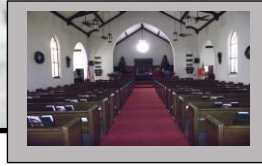


FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS

BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON

February 2024



Volume 27 No. 2

First Things First...

IN THIS IS LOVE, NOT THAT WE HAVE LOVED GOD BUT THAT HE LOVED US AND SENT HIS SON TO BE THE PROPITIATION FOR OUR SINS. 1 JOHN 4:10

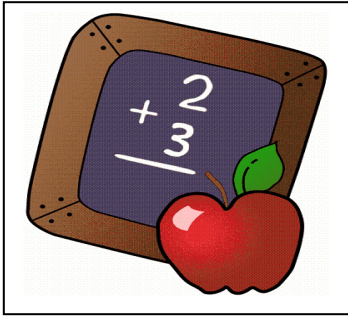
February equals Valentine's Day equals love. Every February finds its overarching and all-encompassing theme in the expression of love for someone special. It may not be the final and only topic worthy of note during this month, but to look at the shelving of retail outlets one might think there is nothing else that matters. Those shelves are lined with cute stuffed animals, candies without limits, cosmetics, jewelry (some real and some not so real) and greeting cards expressing every facet of love imaginable. The astute observer realizes these expressions of our sentiments have been available since before Christmas. At least, it seems that way!

John, the apostle, was inspired by the Holy Spirit to pen the definition of the highest form and function of love which the world has ever seen. *In this is love: not that we have loved God but that he loved us.* We, frail and flawed human beings, would have no concept of unconditional and undeserved love without the Father's unique and unparalleled active love for us. HE initiated the relationship with us, HE made the first "move," HE loved us when we were most unlovable. Further, the Holy Spirit revealed the source and substance of true love. He *sent his son to be the propitiation for our sins.* God's intervention freed us from his judgment and his wrath. We deserved nothing less than death, yet He chose to love us to such an extreme that He sent the Son who willingly took our flesh upon himself in order that he could sacrifice himself for our redemption. That, my friend, is the ultimate love.

To prevent any misunderstanding God appropriated an unfamiliar word expressing that love to us. He sent his son *to be the propitiation for our sins.* Propitiation, defined in The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language as "the act of conciliating or appeasing a higher power," conveys that on the cross Jesus paid the penalty for our sins and restored to mankind that relationship which Adam and Eve knew with God before the fall into sin. *God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us* (Romans 5: 8). And, *more than that we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation* (Romans 5: 11). Thusly, God expresses his love for us in immeasurable quality and quantity.

If there is someone special in your life, On February 14th share with them in unquestionable words that love which you have for them. Everyday express to God your love for him because HE FIRST LOVED YOU!!!

Remember this: Jesus loves you and so do I! Pastor Grier



First School And Day Care

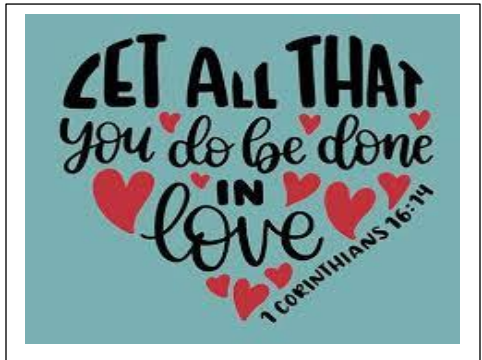
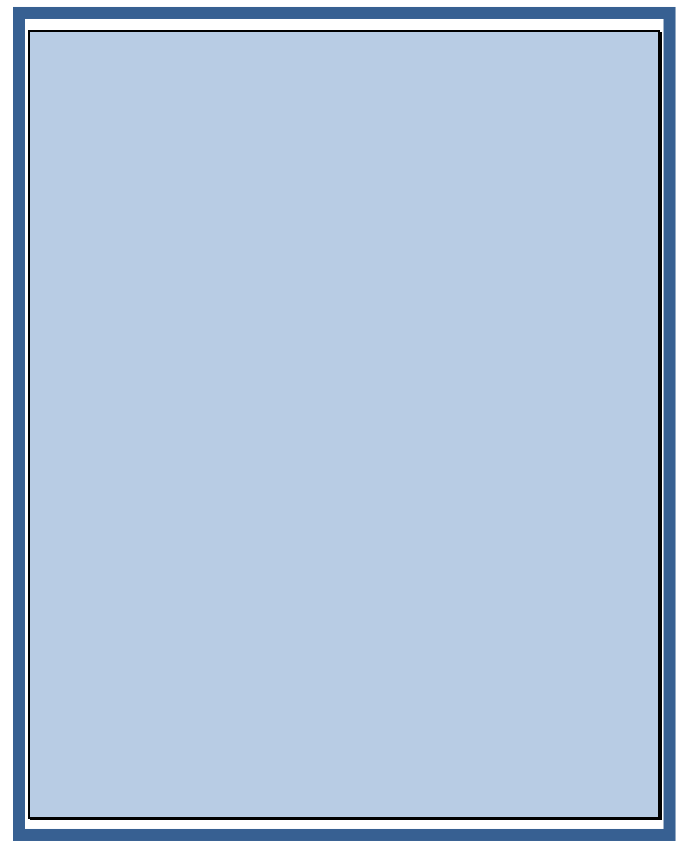


