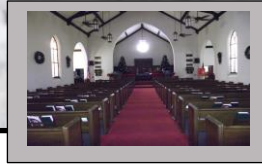


FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS

BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON

August 2025



Volume 28 No. 8

First Things First...

So, to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."
2 Corinthians 12:7-9a

There was a time when the lesson offered through Paul's words was succinctly stated by many parents saying, "You're getting a little too big for your britches." Paul's supplication is couched in humility *"I pleaded with the Lord..."* However, for us it is so easy to cross the line between humility and vanity. In praying relief or release from some difficulty life presents, our words harbor a hidden touch of egotism: *"I deserve this, Lord, so give it to me"* or *"I don't deserve this, Lord, so take it from me"* or *"Why, Lord?"* The truth is we deserve nothing good and often earn anything bad that comes our way. Nor does God owe us an explanation for anything He does or doesn't do. We have no recourse except the love God poured out for us on Calvary's cross. Our Heavenly Father said to Paul and says to us, *"My grace is sufficient for you..."* If we receive nothing from God but His forgiveness, it is enough.

The apostle learned two lessons through his "thorn...in the flesh." Those were:

- 1) to keep (Paul and us) from becoming conceited, and
- 2) God's power is made perfect in (Paul's and our) weakness.

Every experience of our lives offers lessons from our Heavenly Father and conveys His love for us. His thoughts and ways and plans are far beyond our comprehension and understanding (cf. Isaiah 55:8-9). Yet, His promise to us is: *"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose."* (Romans 8: 28) We are wise to remember the words of the popular song:

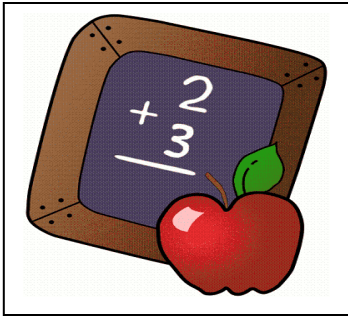
*When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."¹*

¹ "It Is Well With My Soul." H G Spafford

Jesus loves you and so do I! Pastor Grier



I want to thank Pastor David Kight and Pastor Richard Turner as they offer their time and talents officiating our worship services during my absence for surgery and recovery beginning July 23 and extending through the month of August. Their love of our Lord and their servant hearts will be a blessing to all. I deeply appreciate the prayers you offer on my behalf as I recuperate. Please pray for Alys as she cares for me, her brother, and our daughter. My wonderful wife is absolutely amazing! To her I want to say, "My Beloved, second only to my salvation, you are the most precious gift God has given me. Thank you for loving me!"



First School And Day Care

The First School is proud to announce that we received a grant from the Bouligny Charitable Foundation!

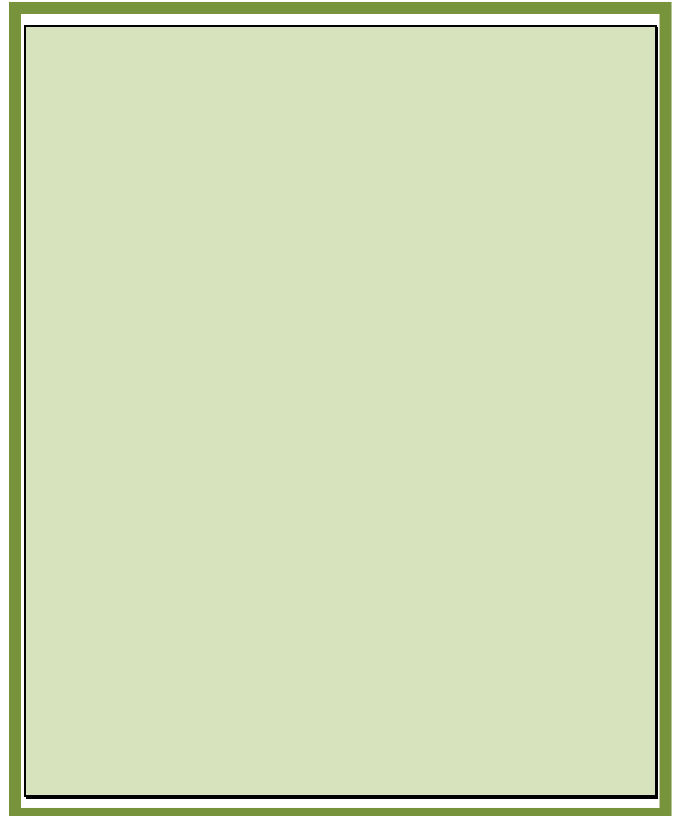
The grant is in the amount of \$16,747.15 for a new 25' X 45' basketball court for our school age kids, a 345 sq ft concrete walkway to extend from the kitchen door to the Johnson House, and a fence for a playground for our infants in the parsonage. The fence will be 90 ft (3, 30 foot sections) of 4-foot-tall ornamental with a 5-foot-wide gate. It will be done by J4 Fencing and will match our other black playground gate that was recently installed by them.

