hostess, her phone number is (319) 360-8824. If you plan to come, please call her to make a reservation, or put your name, phone number and email address on the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center at church. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

"One Year to Live" Fall Men's Retreat

Men, imagine a weekend enjoying the fall colors of the outdoors with no cell phone. No demands on you. Just you and God, and a bunch of guys on the same journey. You'll experience good food, hiking, prayer, and growing closer to our Creator.

If this sounds interesting to you mark your calendar now for 5:30PM Fri. Oct. 23 to 3PM Sun. Oct. 25 for our One Year to Live Men's Retreat with Pr. Craig at Camp EWALU in Strawberry Point.

Cost is $180 *before Oct. 1* and is all inclusive. If you have questions, call or text FLC Member Josh Moore who has been on the retreat at (319) 350-7778 or email Josh at crmoores@msn.com. If you're ready to say "I'm in!", sign up at **firstlutherancr.org/mensretreat**.

Note: This registration is through the national organization Lutheran Men in Ministry, so it is *not* available in our Church Center App.

Clean-up C.R. this Sunday

God's Work - Our Hands Sunday

The entire nation-wide ELCA church is encouraged to participate in acts of service for our communities on Sunday, Sept. 13 as part of the annual God's Work - Our Hands Day of Service.

This Sunday at 12 noon (after 11 am worship) we will demonstrate God's love for creation and our compassionate care for the city. We'll gather in the coffee area at church, then split up into teams to do some park & neighborhood clean-up around town. The outreach team will have bags and gloves available; though you are welcome to bring your own work gloves and don't forget the sunscreen!

No need to sign up in advance, just gather after worship (or come back at 12 noon) and get to know other members while serving our city together!

First Lutheran
Musical Arts Series

The Musical Arts Committee has been working for several months to plan the new season of our Musical Arts Series for 2026-2027.

For our very first concert this season we are proud to present our very own musicians, Brett & Marita Wolgast. On Sunday, Oct. 11 starting at 3pm the Wolgasts will present an afternoon of organ music, and organ-piano duets.

Thanks so much for your support of our past seasons, both financially and in your attendance. We could not offer such events without an audience or without your generosity. Please consider supporting the new concert season by visiting firstlutherancr.org/music-arts.

The 2026-2027 Musical Arts Series

Wolgasts in Concert
Sunday, October 11, at 3:00 PM

Lunch in the Loft: Music for the Seasons
Wednesdays, December 2, 9, and 16, at 12:05 PM

Organists of Iowa
Sunday, January 31, 2027, at 3:00 PM
Featuring: Dr. Karen Black,
Wartburg College in Waverly, IA

Spring Serenades
Saturday, February 27, 2027, at 7:30 PM
Featuring: Gustavus Choir,
Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN

Sunday, March 21, 2027, at 2:30 PM
Featuring: Cedar Rapids Concert Chorale performing
A German Requiem by Johannes Brahms

Sing Out! Hymn Festival and Potluck
Sunday, April 11, 2027, at 3:00 PM

Pipes, Pedals, and Pie Concerts
Tuesdays, June 8, July 13, & August 10, 2027, at 7:00 PM

Mark your Calendar Today!

54th Annual CR/Marion

CROP Hunger Walk

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026
1:30 pm at Thomas Park, Marion

Join or Support our Team
at Firstlutherancr.org/CROP

A child cries at night. A preschooler is angry and misbehaves badly. A student has trouble concentrating and paying attention. A senior must make a choice of paying for groceries or medicine. Hunger touches everyone and exists in every county in America. In 2024, over 50+ million people relied on food banks and pantries for assistance. In Linn County, one in 6 children and 1 in 9 adults struggle to access nutritious food for healthy development. CROP Hunger Walks started 57 years ago with the vision of helping to create a world where there is enough for all.

Join us in stamping out hunger by walking with or sponsoring Team First Lutheran on Sunday, October 11, 1:30 pm at Thomas Park in Marion.

Out of nearly 500 CROP Walks across the U.S. in 2025, our local walk raised over $32,000 and we were ranked 52nd in the Top 100 "Cream of the CROP" Hunger Walks in the nation. Twenty-five percent of the funds we raised benefit three local food programs: Linn Community Food Bank, Churches of Marion Food Pantry and Green Square Meals. The remaining funds are used by Church World Service to help farmers improve their harvests, provide communities with clean water and equipping families to rebuild and replant after a disaster.

