First Lutheran Church
Colorado Springs
ekklesia
09.23.26

FROM THE PASTOR

DEAR FIRST LUTHERAN,

Over the next three columns I'd like to preview some of what will be shared at the Ministry Gatherings on October 4, 7, and 11. We do these gatherings every year at several different times in hopes that each of you will be able to attend one of them. Please come.

One thing we will share is the proposed 2027 budget or ministry plan. I'm really pleased with how the benevolence portion of our budget came together. One of our deep values is generosity and sharing what we have with those in need. We are proposing that next year we give a full tithe, 10% of offerings, to benevolence. Half of that will go to support the larger Lutheran Church serving beyond our city and the other half will go to local agencies serving those in need close to home.

Every three years the Council puts together a committee to fully review the local recipients of our benevolence budget. That committee came back with a suggestion that we add NAMI – an organization focused on mental health and suicide prevention to receive a portion of our tithe, since we weren't currently supporting a health – related organization.

In addition to NAMI we will also be adding Lutheran Campus Ministry to our budget but in a unique way. We wanted to support Lutheran Campus Ministry on the campuses students from First Lutheran attend, so every year we will send $1,000 to the campus ministry of a rising First Lutheran college freshman in their name. In addition to supporting a vital ministry, we also intend the donation to facilitate an introduction of our students to the campus ministry.

The budget will be mailed to members of the congregation soon, but here's a preview of the benevolence portion of the proposed budget.

Rocky Mountain Synod: $110,520
Missionaries: $12,000
Local Benevolence: $123,169
Local Benevolence includes: Rainbow Trail, Campus Ministry, Marion House Kitchen, Lutheran Family Service, Habitat for Humanity, Family Promise, One Nation Walking Together, Care & Share, COSILoveU, Mosaic, Prison Fellowship, NAMI and Pastoral Discretion.

Often, we pastors are asked at leadership events and synod meetings to evaluate our congregations based on the question, "If your church ceased to exist would anyone notice?" The question is meant to help you measure the impact you are making beyond the walls of your own congregation. I'm pleased and proud that First Lutheran makes a big impact outside of ourselves and continues to prioritize being a blessing to our community and beyond.

PASTOR TRAVIS NORTON, SENIOR PASTOR

Sunday's Message

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

JONAH 3:10 – 4:11

PASTOR MICHAELA ESKEW

WE'RE GOING TO take a break from the Gospel of Matthew for just one week. We'll come back next week, not to worry. But Jonah. You give me Jonah in a lectionary, and I have to preach on Jonah, one of my favorite books.

Jonah is known as the reluctant prophet. He doesn't want to go to Nineveh. He doesn't want to tell them the normal prophet words, "Repent, change your ways, stop doing evil things, or God is going to punish you." He just doesn't want to do it. So instead, he takes a boat in the opposite direction of Nineveh and ends up getting himself caught in a pretty nasty storm. All the sailors are wondering what has happened. "Who did we make mad?" And Jonah says, "I'm the one. I made God mad. The God of Israel, I made him mad. I'll just jump out of the boat, and you will be fine." The second he jumps out, the storm stops. But that's not the end for Jonah. This is where the Sunday school tale comes in, right? Jonah is eaten by a big fish.

For three days he has to think about why he didn't do what God asked him to do. He prays, "Please, Lord, take me out of the big fish." The fish spits him out. He heads to Nineveh. He goes and tells Nineveh what all the other prophets have to say, "You're doing wrong in the eyes of the Lord. Stop what you're doing, or divine punishment is coming." And he says it reluctantly.

And then we get our chapter today. The Book of Jonah is only four chapters, and this is the closing chapter. So we get Jonah angry. Angry, because why? The Ninevites actually listened. How dare they? How dare they listen to him? You would think a prophet would be thinking, "I did it. They finally listened." Right? Because every other prophet in our scripture is not really listened to. Jonah wins the prophet game! But Jonah's not happy. Instead, he goes up to a high place and sits there watching the city. "I'm going to see what happens." My guess is that he's hoping they slip up and go back to their violent ways so that he can watch divine wrath come down on them. And so he sits in this little shelter he's made, and God decides, "Oh, it's object lesson time." God sends a big bush to offer additional shade over Jonah, because he's already in a shelter that he's built, so he gets extra shade in this hot, hot weather. Jonah is so glad.

