

**FIRST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

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

[Office@FirstLutheranSandpoint.org](mailto:Office@FirstLutheranSandpoint.org)

May 2024

# Messenger

NEWSLETTER

**Praising God | Nurturing Faith | Serving All**

## PASTOR

Duane Fister

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

9 AM in the Sanctuary

Next day online via YouTube

## COMMUNION

Served every Sunday

## COFFEE HOUR

Following Sunday worship

## YOUTUBE

First Lutheran Church,  
Sandpoint, ID

## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

9:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Lynne Campbell

## NEWSLETTER

Lynne Campbell

[Office@FirstLutheranSandpoint.org](mailto:Office@FirstLutheranSandpoint.org)

- Submit articles, ads, photos, etc., via email by the 5th of the month
- Use "Messenger" for the subject

## PASTOR DUANE'S MESSAGE

Hello and welcome!—words I want to be saying to you, but you beat me to the punch!

From the moment Lynn and I stepped into the communities of Sandpoint and First Lutheran, we have received your hellos and your welcomes in so many marvelous and generous ways.

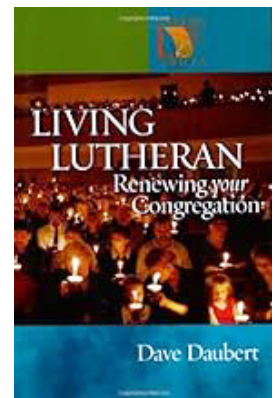
You lavished us with handshakes and hugs, meals and hospitality, encouragement, inclusion and loving embrace. And housing! Comfortable, beautiful temporary housing on your beautiful lake, all while we wait for final finishing touches to the parsonage before we can make our permanent move there.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Once strangers, overnight you received us as your own dear family members. What a marvelous big family you are! We're still at the very beginning to get to know so many of you.

So, don't be shy. My email address is [djfister@gmail.com](mailto:djfister@gmail.com) and my mobile number is (509) 998-6716. Send an email, text or give a call anytime. A coffee, a meal, a shared conversation—we are here for you. If you decide to call, please expect to leave a message, and I will be sure to call you back.

One more thing by way of news. Since the beginning of the year, before I came on board, the FLC council and possibly others have been reading a book called *Living Lutheran: Renewing Your Congregation* by Dave Daubert. At the most recent council meeting they voted to have the congregation be engaged in a renewal process. So, I invite you all to pick up a copy from Amazon.com and begin reading. It is certain to encourage, painting for you a picture of many blessings that are to come.

Pastor Duane



## STAFF & CONTACT US

### Pastor

Duane Fister  
509-998-6716

### 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

Marianne Foster  
208-946-6369

KarenMarie Moran  
503-522-1599

Lila Petersen  
208-263-2058

Linda Lacy  
208-290-8884

## WHAT'S INSIDE

2nd Harvest Feed 365.....	7	LWR Quilter's Grant .....	6
Birthdays at FLC .....	5	Pastor Duane's Message.....	1
Celebrate Pentecost .....	2	Quilting Groups.....	8
Charter School Yard Clean-Up ..	5	Recipe from 2nd Harvest.....	7
Church Council Members .....	2	Something New/Sanctuary .....	5
Community Facility Use .....	8	Staff, Contact Information .....	2
Council Meeting Highlights.....	3	Sunday Readings for May/Jun...	3
Food Bank Donations.....	7	Thanks from Helping Hands.....	7
Helping Hands News.....	5	Women's Circles .....	8
Message from Bp. Manlove .....	4		



## CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

From the Living Lutheran website:

In the church year, the day of Pentecost is the culmination of the 50 days of the Easter celebration. After showing himself to the disciples and after having ascended, Jesus' followers received the promised gift of the Holy Spirit.

On the fiftieth day of Easter, our Lutheran worship is filled with festivity, color and movement as we both conclude the Easter celebration and welcome anew the gift of the Holy Spirit.

# COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS, 5-8-24

## Parsonage:

Dan Staglund reported on progress at the parsonage and the insurance coverage issue. A rebuttal letter was sent to Church Mutual after being signed by Ray Yaw.

