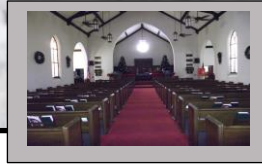


FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS

BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON

January 2020



Volume 23 No. 1

First Things First...

PROSPERO ANO Y FELICIDAD

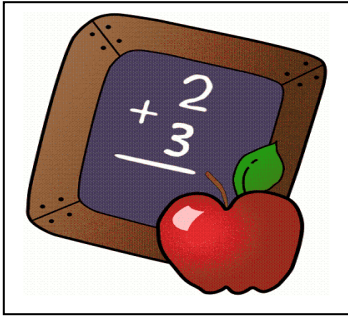
“And my God will supply every need of yours, according to his riches in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:19

The traditional festive greeting relays: “Merry Christmas and Happy New Year is wonderful! However, I have always appreciated the Spanish language greeting of “Feliz Navidad, prospero Ano y Felicidad.” Particularly, the well-wish of “a prosperous and happy year.”

Paul’s expression for future wellbeing and prosperity to the Philippian congregants conveyed a blessing from God for their “every need.” Ponder for a moment: if you knew with absolute certainty that every need of your life would be guaranteed, what emotions would arise in your heart and mind? Would you feel confident or secure, ecstatic or relieved? Would you rejoice? Perhaps, all these and more? What would have to happen for you to have that absolute certainty? A winning Mega-lottery ticket? A successful business or career? A loving soulmate to be with you throughout your life? An assurance that when this life ends that you would live in everlasting love, peace and joy? This last security is the only one that is Scripturally promised, and it is the only one that has any permanence. God’s blessing does involve many material and relational assurances, but people often fail to realize that the hope of eternal life is the only permanent need that exists. Every blessing for the earthly life is enjoyable and pleasant. Every blessing for everlasting life is perfect and endures eternally. Knowing the difference between temporal and eternal blessing impacts how people view life (or it should). While earthly blessings and prosperity are nice, heavenly blessings are AWESOME because they come from an Awesome God! He knows the needs of every individual better than the individual knows themselves. Of course, one of the weaknesses of human beings is the propensity to translate “want” into “need.” The promise of God is that every NEED will be met.

Thus, my prayer for you is that throughout the coming year God will meet ALL your needs according to his riches in Christ Jesus! He has prepared eternal blessing for you through the sacrifice of his Son, our Savior. I pray also that you will give him thanks in everything, knowing that “for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28). “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow, due to change” (James 1:17). This is true even when we do not understand how the experiences of life are helping us. We too often see the lack of material blessing as a problem instead of as a blessing. Trust the Lord our God knows and provides all your true NEEDS.

Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year!
Pastor Grier



First School And Day Care

First School currently has 82 children. Our preschool Christmas program was a success! It was a packed house and the children did a wonderful job telling the story of Jesus's birth! Thank you to all the church members who came and joined us!

We have had a great year this year and look forward to many awesome things God has in store for us going forward into 2020! May God Bless you this New Year!

Bree Joines
First School Director

Thank You!

The family of Eddie Graeter would like to thank everyone for the food, cards, flowers, prayers and expressions of sympathy. We appreciate and are grateful for everything that was done for us.

Sincerely,
Jimmy & Sharon Nielsen
The Family of Eddie Graeter

JANUARY READINGS

01/05 Psalm 1; Genesis 1, Acts 1, Matthew 1
01/12 Psalm 2; Genesis 2, Acts 2, Matthew 2
01/19 Psalm 3; Genesis 3, Acts 3, Matthew 3
01/26 Psalm 4; Genesis 4, Acts 4, Matthew 4



01/02 Becky Sample
 01/03 Sarah Langston
 01/08 Nora Hollingsworth
 01/09 Helen Johnson
 01/09 Kirk Marek
 01/10 Landon Thane
 01/13 Kalin Christenberry
 01/16 Sarah Thane
 01/18 Sheila Miller
 01/20 Odis Newton
 01/21 Dorothy Atchete
 01/27 Cathy Schoenfield
 01/30 Rachel Hernandez
 01/30 Cindy Mathews



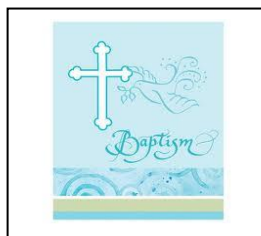
Our FLC Family

Dorothy Atchete
 Charles Bard
 Ron Chambles
 Nora Hollingsworth
 Jewel Deen House
 Harry & Marilyn Kight
 Kim & Larry Ledwig
 John Nelson
 Jimmy & Sharon Nielsen
 Charlotte Watson

Friends of FLC

Vanessa
 Eugene Bard
 Ernest & Rozell Giesie
 Peggy Glaze
 Verna Roy
 Kim Walker
 Riley Sless
 Sherry Morgan
 S J Swanson
 Shawn
 Daniel Witting

Kim S
 Luke Streiferd
 Ruby Davis
 Laura Atchete Cunningham
 Joan Carter
 Tommie Wilson
 Family of Helena Lauritsen
 Clayton Harkins
 Robert & Delpha Price
 Family of Eddie Graeter
 Glenell Wenglar



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.

