



FIRST NEWS

July 2025
flcplattsmouth.360unite.com
flcplattsmouth@gmail.com

First Lutheran Church, LCMS
1025 Avenue D
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 - 12:30

Sunday

Adult Bible Study: 8:15AM
Worship/Communion: 9:30AM

Wednesday

Midweek Summer Worship
6:30pm

Paraments

7/1 - 7/31 Green

From The Pastor's Desk

Christian Freedom: Bound to Christ

The fourth of July is marked as the celebration of American independence and freedom. Indeed, what a blessing it is to live in a country where we are not bound to one particular creed or ruler, but we enjoy and exercise a wealth of freedom and earthly rights. The First Amendment (freedom to gather, petition, speak, worship) is an incredible blessing when it comes to the lived experiences of our faith.

It can be easy, however, to get caught up in the fireworks, barbeques, and gatherings that we take this freedom for granted. Similarly, we may forget about our true freedom in Christ and what that means.

My grandma had a sticker of the slogan, "Freedom isn't Free", for years in her motorhome window. It is first a reference to those who continue to defend our American freedoms and independence. However, we can apply this same saying to who we are as Christians. One, our true and eternal freedom is purchased and won at an immense price - the blood of Christ (see 1 Corinthians 6:20). The Son of God took on human flesh to do the unthinkable for us - laying down His life for our own sake, in our place, so that we could be set free from the conquered enemies of sin, death, and the power of the devil.

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Now, this doesn't mean we can do whatever we want in this life. St. Paul writes: "Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?" (Romans 6:1b-2)

Those who leave prison cannot do whatever they want – there are guidelines and rules for everyday life. Even as Americans, we may have freedom in some ways – yet we are bound to the laws of the land. You can't go as fast as you want on the highway or build a skyscraper in your backyard, for example.

As Christians, our freedom means that we are bound to Christ. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live like Christ, to speak, forgive, love, and care like Him. Rather than lawless living we live covered in His grace and seek to do God's will - that we would be His own, do His work, and live forever with Him!

Celebrate the gift of freedom, this July and always!

Pastor Ryan

WORSHIP THEMES FOR JULY

July 2 - Midweek Service - "Third Commandment"

July 6 - Fourth S. after Pentecost.....Matthew 12:1-8

Divine Service Setting 1 - "Third Commandment"

July 9 -Midweek Service - "Fourth Commandment"

July 13 - Fifth S. after Pentecost..... Matthew 22:15-22

Divine Service Setting 2 - "Fourth Commandment"

July 16 - Midweek Service - "Fifth Commandment"

July 20 -Sixth S. after Pentecost..... Luke 10:25-37

Divine Service Setting 3 - "Fifth Commandment"

July 23 - Midweek Service - "Sixth Commandment"

July 27 - Seventh S. after Pentecost.....Mark 10:6-12

Divine Service Setting 4 - "Sixth Commandment"

July 30 - Midweek Service - "Seventh Commandment"

Summer Midweek Services

The Summer Midweek Services have begun! Going out of town or have weekend plans? Want to invite friends or family to worship? Join us every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm throughout the Summer for this informal Divine service. Communion is offered weekly.



Faith Foundations Class

Faith Foundations is an informational 6-session class for all adults who are interested in the basics of the Christian Faith, looking to become a communicant members of First Lutheran Church, or would like a refresher!

A new class will be offered this fall. Please let Pastor Ryan know if you are interested in attending.



The Ten Commandments are more than just good suggestions or guidelines for life. In them, we receive God's teaching "about what we are to do in order that our whole life may be pleasing to God" (Luther's Large Catechism). Though we cannot keep them perfectly, we see God's commitment to making us His redeemed and made-new people. This summer we will be unpacking and applying each of the Ten Commandments:

July 2/6 - 3rd Commandment

July 9/13 - 4th Commandment

July 16/20 - 5th Commandment (Guest Pastor Gary Werling)

July 23/27 - 6th Commandment

July 30/August 3 - 7th Commandment

August 6/10 - 8th Commandment

August 13/17 - 9th Commandment (Guest Pastor David List)

August 20/24 - 10th Commandment



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS



A heartfelt **thank you** to all the incredible volunteers who dedicated their time and energy to make this year's Vacation Bible School a truly memorable experience. Your efforts helped create a fun-filled week that not only brought joy to the children but also drew our community closer to Jesus. We couldn't have done it without you!





