

**FIRST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

526 South Olive Avenue
Sandpoint, ID 83864
208-263-2048

Office@FirstLutheranSandpoint.org

September 2023

Messenger

NEWSLETTER

Praising God | Nurturing Faith | Serving All

INTERIM PASTORS

Barbara Rolph
Amber Remillard

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Lynne Campbell

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 AM through September 2023
Online via YouTube by the next day

COMMUNION

Served each Sunday

COFFEE HOUR

Following Sunday worship

YOUTUBE

First Lutheran Church, Sandpoint ID

NEWSLETTER

Lynne Campbell

Office@FirstLutheranSandpoint.org

- Deadline is the 5th of the month
- Submit articles, ads, photos, and information via email
- In the Subj line, use “Messenger”

PASTOR BARBARA’S MESSAGE

Greetings, FLC Members and Friends.

It is good to be back with you again.

This summer I have been reading a book, *When The Church Stops Working*. It addresses the current issue churches are facing with lower attendance. The authors’ main point is that the church needs to wait and see what God has in store. Don’t start new programs, don’t live in the past or worry about the future – Live in the Now. Wait and pray to be open to God’s plans.

Waiting is hard for us to do in our culture of hurry-up-and-do. While reading this book, I was asked to write what mission FLC is involved in. Watch for the winter edition of the *Sandpoint Magazine*.

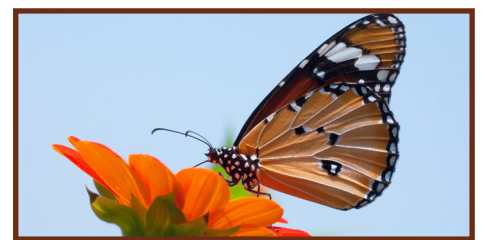
This got me thinking about Who, What, Where, and Why – does FLC exist?

WHO—FLC is an ELCA-affiliated congregation.

WHERE—Sandpoint, Idaho.

WHAT—*We worship* on Sunday and play the recorded service

on YouTube the following Monday; **Sponsor** Luther Park, an assisted living and memory care facility; **Host** three women’s circles (prayer and bible study), four quilting groups, yoga class, the Teen Center office, the Buddhist Sangha, and Food Addicts Anonymous; **Provide mission support** for the Bonner County Food Bank, Lutheran World Mission, Luther Park Bible Study, Helping Hands Healing Hearts, scholarships for college and Camp Lutherhaven.



And.....

WHY—To proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in Word, Deed, and Sacrament.

Let us use our God-given talents to continue our mission, prayers, and wait for God’s future.

Blessings,
Pastor Barbara

STAFF & CONTACT US

Pastor

Barbara Rolph
208-597-5422

Church Office

Lynne Campbell
Administrative Assistant
208-263-2048

CHURCH COUNCIL

Executive Committee

Ray Yaw *President*
208-290-3880

Walter Ebel *Vice President*
509-951-4182

Sharon Roget *Treasurer*
208-263-2610

Trish Thurston *Secretary*
208-255-6885

Members at Large

Sharon McCormick
208-290-4555

KarenMarie Moran
503-522-1599

Lila Petersen
208-263-2058

Linda Lacy
208-290-8884

Nancy Phillips
208-263-7739

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Your prayers and presence are requested on
Saturday, October 7, 2023 at 1:00 pm
for the
Holy Eucharist
with the
Rite of Installation
of the
fourth Bishop of the
Northwest Intermountain Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. Dr. Meggan Hannah Manlove

Cathedral of the Rockies
717 N 11th St
Boise, ID 83702

RECEPTION WILL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

RSVP by September 15
to office@nwimsynod.org/509-838-9871

ELCA rostered leaders
and clergy of other
traditions are invited to
vest and process.

Color of the day is red.



Let Justice and Peace Flow

Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

THE SEASON OF CREATION

When I saw this year's theme for the Season of Creation, I thought, "This was created for our synod and its many rivers!" But first, what is this season? The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home. The Season "Celebration" begins on September 1, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on October 4, the Feast of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals and ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

From the website, "the Prophet Amos cries out: 'But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!' (Amos 5: 24), and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity. As the people of God, we must work together on behalf of all Creation, as part of that mighty river of peace and justice."

Your worship planning team might enjoy selecting from our many great hymns about creation. You could worship once outside and/or with ecumenical partners. Or, instead of emphasizing the season during worship, you might read a book (see resources on the Lutherans Restoring Creation website) or revisit the ELCA's 1993 Social Statement: Caring for Creation. There are many other ideas on the Season of Creation website at seasonofcreation.org.

—Bishop Meggan Manlove

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

For the month of August, FLC member donations totaled 37 pounds of food and \$50 in cash.

Bags of Blessings

Contributions will be collected on the last Sunday of the month, September 24.

Cash contributions may be given directly to Marianne Foster or left in an envelope with Lynne in the church office.

Food, household, and personal items that are especially needed are listed above the Bags of Blessings box outside the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your participation!

