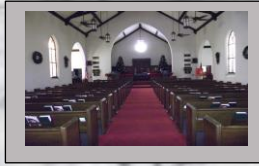


FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS

BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON

March 2023



Volume 26 No. 3

First Things First...

Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

1Peter 5:5b-7

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

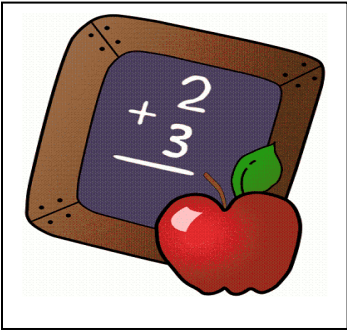
Early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Resurrection Celebration there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. During this season those who received Christ as Savior during the previous year were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins, thereby separating themselves from the congregation, were reconciled by true repentance and forgiveness and restoration into the life of the Church. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and of the need of everyone to repent from sins and to renew faith. I invite you, therefore, to join me in observing a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting (both public and private); by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word; and finally, by regular attendance at our Sunday and Wednesday services.

The theme of our Lenten worship is: Relying on Christ for our every need. Each Sunday and each Wednesday we will examine a different area of our spiritual life, focusing on how Jesus provides growth and maturity for us in all our needs. For our noontime Wednesday services, Pastor Kight and I will be sharing from the Word on an alternating basis. I invite and encourage you to attend as many of these learning events as you can.

We have renewed the "Children's Church" during the sermon of our worship services on Sundays. Our desire is that this Bible study time for our younger children will enable families with those children the opportunity for their parents to concentrate on the messages being delivered.

Finally, I ask you to consider whether there is anything in this life, in this world, which is more important than your salvation in Christ. Come, join in the celebration of the life eternal he purchased for you on the cross and sealed to you by his resurrection. If you agree that his redemption of you is indeed your greatest gift, please join in celebrating Jesus whenever you have the opportunity.

Jesus loves you and so do I.
Pastor Grier



First School And Day Care

The First School has been hosting Children's Church and nursery care for our church on Sundays. Everything has been going so well with our children and they have been learning so much! Each week we have a story, scripture, and a game for the lesson reinforcement. Our class 3 yrs and up follows the children's sermon. However, the nursery is available for infants through 2 yrs old from the beginning and duration of church service. Please invite your friends and family for our Children's Church so they can have fun learning about God.

Many Blessings,
Bree Joines
First School Director

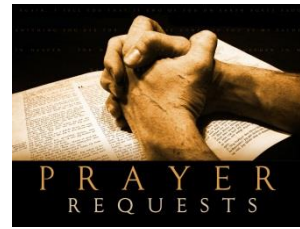
**First School Board Meeting –
Thursday, March 9th, at 5:00 p.m.**

MARCH READINGS

- 03/04 Exodus 15:19-27, Psalm 66:5-12, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Luke 1:1-4
- 03/12 Exodus 16:1-8, Psalm 66:13-15, 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, Luke 1:5-17
- 03/19 Exodus 16:9-18, Psalm 66:16-20, 1 Corinthians 10:6-11, Luke 1:28-23
- 03/26 Exodus 16:19-26, Psalm 67:1-5, 1 Corinthians 10:12-17, Luke 1:24-38



- 03/07 Ryan Woodson
- 03/08 Thomas Hernandez
- 03/10 Misty Ledwig
- 30/16 Shirley Chatel
- 03/16 James Herrington
- 03/29 Abigail Hernandez



- Our FLC Family**
- Dorothy Atchetee
 - Harlo & Rhonda Atchetee
 - Charles Bard
 - Ron Chambles
 - Shirley Chatel
 - Bonnie Jones
 - Marilyn Kight
 - Kim & Larry Ledwig
 - Family of Odis Newton
 - Jimmy Nielsen
 - Ashley Schoeneberg
 - Bentley

- Friends of FLC**
- Family of Albina Joines



- 03/06 Jaqueline Lundy
- 03/06 Cathy Schoenfield
- 03/10 Rachel Hernandez
- 03/13 Brantley Doege
- 03/13 Alvin Yackel
- 03/23 Sheila Miller
- 03/25 Emma Jo Barosh

List will be cleared on the 1st in January, April, July and October. Please help us stay current; call the office with changes or additions.



