

THE MESSENGER

Have you read the Gospel of Mark? It's fast-paced action, not like John whose style and word choices make you slow down and pay attention. Matthew and Luke are more story-like – there's action but there is also description, detail, and depth. Paul's letter to the Romans is an English teacher's nightmare. Revelation is...well...challenging. All the books of the Bible have their own personalities and it doesn't get much more direct than Mark.

Mark doesn't talk about prophecies, in fact, he doesn't even talk about the birth of Jesus. He only writes about the ministry of Jesus. Not familiar with the Gospel of Mark? Here's what it looks like simplified:

Jesus did ____ and then he did ____ and immediately after that, he ____, and then he ____ and immediately after that, he ____.

Just non-stop action. Go-go-going all the time.

No scheming or game-planning. Just ministry. All the time.

But not us though. We need to plan and think and wonder and question and worry and all the other things we do. We don't fill a need when we see a need until we have a plan and permission. We play it safe. We're very cautious with our grace – we might not have enough, you know (that's sarcasm, by the way).

I want to be clear – we can't run into every ministry idea without at least a little forethought. But we can't become paralyzed by the process either.

Let me ask you some personal questions:

1. What has God put on your heart?
2. What is stopping you from acting on that?
3. What would encourage you to take that first step?
4. Have you ever just said, "Why not?" and gone and done something?

It's not just individuals that get stuck in that self-induced bureaucracy. It's pastors, councils, churches, synods, bishops, denominations, etc. Even guys from the Bible struggled with this.

Peter wanted an invitation to step onto the water with Jesus.
Joshua needed very clear directions before he took on Jericho.
Gideon needed proof.

And so on and so forth....

And God was in it all. Every time. To the end of the age. *(which hasn't come yet, by the way, which means God is still in it all)*

Swing by the office and tell me what God is putting on your heart. What is God calling you to do? Where is God asking you to help out? What roadblocks are in your way? Who's causing you to stumble?

Who's clearing the path? Who's removing the roadblocks?

Who's walking with you? Who's showing you the way? Who's got this?

God's got this. And our God is a god of action.

Pastor Greg



WORSHIP

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

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 6:15pm

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.

Holy Communion is served during all worship services each week.

CONNECTION MATTERS.

Whether we are gathered within the walls of First Lutheran or joining together from the comfort of our living rooms, our connection as a faith community remains unbreakable. We recognize that the church is not defined by a physical building, but by the hearts and spirits of the people who compose it.

By bridging the gap between pews and online views, we strive to ensure that every member feels seen, heard, and valued. No matter the distance, we are united in one purpose and one spirit, continuing to grow, pray, and flourish together as one inseparable family.

LIVE STREAMING

We stream Sunday 8:30am worship and some special services live on our **website, Facebook, & YouTube**.
An account is not needed for Facebook & YouTube.

Links to our live streams can be found under the "Worship" tab on our website, or linked in our Weekly E-News email.
(Contact allisont@flcfremont.org if you'd like to receive our weekly email)

Missed the live stream? No problem!

Within an hour after the service ends, the service is available to view from our **Worship Library** located on our website under the "Worship" tab.

AUDIO CDs

Audio recordings of our 8:30am worship are available upon request.
CD players are available to borrow if needed.
If you are interested, please call the Church Office at 402-721-2959 or email amys@flcfremont.org

Assistance is available upon request for **Live Streaming and **CD Player Set Up**.*

HEARING ASSISTANCE

If you need hearing assistance during worship, devices are available at the sound booth in the back of the Worship Center.
Please ask an usher or sound booth operator for help.

LIMITED MOBILITY SEATING

Seating is available in the Worship Center for individuals with limited mobility. These spaces are reserved with signs on the floor for walkers and wheelchairs and a seat for a companion.