COMMUNION FOR LP RESIDENTS

Luther Park residents may request shut-in communion if they wish. Those who are interested may contact Lynne at the church office during office hours, which are Tuesday through Thursday, 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM. You may also phone 208-263-2048.

—Pastor Barbara



2ND HARVEST MOBILE MARKET

On September 29, FLC will participate in Second Harvest's "Mobile Market" free food distribution program. This "drive-through" event will be held from 11 AM to 1 PM behind the church off Ontario Street serving up to 250 families while supplies last. Since 2006, 2nd Harvest's Mobile Market program has been bringing free, healthy food to families, children and seniors experiencing food insecurity throughout the Inland Northwest. During the distribution, nutrition educators and trained "Nutrition Ambassador" volunteers offer food samples, cooking demonstrations and recipes.

This type of nutrition education intervention encourages fresh produce consumption and helps people move from hunger to health and self-sufficiency.

For more information, visit 2-harvest.org.

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS, 9-13-2023

Pastor Services: It was determined that FLC would reimburse pastors for 10 hours of their services per month, with Pastor Dave working 4 hours on Thursdays and during that time doing a bible study for Memory Care at Luther Park.

Worship: Going forward, Pastor Barbara will preach the first two Sundays and Pastor Dave the last two Sundays of the month, and all services will begin at 9 AM beginning October 1.

Property: WIFI has been changed to Vyve and should give us better service. Because of an issue with transferring our phone number, we've been given a temporary number – 208-627-5778 – until this is resolved.

Faith Formation: Bible studies are starting back up after taking the summer off. We'll be looking into a suggestion to have a men's bible study again.

Luther Park: Assisted Living is full. We have the staff now for Memory Care and are working to fill those units (half-full).

We are waiting for the State of Idaho to finish changing our license into Luther Park's name from Ecumen.

The elevator is out of alignment and will cost about \$6,000 to fix. We also need to upgrade the cooling system for the memory bank of the elevator.

We are looking to hire another maintenance assistant.

New Business: The Teen Center would like have their after school program for 7-12 graders at FLC, paying rent for use of the fellowship hall and kitchen on weekdays from 2:30 to 5:30 PM (earlier on Fridays for early release). Three or four adults would supervise at all times and leave everything in order. A committee will be formed to look into this request.

Next meeting: October 11 at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Roget for Trish Thurston, Council Secretary

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE SUPPORTS UKRAINE FARMERS & FAMILIES

From ELCA News & Events:

Lutheran Disaster Response, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's ministry providing short- and long-term recovery when disasters strike in the United States and around the world, is responding to urgent humanitarian needs and supporting agricultural livelihood recovery in Ukraine through a \$1 million grant to Lutheran World Relief, a Corus International organization.

The Supporting Farmers to Restore Resilient Livelihoods in Kharkiv (SPARRK) project will run through November 2024 and is centered in Kharkiv Oblast, one of the first regions targeted by the Russian offensive and where Ukrainian forces have reclaimed thousands of square kilometers of territory.

The funding will significantly scale up existing Lutheran World Relief humanitarian response operations in Kharkiv, more than doubling the number of families that will receive critical support. SPARRK will reach more than 7,000 families, including returnees, residents that remained in Kharkiv, and families who fled their homes and now reside in Kharkiv.

"Even as the Russia-Ukraine war continues, the SPARRK project will provide concrete support for families in Kharkiv and serve as a sign of hope for the future of Ukraine as crops are planted and farms reestablished. Lutheran Disaster Response is glad to support the SPARRK project as part of our commitment to long-term recovery," said Maryn Olson, Director, Lutheran Disaster Response.

Support includes both material and technical resources to restore or establish small farms and prepare for the harsh winter season. Participants in the project are receiving inputs depending upon their needs, like vegetable seeds, gardening tools, canning kits and pickling containers, chicks, chicken coops and feeders. Local agriculture advisors are providing training in small-scale, climate-sensitive farming practices that can include planting, composting and harvesting, and winterization preparedness, which involves drying, packaging and storing crops. Additionally, farm restoration grants will be issued to households that have lost assets as a result of the war and require a financial boost to expand their farming. For more information, go to <https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events>.

Sunday Readings for September

Sept 3...Lectionary 22

Jer 15:15-21

Ps 26:1-8

Rom 12:9-21

Matt 16:21-28

Sept 10...Lectionary 23

Ezek 33:7-11

Ps 119:33-40

Rom 13:8-14

Matt 18:15-20

Sept 17...Lectionary 24

Gen 50:15-21

Ps 103:[1-7] 8-13

Rom 14:1-12

Matt 18:21-35

Sept 24...Lectionary 25

Jonah 3:10—4:11

Ps 145:1-8

Phil 1:21-30

Matt 20:1-16

Year A 2023

Church Year Calendar





LOCAL DISASTER RELIEF

From 2nd Harvest:

Our thoughts are with the people of Medical Lake and Elk and all those affected by the Gray and Oregon Road fires that broke out on August 18. Hundreds of structures and homes have been lost, and firefighting crews are still responding to contain the swift moving and active blazes. When a disaster strikes, people are suddenly at risk of hunger and other hardships. I hope you will join us today to ensure food gets to those in need.

