



FIRST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COLORADO SPRINGS

ekklesia

03.18.26

FROM THE PASTOR

I'VE BEEN ENJOYING our Lenten Soup suppers and Art of Neighboring curriculum on Wednesday nights. We've been meeting in the Gathering Place, enjoying a meal together on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and then entering a time of discussion for 45 minutes before ending with communion at the table. The food has been good, provided by Pam Haines and volunteers. I've even made a couple soups! The presentations by the pastors have been helpful, I think, and practical. We've been focused on how to love our neighbors in different scenarios. But the best part has been the conversations around the table.

I love when we do intergenerational things as a congregation. We just finished Gallery of Living Art which brings people together of all ages to share the story of Jesus. On Wednesdays when we gather around tables we have everyone from middle school students to octogenarians talking about faith together.

We learn from each other and question each other and grow together in our faith. The whole experience has made me question the amount of time we spend in sanctuary-type settings where there's a speaker and an audience, verses table settings where we are in conversation with each other. Both are valuable, but in this day and age I think the table

is where it's at.

The early church met in homes around dinner for their weekly worship. Wednesday nights are feeling like this. We even end with communion served by one another at the table. It's beautiful to watch – and also hilarious when the middle school table runs out of grape juice and has to use wine and all the faces that come with that bitter drink! It's not as formal, it's not polished like our worship services are. But it is no less special and no less holy as we gather to talk about the faith together.

This may be a strange turn, but I think about the oncoming train of artificial intelligence and the effects that will have on our society. My gut tells me that we will be overwhelmed with content created by computers that may very well be good and even helpful. But we will need respite from the onslaught and I believe that will come in the community that the local church creates. It's one reason I'm looking forward to the expansion of our Gathering Place. We will need the room for the tables and the people gathered around them in holy conversation.

There are lots of places at First Lutheran to gather at the table beyond Sunday worship: from Bible and Brew to woodcarving and quilting to Sunday seminars and OWLS to small groups on Wednesday nights. They are all wonderful places to make new friends and grow in faith through conversation.

PASTOR TRAVIS NORTON



Sunday's Message

MARCH 15, 2026

JOHN 9

PASTOR TRAVIS NORTON

WHEN WAS THE last time you felt truly seen? You know that feeling when someone sees you clearly. When they notice your struggle and the effort you're making. When they recognize your pain and respond with compassion. When they see the work you're doing behind the scenes and take a moment to express appreciation. When was the last time you were seen like that? We get pretty good at hiding the older we get. We get better at keeping up appearances and concealing our vulnerabilities and weaknesses. Maybe because we fear being seen, wondering if people see us too clearly, they may not appreciate what they see. We worry they will be disappointed or they will judge us. Really, we are worried that if people see us clearly, they won't love us.

Even though we all long to be seen fully for who we are and loved at the same time, it was easier when we were children before we got skilled at hiding our weaknesses. I remember when I was in ninth grade, I went to my church youth group for the first time. I was excited to be in high school and be invited into the youth group, but I was nervous because I would be the youngest one there. At that time the youth group at my church was large and there were a bunch of guys who were juniors and seniors who loved to roughhouse and tease. Looking back, it wasn't a great youth group culture and major changes were made. So, my first time at youth group did not go well. The guys decided I needed to be initiated, which meant they chased me down the hall, pinned me down and pulled up my shirt to slap me on the belly. I still remember looking up at the fluorescent lights and hearing the other kids laughing while I was initiated. It was meant to be all in good fun and it didn't really

hurt, but it embarrassed me. I was a pretty sensitive kid, and I could feel the tears coming; this was not what I had hoped youth group would be like. I held back the tears as long as I could, and when my parents came to pick me up, I jumped in the back seat to hide my face. My dad was driving and my mom was in the passenger seat. She saw me, saw through my hiding and knew I was not okay. As we drove off, she climbed into the back seat and wrapped her arms around me. I let the tears fall as the streetlights flew by. I let my mom comfort me.

No matter how old we get, no matter how good we get at putting on a strong front, we all have that little kid inside of us who gets hurt and sad and needs someone to see them and comfort them. My mom saw me and gave me the care I needed in that moment. When I think of that moment, I think of what it means to be seen by God. God sees through the façade and sees our weakness and our need and comes to us in love. We get a glimpse of this in the story today.

