



September 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 9:00am Wed Weeders 5:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Choir	3 7:00pm Bible study	4	5 6:00pm Worship
6 10:00am Worship	7	8 7:00pm Council Meeting	9 9:00am Wed Weeders 12:00pm Book Bunch 5:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Choir	10 7:00pm Bible study	11	12 8:00am Hole in Roof Gang 6:00pm Worship
13 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday Disciples 11:00am Worship	14 9:30am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	15	16 9:00am Wed Weeders 5:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Choir	17 7:00pm Bible study	18	19 6:00pm Worship
20 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday Disciples 11:00am Worship	21	22	23 9:00am Wed Weeders 12:00pm Book Bunch 5:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Choir	24 7:00pm Bible study	25	26 8:00am Hole in Roof Gang 6:00pm Worship
27 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday Disciples 11:00am Worship	28	29	30 9:00am Wed Weeders 5:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Choir			

The Brown Bag Book Bunch

You're always invited to share in the *(2nd and 4th)* Wednesday noontime discussion group studying some book of religious import. The book bunch meets during the lunch hour (12-12:45), some bringing their lunch, some just drinking the coffee available. *Currently* we're finishing *Team of Rivals*, a book about Lincoln's ability to develop a cabinet from his chief opponents in the election of 1860. We'll be deciding on the next tome in the near future.

**

BUILDING UPDATE #2

Where are we at in the building process on the land at 15th and M? In this month's update, The church council approved working with *Stewardship Key Leaders*, associated as an ELCA resource for *capital campaigns*, and have discussed starting their work with us in January of 2016, with a campaign to finish somewhere after Easter (early April)

OUR goal would potentially be raising 3 year *giving commitments* totaling at least \$600,000. *If you would like to assist in this vital component, contact Mike DeBoer (308-230-3458)*

- *Mission Builders*, the ELCA group that has volunteer contractors and builders who assist churches in building, are 'penciling' construction start in spring of 2017.
- Jane David ***could definitely use willing assistants***, volunteers from the congregation to pull together information for the *Mission Investment Fund* (the agency we would be borrowing from for the estimated \$1.5 million). This study analyzes our congregational life, the community growth of Kearney, and potential ministry plans we have for the future. *Contact Jane if you would like to assist in any of the teams: 293-2466*
- Plans and ideas for the church building designed by architect David Wiebe are still in **the narthex**, and any comments or concerns are still being considered.

Your prayerful and generous support is appreciated. We will seek to give information *regularly* as to our progress, and hope we can address most questions: you can contact *Mike DeBoer* or *Pastor John*, or send an email to familyofchristkearney@gmail.com

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:
**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**
R E M I N D E R :
**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**
Sept. 23, 2015

Family of Christ	
Pastor	John Gosswein
Church Council	
<u>President</u>	Mike DeBoer
<u>Vice President</u>	Lanny Johnson
<u>Secretary</u>	Chris Denton
<u>Treasurer</u>	Ronnie Sanchez
<u>Financial Secretary</u>	Jane David
<u>Members at Large</u>	Cheryl Hedstrom
	Dave Wiebe
	Lance Knoedler
Committee Chairs	
Education	Judy Gosswein
Fellowship	Svoboda, Albers, Peterson
Evangelism	Julie Garaffa
New Properties	Brad Anderson
Church Properties	Lynn Tacha
Youth Group	Deb Middleton
<u>Ministries Coordinator</u>	Tamara Sanchez
<u>Publication Secretary</u>	Maury May
Stewardship	
Mutual Ministries	Vickie Schaepler
Worship	Iola Fougeron



Alison Nelson	9/01
Deanna Steier	9/04
Maya Martenez	9/04
Connie Fie	9/05
Barb Laursen	9/07
Shayla Journey	9/11
Lorna Lane	9/12
Dennis DeJonge	9/14
Nathan Gillen	9/14
Amy Kile	9/14
Neal Parker	9/14
Lloyd Barta	9/15
Jade Plambeck	9/17
Colt Tveit	9/17
Kellen Kelch	9/18
Zachery Wulf	9/19
Joel Fie	9/22
John Zulkowski	9/22
Samantha Duennerman	9/23
Jack Fahnholz	9/23
Susan Barta	9/25
Eric Parker	9/26
Avery Collison	9/28
Ron Carey	9/30



Bob & Sandy Nicklasson	9/01
Ken & Patty Reifenrath	9/05
Ron & Nicole Carey	9/09
Mark & Coleen Brill	9/18
Dale & Amy Fahnholz	9/20
George & Lorna Lane	9/30

SUNDAY SCHOOL DISCIPLES

9:45-10:45 (Sept. 13/20/27)

How about trying some diverse ideas for your Sunday morning discipleship. We will have three *different* experiences in September that should encourage the whole Family to be part of the joy of fellowship and learning.