Then overnight, a worm that's been appointed by God (I'm sure that worm felt real special: "I've been appointed by God") gets to feast on the plant. The worm eats the plant, and it withers away.

Jonah wakes up, and he's hot again. He says again, "I wish I would just die. God, why did you make me do this? I knew you would be merciful to them. I knew you'd be kind to them. You're slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." Can you hear the angst in Jonah's voice?

It's all because he doesn't want the Ninevites to be forgiven. Why? We read this Sunday school story, and the lessons are pretty clear: do what God tells you to do, and mercy is for everyone. Who are we to hold it back?

But when you think about it, at least in my mind when I was in Sunday school, I thought, "Oh, the Ninevites, those are just some random people. They're like the Egyptians or the Romans. They're names like Abraham and Moses, right? They're in this Bible bubble that's in history but also outside of history. And so who are these Ninevites? Of course, yes, they should be allowed to be forgiven. Of course."

Well, what if I tell you that Nineveh is the capital

of the Assyrian Empire? Now, "Assyrian Empire" is also one of those Bible bubble words, and so you're probably thinking, "Huh, I remember that name vaguely. What does that mean?" The Assyrian Empire is the one that's going to come in about 100 years after Jonah goes and preaches to them and exile the top half, the northern part, of the divided kingdom of Israel. So this big bad enemy has been sitting on the borders just waiting to take over Israel. And all the prophets have been telling Israel this is going to happen: "The Assyrians. They're going to come in if you don't change your ways."

And the Assyrians eventually do. But Jonah, an Israelite man, is told to go across the border into enemy territory, and not just enemy territory but the capital, and tell them to change their ways.

Now, you should know the Assyrian Empire is not just in the Bible bubble. They are in history. They are known to be a very cruel empire. I'm talking about flaying the skin off you and putting it up on walls. Ew. They killed children. If they took you over, they would put a dog collar on you and make you traipse through the whole empire. They were mean, they were evil, they were humiliating to their enemies. And they have done all of these things. So Jonah has to go tell them, "Change your ways." Now again, you would think this is the good news, this is why God's sending him, right? Stop being an evil empire. And then they do. You would think there would be crowds cheering, but no. Jonah still remembers all the things that the Assyrians had done to him and to his country and that they had done on the world stage.

Okay, if I don't have the righteous anger bubbling yet, let's take it into the modern day. This would be as if God told you to go to your enemy and tell them, "Stop it, or you're getting divinely punished." Now, they're your enemy for a reason, right? Maybe they bullied you in middle school and made it just horrible to go to school, and you want them to get the divine punishment, right? Or, if you can't immediately think of someone in your immediate circle, I'll tell you that when I hear a "love your enemies" sermon, I rarely have a face or a name that immediately pops into mind. But then if I think of reading the newspaper or watching the news, oh, I can think of some dictators. I can think of some people who are behind genocides and famines and horrible, horrible atrocities against innocents like children and women. I can think of those people. And so now God is sending me to go tell that person that they should stop doing what they're doing and change.

And yes, I want that for sure. I want them to stop. However, did they just get off scot-free for what they've already done? There's no fairness in that, because that's what it is, right? It's not fair. That's what Jonah's mad about. It's not fair. But God doesn't promise us fairness, does God? In fact, it says in the Gospel of Matthew that the sun rises and the rain falls on the righteous and the unrighteous exactly the same. We don't get fairness in this world. We have free will. People can do awful, awful things, and maybe a criminal justice system will come in and maybe not. It just doesn't seem fair.