LCMS NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING UPDATE!



July 2025 is finally here! This month Thousands of youth and adults from all 35 districts will join together in New Orleans Including 14 from our own congregation for the 16th triennial LCMS Youth Gathering. The theme for the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering is ENDURE and is based on Hebrews 12:1-3. We will have a special commissioning and sending for participants on **Sunday July 13th** during worship.

The Gathering is more than the five days of the event. The preparation process for the Gathering brings together young people and supportive adults to encourage each other in their baptismal identity. The Gathering provides young people a vision for the vastness of Christ's Church and equips them for vocational service as they continue their walk with Jesus. The Gathering is more than the five days of the event. The preparation process for the Gathering brings together young people and supportive adults to encourage each other in their baptismal identity. The Gathering provides young people a vision for the vastness of Christ's Church and equips them for vocational service as they continue their walk with Jesus.

This event is organized by LCMS Youth Ministry in Saint Louis, MO. For additional ways to connect to LCMS Youth Ministry, please visit www.lcms.org/youth.



SET APART TO SERVE

LCMS CHURCH WORK RECRUITMENT



God gives His church pastors and church workers for the sake of the Gospel. Pastors proclaim Christ and administer the Sacraments, means through which people receive Christ's saving work. Church workers assist the pastoral office in service to the Word, witnessing to Christ daily in various roles. Christ's church will continue until He returns, and that church will continue to need workers. Parents/grandparents, pastors, professional church workers, Sunday school teachers and others in our congregation help influence children to consider serving the church in these sacred and joyful vocations. Set Apart to Serve (SAS) is an initiative of the LCMS to recruit church workers. Since church work is rooted in Baptism and a lifetime of hearing the Word, SAS encourages young people to consider church work vocations primarily through their continued and faithful involvement with their congregation.

Christmas

in **JULY**

Salad Luncheon

LUNCHEON - BAKE SALE - BAZAAR

**Thursday, July 31st
11am-1pm**

1025 AVENUE D, PLATTSMOUTH, NE 402-296-2832

FLCPLATTSMOUTH.360UNITE.COM

Free Will Donation-Take-Out Available

**Hosted by the FLC Ladies Guild
to benefit LWML Local and National
Mission Projects.**

LWML Ladies Guild News

Christmas in July Salad Luncheon

Mark your calendars for a delightful summer event! The LWML Ladies Guild is excited to announce our annual "Christmas in July Salad Luncheon" scheduled for Thursday, July 31st, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A signup sheet will be posted in the Narthex for those who wish to contribute salads. In addition to the salad luncheon, attendees will have the opportunity to explore a craft show and bazaar!

While there will be no regular Ladies Guild meeting in July, we invite all members to join us in setting up for the luncheon on Tuesday, July 29th, at 9 a.m. We will meet in the church's lower level to prepare for this exciting day. Your help and participation are greatly appreciated.

Summer Food Drive

This summer, the Ladies Guild is proud to sponsor a food drive for the "Under His Wings" food pantry. We encourage everyone to contribute non-perishable food items to help those in need.

These specific items are requested each week.

6/29 - 7/6: Canned chicken, jelly, pancake syrup.

7/13 - 7/20: Spaghetti sauce, fruit cocktail, muffin mix.

7/27 - 8/3: Taco seasoning and shells, canned tomatoes, toilet paper.

Additional information on how to make donations will be available in the weekly bulletins. Together, we can make a significant impact in our community.

Upcoming Elections

Looking ahead to August, we will hold an election of officers for the Ladies Guild. If you are interested in serving as an officer, please reach out to Pat Meisinger. This is a wonderful opportunity to take an active role in shaping the future of our group and contributing to our mission.