The building is looking great, neighbors love it. Smoke detectors were added. The flue in the basement fireplace is not safe. A gas insert was discussed. Asbestos removal in the basement is scheduled for May 15. Insurance will pay for that. The move-in date will be soon.

## Church Sewer Overflow:

A claim will be submitted to Church Mutual for the sewer pipe collapse and back up. Plumber has recommended replacement of old sewer lateral. The carpet cleaning cost will also be submitted to insurance. Gutter cleaning is on hold but will be addressed.

Our insurance policy is due for renewal on December 6. Dan Staglund is exploring other insurance companies.

## Pastor Duane and Lynn:

- Pastor Duane will use his own computer in the office.
- Pastor Duane's installation will take place on June 2 at 2 PM in the sanctuary with Bishop Manlove presiding. Sharon Roget will coordinate treats and beverages. Pastor Duane and his personal friends will move to the park for further fellowship. Ushers and sound and music will be needed.
- Payment of utilities and internet at the parsonage were discussed.
- Pastor Duane is hoping to serve Holy Communion every Sunday. More volunteers are needed.
- Lynn would like to meet with anyone who is interested in working on Evangelism.

## Tax Relief:

Diana Carlson reported on progress on tax relief for Luther Park to ease FLC's financial commitments. She emphasized getting this publicized to obtain community support and continues to work with Senior Services of America, the attorney, and the commissioners.

## Scholarship Committee Update:

Sharon Roget reported on parameters for obtaining a church scholarship to be published in the *Messenger*. We discussed opening this up to Synod candidates if there are no applicants from FLC.

Congregational renewal will begin soon. Pastor Duane asked for Council's approval that he devote a portion of his time to this effort.

**Next Council Meeting:** The next council meeting will be on 6/12/24.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Thurston

## SUNDAY READINGS FOR MAY/JUNE

### May 19...Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or  
Ezek 37:1-14  
Ps 104:24-34, 35b  
Rom 8:22-27 or  
Acts 2:1-21  
John 15:26-27;  
16:4b-15

### May 26..The Holy Trinity

Isa 6:1-8  
Ps 29  
Rom 8:12-17  
John 3:1-17

### Jun 2...Lectionary 9

Deut 5:12-15  
Ps 81:1-10  
2 Cor 4:5-12  
Mark 2:23—3:6

### June 9...Lectionary 10

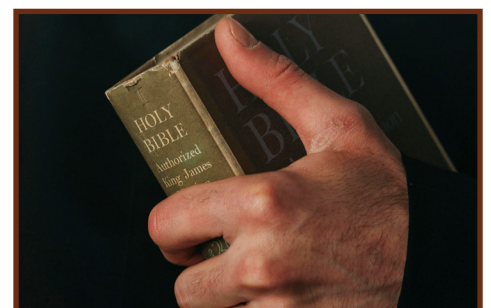
Gen 3:8-15  
Ps 130  
2 Cor 4:13—5:1  
Mark 3:20-35

### June 16...Lectionary 11

Ezek 17:22-24  
Ps 92:1-4, 12-15  
2 Cor 5:6-10 [11-13]  
14-17  
Mark 4:26-34

**Year B 2024**

**Church Year Calendar**





## THESE THINGS WE CALL CLUSTERS

### BISHOP MEGGAN MANLOVE

In our synod constitution (Chapter 12) there are five purposes of clusters:

- fostering interdependent relationships among congregations for mission purposes [in four specific areas].
- developing relationships with other religious and secular organizations dedicated to advocating justice and providing services to meet human needs.
- seeking to facilitate communication between the congregations of the cluster and the synod.
- providing a forum for conversation about matters coming before the Synod Assembly.
- submitting nominations for any available synod position to the Synod Nominating Committee.

That's the Constitution, but what does it actually look like? When I was a member of the Treasure Valley Cluster, we regularly asked, "What can we do together as a cluster that we cannot do alone?" or "What can we do better together?" That led to several collaborations. Many of our pastors met for weekly text study. We also wondered if all our churches really needed their own copier

agreements. Alternatively, in my first call in rural Western Iowa. I was in a congregation far from the hub of my mostly urban cluster, but I drove weekly for a great text study, followed by lunch, with pastors from two clusters. The collegiality was a lifeline.