I was recently reading a wonderful book by the author Madeleine L'Engle. If you're wondering how I know that name, she wrote the *Wrinkle in Time* quartet. But she also wrote quite a few books about her own life in faith.

One book that she wrote late in her life is called *The Rock That Is Higher*. In this book, she documented the time in her life after she had been in a horrific car accident in her 70s. She was sure that when this car hit her and nearly killed her, and she had to go into emergency surgery, she wouldn't make it out. But then she did, and then she had to go through months of recovery in the hospital. By the way, this car accident happened in San Diego, and she lived in Connecticut, so she was thousands of miles away from all of her family and friends, anyone who could come out and see her regularly.

So she had to make do with phone calls. But when she was that injured, she couldn't even pick up a Bible. She couldn't pick up her prayer book. She couldn't pick up a phone. And she felt alone and lost and dark. When she did start talking to her friends, they said, "Aren't you mad? This isn't fair. A person ran a red light and hit you and nearly killed you.

That's not fair. Aren't you mad at God?"

And she said, "Oh, I'm mad. Don't you worry. I'm mad that a barely insured driver took his brand-new truck right through a red light and hit me. Of course I'm mad. I'm mad at the hospital bills that keep rocketing up. I'm mad at the insurance companies that are blaming me somehow for just being in the intersection. I'm mad, but I'm not mad at God, because God never promised fairness. God promised love." And she would tell you that even when she couldn't pick up her Bible, couldn't pick up her prayer book, she still felt God there with her, loving her, caring for her, standing by her.

If a person like that can do that, it immediately makes us all feel bad, right? What a saint. She gets hit by someone, nearly dies, and somehow is not that mad. Oh, I'd be mad. I'd be mad. I'm just going to own it. I'm human. But we think in this Christian world that to forgive and love our enemies means that we have to be perfect. Gentleness, kindness, self-control, right? All the fruits of the spirit.

That's why I love Jonah, because Jonah is mad. And he's allowed to be mad. Mad is not something that is scolded by God. God doesn't come in, as in Job, from the whirlwind, "How little you are! You don't know a thing." Instead, God just stays there with Jonah, saying, "I know you're mad, but do you have a right to be mad? Is this helping you in any way to be mad at this whole group of people? What are they to you? Yes, they're an evil entity. But your anger isn't going to change my decision to give them grace and mercy. It's not going to change their decision to actually change their ways. And ultimately it's just going to hurt you more." But God doesn't say, "You shouldn't be mad. You can't be mad. That's not allowed." Instead, God ultimately counsels him through his anger, because how is that anger serving him?

Jonah doesn't choose to leave Nineveh and say, "Fine. My job is done. I'm going back to my life." No, he stews in his anger and says, "I'm going to take a high place, and I'm going to watch you until you slip up. And then I'm going to tell God, because I know it's going to happen," right? Jonah could still be up on that hill, stewing, for all we know. Until the end of his days, he could have just sat there waiting, wanting his enemies to not have their happy ending.

Because that's the worst unfairness, right? If the enemy gets their happy ending.

Or is it that in Sunday school we were told that the message God had to deliver to the Ninevites was a good message? God loved them. God wanted to show them mercy, right? These are not the people of Israel. These are others. This is the idea that, as with Jesus, God came not just for the chosen people but for everyone, to offer grace and mercy to everyone, love to everyone. That is the message that still made it across into Nineveh, despite a reluctant prophet who didn't want to do it. And aren't we all that reluctant prophet when we're standing in the face of our enemies? We don't want to say that God loves you, that God wants to offer you mercy, that God wants to forgive you, that God ultimately wants to just be reunited with you. No, we want justice. The God of justice.

So if this sermon bubbled up some righteous anger, or if it just comes naturally to you, I'm going to give you the same advice that Jonah took. Separate yourself from your enemies. Find yourself a shady spot. Sit down with God. Tell him how you're really feeling, anger and all. And let God love you, care for you, and counsel you through it. Because the beautiful thing about God loving even our enemies is that it means that on our worst day, at our worst moment, God loves us, too.