September 13th Breakfast Bible Experience

Come to the fellowship area (basement) after the first service...or before the second. Sit with your family at a ‘table of disciples (students)’ and share in a *first century breakfast*. (Really! What DID they eat during the time of Jesus??). Share in a neat hands-on learning experience of *how Jesus taught us to see the presence of the Kingdom of God*. And then take some of the ongoing experience with you as we have some games and activities to continue the journey at home. No cost. No age limit. No degree necessary.

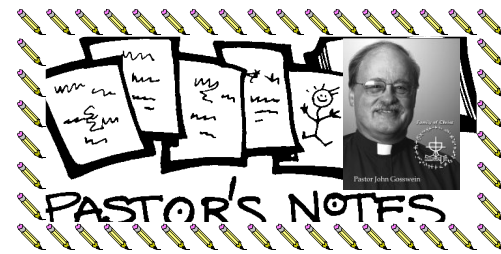
September 20: “Regular” Sunday format with classroom for the youngest, gatherings for confirmands and High School.

The adults will start a series on *building churches through the ages* – focus on various aspects of church architecture, the theology represented, and opportunity for discussion on our building plans.

September 27 Come to Tanzania! You know how we’ve gathered the ‘noisy change’ offering for sewing machines and wheelchairs in Moshi Tanzania? This gathering will help us understand and learn about our brothers and sisters in the east African Lutheran church!

HOLE-IN-THE-ROOF GANG

It’s a gaggle of guys gathering in the basement on 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 8 a.m. After the donuts and devotion, they would love to assist in some project at the home of somebody in need of a project completed... a single mom trying to get a room painted, widow with windows needing repair, a ramp for someone struggling to navigate stairs. Whatever it may be, if you know someone who could use some assistance (they don’t need to be a member of the church!) – give a call to the church: 236-7704. We can assess if we can accomplish the task.



Visitors, Members, Friends

Some years back, a young family visited the congregation one Sunday, bringing three young kids and sitting (naturally!) in the back of the church. They came that week because a friend had encouraged them to see Family of Christ, even though their church backgrounds were not Lutheran. Little did we realize how we would get to know them, grow with

them, and share in discipleship together. And we certainly were not considering that change of venue would happen for them, giving them opportunity to move to Alaska.

Yes, I'm talking about the Sanchez family, whose work extended into offices of treasurer (Ron) and volunteer coordinator (Tamara), youth (Brett), confirmation (Jeremy) and visitation (Isabella). And, as the summer concludes, we'll also be seeing other beloved move: Colleen Stadler to Iowa; Don & Pat Bienhoff back to Kansas; Ken & Vicki Smith potentially to Utah.

The natural word for our feelings is *grief*. We have shared with these folks in ways that all of us have grown and appreciated new gifts brought into our common Family, and we regret the change distance will bring. Over time, our work together allowed us to explore talents and abilities and experiences that we certainly never predicted.

In fact, most of us in congregational life are little aware of *the first meeting we have together with future friends*. That initial greeting of peace, sharing of a seat, taking time to converse with a stranger *can translate into gracious years* of sharing in God's joys of fellowship. **Take this as an encouragement** to greet, meet and share with those who visit and take time to worship with us – *you never know what kind of future brother or sister in Christ is being nurtured*.

When Abraham (Genesis 22) was faced with change in his life and question about the future possibility, he proclaimed, "God will provide". It's an invitation for us to recognize that God does offer new adventures and promise; it's also a request that we keep our eyes open to the creative ways our Lord grants us new provision.

Thank you, Lord, for allowing us to share in such grace-filled friendships! Help us keep alert to Your provision in the gifts in the people whom we meet.

Grace and peace,
Pastor John

BIBLE STUDY MOVES ...!

THURSDAY evenings

Church Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.

Come when you can ... don't worry about 'intruding'. The prayers and the study are intended to give us opportunity for fellowship and growth, and are informal!

During the summer, we met on Wednesday evenings. As we finish the book of Genesis (we're entering the stories of Joseph – and his amazing dreamcoat), you're invited into this delicious story of God and family!

NOISY OFFERING!

For the summer – our noisy offering will be designated through Mosaic International, specifically to assist in purchasing in ministries visited by Cheryl and Lois on their recent trips. The funds will buy *sewing machines* for home industries among the families in Moshi Tanzania, and wheel chairs for children.

