

THE MESSENGER

The other day, our garage door opener stopped working. The light worked but the door did not open. The remote didn't open the door. The button by the stairs didn't open the door. Nothing opened the door. It needed to be replaced. So, we bought a new one and I set out to replace our garage door opener.

The directions said it could be done by one person in four hours. I can do that. I started to take down the old one. At one point, I was up on the ladder looking at how the old opener was wired to the button and the sensors. Levi came out and asked if he could take a look. Within minutes he had everything unhooked and the opener was now lying on the floor. "That's great!" I said, "How do I know how to hook up the new opener?"

"Red to red, white to white, and the one with the black tape goes to the button." Levi did, in a manner of minutes, what would have taken me a lot longer. I'm glad he helped me out.

A bit later, when it came time to hang the new opener, I realized there was no way I could lift it up, put the ladder under it to hold it up, and bolt it in place all by myself. That part in the directions that said it could be done by one person did not consider that I only had two hands. I needed help. Fortunately, Gina was able to come out and help me with that step in the process.

I (we) did get the opener hung and it is functioning like it should, but I could not have done it all by myself, regardless of what the directions said.

We were not created to live life by ourselves. God created Adam and Adam said he needed a companion. Jesus sent out the disciples in pairs. Paul always had a travelling companion. From the very first people to populate the world, relationships mattered.

When you think about it, relationship building is the purpose of the Church. We are called not only to strengthen our own relationship with Christ, but to walk with others in their relationship with Christ, whether that be a new relationship or a life-long relationship.

Think about it this way: your relationship with Christ is like the vertical beam of the cross – reaching from the heavens down to you; your relationship with others is like the horizontal beam of the cross – reaching out to your friends and loved ones, your neighbors, and even your enemies. This is the work of the Church viewed through the work of the Cross. This is what we were created for.

This fall we're rolling out a number of new relationship builders. We're adding a few new small groups – a prayer study and a grief support group, and others are in the works for later in the year. There will be a new youth group for 5th and 6th graders. WAM is expanding. *Popovers/Dinner Groups* will be tweaked just a little. *The Chosen* groups will start back up soon. *Fantasy Football, Faith, & Fellowship* will be kicking off its second season. And, of course, there are so many more relationship builders for you to check out – choir and bell choir, women's groups and the Saturday morning men's Bible study, Confirmation partners and Mobile Banquet helpers. The list goes on and on.

This month's newsletter is a little bigger than usual because of all the stuff happening.

And all that stuff is happening because relationships matter.

 Pastor Greg**BACK TO SCHOOL****Mobile Banquet**
August 14

Extra Item:
Kitchen Towels & Dishcloths
Frisbees, Bubbles,
Sidewalk Chalk

**Back To School Blessing**
August 17**"Wine'd Down" Event**
August 21**Garden Market**
August 24

WORSHIP



USHER MEETING

Sunday, August 17 | Between Worship Services

Please join Pastor Greg for an Usher meeting on Sunday, August 17, between worship services. This meeting is open to all current ushers and anyone interested in learning more about it. Ushering is an essential part of each worship service, and Pastor Greg is eager to hear your thoughts on how things are going and what improvements can be made!

If you plan to attend, please contact Tami Hall at 402-721-2959 or tamih@flcfremont.org to sign up.

Sunday Worship each week at 8:30am & 10:15am

Holy Communion served during both
worship services each week.

We hope to see you in person at worship. However, we know there are times that won't work. FLC livestreams the Sunday 8:30am service. Watch it live or whenever you have time from our Facebook page or go to our website www.flcfremont.org and click on the *Worship With Us* button for more viewing options.

Wednesday "Pray-lude" Worship at 6:15 pm

Join us for a mid-week worship service; including a devotion and prayer prompts based on a current contemporary worship song, the hearing of the upcoming Sunday's scripture, a short meditation, a few songs, and the Celebration of Holy Communion each week.

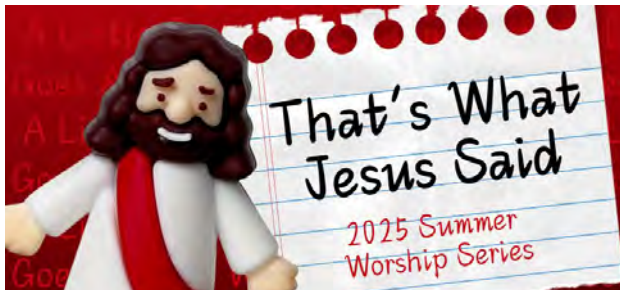


Prayers of thanksgiving for our silver senior friends who have so faithfully shared their time, resources, & friendship with our FLC family.