And that is such good news.

ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

The key to our success are the Talkers. They are the ones who call the caregiver, whether it is an aunt, uncle, grandparent, mom, or dad. They are the ones who reach out and invite them to participate. They are the ones who talk and find the special gift. We need four or five more people to complete our team. If you love to talk, the rest is history. Come join us. You will make five – six calls and have the opportunity to share Jesus. You can talk to **Ken or Debra Boehm 719.352.2377** or use the church app find the Talker job under Angel Tree Ministry. Merry Christmas to you!
Sign up here (by September 30):
https://bit.ly/3Um9v1z

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

Flowers needed for 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, and 11/22.

Order flowers here: **https://bit.ly/4nKyPYq**

CHERYL'S CORNER

MEET YOUR BROTHER OR SISTER IN CHRIST

We've heard Pastor Travis preach about our church family and how we are to love each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. Cheryl Mahon, our Minister of Congregational Service, would like to introduce YOU to the entire congregation in her Cheryl's Corner article within the Ekklesia. She invites you to sit down with her over coffee, tea, etc. for an hour to just chat. She'll ask you a little about your memories from your youth, your insights, your beliefs, and what keeps you coming back to First Lutheran. Then when you read one of her "Meet..." articles, seek out this person and introduce yourself!

FALL CITY SERVE

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 3 | 9 A.M. TO NOON.

We have chosen two City Serve projects to work on together as a congregation. Our goal is to have at least 10 First Lutheran members at each service site. We will meet at First Lutheran at 8 a.m. for a continental breakfast, pick up our "Gods Work Our Hands" t-shirts and carpool to the volunteer sites. Spots fill up fast so we will be submitting our volunteer list by September 13. Sign up here:
https://serve.cosiloveyou.com/

MINISTRY GATHERING DATES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
1 P.M.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6
10 A.M.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6
7 P.M. | ZOOM ONLY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
1 P.M.

Choose the gathering that works best for you.

THE GATHERING PLACE

SCAN FOR ZOOM

HIGHLIGHT YOUR SMALL GROUP AT THIS YEAR'S MINISTRY GATHERINGS

We will have tables set up around the perimeter of the Gathering Place at our 2026 Ministry Gatherings to highlight our various small, social, study, and support groups.

Still holding foam board for Baking and Cooking Club, Bible and a Brew, Bridge to Friendship, Busy Bag Ministry, Dining Out with FLC, Hand and Foot Card Group, Mah Jongg, MomCo, Seeds of Joy, and Wednesday Morning Bible Study. Please pick up at the Welcome Center Desk.

ANNUAL MEETING

First Lutheran's annual meeting will be held on October 18 after each service to vote on three new Council members and the budget for 2027.

Dive into some religious fiction with Pastor Michaela during this monthly book club!

OCTOBER OWLS
NEW LEONARDO DA VINCI MUSEUM

310 CENTRA MAIN STREET, PUEBLO
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21
LEAVE FLC: 8:30 A.M. TOUR TIME: 10 A.M.
COST: $17.00 (DUE AT SIGNUP) TICKET AND PRIVATE TOUR
LUNCH: BRUES ALEHOUSE BREWING COMPANY – PAY ON YOUR OWN

Join the OWLS for a trip to Pueblo to the new Leonardo da Vinci Museum. Engage directly with working models inspired by Leonardo's original designs and discover how imagination, observation and engineering shaped his world-changing ideas. Explore the only complete physical Lenardo da Vinci library in North America, featuring thousands of pages from his surviving notebooks, codices, and manuscripts. **Sign Up Deadline: Tuesday, October 13. Sign up link will be available soon!**

DECEMBER OWLS
FLYING W RANCH – CHRISTMAS AT THE RANCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13
MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 1:45 P.M., DEPART 2 P.M. (3 P.M. SHOW)
COST: $75 DUE AT SIGNUP

The OWLs will celebrate a Cowboy Christmas Jubilee at the Flying W Ranch! A western Chuckwagon spread of smoked meats with all the trimmings is followed by a western stage show performed by the world-renowned Flying W Wranglers, the second longest-running western performance band in the world (**flyingw.com**) We will enjoy a festival of twinkling white lights and well-lit rock formations to celebrate the Christmas season. Happy Trails, Y'all!! **Deadline for Sign-Ups: Monday, October 26. Signup link will be available soon**!