We also have clusters in the NWIM Synod whose rostered leaders go on retreats together. Last week, dozens of members, rostered and lay people, of the Lower Columbia Basin Cluster went to a baseball game together!

No one is going to prescribe exactly how to be a cluster. I have told the deans that I expect them to pull together the active rostered leaders every other month online or in person to check in on one another. Many rostered leaders do meet weekly or monthly in person for text study. Lay and rostered people should come together before regular synod assemblies, as our constitution states, though I celebrate those clusters that come together more often for business or recreation or worship.

During the winter deans' retreat we created some potentially different boundaries/clusters. We encourage everyone to try these on and, if they work, we

can work toward formalizing them. Why this experiment and potential changes? So much has changed since the synod was created in the late 1980s.

[Bishop Manlove lists all the clusters; the cluster for First Lutheran is: North Idaho – Pastors Dan Forsgren and Matt Erickson.]

Last year at synod assembly, we met under the theme Bega Kwa Bega, a Swahili phrase which translates **shoulder to shoulder**.

We use this phrase to describe our relationship with our companion synod, the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese of Tanzania. It also could be used to describe cluster relationships: you and your congregations walking shoulder to shoulder with other congregations in your cluster. (I will use a future column to encourage walking bega kwa bega with ecumenical partners.) For now, know that cluster relationships are important. Sometimes members of clusters gather for a timely reason or with a specific goal. Sometimes the simple purposes for gathering are prayer and getting to know one another. If it's the latter, trust that the Holy Spirit will in time produce fruit from that faithful gathering.

Peace,  
Bishop Manlove

## SOMETHING NEW IN THE SANCTUARY

Although you likely haven't noticed, there's something new in the sanctuary!

FLC has been the beneficiary of a generous gift from the Music Conservatory of Sandpoint. While it may look much the same, the sanctuary's Kimball piano has been replaced by an upright Essex.

Essex pianos are designed by Steinway & Sons. Steinway pianos date back to the 1820's and the name has become synonymous with quality. The Essex pianos were developed in collaboration with William Faber, a renowned furniture designer.

According to Steinway, "The Essex upright has been created in the spirit of the Steinway heritage as a tribute to the idea that beautiful piano styles and finishes can and should be possible in every price range."

In addition to "elegant traditional styling and museum-quality finishes...every Essex upright offers exceptional sound and incredible value."

The old Kimball hasn't travelled far—it's been moved to the Fellowship Hall. As for the spinet the Kimball replaces, it is available for the taking (and hauling away).

If you know Karin Wedemeyer, director of the Conservatory, and should see her at a future event, please say "thank you!"

## FROM HELPING HANDS HEALING HEARTS

Excerpts from their Quarterly Newsletter written by new Executive Director, Chryl McCarty:

Wow, what a gift! I am so blessed to have been mentored by Jon and Cathy, to work with such dedicated volunteers and to do God's work on a daily basis. I am in awe of the richness of this ministry and to see Him working daily in the lives of all the people.

While learning the ins and outs of the ministry, we have been doing a monthly food drive with rotating churches, and I have been able to witness first-hand how the churches and Helping Hands Healing Hearts work together. We went from an empty pantry to a full one, even needing to store boxes of food in the basement (unheard of!).

And more blessings to come! We recently had our Good Samaritan Pouch fundraiser for our new Helping Hands Healing Hearts building on the Triangle Drive Property. The total raised from our local churches was \$69,940.06!!!

Thank you for your generosity and dedication to The Good Samaritan Inn mission!

I want to express heartfelt thanks to everyone who partners with this ministry—pastors, volunteers, churches, nonprofits, individuals—this ministry depends on our interconnectedness! Thank you,



## MID-MAY/MID-JUNE BIRTHDAYS

5/18	Meggie Cafferty
5/20	Tiffany Kurwicki-Marosi
5/26	Royce Howell
5/29	Ron Roget
6/1	Bryan Dillon
6/3	Brian Betz
6/6	Patty Hutchens
6/15	Joann Cogswell
6/17	Jim Payne

## CHARTER SCHOOL HELPS WITH YARD CLEAN-UP

On the afternoon of May 9, 40 students from Forrest Bird Charter School and the Teen Center volunteered to help with landscaping clean-up and weeding. The students worked very hard generating many bags of weeds, leaves, and debris! A huge thank you to the students and their teachers for their help in beautifying the FLC flower beds and foliage. It was a huge success!