With the prices of food, gas and rent going up, more families are hurting. Proverbs 14:34 says: Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God." This statement reminds us that how we treat the hungry reflects how we treat God Himself. FLC is a generous and loving congregation who cares deeply for the hungry in our community. Let us walk with others on Sunday, October 11, to affirm our love for God towards those who are hungry.

Sign up or Support in Person
If you don't want to use the online links, on the weekends of Sept. 26-27, or Oct. 3-4 we will have a table set up in the lobby where you can stop by to pledge your support or sign up to walk in person.

Preparing our Neighbors for the Cold Ahead

While the weather still feels like summer for now, the inevitable season of cold is fast approaching. We have two efforts underway to help ensure our neighbors in need are cared for and have what they need in the winter months.

Boot & Gear Drive

If you are cleaning out closets and have boots, hats, coats, gloves or mittens that still have some life left in them, set them aside and bring them to church. In mid-October we will distribute items collected to guests at our Saturday Evening Meal Program.

Overflow Shelter Food

In the dead of winter many unhoused people in Cedar Rapids have no where to turn to stay warm except the County Emergency Shelter. Getting to the shelter is a challenge in itself for people with no transportation, and getting a meal on the way - even harder.

Before the shelter opens this winter we want to stock them with basic staples that our neighbors can eat when they arrive. We will be collecting bottled water, granola bars, and pull-tab cans of hearty soups now through Nov. 1 so no one has to choose between a full stomach and a warm place to sleep this winter.

Plan Ahead for a Lasting Impact

Many people think of August as the end of summer and the 'back-to-school' time of year, but did you know that it is also Make-A-Will Month? The American College of Trust and Estate Counsel has designated the month as Make-A-Will Month to remind us how important it is to plan.

The organization's website provides information and video resources to educate about estate planning options and to help people determine what is best for them. The website can be found at https://www.actec.org/august-is-make-a-will-month.

Whether you are just starting to think about estate planning or reviewing an existing plan, a thoughtful and well-documented plan is a meaningful gift for loved ones. No matter if your estate plan is simple or complex, establishing a plan will deliver many benefits to the people and community organizations you love. Providing certainty about inheritance and future gifts demonstrates your thoughtfulness and creates an opportunity to explain your wishes to those who will be impacted.

The First Lutheran Church Trust was established so that our congregation members' contributions made now as part of estate planning will have a lasting impact in the future of our church.

During Make-A-Will Month, please consider including the First Lutheran Church as you plan ahead.

First Lutheran Trust
building a legacy: together

Thank You from Pr. Craig

I want to thank you all for the gift of time away on sabbatical this summer. Katie, Hayden, Brock and I had a great time in London and Scotland. I feel rested and ready to go for the next chapter at First Lutheran! Thanks to everyone who came to my two presentations in August. Reach out or stop me in the hallway if you want to chat more about it.

In Christ,
Pastor Craig Brown
Pr. Craig

FLC Financial Giving Summary

as of August 31, 2026

2026 Annual Operating Fund:

Y-T-D Actual Income	1,011,235
Y-T-D Budgeted Income	1,011,408
Giving over (under) budget	(173)

Y-T-D giving has been more than budget through the first 5 months of 2026 and all planned ministry expenses have been fully funded. Thank you for your generous support!

Renewing for God's Mission Capital Fund:

	3-Year Budget	*Project-to-Date Actuals:*
Income	3,192,000	2,423,464
Expenditures	3,192,000	2,529,069
Surplus/Deficit	-	(105,605)

Upfront giving towards the RGM pledges continues strong. The Rinderknecht contract work has been completed. Our forecast for achieving the 3-year balanced budget remains positive.

Please include in your Prayers...

90+ Birthdays in September!

Eunice Halvorson celebrates 98 years on Sept. 9.
Shirley Richter celebrates 92 years on Sept. 24.
Alyce Lowe celebrates 101 years on Sept. 25.
Phyllis McLaud celebrates 93 years on Sept. 27.
... and in early October:
Barb Dietz celebrates 96 years on Oct. 2.

50+ Wedding Anniversaries in September!