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	
October 12 (Monday)	Streetcar 520 520 South Tejon Street
October 27	Outback 2825 Geyser Drive
November 10	Marigold's Cafe and Bakery 4605 Centennial Blvd
November 24	Mexico Real 1899 S Nevada Avenue

SINGLES – DINING OUT WITH FIRST LUTHERAN

This is a new small group just for singles! Carrie Lyne Mathiesen has graciously agreed to lead the group on a trial basis. We are starting with one dinner a month to see what kind of interest we get. We will make reservations for 7 p.m. on a given Thursday each month. No partner? Come and join us for food, fellowship and a chance to meet new friends! **October 15 - White Pie Pizzeria, 330 South Nevada Avenue**
Sign up here: **https://bit.ly/4vgSaEP** no later than October 7!
RESERVATIONS ARE MADE ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE.
CANCELLATIONS AFTER THAT DATE ARE DISCOURAGED.

INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS AND THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 27
PEEL HOUSE PARLOR | 9:15 A.M.

Please join us as we invite the Holy Spirit to guide us in courageous truth-seeking and truth-telling regarding the difficult truths of how our government and Christian Churches harmed Tribal Nations through policies and practices that included Indian boarding schools. The ELCA is committed to investigating our past involvement and walking a path of healing for all involved. Come and learn more about what the ELCA has already done as part of the Truth and Healing Movement and what opportunities and challenges await as this initiative continues to move towards healing and reconciliation.

FOR THE LOVE OF MUSIC

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 3 | 7 P.M.
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Lutheran has enjoyed a long partnership with Kevin McChesney through his leadership of the Pikes Peak Ringers, a professional handbell ensemble. But did you know that he is a classical guitarist? He has partnered with flutist Dawn Grapes and percussionist Rebecca Gilmore and will be presenting a beautiful evening of chamber music in our Sanctuary. The concert is free, and a freewill offering will be received.

INGATHERING OF FOOD DURING OCTOBER

Please place donations of food in the vestibule under the mural of Jesus feeding the 5000. No expired foods, please.

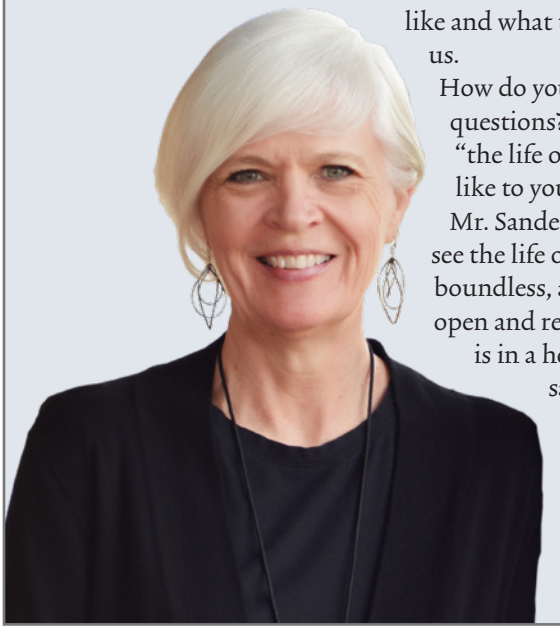
THE EMMAUS WAY

"...God is that being who exists as the triune love of the Father for the Son in the unity of the Spirit. The boundless life that God lives in himself, at home, within the happy land of the Trinity above all worlds, is perfect. It is complete, inexhaustibly full, and infinitely blessed."