This month, we honor:

Gloria Jensen turning 94 on August 8

Lil Jurgens turning 100 on August 13



Don't forget to document all the adventures Jesus takes you on!

Send pictures & descriptions to the Church Office and mark your travels on the map as you walk in for worship service!

REMEMBERING IN PRAYER

Remember to let the church office know if you are facing a health concern or will be in the hospital so someone can be in contact with you. If you request, the prayer chain will also be activated. It is also helpful to our FirstCare ministry if you let us know about someone who could use a caring call.



Prayers of healing for Lorna Knudsen, Lyn Robart, Dennis, Ron Pronske, Karen McPherran, Bill Miller, Jan Larsen, Shirley Brandert (*Amy Spies' mother*), Cheryl Larsen, Rex Kuntzelman, Lyman Niebaum, John Mayo (*Andrew Olson's friend*), Gail Nielsen, Joan Scott, Steve Schmidt, and Lorna Berkland.

Prayers of peace for the family and friends of Dan Wolfe; for Wendy Grosse and her family & friends on the passing of her mother, Ramona Babl.

DISCIPLESHIP



A graphic for Fantasy Football Faith and Fellowship. It features a football player in a blue jersey with the number 53, holding a glowing cross. The text "FANTASY FOOTBALL FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP" is written in large, bold, white letters with a black outline. Below it, "EVERY TUESDAY | 7:00PM" is written in smaller white letters. In the top left corner, there is a QR code. To the right of the player, there are four small white crosses arranged vertically.

Back for 2025, FLC will be hosting a Fantasy Football League (no gambling, just for fun!) in conjunction with a weekly Bible study. **The Draft will take place on Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30pm, in the MS FLY Room, with "Team Huddles" (Bible Study) beginning on Tuesday, September 9.** Sign up [here](#), or on our website. Contact Gina (ginad@flcfremont.org) with any questions.

Men's Bible Study will be studying the Gospel of John in July. The group meets every Saturday at 8:30am in Room 122. All men are invited to join this study.

Sunday Study with Kris Lindgren will continue, "Give Up Something Bad" on Sunday mornings between services. All are welcome to join in on discussions in the Heritage Room.

Rix Study Group meets Sunday mornings between services in the Conference Room. A new study will be starting soon! Everyone is welcome!

Weekly Drop-In Pickleball: We will not have drop-in pickleball in August. We will pick up with another opening night of "Pickleball 101" on September 7 at 6:30pm in the Mission Center. **Open pickleball will resume on September 14 at 6:30pm and will continue to be on Sunday nights in the fall!**

FLC Women of the ELCA

FLC First Monday Bible Study will meet at the home of Judy Jorgensen, 1320 Ruth Avenue, on **Monday, August 4**, at 10:00am. The group will study Chapter 11 of *Just Like Jesus* by Max Lucado. Carol Bohling will serve as co-hostess. All FLC women are welcome!

Chick Flicks will meet on Tuesday, August 5 at 6:30pm in the FLY Room.

WOW (Women of the Word)

Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, August 13 at 9:30am in the Heritage Room.

Eileen Thornburg will lead the lesson on *Cling to Christ* from Max Lucado's Book, *Anxious For Nothing*. New members are always welcome!



Faith Circle will meet on Thursday, **August 14, at 7:00pm** in the FLC Conference Room. Sheri Wilberding will lead the lesson.



A graphic for Pickleball 101. It features a blue background with a yellow banner at the top that says "COME LEARN!". Below the banner, "PICKLEBALL 101" is written in large, bold, white letters. At the bottom, "SUNDAY, SEPT 7 | 6:30PM | MISSION CENTER" is written in yellow letters. To the left of the text, there is a small illustration of a pickleball and two paddles.



TLC meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, at 6:30pm in the Youth Room. If you know someone who has battled or is currently battling cancer as well as those whose lives have been touched by this disease, please take a postcard from the Welcome Center and invite them to join. Whether you've dealt with this disease in the past or are experiencing it for the first time, all are welcome to join at any time! For more information, reach out to Gina at ginad@flcfremont.org.

New Quilting Opportunity! The next opportunity to tie quilts will be on Wednesday, August 20 at 1:00pm. October will soon be here and quilts will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. We have a lot of quilts that will need to be finished by then. Please come for fellowship and service. Those wanting to sew more quilts will soon see quilt kits available in the office area. More fabric was generously gifted to us so there will be blocks that need cut and sewn together. Both can be done at home! All are welcome to come help out!