FIRSTCARE VISITS

FirstCare is about taking care of those who are home-bound, residing in care facilities, or who are experiencing a critical incident. If you are in need of a visit, prayers, communion, or help from our faith community, please connect with Deacon Karen Melang at 402-721-2959 or karenm@flcfremont.org

If you have any feedback or suggestions on other services we can offer, please contact us!
contact@flcfremont.org | 402-721-2959



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

This month, we honor:

Sharon Landholm turning 94 on May 13

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 Lyn Robart, Dennis, Bill Miller, Jan Larsen, Shirley Brandert (*Amy Spies' mother*), John Clopper, Joy Horn, Gayle Paschall, Virginia Gard, Ron Pronske, Butch Scott, Jeff Glosser, Steve Hall, Ray Meister, Marge Sperling, Jerry Schelling, Elton DeBoer, & Melvin Hultgren (*Lori Wells' brother*)

Prayers of peace for Lon & Carol Bohling on the loss of Lon's Sister, Susan; for family & friends on the loss of Gene Anderson

DISCIPLESHIP

FLC Women

FLC First Monday Bible Study will meet on **Monday, May 4**, at 10:00am at the home of Judy Jorgensen, 1320 Ruth Ave. Carol Bohling will serve as co-hostess. The study will be Chapter 5 of Max Lucado's book, *"Unshakable Hope."* FLC women are invited to participate in this one hour study.

Chick Flicks meets the first Tuesday of each month. This month, we will meet on **Tuesday, May 5**, at 6:30pm in the FLY Room.



WOW (Women of the Word) Bible Study will meet on **Wednesday, May 13** at 9:30am in the Heritage Room. Evelyn Eldridge will lead us through Chapter 7 of Max Lucado's book, *Psalms: Life Lessons*. New members are always welcome!

Faith Circle will meet on **Thursday, May 14** in the Conference Room at 7:00pm. Evelyn Eldridge will lead the lesson.



We Read And Ponder (WRAP) meets every 2nd and 4th Monday mornings from 9:30-11:00am at the home of Norma Moxness (800 N. Garden City Rd.). Join us as we WRAP ourselves in God's Word. For more information, call Norma at 402-317-9638.

Men's Bible Study will continue their study on the Book of Acts. The group meets every Saturday at 8:30am in Room 122. All men are invited to join this study.

Sunday Small Group with Kris Lindgren will continue their study on *Out of the Mouths of Babies*, a booklet of devotions inspired by the insights of children. Join us on Sunday mornings between services at 9:30am in the Heritage Room. All are welcome to join. No prep needed — just come as you are, ready to listen, share, and grow in faith.

Rix Bible Study meets Sunday mornings between services in the Conference Room. The group will continue their study on Max Lucado's *Gospel of Luke*.

WORK DAY

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH INCLUDED!

AT CAROL JOY HOLLING CAMP
SATURDAY, MAY 16
7:30AM-1:30PM

HELP SET THE VIBE FOR CAMP!
PROJECTS FOR ALL AGES!



SCAN THE QR CODE TO VOLUNTEER
OR GO TO NLOM.ORG/EVENTS

Work Day at CJH! Volunteer to set the vibe for summer camp on Saturday, May 16 for a work day at Carol Joy Holling Camp! CJH needs help with various projects that will help get them ready to welcome campers. There are projects for everyone — every age and ability (*kids 16 & under must be accompanied by an adult*). Breakfast & lunch are included. Scan the QR code or visit nlom.org/events to sign up.

Support Our FLY Room Furniture Project!

WE'RE LOOKING TO ADD MORE FURNITURE TO CREATE A SPACE FOR CONNECTION, GROWTH, & COMMUNITY FOR ALL OUR YOUTH & SMALL GROUPS!



HOW TO DONATE:
• SCAN THE QR CODE
• WWW.FLCFREMONT.ORG/EVENTS
• INCLUDED IN THE OFFERING PLATE
• DROPPED OFF AT THE CHURCH OFFICE



TLC is the second Tuesday each month and designed to provide emotional & spiritual support to all those who have been touched by cancer. This is a no cost, no commitment group that is completely safe & confidential with new topics each month. All materials are provided. Facilitators are Nan Merz & Jill Norenberg. **Questions?** Contact the Church Office.