The man born blind by the pool of Siloam was noticed by Jesus, seen by Jesus, healed by Jesus. He spent his whole life sitting on the stone steps with hands out hoping to feel a coin in his palm from a stranger. To everyone he is the blind man but to Jesus he is a child of God, seen not for his disability but for who God made him to be. The disciples treat him like an object lesson, "Why is this man blind, what sin did he or his parents commit?" But to Jesus he is a man born to reveal the goodness of God. Jesus sees him.

Have you ever been seen like that? Seen through the eyes of love? Have you ever been seen, not for what you've done or failed to do but for the person

you are? It's powerful when people get a glimpse of you and see past the exterior. We hide that from people because to be seen is to be vulnerable. There's a lot to fear because not everyone sees with compassion and love. It's why we project strength and competence whenever we can. It's why we try to fit in and show up looking our best regardless of what's going on under the surface. Sometimes we disguise ourselves, but other times we are just hidden. Not all of us can hide though for some of us our differences are on the surface for everyone to see. My son has Down Syndrome so I'm particularly sensitive when people see his disability but fail to see him. I get triggered when people refer to him as a "Down's kid" or something similar. Because if you know him, you don't know him as a Down's kid, you know him as Sam in all his individuality. The man born blind in our story from John 9 understood this difference. He knew what it was like to be hidden even though he sat in the most public place possible begging for support. People saw him as the blind man which means they failed to see him. Saw him as a beggar, which means they failed to see him. Saw him as a sinner, which means they failed to see him. Jesus sees him though, sees him as a child of God born to experience the work of God in his life. Jesus invites his disciples to see this man, too, as someone made by God to experience God's work.

Isn't that the same for everyone? Each of us is born so that God's work might be revealed in us. Any disability, weakness, frailty or failure is an opportunity for God to be revealed. I can't tell you how often God has been revealed to me through my son – so many times, so many times. Jesus heals the man born blind with spit and mud and water. Maybe not the way I would have chosen to be healed. I mean why not just speak the word, why the spit and dirt? Jesus says, "I am the light of the world," and in John's gospel especially, it is Jesus himself that defines faith and sight and salvation. The spit is of Jesus, his body given, his blood shed. Jesus himself is the salvation and healing we need. The man washes in the pool and is given sight. He becomes the center of controversy since people knew him as a beggar and sinner, not as the

location of God's work in the world. They take him to the Pharisees who launch an investigation. They want to know who Jesus is, they want to know who this man is. Or do they? Do they really want to see Jesus? Do they really want to see this man? Because if they open their eyes, they have to change their whole world view. He had been blind; he is firmly in a category they could define and understand. A sinner being punished by God. But now that he sees, he breaks the categories, it invites new insight, new understanding.

In the Catholic church when this story is read in Lent, it is accompanied by a rite called The Scrutiny. During The Scrutiny those preparing for baptism are invited to come forward and receive a prayer to move from darkness to light, to move from unseeing to seeing. There is an understanding that God is scrutinizing them, looking closely to identify any sin that needs to be excised. It's a fearful thing to be scrutinized, to be investigated. I think of PhD students shuffling their papers, preparing to give a defense of their work or pastors sitting before a call committee nervously wondering how hard the questions will be. We don't look forward to scrutiny because we fear what they might find, what they might see that we wanted to remain hidden. One way to protect yourself from this is to become the scrutinizer. I think that's what the Pharisees had become; they made themselves into the experts who claimed to see what was good and what was bad. When John's gospel was written, Christians were being thrown out of the synagogue, so the stories aren't written with a very sympathetic view of the Jews. But when I see the Pharisees launching their investigation into the healing of the man, I sympathize with them. I know what it means to be the leader, to be the religious leader working to protect an institution. I know what it feels like to design rules meant to provide order lest things disintegrate into chaos. I know what it feels like to guard something that seems fragile and to fight against anything that threatens. I know exactly how it feels to dismiss someone's story of a miracle because it doesn't fit my theology. When God does something in someone's life through means other

than the ones I approve of, I have a hard time seeing it as God's work. Someone tells me they saw God at a Unitarian event or a Muslim event or a secular concert and my reaction is scrutiny and skepticism. How would you react if someone told you they had been healed by a wandering teacher with no connection to the church. We religious leaders can focus so intensely on our institutions and our rules that we filter everything through the question of, "Is it a threat to my church?" That filter keeps us from seeing God working outside our systems to change the lives of God's people.