*Helping Hands Cont'd.*

Jesus, for being the Waymaker where at times there does not seem to be a way.

I look forward to seeing more works that will be done before our eyes!

Sincerely,  
Chryl McCarty

## LWR QUILTERS PUT GRANT MONEY TO GOOD USE

Like food, housing, and just about everything else, the price of batting for making quilts has gone up. Early this year, we learned that the Advent Lutheran Church in Spokane Valley was offering grants. The LWR Quilters applied for and were given a \$450 grant for the purchase of batting.

Last week, the quilters sent Advent Lutheran Church the following letter:

Thank you so much for your grant money of \$450.00 for our Quilting project.

We purchased two rolls of batting and paid for their shipping cost to First Lutheran. We completed 56 quilts and put together 59 personal care kits. On Wednesday, April 24th, we displayed the quilts on the pews and piled half of the personal care kits around the baptismal font. On Sunday, April 28th, our quilts were blessed and, then, at the end of Sunday service, church members carried the quilts to the fellowship hall where we packed and weighed them. Today, May 1st, we will load the truck with the boxes, and first thing Friday morning we will take them to Spokane, Washington, to be loaded into the truck where they will be sent to the warehouse and then distributed around the world where needed.

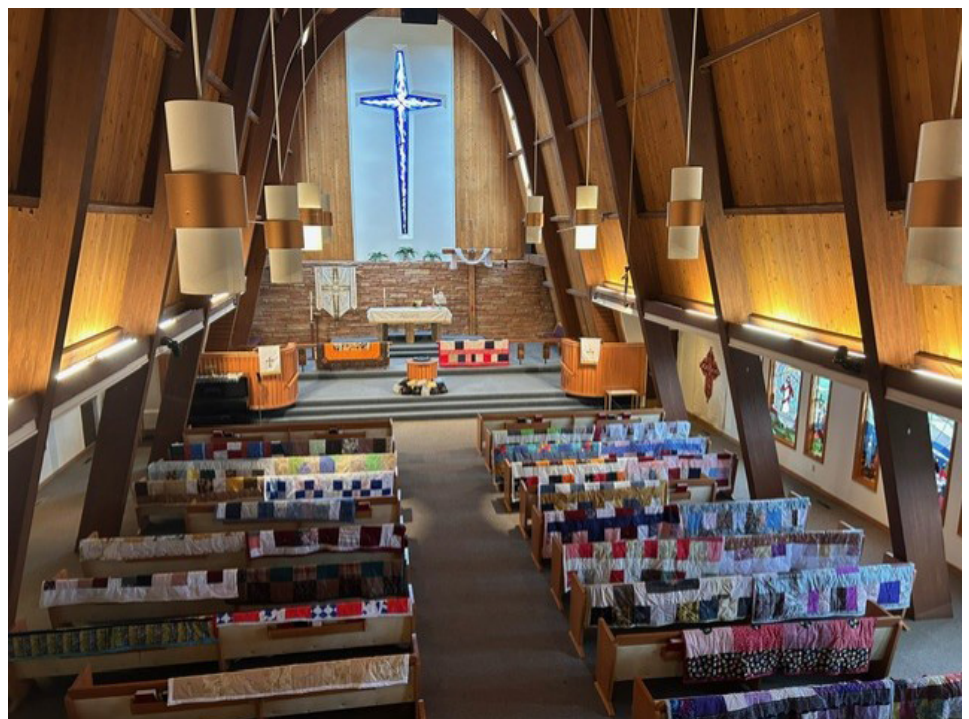
We are happy to send our quilts and kits every six months. We enjoy working together creating and packing and sending our gifts off.

Sincerely,

Sharon Roget and the First Lutheran LWR Quilting Group



*Pictured are LWR quilters packing quilts for shipment; a large roll of batting material; colorful quilts that line the pews and are blessed before being sent to those in need.*



## 2ND HARVEST FEED 365

A letter from 2nd Harvest CEO Jason Clark reads:

More neighbors are facing tough choices because of what life's throwing at them—from higher prices at the pump to surprise medical bills or rent hikes. As daily expenses pile up, healthy food is often cut from family budgets.