01/03 Karen Kight
 01/04 Ashlyn Hanna
 01/04 Angelina Tijerina
 01/04 Gabriella Tijerina
 01/18 Jake Herrington
 01/25 Claudia Wilfert



PRAY FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Jake Barosh
 U.S. Armed Forces

WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US



OR



01/25 James & Diane Stewart
 01/26 Ted & Cathy Schoenfield

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

Phone: 979-543-5847

Email: office@firstlutheranec.com



COUNCIL MEETING
 Thursday, January 16th
 6:00 p.m.

Interim Pastor Clyde Grier
 Phone: 979-541-6173

FLCEC Manna Meals Team does not serve in January

Thank you to our members who have been faithful in providing food for meals and also serving at Manna Meals on behalf of our First Lutheran Team!

+ + + + + + + +

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed the week of December 30-January 3.

Flower Chart

The new Flower Chart for 2020 is available for you to choose your special dates. Please sign up for the Sundays when you would like to provide flowers for our service!

End of Year Giving

All donations must be in the church office by Dec. 31st in order to receive credit for 2019. All contributions received Jan. 1st or later will be credited to 2020, regardless of the date on the check.

Thank You!

As 2019 comes to an end and a new year begins we want to say "thank you" to Helen Kight for her faithfulness as organist for all our worship services throughout this year (and the over 50 years she has played for First Lutheran)!

We appreciate all who have volunteered and helped in many ways this year - our Manna Meals Team, those who have filled the candles with oil, the Readers, Altar Guild, Mr. Chambles for the care of the Cemetery, the Church Council, First School Board and Bree Joines for the improvements made to the church property!

We look forward to the new year and what it will bring!

A = Always

S = Say

A = A

P = Prayer



WOMEN OF THE WORD MEETING

Monday, January 6th
5:00 p.m.

WOW Food Drive
Sunday, January 5th

Annual Congregational Meeting

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, January 26, 2020. We will have a potluck lunch followed by our annual meeting that day.

LCMC Three Days of Prayer

January 7-9, 2020

Day One: January 7

This is a day focused on **confession**. We have made our lives, our relationships—and even the church—in our own image. We confess that the church belongs to Jesus and not to us. We gather to lay down our pride, our sin and our agenda and ask the Lord of the church for forgiveness, which He gives freely and with mercy.

Day Two: January 8

This is a day of **petition**. Pray for your congregation, pastor, leaders, Sunday School teachers, Confirmation leaders, adult Bible study and small group leaders. Pray for those in hospital and nursing home ministries. Pray for all those connected to your church that they might know God's redeeming love for all in Christ.

Day Three: January 9

This is a day for **vision**. Pray that the Holy Spirit will again move through the hearts and minds of leaders and pastors that God's vision for His church might be revealed and fulfilled. This is a time of prayer for renewal, revival and encouragement. Pray for God's vision.



January 2020

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

January Responsibilities

ASSISTING MINISTER: Daniel Wilfert

SEXTON: David Kight

USHERS: Odis Newton, Alvin Yackel

ALTAR GUILD: Billie Jean Bram, Cori Koudela
Kim Ledwig

ACOLYTES

5th
12th
19th
26th

READER

Ty Schoenfield
Kirk Marek
Ted Schoenfield
Sheila Herrington

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



JANUARY FLOWER CALENDAR

5th Open
12th Open
19th Open
26th Open

JANUARY 2020 Bible Reading Schedule:

Date	Reading	Date	Reading	Date	Reading
1	Genesis 1	12	Genesis 13	22	Genesis 23
2	Genesis 2	13	Genesis 14	23	Genesis 24
3	Genesis 3	14	Genesis 15	24	Genesis 25
4	Genesis 4	15	Genesis 16	25	Genesis 26
5	Genesis 5	16	Genesis 17	26	Genesis 27
6	Genesis 6	17	Genesis 18	27	Genesis 28
7	Genesis 7	18	Genesis 19	28	Genesis 29
8	Genesis 8	19	Genesis 20	29	Genesis 30
9	Genesis 9	20	Genesis 21	30	Genesis 31
10	Genesis 10 & 11	21	Genesis 22	31	Genesis 32
11	Genesis 12				

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, Interim 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: Sheila Herrington, Milton Johnson, David Kight, Sheila Miller, Jimmy Nielsen, Cathy Schoenfield & Lynn Talafuse

**OUR NEWSLETTER
CAN BE FOUND ON
OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM**



**Join us for our Annual Meeting
on Sunday morning, January 26th!**

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.

Potluck Lunch after Worship

**Our Annual Congregational
meeting will follow.**