Maybe today we let God scrutinize that part of us and lead us to repentance. The Pharisees don't see the work of God in this man, they can't see it or maybe they don't want to see because to see would be to question what they know to be right. Jesus healed on the Sabbath, and they can't accept that God would break that rule. When they take a closer look at the man, at his family, at his story, they remain unconvinced, and they expel him from the synagogue mostly because they don't want to see. They don't want to see that someone else sees God more clearly than they do so they throw him out. So, Jesus comes back and finds the man, sees him again with a new need, not to be healed of blindness but to see God's salvation. He sees Jesus as his healer, as a prophet, as a rabbi. Jesus asks him if he believes in the Son of Man, he admits he doesn't know who that is. Jesus opens his eyes again, "You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he." At this the man is finally healed, receiving the gift offered to all of us, a gift received when we put faith in Jesus. That's the point of all of this. Now he is healed, not because he can see but because he believes in Jesus.

Faith is the sight God would give to all of us. Faith starts not by us seeing God but by God seeing us. Friends, God sees you. That might not be a comfortable thing at first because God sees all of you. But God isn't looking to condemn you or to call you out or expose you. God sees the you He made, the you He crafted from the dust, the you He breathed his life into. God sees your hurt and need and climbs into the back seat to hold you and heal you. Can you see

yourself through God's eyes today, as one who is loved and adored? A child who doesn't have to hide anymore, who doesn't have to pretend to be okay? But rather a child who can be honest about need and pain and find strength in that truth. Can you see yourself through God's eyes today as one who born to reveal God's work?

God, open our eyes that we may see Jesus. Open our eyes that we may see the world and all your children through the lens of love until all are seen and all are saved.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

INNKEEPER 2026 IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Are you interested in helping LFSRM (Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountain) meet its mission? We are looking for individuals that are interested in joining our InnKeeper Planning Committee that plays a crucial role in ensuring the attendees to this annual fundraising event have a memorable and meaningful experience. If you are interested in volunteering for Innkeeper. Please visit <https://www.lfsrm.org/Get-Involved-Volunteer>

EASTER BASKETS

We need YOUR help this coming **Sunday, March 22!** Stop by the Easter Basket Assembly Line in the Gathering Place and put together an Easter Basket or two for the children of El Paso County DHS and Lutheran Family Services!

RECYCLING

A request was made for First Lutheran to recycle products. This is a wonderful opportunity to do one more thing that is good for our community. Recycling receptacles have been placed in the Gathering Place kitchen and the Peel House kitchen.

Waste Management has some firm guidelines for the items to be recycled. **The following items can be recycled as long as they are clean and dry:**

- Plastic bottles, cups and containers – Empty and dry the items and put the lid back on before placing in the receptacles.
- Food and beverage cans
- Paper and paper cups – Starbucks cups are not recyclable as they have a coating to keep the liquid from soaking the paper
- Cardboard and paperboard must be flattened – Please remove all the tape from boxes. Pizza boxes are allowed if they are clean (no grease stains).
- Food and beverage containers are marked with the recycling emblem
- Glass bottles and containers

Place the individual recycled items in the receptacle. Do not place them in bags.

The following items are not recyclable:

- Plastic bags, plastic wrap or film, flexible packaging, polystyrene products, medical waste, garage waste or household items. Straps and cords are not recyclable as they can tangle the processing equipment and shut it down.

If you are unsure about a product, you can check the Waste Management website at <https://www.wm.com/us/en/recycle-right/recycling-101>.

If you are still unsure, place the item in the trash receptacle.

Thanks,
Bill Busovsky
Church Council Vice-President



2026 EASTER FLOWER CROSS DONATIONS

Honor or memorialize a loved one with a \$15 donation to our 2026 Easter Flower Cross!