Next Session: Tuesday, May 12, 6:30-7:30pm at FLC

Whether you're a seasoned pro or have never even threaded a needle, we'd love to have you join our quilting group! **We meet every Wednesday at 1:00 PM in the Quilting Room (Rm 141) for an afternoon of creativity and conversation.** Don't worry if you don't know how to sew—we are more than happy to teach you the ropes. There are plenty of ways to help out while you learn (cut, color match, tie knots, and more!). Come grab a seat, meet some friendly neighbors, and help us piece together something beautiful! All are welcome to come help. Contact Gina (ginad@flcfremont.org) with questions.



MISSION & OUTREACH

GRATITUDE ON WHEELS

Honoring Heroes, Feeding Community, Driving Hope.



THURSDAY, JULY 23 | 5-7PM

We are excited to host Gratitude on Wheels this summer to thank our local first responders and foster community, cooperation, & goodwill.

We look forward to seeing the whole community as we honor those who serve us.

If you would like to support this event with donations to cover meal costs, have food vendor ideas or BIG vehicle suggestions please contact heidir@flcfremont.org



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

NE Community Blood Bank
Your Donation stays in NEBRASKA!

If you are willing to give blood this summer, please scan the QR Code or go to our website & complete the survey.

WE NEED 30 RESPONSES TO INSURE THE BLOODMOBILE CAN PARTICIPATE



FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

FREE Meals
for First Responders
Variety of food vendors
for all tastes!



Cars,
Trucks,
& Bikes

SHOW & SHINE CAR SHOW

Contact Ron Schultz
402.720.1193
with questions

MAY MINISTRY PARTNER:
LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES

KICK IT UP

SHOE & SOCK COLLECTION

Collect shoes & socks for the LFS Friends & Family Event!
Every pair of shoes and socks will go towards supporting vulnerable children & families in our community!

Donations can be dropped off at the Church Office.

For more information, visit our website
www.flcfremont.org



GOALS:

100 PAIRS OF SHOES

200 PAIRS OF SOCKS

SIZES: BIRTH TO AGE 6



In May, we are partnering with **Lutheran Family Services**. We will be collecting donations of new children's shoes and socks (birth through age 6) the LFS Friends and Family Event on June 4.

Ways To Help:

- Shop on your own
- Shop through our Amazon Wish List
- Make an online donation through our website so we can shop for you.

Our goal is to exceed 100 pairs of sweet little shoes and to gather at least 200 pairs of socks. Help support vulnerable children and families in our community.

HELP FLC SERVE
270+ FREE MEALS

May FLC MOBILE BANQUET



Extra Items: Beach Towels, Bath Towels and Disinfectant Wipes

**DISTRIBUTION LOCATION:
REGENCY MOBILE HOME PARK
S09 S. BROAD STREET**



The Mobile Banquet will be delivering 270+ meals to the Regency, LifeHouse, and ASPIRE on Thursday, May 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 deliver donations to the church kitchen by NOON on Wednesday, May 13.

We are collecting Beach Towels, Bath Towels, & Disinfectant Wipes as our extra items for this month's Mobile Banquet.

Sign up by scanning the QR code or online at www.flcfremont.org/ministries/mission-and-outreach

CHILDREN AND YOUTH



**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE
EXTENDED TO
MAY 6, 2026**



Spoudazo NextGen 2026: "Know ~~NO~~ God"
We are looking for **30 students** (8th-12th grade) who have a passion for sharing the gospel through singing & acting! This year's program follows several clients who seek therapy for the negativities in life. Through various exercises, each patient learns that to **KNOW GOD** is to know His love, grace, peace, and so much more!

Rehearsals begin on May 26 and will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-8:30pm. Camp is July 7th-9th from 9:00am-3:00pm. Tour dates are July 15-19 with the home concert being held at FLC on July 26. The group will head West into Colorado on tour.

**The cost has been reduced to \$175!
Registration and \$100 of the total cost
is due by May 6, 2026.**

Scan the QR code or go online to www.flcfremont.org/events to register.



Our 2026 FLY Trip Is Coming Up FAST!

We'll be holding a required orientation on **Tuesday, May 19 at 7:00pm**

for **all students** attending the Nashville mission trip.