Women of the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA 



THE NEXT FOC GATHERING will be **October 11th following the 11:00 service**. We ask each of our women to prayerfully consider volunteering for a leadership position (see below) or volunteering to plan this fall gathering around your concerns or interests. If you have any questions, give Lois Adamson a call. BTW, lots of helpers are available.

July 12, 2015 Quarterly Notes

All participants were welcomed. A thank you was expressed that the picnic had been moved to the church basement due to extreme heat. Grace was shared & picnic lunches were eaten along with lots of personal updates regarding family and friends.

THE BUSINESS began with the reading of an invitational letter from Midland College. The letter challenged us to assist with their goal of \$1 million to provide a Perpetual Chair for a Campus Pastor position. The college had to recently give up their campus pastoral presence due to survival budget cuts. We agreed to send \$25.00, plus half of today's offering. Peggy will ask our FOC Treasurer to prepare a check and she will complete the donation form and send it to Midland College as soon as possible.

The 2015 NSWO Biennial Convention is at 1st Lutheran Church in Lincoln on Sept. 18-20. The theme and keynote speaker, plus more information is available in "Expressions," the NSWO newsletter which has been placed in the Welca display. Barbara Laursen, one of our PMAs, shared that she usually goes at her own expense. Lois Adamson is interested in being our delegate. We decided to pay the registration fee of \$90 for a delegate. Lois is interested and will keep us posted on her availability.

The October gathering will include an election of new volunteer leaders. Lois Adamson and Elizabeth Laursen Roesler have been Co-Coordiators. We thanked Lois for being the sole coordinator when Elizabeth was out of town. Barbara Laursen did offer to take a leadership role in 2016. She will be contacted before the Oct. gathering. *For clarification, 3 positions need to be filled. A Coordinator position for 1-year, and an Assistant-Coordinator and Treasurer for 2-years. The Assistant-Coordinator moves into the Coordinator position her second year.*

THE NEW CHURCH was the program topic by Jane David. Jane shared her Council President experience organizing the Council and Building Committees for Phase 1 decisions. She circulated a listing of 19 meetings and site visits that were necessary to buy land south of Highway 30. Final Closing on the land was July, 2013.

Jane shared that we are yet in Phase 2. Last year 4 teams were formed: Planning & Vision, Communications, Finances, and Site Building. The Church & Community Self Study has been divided into 4 parts and 4 leaders have been chosen to facilitate each topic: Community Study- Vickie Schaepler, Congregational Study- Stephanie Straatmann, Maps & Demographics- Brad Anderson, and Influential Relationships- RaNae Cernik. She printed out a summary of Phase 2, the leaders on the Teams and the Self Study, and key questions. In closing, Jane strongly encouraged each of us to get involved if we truly want a new church: Talk to the council members, ask to participate on the Capital Campaign team, and/or be more proactive in one of the Church & Community Self Study groups.

A closing prayer adjourned our July 2015 gathering.
Submitted by Judy Gosswein
FOC WELCA Secretary

Family of Christ Lutheran Church
1319 5th Avenue
Kearney, NE 68845

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Returned Service Requested

Worship Workers for September 2015

	Communion Prep	Communion Asst.	Worship Asst.	Lector	Acolyte	Counter
Sat 6pm	Bryan Sall	Joyce Ablers	Joyce Albers	Dan Kossman		
Sun 11AM	Sue Buss-Sands	Lois Adamson	Barb Sitzman	Henny Larsen		Lois Adamson
Sept 12 -13						
Sat 6pm	Bryan Sall	Kelly Huaff	Kelly Huaff	Laura Buehner		
Sun 8:30 AM	Iola Fougerson	Linda Peterson	Jane David			
Sun 11AM	Sue Buss-Sands	Nona Svoboda	?????	Jantha Jamison	Dominique	?????????????
Sept 19- 20						
Sat 6pm	Bryan Sall	Joyce Albers	Joyce Albers	Dan Kossman		
Sun8:30am	Iola Fougerson	Linda Peterson	?????????	Linda Peterson		
Sun 11am	Sue Buss-Sands	Barb Larsen	Harold Laursen	Connie Fie	Gabby Salinas	Layne Knodler
Sept 26-27						
Sat 6pm	Bryan Sall	Ken Peterson	Kelly Huaff	Kelly Huaff		
Sun8:30am	Barb Bowers	Cheryl Hedstrom	Jane David			
Sun 11am	Sue Buss-Sands	Nancy DeBoer	?????????	Mitzi Gifford	Brooke Anderson	Ronnie Sanchez



Family of Christ Council Meeting Minutes....August 11, 2015

The church council meeting was called to order by President Mike DeBoer and opened with devotions by Pastor John. The minutes of the last meeting were approved and the treasurer's report was read and approved.

