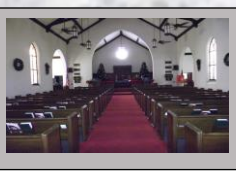
# FIRST FRUITS

**WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS** **BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON**

**August 2020** **Volume 23 No. 8**

# *First Things First…*

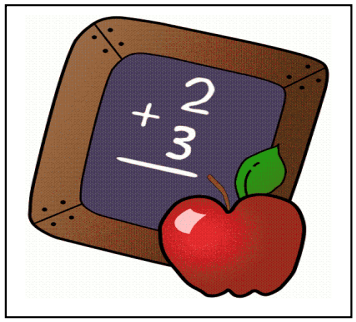
## This I Believe

***"…in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect."*** **1 Peter 3:15**

Belief exerts a powerful influence on every aspect of life. As Peter says above, there is a hope in everyone who believes in Christ the Lord. Each one of us should be ready, at any time, to make a defense (tell the reason) for that hope. In the series of statements which began in the February edition of *First Fruits,* I plan to share a summary of what I believe so that you may know me more fully and so you may see the reason for the hope that is in me. I continue the series with my belief regarding the Means of Grace.

I believe that through the means of grace God communicates seals and assures the forgiveness of sins to all believers. The "means of grace" is unique to Lutheran teaching and declares that God works only through established and recognized and revealed means. This is God's choice and not of His inability to utilize any other means, i.e. direct revelation or manifestation to an individual (such as occurred to Abram in Genesis 12:1-9). The means of grace are the Gospel and the Sacraments. The Gospel is that good news portraying what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. The Biblical Sacraments are recognized by the definition: "a sacred act, instituted by Christ, in which physical elements are connected with and comprehended according to God's command and through which God communicates, seals and assures the forgiveness of sins to believing recipients." The Biblical Sacraments are two in number: Baptism as the initiatory and adoptive sacrament, and Holy Communion, as the repetitive, confirmatory and assurant sacrament. Since it is the Word of God (namely the Gospel) that makes the Sacraments a means of grace and the Gospel is a means of grace on its own, I speak of the Gospel as the primary means of grace and the Sacraments as the secondary means of grace.

This, I believe, is most certainly true, Pastor Grier




# First School And Day Care

First School has 85 children. It has been a long summer so far this year!! Our school has been in high stress mode during all of the new Covid regulations we have been under. We are still going strong and God is in control. However, I would like to ask you to pray for us during this uncertain time especially as our school age kids return to school. Thank you for your continued commitment and support of our school!

Many Blessings,

Bree Joines

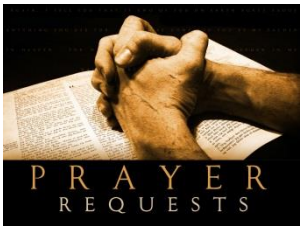
First School Director

**First School Board Meeting –**
**Tuesday, August 11th, 5:30 p.m.**

## August Readings

08/02 Psalm 18:30-36; Genesis 21:22-34, Acts 13:1-12, Matthew 9:14-26
08/09 Psalm 18:37-43; Genesis 22:1-19, Acts 13:13-25, Matthew 9:27-38
08/16 Psalm 18:44-50; Genesis 22:20-24, Acts 13:26-41, Matthew 10:1-15
08/23 Psalm 19:1-7; Genesis 23:1-20, Acts 13:42-52, Matthew 10:16-33
08/30 Psalm 19:8-14; Genesis 24:1-10, Acts 14:1-7, Matthew 10:34-11:1

08/03 Gaynard Wigginton
08/05 Alvin Yackel
08/05 Larry Young
08/06 Haley Orsak
08/07 Daniela Rodriguez
08/12 Milton Johnson
08/23 Liam Joines
08/27 Nikolas Woodson
08/28 Ronald Chambles
08/31 Ryan Hanna
08/31 Heather Langston




**Our FLC Family**
Dorothy Atchetee
Harlo & Rhonda Atchetee
Charles Bard
Ron Chambles
Parke & Lynda Christenberry
James & Sheila Herrington
Nora Hollingsworth
Jewel Deen House
Harry & Marilyn Kight
Kim & Larry Ledwig
John Nelson
Odis Newton
Ruth Speckels
Charlotte Watson
Larry & Cheryl Young