The quilting room is open EVERY Wednesday at 1:00pm for those interested in helping with this ministry. The 3rd Wednesday of each month will remain as the "official quilt tying day." Other Wednesdays will provide opportunities for people to cut backs, iron quilt tops, prep quilts for tying and more.



MISSION & OUTREACH

**HELP FLC SERVE
250+ FREE MEALS**

**FLC
MOBILE
BANQUET**

**THURS.
AUG 14
5:30-6:30
PM**

**Extra Item: Kitchen Towels & Dishcloths,
Frisbees, Bubbles, & Sidewalk Chalk**

**Sign up at www.flcfremont.org/events
or call the office at 402-721-2959**

The FLC Mobile Banquet will be delivering 250+ meals to John C. Fremont Park, LifeHouse, and ASPIRE on Thursday, August 14, from 5:30-6:30pm. Please consider helping to make this possible with your donations of food items, money or time. It's easy, sign up online or call the office to offer your help! Please have your donations to the church kitchen by NOON on Wednesday, August 13. **We are collecting kitchen towels & dishcloths as well as park fun items such as; frisbees, bubbles, and sidewalk chalk as our extra items for this month's Mobile Banquet.** Sign up at www.flcfremont.org/events, or scan the QR code.



SUMMER MINISTRY PARTNER!

**Fremont Area
United Way**

UNITED IS THE WAY TO A BETTER FUTURE!

From strengthening local resilience to advancing health, youth opportunity, and financial support, the Fremont Area United Way is working to bring people and resources together to address all challenges!

**Watch for events to support the
United Way later this summer!**



SCAN TO SUPPORT!



Summer Ministry Partner—United Way: Our Summer Ministry Partner is United Way! United Way is a global nonprofit that mobilizes communities to action so all can thrive. From strengthening local resilience to advancing health, youth opportunity, and financial security, the Fremont Area United Way is working to bring people and resources together to address all challenges. You can support United Way by making a monetary donation online by scanning the QR code or on our website, www.flcfremont.org/events. Envelopes are also available in the chair backs for cash/check donations. Watch for events to support the United Way later this summer!



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

KITS

FLC Women are sponsoring kits for LWR! These Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more.

SCHOOL

LWR School Kits contain essential supplies to help children (& some adults) continue learning in the face of serious obstacles.

PERSONAL

LWR Personal Kits provide much needed self-care, critical germ fighting, & the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear & uncertainty.

BABY

LWR Baby Kits provide the basics a family needs to care for their newest members and introduce them to the world with pride!



**SCAN
ME!**

OFFER COMFORT & CARE TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST!

Making LWR Kits is a simple way to offer comfort to those suffering & express love to our neighbors in need. A detailed list of supplies for each LWR Kit can be found at the Ministry Center or just scan the QR Code to download the PDF!

Look for a drop off area in Fellowship Hall starting this month!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NEW SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS FOR KIDS

If you feel led to nurture the children of FLC and help them learn about how much Jesus loves them, please contact Gina! This fall, Sunday School, as it has been for a while, will be changing up a little. After talking to many families, it was obvious that relationships between each other and with God are crucial in building a Children's Ministry where kids can learn about God and explore their faith. Starting in September, FLC will be offering Sunday Small Groups for children Preschool through 6th grade between worship services. (PS....adults have small group offerings at this time too!) Currently we are looking for adults who would be willing to lead a small group of non-readers (PS-K), early elementary kids (1st-3rd), or upper elementary kids (4th-6th) for 30 minutes on a Sunday morning. Materials will be provided for you. We'd like to have 3 leaders for each age group so a rotation of leaders can be created. If you have any questions or are willing to help in Children's ministry this way, please reach out to Gina at ginad@flcfremont.org.

BACK TO SCHOOL Blessing!

August 17
8:30am or 10:15am
Worship Service

Celebrate the beginning of another school year with us! All students, teachers, and school support staff will receive a special blessing & backpack tag!

REGISTER FOR YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY 2025-2026

Parent/Youth Annual Information Meeting (Youth: 5th-12th Grade)

All Youth and parents should plan to attend the annual informational meeting on Wednesday, August 20 at 7:00pm. An overview of the year will be presented, schedules will be handed out, and all questions will be answered. **Confirmation details will be discussed at the end of this meeting.** Be sure to sign up for youth ministries [here](#) and write August 20 on your calendar.

BE A CONFIRMATION PARTNER!

With the school year quickly approaching, we are needing adults to learn alongside our confirmation students. Pastor Greg does the teaching and the partners work together to grow relationships with God and each other. Our upcoming class is approximately 10 students. If you are interested in supporting our Confirmation students and are available every other Wednesday night from 7:00-8:30pm, please sign up with Gina to be a Confirmation Partner. We are hoping to have a partner for each student this year!



