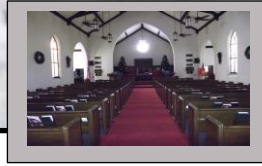


# FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS

BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON

May 2023



Volume 26 No. 5

## *First Things First*

***“... Since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for ‘all flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass, the grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.’ And this word is the good news that was preached to you.”*** 1 Peter 1: 22-25

There is nothing in this world more important than your redemption. The truth of the gospel cannot fail in its mission to grant forgiveness and eternal life to those who hear it and believe it. The good news of Jesus dying for sin and of his resurrection bringing an end to the power of death births the faith which is your salvation. Romans 1:16 reveals this dynamic and lasting miracle is true for everyone who believes its message.

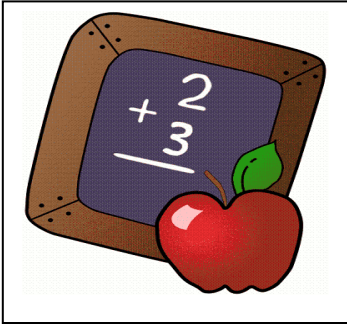
Then, why do we have peaks and valleys in our faith? Sometimes, we fail to live to the standards of purity which God seeks and desires to be known in the lives of those calling themselves Christian. At other times, we have doubts as to the validity and reliability of what we read or hear in God's word. Peter in this letter assures his readers that the faith which they enjoy is not based on myths or fantasies but rests firmly on the foundation of a true, living, and abiding message. So, why the peaks and valleys?

The follower of Christ still inhabits a body of flesh. The struggle with temptation is very real. The work of building a life through the Word of God continues daily that we might show the world, that while we are flawed, we are forgiven and continually being drawn nearer to the likeness of our Savior. Paul illustrates this saying: “Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider it that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:12-14) We are all works in progress, not to our detriment, but to God's glory.

Beloved of the Lord, abide in his word knowing that through the power of the Holy Spirit you are being changed daily to be more like Jesus.

As always, remember this: Jesus loves you and so do I!

Pastor Grier



# First School And Day Care

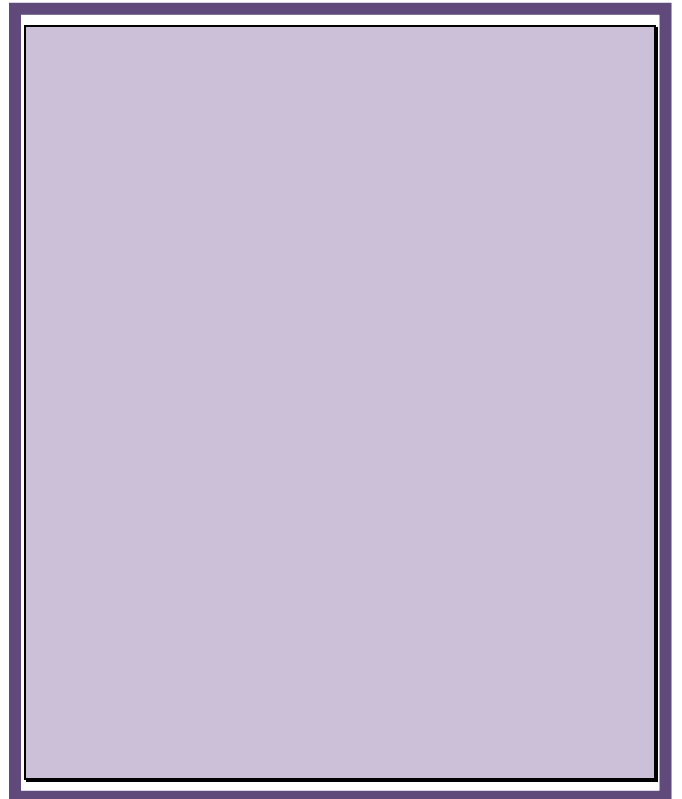


We would like to invite anyone who would like to come to our Preschool and Pre-K Graduation. The Graduation will be held in our church sanctuary on Thursday, May 18th at 6:30 p.m. We are excited about our program and the children are very excited as well. We hope to see you there!

