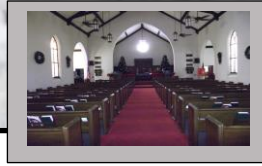


FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS

BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON

September 2022



Volume 25 No. 9

First Things First...

Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; He makes my feet like the deer's; He makes me tread on my high places.

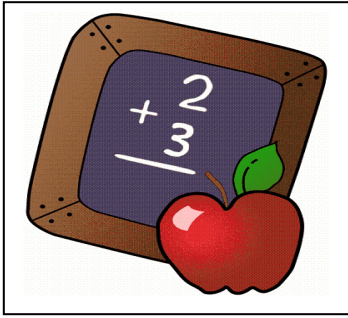
Habakkuk 3:17-19

What a profound and inspiring faith statement! Judah anticipates an invasion by the armies of the Assyrian Empire. As is the case in every military threat against God's people, the adversary holds what seems an overwhelming and irresistible advantage. In the face of such odds Habakkuk prophesies, "Do not worry! God will send the Chaldeans to rid you of the Assyrians." Judah's relief would be short-lived because the Chaldeans (better known as Babylonians) would eventually conquer and deport the Judeans in the 70-years Captivity. Despite the threats of war and a tough economic future, Habakkuk expresses joy, trust, and deliverance through the tough times of life. His faith was unshakable.

In verse seventeen, the delicacies of life are cut off: no figs for sweetness, no grapes for wine, no olives for the oils that were essential to domestic use and foreign trade. If life were devoid of food, no clothing from the wool and mohair of the flocks, and finally no oxen for soil preparation, how could anyone survive let alone how could one be thankful, joyful, or secure? The prophet declares, "...in the God of my Salvation!"

As a disciple of Jesus, I pray I, too, can have that attitude. As a pastor, I pray I can communicate the same message to you. *And we know that for those who love God all things (whether those things seem good, bad, helpful, or hurtful) work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28).* Take heart, Beloved of the LORD, He will bear you up (Isaiah 40:28-31)!

Jesus loves you and so do I! Pastor Grier



First School And Day Care

The First School has 120 children and still has a large wait list. With parents calling every day in need of care for their young children we are trying to continue to expand. We recently had a vote with the congregation on adding a new daycare building on the vacant lot. The vote passed so we will go forward and continue our plans to expand. The building will be a long process, but a worthwhile one! We are so grateful for most of everyone's support and prayers! Please continue to keep us in prayer during this process.

Also, I wanted to invite everyone to our first annual community pumpkin patch in Evans Park on Saturday, October 8th! We are looking forward to it and we hope to see you there!!

Many Blessings,

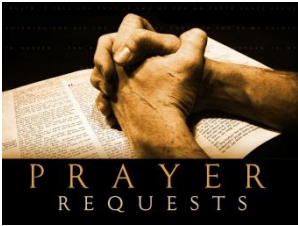
Bree Joines

The First School Director

**First School Board Meeting –
Tuesday, September 13th at 5:00 p.m.**

SEPTEMBER READINGS

- 09/04 Exodus 8:16-19, Psalm 55:20-23, Romans 16:17-27, Mark 12:13-17
- 09/11 Exodus 8:20-32, Psalm 56:1-4, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, Mark 12:18-27
- 09/18 Exodus 9:1-7, Psalm 56:1,5-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-17, Mark 12:28-34
- 09/25 Exodus 9:8-12, Psalm 56:10-13, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, Mark 12:35-40



- 09/04 Stanley McMillan
- 09/12 Ty Mathews
- 09/12 Linda Korenek
- 09/19 Will Joines
- 09/20 Luke Langston
- 09/21 Diego Hernandez
- 09/21 Adeleigh Labay
- 09/24 Marilyn Kight
- 09/26 Sawyer Schoenfeld

Our FLC Family
 Dorothy Atchetee
 Harlo & Rhonda Atchetee
 Charles Bard
 Ron Chambles
 Shirley Chatel
 Lynda Christenberry
 Nora Hollingsworth
 Marilyn Kight
 Kim & Larry Ledwig
 Lloyd Nelson
 Odis Newton
 Jimmy Nielsen
 Becky Sample

Ashley Schoenberg
 Ruth Speckels
 Bentley

Friends of FLC
 Albina Joines
 Linda M
 Amanda Sample



- 09/07 James Herrington
- 09/12 Jimmy Nielsen
- 09/13 Will Joines
- 09/17 Charles Bard
- 09/20 Kim Kainer
- 09/23 Milton Johnson
- 09/23 Luke Langston
- 09/25 Emery Langston

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**

WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US



- 09/07 Ed & Gloria Campbell
- 09/27 Shane & Heather Langston



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, September 15th
 6:00 p.m.

Pastor Clyde Grier:
 Phone: 979-541-6173

FLCEC Manna Meals Team

Our Manna Meals team will serve on Thursday, September 1st. Please check with Cathy Schoenfield to see how you can help.

Thank you to our volunteers who help with this community out-reach effort.

Volunteers are always welcome!

THANK YOU!

Dear Church Family,

I would like to thank those who donated to Karla's Guatemala mission trip in July. Your generosity is appreciated very much. Fifty pounds of clothes in two large suitcases is a lot of clothes! Then when the mission team arrived they learned that many people were going hungry. They usually do provide food to some of the needy, but the numbers were greater this year. The team put out a Facebook Live plea for money to provide more food to 100 families that would last them two to three weeks. This would mean they were aiming for \$3,500. People responded (and I'm proud to say some of those people were from First Lutheran) and they ended up collecting \$21,000. They will be able to feed a rotating list of 100 families for more that several months.

The team also assembled and donated 12 bunk beds, 15 water tanks, and 48 roof replacements. Then they had VBS in 5 locations and a dinner for 2,000. All of this was done with a mission team of 12 people.

The village the mission team is serving is called Santa Maria de Jesus. It is about six miles up the mountain from Antigua and has a population of about 21,000. The word "village" is somewhat deceiving.

Thanks again for your generosity.

Sincerely,
Helen & Karla

WOMEN OF THE WORD

WOW Food Drive
Sunday, September 4th

A = Always

S = Say

A = A

P = Prayer



LCMC 22nd Annual Gathering

October 2-5, 2022

Hosanna Church

Lakeville, Minnesota

Theme: Discipleship

Keynote Speakers -- Fellowship -- Worship

Bible Study -- Networking -- Vendors

Breakout Sessions - Recognitions

For more information visit:

www.lcmc.net/annual-gathering

September 2022



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

September Responsibilities

ASSISTING MINISTER: Ted Schoenfield

SEXTON: Calvin Borak

USHERS: Doug Mathews, Ed Campbell

ALTAR GUILD: Pat Marek, Ruth Speckels

ACOLYTES

4th
11th
18th
25th

READER

Helen Johnson
Ty Schoenfield
Kirk Marek
Ted Schoenfield

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



SEPTEMBER FLOWER CALENDAR

4th Kirk & Pat Marek
11th Open
18th Open
25th 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*

September

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

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS: Calvin Borak, Sheila Herrington, Milton Johnson, Will Joines, Kirk Marek,
Cindy Mathews & Jimmy Nielsen

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.