**Friends of FLC**
Lucille
Dustin & Catherine Sless
Riley Sless
Camille Flisowski
Jolene

08/01 Dorothy Atchetee
08/01 Jan Nelson
08/01 Diane Stewart
08/03 David Kight
08/06 Dagny Thane
08/13 Helen Kight
08/13 Ruth Speckels
08/25 Matthew Stewart
08/29 Landon Thane
08/31 Ryan Hanna

08/14 Jimmy & Sharon Nielsen

*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 OUR
LOVED ONES
IN THE MILITARY

Jake Barosh
U.S. Armed Forces

## 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, August 20th
6:00 p.m.

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

As First School and all school districts determine the best way to reopen safely, here is a verse of encouragement (for all of us) in this time of uncertainty:

**"I hereby command you:**
**Be strong and courageous;**
**do not be frightened or dismayed,**
**for the Lord your God is with you**
**wherever you go." Joshua 1:9**

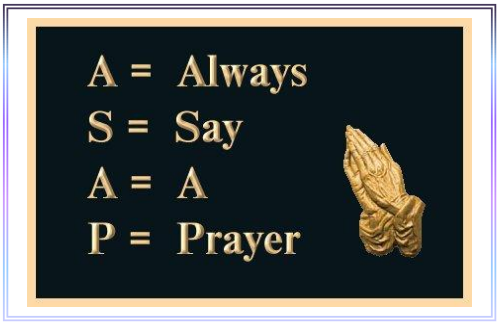
## FLCEC Manna Meals Team

Our FLCEC Manna Meals Team will be serving on Thursday, August 6th. Please let Cathy Schoenfield know if you will be able to help. Over the Summer the teams have been providing about 250 meals each time they serve. This is an important outreach effort helping those in our community who are in need of a meal during this time of the pandemic. Serving of food will continue to be delivered to the vehicles rather than gathering inside. Thank you to all who are able to help prepare food, serve, and clean up!

WOMEN OF THE WORD MEETING

Monday, August 3rd
6:00 p.m.

**WOW Food Drive**
Sunday, August 2nd



**Semi-Annual**
**Congregational Meeting**

**Please mark your calendar for Sunday, August 30, 2020. Following worship, we will have a Potluck Lunch and then our semi-annual meeting.**

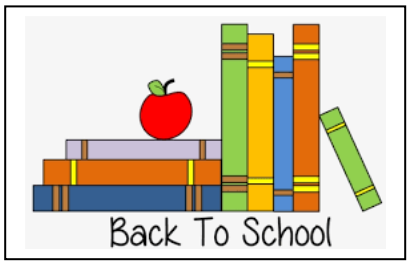
**LCMC Annual Gathering**
**Monday only - October 5, 2020**
**North Heights Lutheran Church**
Arden Hills, Minnesota

**Theme: LCMC 3.0**
**Keynote Speakers**

**Attendance is limited to the first 250 to sign up.**
**(Changes are ongoing due to COVID-19.)**

**For more information visit:**
**www.lcmc.net/annual-gathering**

# August 2020




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

## August Responsibilities

**ASSISTING MINISTER:** Daniel Wilfert
**SEXTON:** Jimmy Nielsen
**USHERS:** Lynn Talafuse, Ted Schoenfield
**ALTAR GUILD**: Karen & David Kight

| | ACOLYTES | READER |
|---|---|---|
| 2nd | | Diane Stewart |
| 9th | | Helen Johnson |
| 16th | | Lynn Talafuse |
| 23rd | | Ty Schoenfield |
| 30th | | Kirk Marek |

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

## AUGUST FLOWER CALENDAR

| | |
|---|---|
| 2nd | Open |
| 9th | Pastor & Alys Grier |
| 16th | Open |
| 23rd | Kirk & Pat Marek |
| 30th | Open |

# 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***

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

*CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS: Milton Johnson, David Kight, Kirk Marek, Jimmy Nielsen, Cathy Schoenfield & Lynn Talafuse.*

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

**Join us on Sunday mornings!**

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