Many Blessings,

Bree Joines

The First School Director



**First School Board Meeting –  
Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 p.m.**

## MAY READINGS

- 05/07 Exodus 18:17-24, Psalm 68:11-18, 1 Corinthians 11:11-16, Luke 1:67-80
- 05/14 Exodus 19:1-11, Psalm 68:19-23, 1 Corinthians 11:17-22, Luke 2:1-20
- 05/21 2 Kings 2:9-15, Psalm 24:1-6, Acts 1: 1-11, Mark 16:14-20
- 05/28 Joel 2:28-29 , Psalm 104:24,30-34, Acts 2:1-11 , John 14:23-31a



- 05/01 Kim Kainer
- 05/05 Robert Hollingsworth
- 05/20 Emery Langston
- 05/23 Dagny Thane
- 05/25 Shane Langston
- 05/26 Kathleen Joines
- 05/30 Evon Atchetee



**Our FLC Family**

- Dorothy Atchetee
- Harlo & Rhonda Atchetee
- Charles Bard
- Ron Chambles
- Shirley Chatel
- Marilyn Kight
- Kim & Larry Ledwig
- Lloyd Nelson
- Ashley Schoeneberg
- Bentley

**Friends of FLC**

- Laurie Cooper
- Candace



- 05/02 Kirk House
- 05/11 Ed Campbell
- 05/13 Sheila Herrington
- 05/14 Shane Langston
- 05/14 Sarah Langston
- 05/24 Abigail Hernandez

*List will be cleared on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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**



**WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US**



OR



- 05/23 Stanley & Marolyn McMillan
- 05/25 Daniel & Claudia Wilfert

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

Phone: 979-543-5847  
Email: [office@firstlutheranec.com](mailto:office@firstlutheranec.com)



**COUNCIL MEETING**  
Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m.

**Pastor Clyde Grier:**  
Phone: 979-541-6173

### FLCEC Manna Meals Team

Our FLCEC Manna Meals Team will be serving on Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Please let Cathy Schoenfield know if you will be able to help. Many meals are served on Monday and Thursday each week!

Where all are family and all are fed

### National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 4

**Theme: Pray fervently in righteousness and avail much**

James 5:16b

<sup>16</sup> The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

### First School Board

Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 p.m.

### Church Council

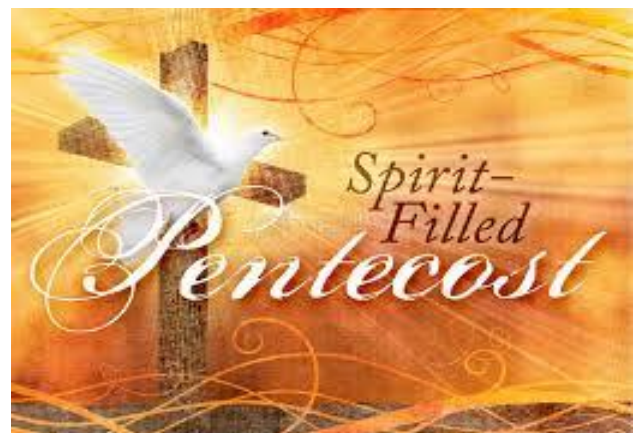
Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m.

A = Always

S = Say

A = A

P = Prayer



# May 2023



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

## May Responsibilities

**ASSISTING MINISTER:** Calvin Borak  
**SEXTON:** Kirk Marek  
**USHERS:** Calvin Borak, Lionel Chatel  
**ALTAR GUILD:** Nerissa House, Kirbie Woods

### READER

7<sup>th</sup> Cathy Schoenfield  
 14<sup>th</sup> Diane Stewart  
 21<sup>st</sup> Helen Johnson  
 28<sup>th</sup> Ty Schoenfield

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



## MAY FLOWER CALENDAR

7<sup>th</sup> Open  
 14<sup>th</sup> Open  
 21<sup>st</sup> James & Sheila Herrington  
 28<sup>th</sup> Jimmy & Sharon Nielsen



## **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

Email: [office@firstlutheranec.com](mailto:office@firstlutheranec.com)

ESTABLISHED FEB 1893

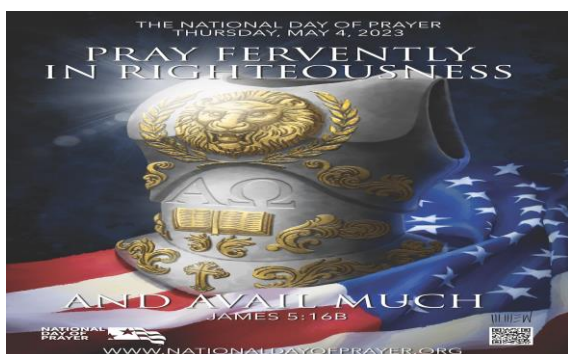
*Worshipping Christ and Sharing  
the Word for over a century.*

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



Join us on **FACEBOOK** or check us out at  
[www.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM](http://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](http://WWW.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM)**



**Join us for worship  
on Sunday mornings!**

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