<https://bit.ly/4rWPzOs>

DECORATE THE EASTER CROSS

Hundreds of members and visitors take their family Easter photo in front of our beautiful Easter Flower Cross. It takes 6-8 people to decorate the cross with live flowers. 3-4 are needed to trim the flowers and 3-4 are needed to stick the trimmed flowers into the plastic chicken wire surrounding the wooden cross. No previous experience is necessary! Are you here to help with the Easter Egg Hunt? Stay an hour to help with the cross! Decorating will begin just after the Saturday, April 4, Easter Egg Hunt is completed, about 10:30 a.m. Sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/4deff4D>

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers designated in memory or in honor of a loved one are now \$100.

Order flowers here: <https://bit.ly/4nKyPYq>

CHERYL'S CORNER

OUR SUNDAY ANGELS

It is that time again for volunteer sign-ups for the next quarter, April – June. When our volunteer forms are sent out, there are a handful of people ready with calendar in hand to pick out their days to serve on Sunday mornings. Many serve in multiple areas (preparing Communion, greeting, ushering, worship assistant, etc.), and they like to stagger or stack the areas in which they serve. We send out weekly reminders to those who have indicated they'd like to serve but haven't yet chosen dates to serve each week for about four weeks. Our goal is to fill 80% of all volunteer positions by the end of March for the months of April, May, and June. There are 916 volunteer positions to fill right now due to Holy Week and the 12 remaining Sundays of the quarter. After seven days of volunteer forms being "live" we've filled 65% of our volunteer positions. Way to go!

WHERE ARE THE AREAS WE NEED THE MOST HELP?

Our Contemporary service is growing and currently averaging 62 people each week. We'd like to have three people welcoming those to worship and helping visitors with the Check-in Kiosks. Currently only 18% of these positions are filled.

Seventy-four percent of the needed Communion Assistant positions are filled through June, but we'd like to encourage new folks to give it a try, too! If you are a behind-the-scenes kind of person, we need one person each week to prepare and clean-up Communion. We know that many of our young adults enjoy Contemporary Worship. We'd love to see you take part in sharing of your time and talent in these areas!

During the Easter season, we have a special need of a Crucifer. The Crucifer carries a heavy cross in the procession, Gospel procession, and recession. This requires someone with strong arms and good balance. Our current need is only filled to 38%.

Our 11 a.m. service has an average attendance of just over 100 people. While our smallest traditional service, we still need two worship assistants, four greeters, four ushers, someone to host the Welcome Center, two people to clean up the Communion, and two people to host the coffee reception. We are always struggling to fill these positions. If you are interested in shadowing in any of these areas, please contact cheryl@flccs.net

We are excited to offer a Service Fair coming April 19 where you will be able to meet folks that currently serve on Sunday mornings. They look forward to telling you what skill/time is required and sharing with you what they love about serving in their favorite positions.

CHERYL MAHON, MINISTER OF CONGREGATIONAL SERVICE



FEBRUARY NEW MEMBERS



**Carolyn Dougherty and
Cameron Shannon**



**Preston and Megan
Lauscher**



John and Jeanne Hyder



Aariel Ramsey



**Tim Wenger,
Caitlin Steel and
Merritt Steel**

Guy and Tammy Childs (no photo available)

Rondi Robbins (in absentia)

Deborah Steinke (in absentia)

INSPIRE FAITH CAMPAIGN

The final countdown is on as we prepare to announce the results of the Inspire Faith Campaign this coming Sunday, March 22. We are currently at 90 percent of our goal for funds raised, but only 50 percent of our goal for household participation. If you want to be included in the announced total, now is the time to act. Please complete and submit your intent card today.

Submit your card today online by clicking below. Pledges are fulfilled over a three year period, with flexibility to meet your needs. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for being part of this important moment in the life of our church.

<https://www.elexiogiving.com/App/Form/e243aabb-1e9b-4840-8a97-30148bf5a85d>



The Art of Neighboring

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS | 6 TO 7:30 P.M. | GATHERING PLACE

Join us Wednesdays in Lent for a soup supper, a presentation on practical ways Jesus helps us become good neighbors, and thoughtful discussion around the dinner table. Each evening will conclude with Holy Communion. The nursery will be open for young children, and special First Kids sessions will be offered for children Kindergarten through Grade 5.