BE SURE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD(REN) FOR OUR YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY!

This assures we have the most accurate information for each family!

Scan the QR Code or visit www.flcfremont.org/events to sign up!

HS FLYS KICK-OFF!

SAVE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 FOR A FUN NIGHT OF OUTDOOR GAMES, SMORE'S, AND MORE! INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEW FLYS (FRESHMAN) TO JOIN IN THE FUN! MORE INFORMATION COMING OUT SOON!



NEW Youth Group Offering!

Beginning Wednesday, September 10, FLC will be offering a 5th and 6th grade youth group; **FLY 56**. Students will be able to walk to FLC or be picked up at JCAC when school lets out. To learn more about this ministry, please attend the Parent/Youth annual information meeting on Wednesday, August 20 at 7:00pm.

Contact **Gina DeBoer** (ginad@flcfremont.org) with any questions regarding Youth & Children's Ministries!

EARLY LEARNING CENTER



We hope you've had a restful and enjoyable summer break. As we are preparing to begin a new school year, we're excited to welcome both returning and new families to the ELC & Preschool.

Our team has been working hard to get everything ready for a successful and enriching year of learning, growth, and connection.

From creative crafts and outdoor play to story time adventures and special theme days, the children have been busy learning, laughing, and making great memories with their friends.

The Preschool classes will start back on Thursday, August 14th. Our teachers are looking forward to another successful school year!



FLC EARLY LEARNING CENTER FUNDRAISER!

**TUESDAY
AUGUST 26
ALL DAY**

**MENTION THIS
FUNDRAISER TO YOUR
SERVER AND APPLEBEE'S
WILL CONTRIBUTE 25%
OF YOUR ORDER TO
SUPPORT OUR ELC!**

3420 ELK LN | FREMONT, NE



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – July

July FLC Council Highlights

- Food truck festival with Show and Shine Car Show scheduled for July 31
- Over 40 students are registered for the True North VBS scheduled for July 27-31
- Fall kick off for programming is planned for September 7

Respectfully Submitted by Derek Fey, FLC Council Secretary

***Please reach out to the Church Office if you would like a copy of the Council meeting minutes.*

Monthly Financial Report

	June Actual	June Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Prior YTD
Pledged Giving	\$ 48,730.83	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 720,000.00	\$ 774,532.09	\$ 684,572.03
General Income	\$ 54,236.51	\$ 63,035.00	\$ 771,425.00	\$ 861,060.88	\$ 744,934.97
Mission Income	\$ 3,210.29	\$ 4,004.16	\$ 47,041.68	\$ 56,008.98	\$ 86,986.92
Expenses	\$ 92,729.07	\$ 100,225.34	\$ 833,896.32	\$ 831,614.56	\$ 770,565.86
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$ (35,282.27)	\$ (33,186.18)	\$ (15,429.64)	\$ 85,455.30	\$ 61,356.03
Building Fund Contributions	\$ 2,470.00			\$ 37,121.98	\$ 33,862.67
Build Fund Balance	45,462.69				

Pledged giving was \$11K under budget for June and July is starting off weaker than budget as well. The positive side is it remains over budget YTD and over last year. Historically, summer months will use reserves but FLC should end the fiscal year on 8/31 with a positive bottom line which is much better than the negative budgeted amount. The ELC has not had as profitable year and will end the year with a loss. July 21st the roofing and skylight replacement project should begin. We were fortunate to earn some extra income on the insurance check to help offset the expenses. The next fiscal year starts 9/1 so we are working on budgets for the next fiscal year and the annual meeting. Mark your calendars for September 28th! Hard to believe the new program year is right around the corner! Blessings for a GREAT school and program year!

~ Wendy Grosse, Administrator



Targeted Giving... (as of 6/30/25) We want to give people of FLC the opportunity to give in a *targeted* way around their particular interests and passion, as well as the needs of our mission and ministry. The following categories have primarily existed in our Memorial and Special Gift Account, but we want you to be aware of these different funds on an on-going basis. Your financial support in these *targeted* areas will bring critical support to the ministry of our congregation! Thank you for the many ways that you give!