**PRAY FOR
ALL WHO
SERVE IN
THE US MILITARY**



- 03/18 Kirk & Nerissa House
- 03/19 Saby & Lynette Hernandez
- 03/30 Doug & Cindy Mathews

WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US



OR



Office hours: Tues & Thurs: 8:00am - 4:30pm
Wed: 8:00am – 12:00pm

Phone: 979-543-5847
Email: office@firstlutheranec.com



COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, March 16th
6:00 p.m.

Pastor Clyde Grier:
Phone: 979-541-6173

FLCEC Manna Meals Team

Our FLCEC Manna Meals Team will be serving on Thursday, March 30th. Please let Cathy Schoenfield know if you will be able to help. Help is always needed with serving and cleaning up!

Where all are family and all are fed

+ + + + + + + +

Spring Forward!

On Sunday, March 12th, daylight saving time begins! Remember to "spring forward" – turn your clocks ahead one hour so you will be on time for our morning service.

Newly elected Church Council Members:

Karen Kight, Kim Ledwig, Doug Mathews

Continuing Church Council Members:

Calvin Borak, Will Joines,
Kirk Marek, Cindy Mathews,

Elected to First School Board:

Billie Jean Bram, Cathy Schoenfield, Diane Stewart

Continuing on First School Board

Helen Kight, Cori Koudela

Elected to Cemetery Board:

David Kight

Continuing on Cemetery Board:

Calvin Borak, Pat Marek

Auditors – 2023

Karen Kight, Helen Johnson

Nominating Committee – 2023

Sheila Herrington, Billie Jean Bram, Kim Ledwig

First School Board

Thursday, March 9th
5:00 p.m.

Church Council

Thursday, March 16th
6:00 p.m.

A = Always

S = Say

A = A

P = Prayer



Lenten Schedule

Lenten Services – Wednesdays – 12:15pm

March 1st

March 8th

March 15th

March 22nd

March 29th

Maundy Thursday, April 6 – meal with
Communion – 6:15 p.m. Service - 6:45 p.m.

Good Friday, April 7 – 12:15 p.m.

SONrise Celebration, Sunday, April 9–10:45 a.m.

*"Return to the Lord,
your God. He is
merciful,
compassionate, and
always ready to
forgive."*

Joel 2:13



March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Lenten Service</i> 12:15PM	2	3	4
5 <i>Sunday School</i> 9:30 AM <i>Worship Service</i> 10:45 AM w/Communion	6	7	8 <i>Lenten Service</i> 12:15PM	9 <i>FS Board Meeting</i> 5:00PM	10	11
12 <i>Sunday School</i> 9:30 AM <i>Worship Service</i> 10:45 AM	13	14 <i>Newsletter Items Due</i>	15 <i>Lenten Service</i> 12:15PM	16 <i>Church Council Meeting</i> 6:00PM	17	18
19 <i>Sunday School</i> 9:30 AM <i>Worship Service</i> 10:45 AM w/Communion	20	21	22 <i>Lenten Service</i> 12:15PM	23	24	25
26 <i>Sunday School</i> 9:30 AM <i>Worship Service</i> 10:45 AM	27	28	29 <i>Lenten Service</i> 12:15PM	30 <i>Manna Meals</i> 5-6:30 PM <i>FLCEC Team serves</i>	31	

March Responsibilities

ASSISTING MINISTER: Jimmy Nielsen
SEXTON: Doug Mathews
USHERS: Doug Mathews, James Stewart
ALTAR GUILD: Cindy Mathews, Helen Johnson

READER

5th Ted Schoenfield
 12th Calvin Borak
 19th Cathy Schoenfield
 26th Diane Stewart

If you are unable to serve on your date,
 please find someone to take your place.



MARCH FLOWER CALENDAR

5th Open
 12th Open
 19th Open
 26th Doug & Cindy Mathews

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

304 Oscar
El Campo, TX 77437
979-543-5847

Email: office@firstlutheranec.com

ESTABLISHED FEB 1893

*Worshipping Christ and Sharing
the Word for over a century.*

Clyde Grier, Pastor
Helen Marie Kight, Organist
Christine Richter, Office Manager
Bree Joines, Director of First School

March

Join us on **FACEBOOK** or check us out at
www.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS: Calvin Borak, Will Joines, Karen Kight, Kim Ledwig, Kirk Marek, Cindy Mathews, Doug Mathews,



OUR NEWSLETTER
CAN BE FOUND ON
OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM



Sunday School – 9:30 a.m
Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.