WEEK 1 February 25: *Who are My Neighbors?*


WEEK 2 March 4: *Making Things Right with Neighbors*

WEEK 3 March 11: *Loving Difficult Neighbors*

WEEK 4 March 18: *Talking about Faith with Neighbors*

WEEK 5 March 25: *Comforting Grieving Neighbors*

BONUS WEEK Thursday, April 2: *Jesus, the Perfect Neighbor*



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE ART OF NEIGHBORING

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS.

Please consider being a great “neighbor” and volunteering to assist with the following dinners. **Three volunteers are needed each evening.** Dinners start at 6 p.m. and are followed by table discussions until 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18 5 – 8 p.m..

Wednesday, March 25 5 – 8 p.m.

Thursday, April 2 5 – 8 p.m.

Please sign up to volunteer using the following link:

<https://bit.ly/4tlxf2u>

I will provide soup for the Lenten dinners:

<https://bit.ly/3MEi7wP>

DINING OUT WITH FIRST LUTHERAN

SELECT TUESDAYS | 5:30 P.M.

VARIOUS RESTAURANTS

All are welcome to join this group, which meets at local restaurants on two Tuesdays of each month to enjoy various cuisines and fellowship. Reservations will be made two weeks in advance, so be sure to sign up early. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/41Rh4ff>

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

April 14 Bourbon Brothers
13021 Bass Pro Drive

April 28 PF Changs
1725 Briargate Parkway

May 12 Nakhon Luang Thai
805 Village Center Drive

May 26 Jake & Telly’s Greek
Taverna,
2616 Colorado Avenue, #24

EASTER BREAKFAST

EASTER SUNDAY | 8 A.M. - 1 P.M.

If you were here last year for our fabulous Easter breakfast, You know not only how amazingly delicious it was but how many people it takes to pull it all together. Please consider helping in either of the following areas:

Donate a breakfast casserole/French Toast - Please pick up a disposable baking pan at the Welcome Center desk and treat us to your favorite recipe on Easter morning! Bring your casserole to the Peel House beginning on Good Friday for reheating on Sunday. If you bring it on Sunday, please have it heated and ready to serve.

Host the breakfast for an hour - Sign up here:
<https://bit.ly/46Orjpg>

Launder tablecloths – Sign up here:
<https://bit.ly/4db3zzu>

The church will provide breakfast breads, fruit, hash browns, and sausage.

HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday-Traditional and Contemporary Services

<https://bit.ly/3N5Jgcn>

COLORADO BYWAYS TRAVELING PHOTO EXHIBIT – MARCH OWLS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

LEAVE FLC: 9 A.M. TOUR TIME: 10:30 A.M.

COST: FREE

LUNCH: WESTCLIFFE MAIN STREET RESTAURANTS (PAY ON YOUR OWN)

2026 is a year to celebrate as Colorado turns 150! The first “CO150” exhibit we will see is in Westcliffe at a private showing just for First Lutheran OWLS. This exhibit showcases Colorado’s 26 Scenic and Historic Byways with breathtaking color photography of unique Colorado locations. Colorado’s Scenic Byways unite communities and the stories of their collective past. These photos beautifully capture the scenery experience by travelers along these historic Colorado roadways. They represent a small portrait of the wide diversity offered in the state, which has the most designated byways in the nation. One visitor said, “It makes me want to fill up my gas tank and go to all these places!” <https://www.frontierpathways.com/> We will also go to a late 1800’s Lutheran church for a view of the church’s beautiful altar. **Sign Up Deadline: Thursday, March 19.** Please sign up by using the following link <https://bit.ly/4ozzGtJ> or by calling First Lutheran at 719.632.8836.

WAYFARERS

THURSDAY | MARCH 19

EDELWEISS RESTAURANT | 11:30 A.M.

RSVP to maryskerwin@gmail.com

Call or text, 719.352.1189

QUILTING DISPLAY

In recognition of National Quilting Day on March 21, the Piecemakers quilting group will be displaying several of their works of art in the Gathering Place this coming Sunday. Stop by to see what keeps them busy through the years. Last year this group donated 75 quilts to charities.

THE EMMAUS WAY

“Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.”
—Mark 10:49b

For this week’s meditation, please read Mark 10:46-52, and prayerfully consider the following as Bartimaeus.