Worship/Music	\$9,574.50	Bible Camp Scholarship	\$3,493.38	Spoudazo	\$10,042.62
Technology	\$2,814.66	Good Samaritan	\$2,515.46	ELC Tuition Assistance	\$2,130.17
Church Home	\$1,330.67	Prayer Shawl	\$1,571.97	Banquet Mobile Meal	\$6,013.95
Building Maint.	\$45,462.69	Quilt Ministry	\$3,744.07	Youth Trips	\$1,686.20
First Lutheran Youth	\$5,005.61	Children's WAM	\$3,597.16	VBS	\$714.95

STUDENTS & MILITARY PERSONNEL - WE WANT TO CELEBRATE YOU! -

First Lutheran Women will again be remembering recent high school graduates, college students, and military personnel on their birthday and with a small gift during the year. For your child to be remembered, please send us their name, birthday, current address, and home (family) address. If they are in school please include their year in school & school attending. If they are in the Military, please include their branch of service. We want them to stay connected with our First Lutheran family. Scan the QR Code to fill out the form or email Gina at ginad@flcfremont.org



"WINE'D DOWN" AT WINE EXPERIENCE!

THURSDAY | AUGUST 21
5:30-7:00PM

ENJOY A NIGHT OF
FELLOWSHIP AND SEASONAL
WINE & SNACK PAIRINGS

**\$20
PER
PERSON**
PAY WHEN YOU
ARRIVE AT
EVENT

RSVP

- SIGN UP ONLINE: -
WWW.FLCFREMONT.ORG/EVENTS
- SCAN THE QR CODE -
- SIGN UP AT THE MINISTRY CENTER -



WINE EXPERIENCE
415 N MAIN STREET | FREMONT

SPONSOR A BIBLE!

GIVEN TO:
3YR OLDS
3RD GRADERS
7TH GRADERS

**\$25
EACH**

HELP US PUT THE WORD OF GOD IN THE HANDS OF CHILDREN!

25+ Students will receive Bibles this
year! Give them the gift of the Word and
a small special message from you!

**BIBLES GIVEN AT KICK-OFF
SUNDAY ON SEPTEMBER 7**

Contact Gina to choose your
student, ginad@flcfremont.org



Garden Market



AUGUST 24 | FLC

FRESH
PRODUCE

HOMEMADE
CRAFTS

FRESH
FLOWERS

Keep that in mind as you work in your garden, make jam/jelly, or craft projects. Show off your handywork at our FLC Garden Market! Donations will support the Fremont Area United Way.

Contact heidir@flcfremont.org by August 17 if you can share items with the market!

**THANK
YOU!**



Thank you to everyone who donated to, prayed for, and volunteered at VBS. This ministry could not happen without the joint efforts of FLC. We are excited to have had SO many kids register and look forward to sharing photos with you in the September newsletter! Whenever we wonder, feel alone, feel powerless, and need help we can Trust Jesus!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

SEPTEMBER 7 @ FLC

Sign up at redcrossblood.org
or call Niki at 402-720-1825

DONATE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

Every person who donates blood on Sept 7 will
be entered to win either 2-Husker Volleyball
Tickets & 2-Husker Football Tickets!



JOIN US ON KICK-OFF SUNDAY FOR OUR...

MINISTRY FAIR!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
BETWEEN WORSHIP SERVICES | 9:30-10:15AM

**COME SEE WHAT RELATIONSHIP BUILDERS
WE HAVE FOR YOU HERE AT FLC!**

**MEMBERS OF ALL FLC
MINISTRIES WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR YOU
TO ASK QUESTIONS.**

**START BUILDING
RELATIONSHIPS
WITH OTHERS
THROUGH CHRIST.**

RELATIONSHIP BUILDERS:

ADULT CHOIR
ALTAR TEAM
BELL CHOIR
BLOOD MOBILE
BREAKFAST CLUB
CHICK FLICKS
CHOSE GROUP STUDY
CONFIRMATION
EARLY LEARNING CENTER (ELC)
FAITH UNCHAINED PRAISE BAND
FLC FOODIES
FIRST LUTHERAN YOUTH (FLYS)
FANTASY FOOTBALL, FAITH
& FELLOWSHIP (FFFF)

FUNERAL TEAMS
HOSPITALITY
HUGS
FLC WOMEN
FAITH STUDY GROUP
WELCA
GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
LENTEN MEALS
MONTHLY MINISTRY PARTNERS
MOBILE BANQUET
MONEY COUNTERS
MOWERS/SNOW REMOVAL
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (OCC)

OFFICE COVERAGE
PRAYER CHAIN
QUILTER MINISTRY
RED CROSS SHELTER TEAM
SPECIAL EVENTS
SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS-KIDS
SUNDAY SMALL GROUP WITH KRIS
SUNDAY SMALL GROUP- RIX GROUP
VISITATION TEAM
WOMEN OF THE WORD (WOW)
WORSHIP ARTS MINISTRY (WAM)
WORSHIP ASST/READERS
TOGETHER LIVING W/ CANCER (TLC)
AND SO MUCH MORE!