Parents are asked to attend, as there will be several permission and release forms that require signatures. During the meeting, participants will also work together to create a group covenant and take part in a pre-trip Bible study.



We invite all 5th and 6th graders to join us once a month during the summer for a day of service and fun! The day will include a service project for the community in the morning, enjoying a lunch together, and participating in a fun fellowship activity in the afternoon. Please scan the QR code or visit our website to sign up. **Sign up by May 22 to receive all the details!** Friends are welcome to join in on the fun!



End Of Year Parties—Wed, May 6

FLY56: 3:30-5pm | **MS FLYs:** 7-8:30pm | **HS FLYs:** 7-9:00pm



FLC will be celebrating the graduating class of 2026 during worship on Wednesday, May 13 at 6:15pm. Please join us to celebrate and bless these young adults as they complete their high school careers and step into the great big world to shine the light of Jesus. **If you have a graduating senior that would like to be recognized, please RSVP to Gina by Sunday, May 10, with a senior picture, baby picture, and future plans of your senior.**



We're excited to share that FLC has purchased a 15-passenger van!

As our youth programs continue to grow, this addition will open the door to more mission trips, service projects, and fellowship opportunities. The van is already being put to good use this May—transporting youth to serve at Nye Legacy and helping WAM celebrate the end of the program year with a bowling outing.

Thank you to everyone whose generosity made this possible. This new resource will truly enhance and expand our ministry opportunities.

JOIN US ON MAY 10 FOR THE LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS FOR KIDS!

Families are welcome to join the kids in Rm 105 to create a special gift to celebrate the moms or mom-like-women in our lives. Come put "Pieces of Love" together to show these women how special they are!



As we are welcoming many new babies into our church family, we are encouraging families who are planning a baptism to call and secure your spot early as our calendar is filling up quickly! This ensures we can celebrate this special occasion together at a time that works best for your family. Please contact the Church Office with any questions or to reserve your preferred date.

VBS IS FREE!

AGES 4 YEARS OLD TO 6TH GRADE!

DECORATION WORK DAY!
 Join us on Tuesday, May 19 at 1:00pm for a high-energy decoration workday. We'll be crafting towering palm trees, tangling up some authentic jungle vines, and whipping up a few more surprises to make this year's adventure unforgettable for the kids. Whether you're a DIY pro or just really good at taping things together, we've got a spot for you! Come for the crafting, stay for the laughs, and let's get this rainforest growing!

RAINFOREST FALLS
 Exploring The Nature of God

JULY 19-22 | 5:30-8:15PM
 (SUPPER 5:30-6:00PM DAILY)

JULY 23 | 5:30PM, CLOSING PROGRAM

EXPLORE THE NATURE OF GOD AT FLC!

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT WWW.FLCFREMONT.ORG/VBS

SCAN FOR ALL THINGS VBS!



EARLY LEARNING CENTER



April Showers bring May flowers...Spring is on its way, and we are excited to embrace the warmer weather and all the new learning opportunities that come with it! The school year is flying by, and we've got so many exciting things planned as we head into the final stretch!

Themes We're Exploring This Month:

- ⇒ **Flowers & Gardens:** We'll be talking about flowers, bugs, rainbows, and how things grow.
- ⇒ **Mother's Day:** We're making special crafts to celebrate the important people in our lives!
- ⇒ **Kindness:** When we intentionally focus on kindness, we create spaces where students feel safe, valued, and ready to learn. A simple smile, a helping hand, or words of encouragement can shape someone's entire day—and overtime, their confidence and sense of belonging.

Classroom Happenings:

- ⇒ **Art Projects:** Look out for colorful spring artwork coming home soon!
- ⇒ **Garden Fun:** We'll be planting seeds and learning how to take care of them. Siffring Landscaping will be demonstrating and helping us plant flowers to grow and take home for Mother's Day.

We're so grateful for your continued support and love watching your little ones grow. Wishing you a joyful and sunny May!