Join Us!

The LWML Ladies Guild invites all women of First Lutheran Church to join us. Whether you are a long-time member or new to the community, we welcome you to be part of our vibrant and supportive group. Together, we can make a difference while enjoying fellowship and friendship.

2025 Plattsmouth Harvest Festival



It's that time of year!

The Plattsmouth Harvest Festival is a 3 day event that celebrates local agriculture, community spirit and autumn delights. The theme for this event is "United in Harvest". The D.O.T. is seeking volunteers to design and build a float to enter in the annual parade. If you are interested, sign up on the bulletin board or speak with Bark Morehead.

Voter's Meeting
Sunday, July 27th
Following Worship

Agenda Items Include:

Election of Lay Leaders
Ministry Exploration

Updates On:

District Convention
Faith Lutheran Academy
Budget Task Force

Bible Study

Men In The Word

Saturday,
July 12th and 26th
9:00 am



QUARTER 3 (JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER) 2025

Our highlighted mission for Quarter 3 is Lutheran Family Services. You may use the Blue Mission Envelopes, or any envelope designated to FLC Mission Fund, to support this ministry. Lutheran Family Services (LFS) expresses God's love for all people by providing quality human care services that build and strengthen individual, family, and community life. Jens Acamo, LFS Church Relations Specialist, will be with us on Sunday August 24th to share more about LFS.

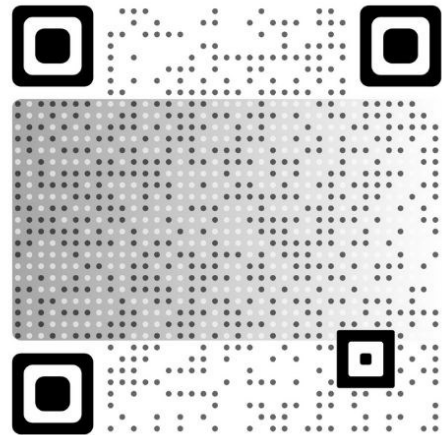
Q4 2025 (OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER) MISSION CENTRAL



Join Our Online Community!

The new Website has been launched. Join our online community! You will have access to discussions, events and updates that only “members” will have. If you have not received an email invitation, you may need to check in with the office to update your contact information. To access

the site, use the QR Code or visit:
flcplattsmouth.360unite.com



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Anytime, Anywhere, from Any Device



What is the Church?
Derwin Gray



The Book of 2 Corinthians
Rich Villodas



The Good Shepherd
Heather Thompson Day

Electronic Offerings Update

To use the QR code point your cell phone camera at the code and click the link that appears. You will be taken to the Vanco website to set up your account. By following the prompts on the screen you can set up your account, establish a recurring offering, or submit a one time offering.

Contact Doug Wilkerson (Financial Secretary) or any Board of Directors member for more information. A detailed instruction sheet on setting up your account can be picked up at the church office.



Vanco QR Code



Paypal QR Code

July Birthdays

Kari Blazina - 7/1
Burnie Endorf - 7/4
Sarah Harvey - 7/4
Axel Schippert - 7/7
Mary Peters - 7/10
Teagan Glup - 7/11
Summer Ketchum - 7/11
Elizabeth Harvey - 7/12
Cody Lingnau - 7/14

Marilyn Morrison - 7/14
Kayla Handy - 7/16
Betty Kunke - 7/16
Lena Schlechte - 7/16
Marlene Rishel - 7/18
Alexi Wilkins - 7/21
Max Mueller - 7/25
Jensen Glup - 7/27
Lexi Schroeder - 7/31

July Baptismal Birthdays

Matt Boardman - 7/1
Hope Dreesen - 7/1
Katie Bogle - 7/2
Rita Offutt - 7/6
Bruce Glup - 7/7
Nathan Glup - 7/7
Jocelynn Glup - 7/8
Robbi Zech - 7/8