– Fred Sanders

Thanks for joining me these last few weeks as we've explored the Trinity. As we approach the end of our discussion, I'll ask: Has anything that we've talked about stood out to you? For me, it has been the idea that salvation is "simply" participating in the life of God.

I put "simply" in quotation marks because, while the concept seems simple on its face, the reality of it is profound and far-reaching and requires focused attention and reflection on our part. We must think deeply about what the life of our Trinitarian God really looks like and what that means for us.



How do you answer those questions? What does "the life of God" look like to you? Do you, as Mr. Sanders says above, see the life of God as boundless, as completely open and relaxed as one is in a home that is safe, as happy, as perfect, as complete, as inexhaustibly full, as infinitely blessed, as utterly and completely infused and sustained in perfect love? And then, when you examine your life, does it reflect an abiding participation in that kind of abundant life?

My honest answer today is no, my life doesn't, at least not as much as I would like. Maybe yours doesn't, either. But as I always say, the joy in any new awareness is recognizing God's invitation to move in a different direction. By God's grace, we can begin to think differently.

In some ways, I believe the idea of participating in the life of God sums up what I am always trying to say here as we walk along this Emmaus Way together, which is probably why it has so captured my attention. I long for all of us to know and live from the infinite abundance of the life of God, which is love. As we conclude, I will leave you with two more quotes from Mr. Sanders to think deeply about. I pray that we will all move ever more fully into the life of God.

"True religion is a divine life, and by definition divine life is something found in the living God. Our salvation and our existence as Christians come from and consist in the union of that divine life with what we are in ourselves."

"[God] does not dispense blessing, but himself."

LORI DUNCAN, MINISTER OF SPIRITUAL CARE

Halloween at First Lutheran

Join us as we open our doors!

Saturday, October 31
5:30 – 8 p.m.

We're getting ready for one of our traditions – welcoming hundreds of trick-or-treaters from our congregation, neighborhood and beyond. First Lutheran is known as a must-stop spot, and we always run out of candy… so this year, we're stocking up early.

We're collecting:

- **Lots of candy for trick-or-treaters of all age**
- **Shelf-stable cider (no refrigeration needed)**
- **S'mores supplies for the fire pit - a huge hit last year!**

You'll find donation tubs in the Gathering Place.

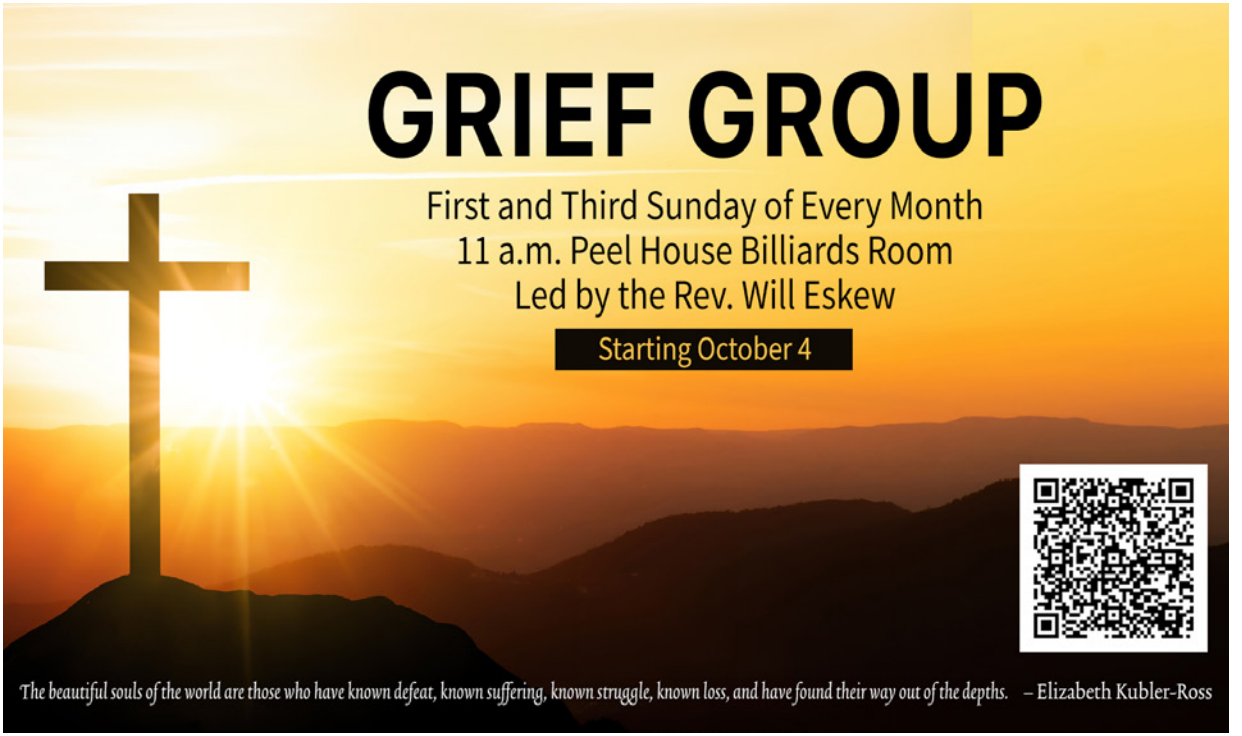
See information on Thrivent Action Team Grants to the left.