ELC IS HIRING FULL TIME TODDLER TEACHERS

WHAT WE OFFER

- Competitive Wages
- No Hours After 5:30pm
- Evenings/Weekends/Holidays Off
- Sick & Vacation Leave
- Flexible Scheduling

APPLY NOW

402.721.2959

[mindyo@flcfremont.org](mailto:mindy@flcfremont.org)




3 & 4 YEAR OLD CHILDCARE OPENINGS

Call to schedule a tour!

PROGRAM FEATURES:

- Beginning sign language
- High quality childcare
- Early Education Program
- Faith-based teaching
- STEP UP TO QUALITY RATED

ENROLL NOW

402.721.2959

[mindyo@flcfremont.org](mailto:mindy@flcfremont.org)



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS — April

April FLC Council Highlights

- *Authorized the purchase of a new tables for the conference and heritage rooms for about \$20,000.
- *Authorized the purchase of additional furniture for the FLY room, also used by many other groups, for about \$12,300.
- Authorized the replacement of the two furnace boilers for about \$155,000. The new boiler will be a single one, but with four heat exchangers and logic to rotate their use to provide better longevity and equal wear over time.
- We are encouraging everyone to respond to the e-mail from the Nebraska Synod by taking their Baptismal Promises survey. E-mails were sent out in the last couple of weeks.

*Furniture is coming from donors who allocated money to these areas.

Respectfully Submitted by Dave Poppe, FLC Council Secretary

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

Monthly Financial Report

	March Actual	March Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Prior YTD
Pledged Giving	\$ 63,168.08	\$ 72,000.00	\$ 580,000.00	\$ 586,299.79	\$ 614,058.60
General Income	\$ 69,385.01	\$ 84,297.17	\$ 644,235.15	\$ 661,574.80	\$ 675,783.87
Mission Income	\$ 5,066.63	\$ 6,225.00	\$ 41,475.00	\$ 37,403.52	\$ 40,711.28
Expenses	\$ 75,674.89	\$ 96,197.34	\$ 627,173.30	\$ 593,589.90	\$ 588,643.89
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$ (1,223.25)	\$ (5,675.17)	\$ 58,536.85	\$ 105,388.42	\$ 127,851.26
Building Maintenance Fund Contributions	\$ 2,788.00			\$ 30,929.79	\$ 29,970.50
Build Fund Balance	50,171.18				

Pledged giving was slightly under budget again in March but over budget YTD. Expenses were also under budgeted for the month so March ended with a \$1K loss. YTD the bottom line is ahead of budget but lower than last year as you can see. FLC should end the fiscal year August 31st with a positive bottom line. What a blessing! We continue to work through the project list with donors including new conference tables, new library and FLY room furniture, and van. ELC had a profit in March and anticipate they will break even for their fiscal year ending 8/31. It's crazy to think we will be starting budgets for the new fiscal year beginning 9/1. Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting 9/27! Looking forward to the beauty and new life of spring!

~ Wendy Grosse, Administrator

Targeted Giving... (as of 3/31/26) 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	\$3,380.71	Bible Camp Scholarship	\$5,292.51	Spoudazo	\$3,308.01
Technology	\$603.15	Good Samaritan	\$2,315.46	ELC Tuition Assistance	\$2,130.17
Church Home	\$396.75	Prayer Shawl	\$1,571.97	Banquet Mobile Meal	\$7,671.53
Building Maint.	\$50,171.18	Quilt Ministry	\$3,964.07	Youth Trips	\$8,820.95
First Lutheran Youth	\$4,654.75	Children's WAM	\$2,258.19	VBS	\$-1,513.43

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 CONFIRMANDS!

Congratulations to our 13 confirmands! We celebrated with these students as they affirmed their Baptism and professed their faith during worship on Sunday, April 26. It was indeed a special day to celebrate with you. This is the beginning of an incredible journey through life with God at your side. May He love you and guide you to live your life with grace.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 CONFIRMANDS

Zachary Bopp

Maygen Muller

Jenna Dahl

Brenna Prenzlow

Macie Fuchser

Elora Schneringer

Vail George

Trey Thomas

Elliot King

Madeline Vech

Addison Morgan

Brielle Vrba

Luke Walters