Karen & Gerald Seavy celebrate 58 years on Sept. 1
David & Michelle Westbrook celebrate 54 years Sept. 1
Lavern & Rose Gordon celebrate 63 years on Sept. 7
Tony & Roxanne Rieder celebrate 53 years on Sept. 8
Rich & Pauline Goldsberry celebrate 61 years on Sept. 11
Dick & Shirley Fidlar celebrate 69 years on Sept. 21
Rickard & Jean Anderson celebrate 61 years on Sept. 24
Jim & Betty Cook celebrate 63 years on Sept.27
Lynn & Debbie Ballard celebrate 52 years on Sept. 28
... and in early October:
Paul & Kathy Braithwaite celebrate 50 years on Oct. 2!

Celebrate the Newly Baptized:

Henry James, baptized on August 1, 2026.
Callen Christopher baptized on August 8, 2026.
Lily Freeman baptized on September 5.

Prayers for Healing: Hospital/Surgical, etc.

Marge Bode	Tom Malik	Gordon Epping
Kim Benser	Lou Banker	Maria Hein
Marilyn Dyrland	Lynette Weberg	

Our Sympathy to:

Robert, Michael, Whitney and families on the passing of their father, Joey Sumner.

Submit Your Prayer Requests to our First Lutheran Prayer Chain by calling the church office at (319) 365-1494, or clicking the Prayer button on our home page firstlutherancr.org. Consider joining our Prayer Chain to receive and pray over the concerns of fellow members each week.

WORSHIP GUIDE

Piano-led Traditional Worship: 5 p.m. Saturdays
Organ-led Traditional Worship: 9 a.m. Sundays
Band-Led Contemporary Worship: 11 a.m. Sundays
Sundays & Wednesdays - worship LIVE online at firstlutherancr.org/live
Radio worship radio on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. on KMRY 1450 AM or 93.1 FM, or anytime at firstlutherancr.org/podcast

Sept. 12 & 13 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost
Love Does: The First Commandment
Preaching: Pr. Steve Knudson
Scripture: Romans 14:7-12; Matthew 4:1-11 *NRSVue*
Special Music: (9a) Adult Choir

Echo Worship - Each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Echoing our Sunday "Love Does" theme with practical application for Youth.

Sept. 19 & 20 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Love Does: The Second Commandment
Preaching: Pr. Katie Lowe Lancaster
Scripture: Philippians 1:21–30; Matthew 5:33–37 *NRSVue*
Special Music: (9a) Resonaré Ringers (11a) Intergenerational Bells

Sept. 26 & 27 - 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Love Does: The Third Commandment
Preaching: Pr. Craig Brown
Scripture: Exodus 20:8–11; 17 Matthew 11:28–30 *NRSVue*
Special Music: (9a) Adult Choir, Handbell Ensemble

Oct. 3 & 4 - 19th Sunday after Pentecost
Love Does: The Fourth Commandment
Preaching: Pr. Katie Lowe Lancaster
Scripture: 1 Timothy 5:1–8, Matthew 21:33–46 *NRSVue*
Special Music: (9a) Adult Choir

The next edition of *The Light* is scheduled to publish on October 8, 2026

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PERIODICAL

Change Service Requested

College - Age Care Package

Sign-Up & Donations

We want to stay connected with the college-age young people in our First Lutheran community! This fall, we'll be putting together care packages filled with goodies, practical supplies, and a little encouragement from home. Do you have a college-age young person connected to First Lutheran? Maybe they're in college, working, serving in the armed forces, taking a gap year, or starting a new chapter after high school. Wherever life has taken them, we'd love to send them a care package!

Sign Up to Receive a Package

Families and friends, please complete the Care Package Sign-Up with the young person's current information. Even if you signed them up in the past, please fill out a new form, so we have the most up-to-date address and contact information.

Help Fill the Packages

Members of the congregation are invited to help make these packages possible by donating items or monetary gifts. There will be a separate Donation Sign-Up with a variety of ways you can contribute.

Whether you're sending a package or helping fill one, this is a simple way for our congregation to remind our young people that First Lutheran is thinking of them, praying for them, and cheering them on wherever they are.

Visit firstlutherancr.org/college-age, or find the sign up and donor form in the Church Center app.
All sign-ups and donations are due by September 30.

First Lutheran
discover more : together

1000 Third Ave. SE • Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
Ph: (319)365-1494 | Txt: (319) 423-9383
text-to-give: text "give" to (319) 320-1754
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