Because of your generosity, neighbors facing hunger have a place to turn when times are tough. Thank you, everyone!

Right now, we have a simple way for you to double your impact. Go to [2-harvest.org](http://2-harvest.org) today and join our Feed365 monthly donors. Your first monthly gift or a one-time donation will be matched up to \$8,000. The generous match will come from a gift of stock from Second Harvest donor Martha Lacy Meeks.

Martha saw the impact of food insecurity when she was a teacher and principal, and it changed her life. She now supports Second Harvest year-round as a volunteer and through her gifts of stock and monthly Feed365 donations.

"I strongly believe that people should not be hungry," Martha shared. "I've witnessed how Second Harvest manages its resources. They are faithful stewards of every donation."

Thank you for giving to Second Harvest and providing food assistance to our neighbors in need. We'd be honored to earn your support as a monthly Feed365 donor to help build a hunger-free community—today and every day.

Jason L. Clark

## FOOD BANK DONATIONS

In April, Marianne Foster reports that she collected 55 pounds of food and \$240 in cash.

May's contributions will be collected on the 26th.

Please give cash donations to Marianne Foster or to Lynne Campbell in the church office.

Thanks, as always, for your participation!

## THANKS FROM HELPING HANDS HEALING HEARTS

FLC received the following letter from Helping Hands Healing Hearts:

We are deeply grateful for your participation in our Samaritan's Pouch fundraiser for our new Helping Hands Healing Hearts building and The Good Samaritan Inn. Your generosity is very appreciated, and we thank you so much.

The total giving for your church was \$747.27. You are all to be highly commended for your giving hearts. All donations are tax deductible, and we will mail out receipts at the end of the year.

Again, we sincerely appreciate your contributions. Your support and partnership help us continue serving the needy in our community.



## VEGETABLE AND SALMON CHOWDER

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1-1/2 cups Onions diced
- 1/2 cup Carrots sliced
- 1/2 cup Celery diced
- 2 cups Potatoes canned, drained
- 10 ounces Corn frozen or 8 ounces Corn canned and drained
- 4 cups Chicken Broth low sodium
- 14 ounces Salmon drained, flaked, skin and bones removed

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Spray large saucepan with nonstick cooking spray; add onions, carrots and celery, and cook over medium heat for 3 to 4 minutes or until tender.
2. Add corn and chicken broth; heat to boiling. Reduce heat; simmer for 10 minutes. Add salmon and canned potatoes; cook for 5 minutes.

**YIELD:** 4 servings

**SERVING SIZE:** 2-1/2 cups

**COOKING TIPS:** Substitute two small diced potatoes for canned potatoes and add in when adding corn and chicken broth. You can also use frozen spinach instead of corn.



## Yoga Ministry

Classes designed for “Late Bloomers” are held weekly in the Fellowship Hall on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:15 to 9:15AM. Contact Judy Payne at 208-263-3564.

## 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

### Teen Center

Teens will be using the Fellowship Hall, kitchen and game room on schooldays from 2:30 to 5:30PM (1:30 to 5:30 on Fridays).

Contact: Joan Avery  
208-946-1087

### Music Together

Music classes in the nursery for families with children, newborns to 8 years old. 9AM and 3:30PM, Tuesdays  
Contact: Emily Bond  
262-402-8295

## Quilting Groups

### Bosom Buddies

Third Monday each month  
9:30AM-12PM, Fellowship Hall.

Contact: Linda Aavedal  
208-610-6565

### Lutheran World Relief

Wednesdays, 1:00PM  
Sunday School Quilting Room.

Contact: Sharon Roget  
208-610-9005

### Stitches of Love

*Currently working independently at home.*

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 call Brigette at 208-263-8120.

## Women’s Circles

### Phoebe / Faith Bible Study

Fourth Tuesday each month,  
1:00PM, Conference Room.

The Phoebe and Faith Bible Study groups have combined and are studying the Book of Ruth. *Gather Magazine* may be used.

For more information, contact:  
Judy Payne at 208-263-3564 or  
Sharon Roget at 208-610-9005

### Mary’s Circle

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