Pastor Report:

Pastor John has an agreement with the Synod to be a part of the Boundaries Trainings over the next 2 years.

Ministries Coordinator report:

No new reports at this time.

New Business:

The Wednesday Weeders would like to purchase a sculpture from the Liturgical Art Center (Seward, NE) for a prayer garden. The proposal is to start a garden at the present church location and then to incorporate plans at the new church location for a prayer garden. The council designated and approved the allocation of space at the current church location for a prayer garden. Fundraising ideas and cost for the project will be deliberated by the Wednesday Weeders and discussed at a future council meeting. Campus Lutheran has undertaken a large and essential renovation project. The council approved \$500.00 to assist Campus Lutheran with this expense, with matching funds from First Lutheran.

Old Business:

Mission Builders will require a commitment in the near future in order for Family of Christ to reserve their services for 2017. The council agreed to reserve the services of Mission Builders for the spring of 2017.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.



CLASSIFIED ADS

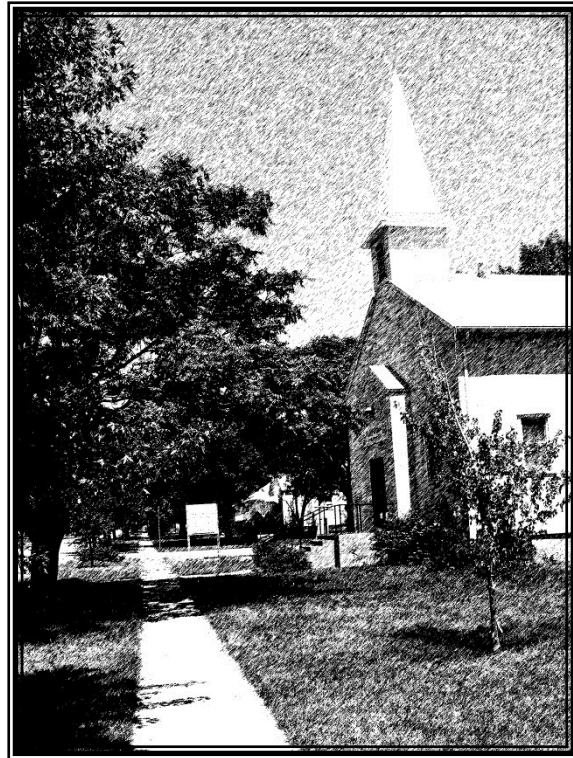
We're trying out some 'classifieds' in our insert. So far, only a couple of rules: we need to have a contact listed (so we aren't forwarding information at church); we're not listing items for sale or profit.

Fishing Buddy

Retired gentleman would love to have a fishing buddy on most any day. If interested, call Gayle Miller – 402 322 0400.

Ministries Coordinator

Family of Christ will be interviewing for a new person(s) to take a part time position for the congregation: connecting with volunteers, organizing events, working with the data base and website for the congregation. Yes, the Sanchez's are moving to Alaska after next month ... so there are a number of shoes that need to be filled! Applications are available in the entry area of the church; please bring your application by Sunday, September 13th. Talk with Vickie Schaepler, Jane David or Pastor John.



Family of Christ Lutheran Church
1319 5th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845

Phone: 308-236-7704
E-mail: familyofchristkearney@gmail.com
Web: www.familyofchristkearney.org
Pastor e-mail: pr.john.foc@gmail.com
Pastor: John Gosswein
 (Office Tu,W, F Afternoons)
Publications Secretary: Maury May
 (Office:Tu,We,Thur 1:30-3:30pm)
Ministries Coordinator: Tamara Sanchez
 (Tues & Thur 10:00am-1:00pm)

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Saturday: 6:00p.m. Evening Worship
 (signed for the Hearing
 Impaired)

Sunday: 8:30am Worship
9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship

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 Issue 9

All in The **Family**

BACK TO FALL SCHEDULE

*REMEMBER .. we have one more 10 a.m. Worship
 – on Labor Day Weekend!*

**THEN ... we're back to the REGULAR
 SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES at 8:30
 a.m. and 11 a.m.**

*Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth
 and Adult forums at 9:45 a.m.*

Saturday worship remains at 6 p.m. (and is
 interpreted)

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