Watch for info on signing up to help and decorate soon!

THRIVENT ACTION TEAM GRANTS

THRIVENT SUPPORTS HALLOWEEN

Thrivent members are eligible for two $250 grants per year. Contact Cheryl at ***719.447.6064*** or **cheryl@flccs.net** to select a unique focus for your grant application, then visit **https://www.thrivent.com.** Under the *Generosity* tab select *Thrivent Action Teams.*



GRIEF GROUP

SUNDAY | OCTOBER 4 | 11 A.M. |
BILLIARDS' ROOM | PEEL HOUSE, LOWER LEVEL

Grief is a reality we share with all our brothers and sisters in Christ. When our loved ones die, we wonder "Is this normal?", "Does anyone else feel this way?" "Am I going crazy?" These are all normal questions. It isn't always easy to endure the loss of a loved one. But it was never meant to be done in isolation. We are offering a regularly scheduled bereavement support group with Michaela's husband, Rev. Will Eskew, on the first and third Sundays of every month. Once a quarter we will offer grief education to understand more about what this grief is. Please feel free to stop by for refreshments of the body and of the soul as we talk about what matters to us in our losses.

Our first meeting will begin on Sunday, October 4, as Will launches this program with a presentation about what is grief. The following weeks (10/18, 11/1, 11/15, etc.) will be focused purely on grief support group sharing. We offer this as we are all called to care for each other in Christ and share the burden of grief with each other. May our God of hope, peace, and love be with you.

Blessings,
Will

In the Life of the Church …

Birthdays

September 28
Sherri Foos
John Oakley
Sophie Staehs

September 29
Lisa Christopherson
Sissel Disbrow
Bruce Harmon
Marilyn Miller
Ben Weilert