Called “The City of Palm Trees,” Jericho is located on a beautiful oasis about fifteen miles northeast of Jerusalem. It’s a luxurious and prosperous city, drawing the poor and outcast to its famous Roman roads leading in and out, where they beg for alms. Picture the city. What do they see? What smells surround them as they go past the lush, planted gardens and the markets full of spices and other goods? Imagine them as they make their way through the gates on the far side of the city, heading toward Jerusalem.

You are one of the outcasts consigned to the outside of this lovely city. While the storied walls are long gone, there are indeed still gates that keep you, a blind person, out. Have you ever felt on the “outside,” that other people can see or know something you can’t?

As with many blind people, your hearing has become highly acute. And as you’ve sat at the gates of Jericho, you’ve heard many stories from

passers-by about the miracle-working rabbi who restores sight to the blind. Today, as you sit begging alongside the road, you sense a different energy coming from a passing crowd. Then you hear who is leading it: Jesus of Nazareth! Immediately you know that the person who can heal you is passing right in front of you. Can you feel the surprise, the hope, the determination? Wherever you are right now, become aware that Jesus is present right in front of you. Can you cry out to him, asking for mercy where you most need it?

Jesus stops. He does not leave you behind but has his followers call you. Who has helped you hear Jesus call for you? Who can you let know that Jesus is calling them, too? Pray for them, and for yourself.

Knowing that Jesus has called, you throw off the one thing you own, your one item of protection and comfort: your cloak. Are there cloaks of self-protection that you wrap around yourself? Can you throw them aside and come to Jesus?

Hear Jesus ask what you want him to do. We all have blind spots. What might some of yours be? Will you cry out to Jesus to help you see in new ways?

Now hear Jesus say, “Your faith has healed you.” Feel those words wash over you. Look up and see Jesus in front of your newly-opened eyes. As he continues his journey, picture yourself following him, your own journey now forever changed. Let’s continue the journey, together.

LORI DUNCAN, MINISTER OF SPIRITUAL CARE





IMAGINE:
JESUS INSPIRES OUR FAITH

A quiet place to hear about Jesus
and have our faith inspired to draw near to him

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT
11:30 A.M.
WORSHIP CENTER
FEBRUARY 25 THROUGH APRIL 1

Join us on six Wednesdays during Lent for a 30–45 minute guided Scripture meditation. Together, we will craft a quiet place to hear about Jesus and have our faith inspired to draw near to him. If you have never experienced entering into the Bible through guided meditation, come and touch the hem of his cloak.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

In Holy Week, we journey with Jesus to the cross.

PALM SUNDAY • SUNDAY, MARCH 29

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP at 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m.
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP at 10:15 a.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY • THURSDAY, APRIL 2

SERVICE OF THE SHADOWS AND
HOLY COMMUNION at 7 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY • FRIDAY, APRIL 3

READING OF THE PASSION AND
VENERATION OF THE CROSS at Noon
FAMILY SERVICE at 5:30 p.m.
TENEBRAE (Service of Darkness) at 7 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY • SATURDAY, APRIL 4

EASTER EGG HUNT at 10 a.m.
DECORATING THE FLOWER CROSS at 10 a.m.
EASTER VIGIL (the first service of Easter) at 6:30 p.m.

*On Easter Sunday, we celebrate Jesus' resurrection
and victory over death.*

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD • SUNDAY, APRIL 5

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP at 7:45, 9, 10:15, and 11:30 a.m.
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP at 10:15 a.m.

Easter Breakfast in the Peel House from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Telling Your Story

Growing Comfortable Sharing Your Faith

March 15 & 22 | 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. | Peel House

Want to feel more confident talking about your faith? In this two-week Adult Education class, you will reflect on your story and learn how to share it in natural, authentic ways.

Led by retired pastor Glenn Zimbelman, an ELCA-trained mission developer with experience in two mission starts.

In the Life of the Church ...