The concrete work for our walkway and basketball court will be done by Lonestar Concrete.

The contracts are signed and we are just waiting in line for the contractors to get to us.

We are excited to have these new additions to our campus as they are much needed!

Many Blessings,
Bree Joines
First School Director



AUGUST READINGS

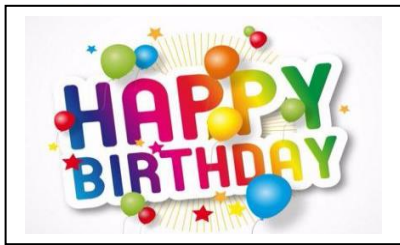
08/03 TBD

08/10 TBD

08/17 TBD

08/24 TBD

08/31 TBD



08/03 Gaynard Wigginton
 08/05 Alvin Yackel
 08/06 Haley Orsak
 08/11 Clyde Grier
 08/18 Axel Koudela
 08/21 Lionel Chatel
 08/23 Liam Joines
 08/31 Ryan Hanna
 08/31 Heather Langston



Our FLC Family
 Cecil Anderson
 Harlo & Rhonda Atchetee
 Cora Lee Bishop
 Pastor & Alys Grier
 James & Sheila Herrington
 Marilyn Kight
 Kim & Larry Ledwig
 Lloyd Nelson
 Ashley Schoeneberg
 Bentley

Friends of FLC



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

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



08/14 Jimmy & Sharon Nielsen



OR



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

Phone: 979-543-5847

Email: office@firstlutheranec.com



COUNCIL MEETING
 Monday, August 18th
 6:00 p.m.

Pastor Clyde Grier:
 Phone: 979-541-6173

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to reach out to all people with the Good News of Jesus Christ and his Grace, remembering our baptismal promises and at all times spiritually supporting one another.

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively places for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom, and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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First School Board

Thursday, August 14th
5:00 p.m.

Church Council

Monday, August 18th
6:00 p.m.

A = Always

S = Say

A = A

P = Prayer



LCMC 25th Annual Gathering

October 5-8, 2025

Hosanna Church

Lakeville, Minnesota

Theme: Our Help and Hope

Speakers – Focus Groups – Breakout Sessions

Fellowship Dinner – District Meetings

Recognitions – Exhibitors

Learn More About LCMC

For more information visit:

www.lcmc.net/annual-gathering

August 2025



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

August Responsibilities

ASSISTING MINISTER: Jimmy Nielsen

SEXTON: Jimmy Nielsen

USHER: Ted Schoenfield

ALTAR GUILD: Karen & David Kight

READER

3rd Kirk Marek
10th Emma Moulden
17th Ted Schoenfield
24th Calvin Borak
31st Cathy Schoenfield

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



AUGUST FLOWER CALENDAR

3rd Open
10th Open
17th Open
24th Open
31st 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: 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



Join us on Sunday mornings!

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.