The First School is starting the year off strong with 148 children! God sure has blessed us! We look forward to having a strong year ahead and ask you all for prayers for 2024!

On Friday, February 9th, The First School will have a bake sale featuring items for Valentine's and Super Bowl snacks. We will have the sale from 3-6 pm. We hope to see you there!

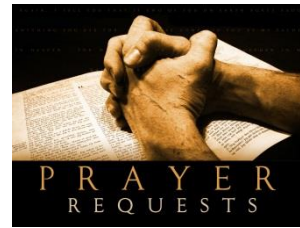
Thank You,
Bree Joines
First School Director

**First School Board Meeting -
Tuesday, February 8th, at 5:00 p.m.**



FEBRUARY READINGS

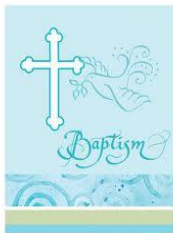
- 02/04 Exodus 28:40-42, Psalm 74:4-8, 2 Corinthians 5:11-15, Luke 8:26-39
- 02/11 Service with Stones Cry (music ministry)
- 02/18 Exodus 29:1-9, Psalm 74:9-12, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Luke 8:40-56
- 02/25 Exodus 20:10-18, Psalm 74:12-15, 2 Corinthians 6:1-10, Luke 9:1-6



- 02/18 Kyle House
- 02/20 Ellis Lundy
- 02/21 Ty Schoenfield
- 02/23 Tammy Campbell
- 02/27 Nora Borak

- Our FLC Family**
- Dorothy Atchetee
 - Harlo & Rhonda Atchetee
 - Ron Chambles
 - Alys Grier
 - Milton Johnson
 - Bonnie Jones
 - Marilyn Kight
 - Kim & Larry Ledwig
 - Lloyd Nelson
 - Jimmy Nielsen
 - Ashley Schoeneberg
 - Bentley

Friends of FLC



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.

- 02/02 Kirk Marek
- 02/03 Bram Koudela
- 02/15 Cori Koudela
- 02/22 Daniela Rodriguez
- 02/22 Ivan Rodriguez
- 02/23 Ty Schoenfield
- 02/24 Cash Dujka
- 02/24 Callie Dujka
- 02/25 Tammy Campbell
- 02/29 Pat Marek



**PRAY FOR
ALL WHO
SERVE IN
THE US MILITARY**

WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US



OR



- 02/02 James & Sheila Herrington
- 02/18 Warren & Helen Johnson

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

Phone: 979-543-5847
Email: office@firstlutheranec.com



COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, February 19th
6:00 p.m.

Pastor Clyde Grier:
Phone: 979-541-6173

Flower Chart

The Flower Chart for 2024 is available for you to choose your special dates. All Sundays for the month of February are open. Please sign up for the dates when you would like to provide flowers for our service!

+ + + + + + +

FLCEC Manna Meals Team

Our next date to serve will be announced.

Stones Cry Sunday, February 11th

Invite your friends to join us for this special service!

First School Board

Tuesday, February 8th
5:00 p.m.

Church Council

Monday, February 19th
6:00 p.m.

A = Always

S = Say

A = A

P = Prayer



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who agreed to serve by filling in our monthly assignments positions for 2024 (Assisting Minister, Sexton, Ushers, Altar Guild)!

Let us know if there is an area in which you would like to serve!

Thank You!

To the Staff and members of First Lutheran Church,

On behalf of our family, thank you for the kindness and support. And thank you for providing the meal. Thank you for caring about Shirley and our family – it means a lot!

Sincerely,
Lionel Chatel and Family

February 2024



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

February Responsibilities

ASSISTING MINISTER: Ted Schoenfield

SEXTON: Gaynard Wigginton

USHERS: Ed Campbell, Kirk Marek

ALTAR GUILD: Gloria & Ed Campbell

READER

4th Cathy Schoenfield
 11th Diane Stewart
 18th Helen Johnson
 25th Ty Schoenfield

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



FEBRUARY FLOWER CALENDAR

4th James & Sheila Herrington
 11th Chatel Family
 18^h 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*

February

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