Birthdays

March 22 Shirley Biemesderfer
Dalton Dempcy
Isaac Nehme

March 23 Douglas Kohlhepp
Paul Lindsey
Eric Meza
Carol Olson

March 24 Jan Booker
Pat Vaillancourt

March 25 Matt Friedell

March 26 Matthew Ellis
Carter Herman
Norma Kusulas
Jennings Larson
Beth Lindquist

March 27 Kim Beichner
Maddy Frei
Ava Fluegge
Paige Stanley
Micah Yoder

March 28 Jonathan Hophan

March 29 Betty Andersen
James Fox
Chris Keenan

Anniversaries

March 29
Joel and Jennifer Fluegge 18 years



Prayer Requests

Lannette Abbey
Fred Bachmeier
Ollie & Jean Baltus
Brad Bauer
Elmer Bauman
Tana Beall
The Bjornberg Family
Joan Boehm
Brittany
Bill & Barbara Brown
Kathleen Capron
Karl & Pam Cartwright
Tanya Charbonneau
John & Debbie Chlebus
Nell Clowder
Linda Collier
Bill Curtis
Ron Devish
Rinda Dunson
Alan Flinn
Rick & Donna Flores
Edna Fross
Kelly Gemplet
Corinne Gibson
Larry Gilliam
Dennis Goldston
Tad Goodenbour
Nola Gosch
Deb Grove
Georgia Haberacker
Hannah
Private Steven Harris
Doug Hering
Karen Hertsgaard
Ginger Hipszky
Jake Hodnett
Sonny & Deb Hood
Bill & Doreen Hulka
Irene
Alan Jacobsen
Josh Jones

Shirley Jones
Ann Junk
Jonas Kagarise
Tami Kephart
Kyong Kelley
Gaye Lynn Kielcheski
Cindy Koger
Jesse Lawrence & Family
Timothy Lillich
Dayne Lindquist
Irene Lopez
Issiah & Corrina Lopez
Susan Lundmark
Jim Matthews
Nick McKibben & Family
Hugh McNeely
Brandon Miller & Family
Marilyn Miller
Paul Moe
Wilma Nicolaisen
Sam Norton
Owen & Family
Patsy Pedersen
Jack & Judy Peterson
Ralph Peterson
Philippa
Darlene Radke
Jeff Rapp
Guido Rohde
Catherine Spencer
Matthew Stark
Gwen Stein
Becky Sternal
Barbara Swan
Michael Taylor
Tom Tetzlaff
Aaron & Cindi Thorson
Bob VanDuyn & Karen
Henderson-VanDuyn
Doni Vest
Linda Wiegand & Family

Christine Welch
Starr Wise
Greg & Carolyn Young

Please keep these members – and family and friends – of First Lutheran in your prayers this week. If you are requesting to have a name added to the prayer list, please consult with that person prior to making your request. Prayer requests may be submitted by using a Connection Card (in church) or by emailing teri@flccs.net.

In Remembrance of Larry Gilliam

Sandie Gilliam's husband; whose memorial service will be at a later date here in our Sanctuary.

Date of death: March 11, 2026

In Remembrance of Iona Kochera

Iona Kocerha; Bob Kocerha's wife; Catherine, Patricia, and Sarah's mother; Jon, John, and Michael's father-in-law.

Her memorial service will be Friday, March 27 at 1 p.m. in our Sanctuary.

Date of Death: 2/12/26

Worship and Study

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

SUNDAYS IN THE SANCTUARY
8, 9:30, AND 11 A.M.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

SUNDAYS IN THE WORSHIP CENTER
10:15 A.M.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHT

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORSHIP CENTER
DINNER 5:15 P.M. | SERVICE 6:30 P.M.

ONLINE WORSHIP

STREAMED LIVE AT 9:30 A.M.
Tune in on First Lutheran's YouTube channel,
on the church website, or in the church app.

QUARTERLY ADULT EDUCATION

Four times a year, we offer Adult Education classes at a variety of times and on a wide range of interesting topics. Be sure to read the Ekklesia for announcements and information about upcoming programs.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

LUTHER HALL | 10 A.M.
Led by the preaching pastor for the week.

GENERATION TO REVELATION

FIRST LUTHERAN'S NEW PODCAST!
Find our podcast on YouTube, on the church website, or anywhere you get your podcasts.

PASTORAL TEAM

The Rev. Travis Norton, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Carrie Baylis, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Michaela Eskew, Associate Pastor

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES

Ezekiel 37:1 – 14
Romans 8:6 – 11
John 11:1 – 45

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1515 N. CASCADE AVE.
COLORADO SPRINGS,
COLORADO 80907
719.632.8836

FLCCS.NET

