



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH BROOKINGS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS NOVEMBER 30, 2025

### 2026 ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL UPDATE

You can help unlock a challenge gift! We've received statements of intent for 2026 giving from 120 households. We're nearing the goal of 150 to realize the generous challenge gift of \$10,000! You can be a part of the excitement. Commitment cards are at each Sanctuary entrance. Or, use the QR code or visit [firstlutheranbrookings.org/give](https://firstlutheranbrookings.org/give). Thanks for being a part of making ministry possible through First Lutheran.

[firstlutheranbrookings.org/Give](https://firstlutheranbrookings.org/Give)



### A BOLD THANKOFFERING

Sunday, November 30th we'll collect a Noisy Offering supporting Women of the ELCA whose mission is "*Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.*" This Thankoffering supports Women of the ELCA ministries, including justice and advocacy work, training for leaders, scholarships, and health initiatives for women and girls. Please bring your change to share with this important ministry partner. Checks and cash gifts are also welcome marked "WELCA Thankoffering."

### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MEAL

Join us on Thursday, December 25th from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM in the Activity Center for our annual Community Christmas Meal! We're looking for volunteers to help on the day of the event and would greatly appreciate donations of pie to share with everyone. Sign up by scanning the QR code or add your name to the sign-up sheets in the office. Thank you for your support, and Merry Christmas!



## **WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE!**

We believe that everyone belongs here, and we want you to feel at home. To make worship more comfortable for you or your family, we have several resources available:

- \*Aides for the senses: Noise-reducing headphones and focus fidgets.
- \*Accessibility: Large print bulletins and hearing assist devices.
- \*For comfort: Individual pew cushions.
- \*For children: Engaging worship bags.
- \*Communion: Gluten-free wafers and communion delivered to your seat.

If you would like to use any of these, or have a question, please feel free to ask a greeter or usher. We are happy to help!

## **CHILDREN'S JOY OF GIFTING**

Help children discover the Joy of Gifting on Sunday, Dec. 7 in the Activity Center from 8:30AM – 11:30AM. Kids can choose items for a quarter, gift wrap them and attach a personal greeting card. A great opportunity to gift others at Christmas!

## **LEGACY CHALLENGE INVITATION**

A generous family at First Lutheran has issued a Legacy Challenge—inviting ten members to also create a legacy gift to our church's Endowment Fund before year's end. Your planned gift—through a will, trust, beneficiary designation, or other option—creates a lasting witness of faith and gratitude, ensuring our mission and ministries continue for generations. To join the Legacy Challenge with a new plan or to document an existing gift, please contact Kathy McHenry, Lutheran Planned Generosity, at 605-868-8754 or [kmchenry@sdsynod.org](mailto:kmchenry@sdsynod.org). Together, we can strengthen our foundation and leave a lasting legacy of faith.

## **WANT TO SERVE OTHERS IN A SPECIAL WAY?**

We're seeking a Sexton to tend and care for people on behalf of our First Lutheran Cemetery. This is a paid position. The sexton is responsible for sales of cemetery plots and columbarium niches, keeping records, marking plots for burials and monuments, and more. Training will be provided. This important role makes a difference for people as they make plans for their final resting place and helps those who are grieving the loss of loved ones. Interested? Questions? Talk with Pastor Jess, email her at [pastorjess@firstlutheranbrookings.org](mailto:pastorjess@firstlutheranbrookings.org), or call the church office at 605-692-6251.

## **POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

You are invited to order poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones. These beautiful plants will decorate our Sanctuary during Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Order forms are available at each Sanctuary entrance, the church office, and the Welcome Desk. Cost is \$16 per plant. Plants may be taken home following after the 6:30PM worship service on Christmas Eve. Orders must be submitted by December 14. Forms can be placed in the offering plate or delivered to the church office.

## **ADVENT CALENDARS**

There is a stack of take and make advent calendars in the Narthex. Please take as you'd wish and enjoy the advent season!

## **BELIZE MISSION TRIP 2026**

If you are interested in learning more about the Belize Mission Trip in March 2026, please contact Jim Schade, 605-940-2363, [schade@itctel.com](mailto:schade@itctel.com). Tentatively we are planning a six day Belize Mission Trip that will be sometime between March 10th and March 24th.

## **PFPP CRAFT, PURSES, JEWELRY AND CHRISTMAS ITEMS SALE**

The First Lutheran Mission Quilters Group is participating in the Purses for a Powerful Purpose Craft Sale being held in the First Lutheran Activity Center on:

Friday December 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – 11:30am and 1:00pm – 7:00pm

Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – 12:00pm

Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> 8:00am – 12:00pm

## **BROOKINGS COUNTY FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS**

First Lutheran is collecting non-perishable food items for the food pantries in our community. Collection boxes are placed at the entrances to the Sanctuary.

**LOST AND FOUND CLEAN UP** The lost and found is in the Fellowship Hall entrance across from the elevator. Please take a moment to check for your lost jacket, hat, or sunglasses before we donate them. Thank you.

**Mission of the month for December is Good Gifts**

<b>FLC ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 7</b>
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**Sunday, November 30**

8:30 am	Traditional Worship Service
9:40 am	Journey
10:30 am	Contemporary Worship Service

**Monday, December 1**

9:30 am	Staff Meeting
5:30 pm	Sew What

**Tuesday, December 2**

8:30 am	Quilters
2:00 pm	Bible Study in Mission Coffeehouse

**Wednesday, December 3**

5:00 pm	Meal
5:45 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6:00 pm	Journey
7:00 pm	Confirmation, Youth Group, Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, December 4****Friday, December 5**

9:00am	Purses for a Powerful Purpose craft fair
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**Saturday, December 6**

9:00am	Purses for a Powerful Purpose craft fair
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**Sunday, December 7**

8:30 am	Traditional Worship Service
9:40 am	Journey
10:30 am	Contemporary Worship Service

Only First Lutheran activities are listed on the schedule on the back page. For a complete list of activities held at First Lutheran, please visit the First Lutheran website – [www.firstlutheranbrookings.org](http://www.firstlutheranbrookings.org)

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **JOURNEY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE**

There will be Christmas Program Practice for **ALL** Journey students on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm (regular Wednesday Journey time) and on Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am-11am. For both of these practice times, please meet in the sanctuary.

## **JOURNEY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Join us on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. for our worship service featuring the Journey Christmas Program. Stay afterwards to enjoy cookies and fellowship!



## **UPCOMING CYF EVENTS**

- Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm: ALL Journey Christmas program practice (last Wednesday night of fall Journey); 9<sup>th</sup> grade night; Confirmation Christmas parties
- Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> time tba: ALL Journey Christmas program practice
- Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup> 10:30am: Journey Christmas program (last Sunday of fall Journey)
- Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm: Youth group Christmas party (last night of fall session)

## **UPCOMING WEDNESDAY EVENING MEAL MENUS**

December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Walking Tacos, Corn, Fruit and Cookie

December 10<sup>th</sup> – Chicken Nuggets, Cheesy Noodles and Fruit Fluff Salad