Our friends at the Wolff Family Foundation have stepped forward to match every dollar donated up to \$25,000 to help with hunger-relief in the communities affected by these fires. You can make your donation today, and it will go even farther to support our wildfire response and help our partners on the frontlines with food distribution.

Click on “DONATE NOW” at 2-harvest.org to donate.

UPDATE ON LUTHER PARK MANAGEMENT TRANSFER

All paperwork has been submitted for the license transfer and we are just waiting for that to be processed and approved. Senior Services of America is working with Bridget preparing for the transition.

—Tiffany Wright

RAFFLE EARNS \$910 FOR THE PASTOR SEARCH FUND

Thanks to the generous donation of their beautiful creations—Lynn Youngren’s “Into the Woods” quilt and Cheryl Klein’s hand-crafted artglass mirror—FLC’s recent raffle was a resounding success. Winners of the August 27 drawing were Trish Johnson of Bonners Ferry and our own Joann Cogswell of Luther Park.



Upper photo: Lynn Youngren presents her quilt to Joann Cogswell.



Photo Left: Lynn shows Joann how to fold the quilt.



Cheryl Kline presents her artglass mirror to Trish Johnson.

APPRECIATION FOR SPONSORSHIPS TO SUMMER CAMP AT LUTERHAVEN

Holly and Charlotte Murphy, granddaughters of Eric Schneider and Ann Murphy, attended summer camp at Lutherhaven this year with the help of sponsorships from FLC. Both girls sent “thank-you” notes to the church, and here’s what they had to say.

From Charlotte: *“Thank you for helping me be able to go to camp this summer. I had lots of fun and got to meet great people this year, and I’m really thankful for you guys.”*

And sister Holly wrote: *“Thank you so much for helping pay for me to go to camp. I had so much fun and made so many friends. I learned so many new things about God and his everlasting, abundant love for everyone. The theme this year was the big table. Everyone has a place at God’s big table as long as you believe in Him. The verse for the summer was first John 3:16. “How great is the love the father has lavished on us that we should be called Children of God. And that is what we are.” Thank you for helping me this year, as well as the past three. This summer I started working there [as support staff], and I love it so much.”*

Founded 70 years ago by the Lutheran churches of the Inland Northwest (OR, WA, & ID), “Lutherhaven Ministries provides year-round Christian outdoor programs” at four different locations, including Lake Coeur d’Alene, where they offer “life changing experiences for visitors of all ages.” For more information, visit www.lutherhaven.com.

Charlotte and Holly Murphy



ITEMS NEEDED FOR SCHOOL KIT BAGS

The next shipping date for Lutheran World Relief is October 20. I have not gotten very many school kit bags made, but if the items to fill them come in, I will crank out as many as we can fill. Now is the best time to buy them.

The required items are:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8” x 10 1/2”, no loose-leaf paper;
- One 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other;
- One pencil sharpener;
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well);
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers;
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink);
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons;
- One 2 ½ “ eraser.

If you have questions, you can call me at 208-610-9005 or go online to Lutheran World Relief at lwr.org for explanations.

—Sharon Roget



At FLC: Community Organizations

Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild (non-profit)

Second Tuesday each month, Fellowship Hall. Providing education, enjoyment, and social exchange for those who enjoy the art of quilting. For questions or more information...
Contact: Linda Oldridge
208-597-1598

Food Addicts Anonymous

Wednesdays, 10 AM-12 PM Meeting Room across from the LWR quilting room. Based on the 12 steps of recovery, this group is for anyone suffering from food addiction.
Contact: Brenda Swenson
208-255-9339

Women's Circles

Phoebe Bible Study

Fourth Tuesday each month 9:30 AM, Library Room
Gather Magazine is used
Contact: Judy Payne
208-263-3564

Faith Bible Study

Fourth Tuesday each month 1:00 PM, Conference Room
Contact: Sharon Roget
208-610-9005
Open to all. Come and build lasting relationships.

Mary's Circle

Each meeting arranged
Contact: Jean Cafferty
208-263-4942

Yoga Ministry

Classes designed for "Late Bloomers" are held weekly in the Fellowship Hall on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:15 AM. For more information, contact Judy Payne at 208-263-3564.

Quilting Groups

Bosom Buddies

Third Monday each month 9:30 AM-12 PM, Fellowship Hall
Contact: Linda Aavedal
208-610-6565

Lutheran World Relief

Wednesdays, 1:00 PM
Sunday School Quilting Room
Contact: Sharon Roget
208-610-9005-

Stitches of Love

Currently on hiatus
Contact: Brigette Sanborn
If you know of someone in the FLC congregation who would benefit from a tangible gift of love and caring through a handmade quilt, please contact Brigette at 208-263-8120.