Kari Blazina - 7/9
Amber Wilkins - 7/10
Jodi Derby - 7/15
Kelly Berg - 7/16
Clair Glup - 7/16
Jacob Morris - 7/16
Stacey Morris - 7/16
Lorie Yelick - 7/18

Mike Berg - 7/25
Marilyn Morrison - 7/26
Amanda Chubb - 7/27
Gayle Fude - 7/28
Brad Young - 7/28
Ryan Rye - 7/30

Elder of the Month

Lyle Ostrander

July Counters

Amber Wilkins
Tim Roth

July 2 ProPresenter TBA

Usher
Steve Kolb

July 6 ProPresenter Dave Offutt

Greeters
Rhonda Roth
Jodi Derby
Abigail Harvey

Ushers
Nicole Scott
Carrie Kolb
Doug Derby, Jr.
Adam Harvey

July 9 ProPresenter TBA

Usher
Orion Berg

July 13 ProPresenter Jim Hill

Greeters
Lyle Ostrander
Michelle Ostrander
Matthew Harvey
Doug Derby, Jr.

Ushers
Seth Schroeder
Randy Schroeder
Orion Berg
Stephen Rye

July 16 ProPresenter TBA

Usher
Steve Kolb

July 20 ProPresenter Dave Offutt

Greeters
Barb Morehead
Wendy Zielke
Eli Zielke

Ushers
Deb Hill
Meta Barnett
Ed Vincent
Stan Hoemann

July 23 ProPresenter TBA

Usher
Jim Hill

July 27 ProPresenter Jim Hill

Usher
Nicole Scott
Matthew Harvey
Orion Berg
Doug Derby, Jr.

July 30 ProPresenter TBA

Usher
Steve Kolb

Church Directory

Our current online directory "Instant Church Directory" will be available until Monday, July 7th. Our new directory is already available at flcplattsmouth.360unite.com/members. You can upload your own photo anytime or sign up on the bulletin board to have your photo taken.

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Together we pray...						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Help shape a strong curriculum.	Bless the communications team's outreach.	Let the vision be clear.	Grant business planning clear direction.	Provide tools for wise decisions.	Keep Christ at our center.	Unify our efforts and goals.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Raise awareness in our community.	Prepare hearts to serve students.	Inspire joyful support from volunteers.	Open doors for future families.	Grow faith through each challenge.	Encourage leaders with Your peace.	Remove obstacles in Your time.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Provide a place to grow.	Help us teach with love.	Guide all meetings and discussions.	Multiply efforts for lasting impact.	Build a school that blesses.	Give clarity in our choices.	Strengthen communication and trust.
27	28	29	30	31		
Prepare the way, O Lord.	Stir passion for Christian learning.	Let excellence honor Your name.	Provide workers for the harvest.	We trust You with tomorrow.		

UPDATES

Steering Committee Meeting
July 10th

Search for Board of Directors

One lay delegate from each association congregation

Site Exploration

Developing questions and requirements for possible school locations

2025

July

Board of Elders

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 3 rd Mission Quarter Begins Budget Task Force 6pm In Person	2 Midweek Worship 6:30pm	3 Church Office Closed	4 <i>Happy Independence Day</i>	5 Men in the Word 9am
6 Adult Study 8:15am Worship 9:30am	7	8	9 Midweek Worship 6:30pm	10	11	12
13 Adult Study 8:15am Worship 9:30am Special Commissioning NYG Board of Elders 11:00am	14	15	16 Men's Breakfast 8am Midweek Worship 6:30pm	17 Carpool leaves FLC Plattsmouth 5:30am Load Bus FLC Papillion 6:00am	18	19 No Ladies Guild Meeting
20 Adult Study 8:15am Worship 9:30am	21	22	23 Midweek Worship 6:30pm	24 Bus Arrives FLC Papillion 9:00pm	25	26 Men in the Word 9am
LCMS National Youth Gathering NOLA				Youth and Leaders Return		
27 Adult Study 8:15am Worship 9:30am Voters Meeting Following Worship	28 Board of Directors 6pm	29	30 Midweek Worship 6:30pm	31 LWML Christmas In July 11am-1pm		