



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH BROOKINGS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS DECEMBER 14, 2025

### 2026 ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL UPDATE

You can help unlock a challenge gift! We've received statements of intent for 2026 giving from 136 households. We're so close to 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)



### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MEAL SIGN-UPS

You're invited to join us for our annual Community Christmas Meal on Thursday, December 25th from 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM in the Activity Center!

Sign up if you would like to:

- Volunteer to help with set-up, serving, or clean-up
- Bring a pie to share
- Request meal delivery for yourself or someone you know
- Let us know if attending with a group of 6 or more

There are many ways to Sign Up:

- Scan the QR code to the right
- Call the church office at 605-692-6251
- Email [emily@firstlutheranbrookings.org](mailto:emily@firstlutheranbrookings.org)
- Add your name to the sign-up sheets in the office



Thank you for your support in making this celebration special. Wishing you a very 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!

## **THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

A huge thank you goes out to the following people for helping to set up the Nativity on the front lawn of the church on a very chilly Wednesday morning: Jim Hegg, Dave Lenander, Ron Langner, Bob Algood, Dale Nussbaum and Jim Pederson.

## **HELP CREATE A WARM CHRISTMAS WELCOME**

Help us extend a warm welcome to our Christmas guests! Sign up in the gathering space or the office to serve as an usher. Your friendly presence ensures everyone feels at home during this holy season.

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

DEC 24<sup>th</sup>: Candlelight Services with Holy Communion at 1:30, 4:30 & 6:30pm

DEC 25<sup>th</sup>: Worship Service with Holy Communion at 10:30am followed by  
Community Christmas meal in the Activity Center

DEC 28<sup>th</sup>: Worship Service at 10:30am

Return to two services at 8:30am & 10:30am with Journey at 9:40am on Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>

## **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.

## **SPREAD CHEER, SING LOUD, EAT PIZZA - NEXT SUNDAY**

On Dec. 21st, we're caroling at care centers! Meet at 3:00pm in the Mission Coffeehouse. No need for perfect pitch, just a willingness to make days merry! We'll end up at Pizza Ranch at 5pm for food and fellowship. See flyers by the office or in the Mission Coffeehouse or contact Pastor Trey.

## **WELCA DECEMBER MEETING**

Advent invites us into a time of dreaming, waiting, watching and anticipating. Bible study meets on Thursday, December 18 in the Parlor at 10:00 am. The Bible study can be found online at [GatherMagazine.org](http://GatherMagazine.org) in the December Bible Study.

## **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 10<sup>th</sup> and March 24<sup>th</sup>. We are planning an information meeting TODAY in the Mission Coffee House conference room at 9:45 am.

## **REMINDER TO RESERVE YOUR MEETING SPACES**

We are grateful that our building can host such a wide variety of groups and activities throughout the week. To keep everything running smoothly, it's essential that every group reserves a space for their meeting or gathering. If you're planning something in 2026—even if it's a long-standing event at the same time and day—please confirm your reservation with Doriane at the Welcome Desk. You can reach her at 605-697-2755 or by email at [doriane@firstlutheranbrookings.org](mailto:doriane@firstlutheranbrookings.org).

## **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 DECEMBER 14 – DECEMBER 21</b>
---

**Sunday, December 14**

8:30 am	Traditional Worship Service
9:40 am	Belize Travel Team Informational Meeting
10:30 am	Journey Christmas Program

**Monday, December 15**

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

**Tuesday, December 16**

8:30 am	Quilters
2:00 pm	Bible Study in Mission Coffeehouse
6:00 pm	Church Council

**Wednesday, December 17**

5:45 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm	Youth Group, Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, December 18**

10:00 am	WELCA bible study
----------	-------------------

**Friday, December 19****Saturday, December 20****Sunday, December 21**

8:30 am	Traditional Worship Service w/Holy Communion
10:30 am	Contemporary Worship Service w/Holy Communion

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)