September 30
Leighton Sybrant

October 1
Sherry Coutts
Finley Cramton
Steve Iskra
Beret Mangino
Frank Sotomayor

October 2
Susan Anderson
Hope Bergren
Guy Childs

October 3
Mackenzie Dixon
Mary Kerwin
Caden Mathiesen

October 4
Debra Boehm
Cambria Isidore
Joanne Larson

Anniversaries

Prayer Requests

Lannette Abbey
Joan Abrahamsen
Beth Allen
Fred Bachmeier
Elmer Bauman
Tana Beall
Joan Boehm
Carrara Boone
Phil Brace
Linda Branesky
Shari Brian
Brittany
Bill & Barbara Brown
Bryon
Karl & Pam Cartwright
Tanya Charbonneau
John & Debbie Chlebus
Nell Clowder
Linda Collier
David Dickey
Alan Flinn
Corinne Gibson
Pam Goodhue
Nola Gosch
Bob Haines
Hannah
Private Steven Harris
Ty Hecht
Doug Hering
Ginger Hipszky
Jake Hodnett
Randy Hollar
Bill & Doreen Hulka
Jeff Ipson
Sarah Iskra
Alan Jacobsen
Josh Jones
Shirley Jones
Ann Junk
Jonas Kagarise
Kyong Kelley
Tami Kephart
Rus Kester
Gaye Lynn Kielcheski
Cindy Koger
Marilyn Knutson
Sidney Kruger
Sharon Lakey
Preston Lauscher
Jesse Lawrence & Family
The Leinweber-Cosico Family
Timothy Lillich
Dayne Lindquist
Bill Lipscomb
Irene Lopez
The Korrina Lopez Family
Jim Matthews
Nick McKibben & Family
Hugh McNeely
Michele
Brandon Miller & Family
Marilyn Miller
Mitch & Linda
Paul Moe
Michael Morarie
Wendy Moreland & Family
Tricia Muehlbauer
Wilma Nicolaisen
Robert Nielson
Sam Norton
Jim O'Hagan
Owen & Family
Jack & Judy Peterson
Darlene Radke
Jeff Rapp
Randy Schacht
Carol Schlater
Bonnye Sielken
Becky Stabler
Cindy Stanley
Matthew Stark
Becky Sternal
Barbara Swan
Michael Taylor
Aaron & Cindi Thorson
Bob VanDuyn
Karen Henderson-VanDuyn
Doni Vest
Gudrun Vest
Vickie Voth
Lily Juemei Wang
Christine Welch
Suzanne Wilkenson
Greg & Carolyn Young
Beth Zautke
Julie Frank Zeeb
Charles Zerbe

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

Dianne Wilkerson

Bob's wife; Cara & Shelby's mother; Alis & Zach's mother-in-law; Troy & Brandon's stepmother; Jeanie & Angie's stepmother-in-law; grandmother of five whose memorial service will be at a later date here at First Lutheran.

Date of death: September 20, 2026

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
WEDNESDAY SMALL GROUPS
6:30 - 7:30 P.M.

ONLINE WORSHIP
STREAMED LIVE AT 9:30 A.M AND 10:15 A.M.(CONTEMPORARY)
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!
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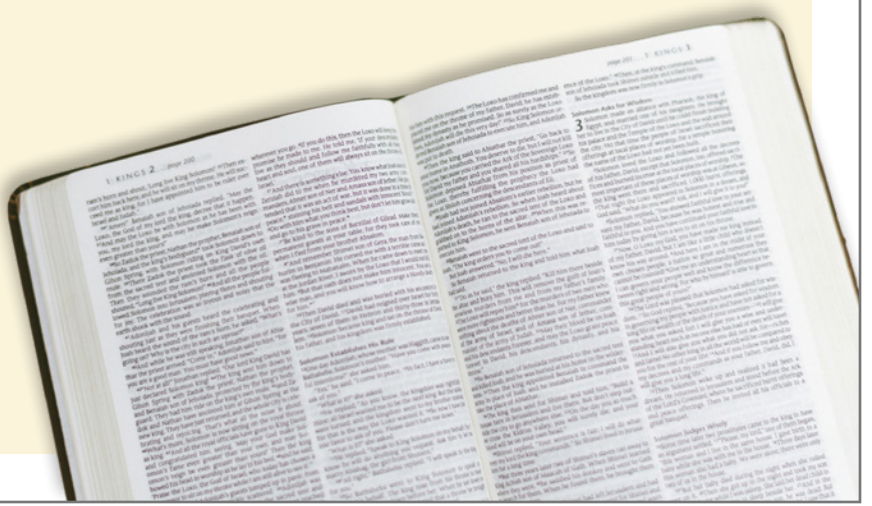
NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES
Ezekiel 18: 1 – 4, 25 – 32
Philippians 2: 1 – 13
Matthew 21: 23 – 32

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