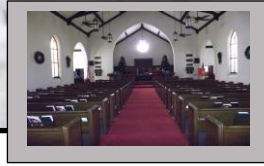


# FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS

BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON

September 2019



Volume 22 No. 9

## First Things First...

### AN INVITATION TO THE FUTURE

***"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," DECLARES THE LORD, "PLANS FOR WELFARE AND NOT FOR CALAMITY TO GIVE YOU A FUTURE AND A HOPE."***

**Jeremiah 29:11**

Sound familiar? The opening paragraph of a recent letter contained that quote from the prophet. Encouraging words that they are, reading them in context illuminates a greater impact the Lord conveyed to His people.

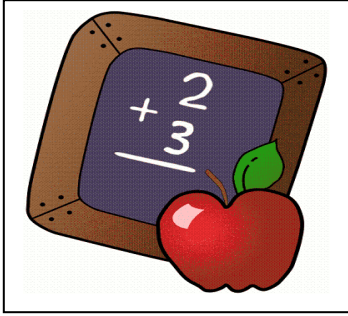
*For thus says the Lord, "When seventy years have been completed for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by You," declares the Lord, "and I will restore you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you," declares the Lord, "and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile."*

Both Jewish kingdoms, Israel and Judah, were exiled from the Land of Promise. Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed. Israel had been scattered throughout the Assyrian Empire. Judah was captive in Babylon. The future looked hopeless. Jeremiah proclaimed to the exiles: God is the hope, He has you in His plans. Call upon Him, pray to Him, seek Him with all your heart. God will restore you and bring you back home.

Regardless of our circumstances, we have hope in our God. We have God's promise of restoration. We have his deliverance. We were captive to sin. We were captive to death. Now, we are delivered from those bondages to the freedom of everlasting life in Christ. We have the peace of God that exceeds human understanding. We have the Lord Jesus! Nothing can separate us from His love. To quote the gospel song: "Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness!"

Too often we lock our focus on the negative regarding the congregation. Too few people attend worship. The offering is not enough to pay our expenses. There are no young people in church. What are the positives? There are faithful people, giving from their hearts and hearing the Gospel of God. Faithful people seeking to grow in God's grace and sharing the love which they have received from God. Let's accentuate the positive instead of the negative.

Serving the Lord and each other, we have a future and a hope in God's hands!



# First School And Day Care

First School has 78 children enrolled and a waiting list for most classrooms. It is a busy time as we are getting our fall routine into place. Our summer was wonderful and it ended very excitingly with our VBS! It was a great success and we were so proud that all of our 28 school age kids were able to recite our scripture verse by the end of the week which was: **"Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we ask or imagine by his power at work within us" Ephesians 3:30**

In our "To Mars and Beyond" VBS space theme they had a power launcher phrase with a story attached and they used the phrase throughout the day along with music and movement! **Go Beyond with Faith! Go Beyond with Boldness! Go Beyond with Kindness! Go Beyond with Thankfulness! Go Beyond with Hope!**

Please continue to pray for the children and staff at our school as we go about our year! To God Be the Glory! The Best is Yet to Come!

Many Blessings,

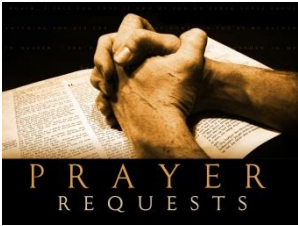
Bree Joines

First School Director

**First School Board Meeting –  
Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.**

## SEPTEMBER READINGS

09/01 Psalm 81:1,10-16; Jeremiah 2:4-13, Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16, Luke 14:1,7-14,  
09/08 Psalm 139:1-6,13-18; Jeremiah 18:1-11, Philemon 1:1-21, Luke 14:25-33  
09/15 Psalm 14; Jeremiah 4:11-12,22-28, 1 Timothy 1:12-17, Luke 15:1-10  
09/22 Psalm 79:1-19; Jeremiah 8:18-9:1, 1 Timothy 2:1-7, Luke 16:1-13  
09/29 Psalm 91:1-6,14-16; Jeremiah 32:1-3a,6-15, 1 Timothy 6:6-19, Luke 16:19-31



09/07 Harry Kight  
 09/12 Ty Mathews  
 09/12 Linda Korenek  
 09/19 Will Joines  
 09/20 Luke Langston  
 09/21 Diego Hernandez  
 09/21 Adeleigh Labay  
 09/24 Marilyn Kight  
 09/25 Parke Christenberry  
 09/26 Sawyer Schoenfield

**Our FLC Family**  
 Dorothy Atchete  
 Evon & Linda Atchete  
 Charles Bard  
 Ron Chamblis  
 Nora Hollingsworth  
 Jewel Deen House  
 Harry & Marilyn Kight  
 Helen Kight  
 Kim & Larry Ledwig  
 John Nelson

**Friends of FLC**  
 Vanessa  
 Eugene Bard  
 Ernest & Rozell Giesie  
 Peggy Glaze  
 Verna Roy  
 Kim Walker  
 Monica Harris  
 Riley Sless  
 Sherry Morgan

S J Swanson  
 Shawn  
 Daniel Wittig  
 Kim S  
 Luke Streiferd  
 Scott Mollnar



09/07 James Herrington  
 09/12 Jimmy Nielsen  
 09/13 Will Joines  
 09/17 Charles Bard  
 09/20 Kim Kainer  
 09/23 Milton Johnson  
 09/23 Luke Langston  
 09/25 Emery Langston

*List will be cleared on the 1<sup>st</sup> in January, April, July and October. Please help us stay current, call the office with changes or additions.*



**PRAY FOR OUR  
 LOVED ONES  
 IN THE MILITARY**  
  
 Jake Barosh  
 U.S. Armed Forces

**WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US**



09/07 Ed & Gloria Campbell  
 09/27 Shane & Heather Langston



OR



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

Phone: 979-543-5847  
 Email: [office@firstlutheranec.com](mailto:office@firstlutheranec.com)



**COUNCIL MEETING**  
 Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>  
 6:00 p.m.

**Pastor Clyde Grier:**  
 Phone: 979-541-6173

## FLCEC Manna Meals Team

Our Manna Meals team will serve on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Please check with Cathy Schoenfield to see how you can help.

Thank you to our volunteers who help with this community out-reach effort.

Volunteers are always welcome to come out and help with setting up, serving and cleaning up!

+ + + + +

### Flower Chart

The Flower Chart still has available dates from now till the end of the year! Please sign up for the Sundays when you would like to provide flowers for our service.

## A Prayer for Labor Day

God, our creator, you have ordered seedtime and harvest, sunshine and rain. Grant that all the people of our nation may give thanks to you for food, drink, and all that sustains life; may honor the land and water from which these good things come; and may respect those who labor to produce them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

---LBW p. 43

## WOMEN OF THE WORD MEETING

Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m.

**WOW Food Drive**  
Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>

A = Always  
S = Say  
A = A  
P = Prayer



## Birthday Party

First Lutheran Church is hosting the monthly birthday party at Garden Villa Nursing Home to celebrate September birthdays. (The date will be announced.) We will need three cakes and a few small gifts for a woman or a man. We also need volunteers to help us make this party special. For more information please contact the church office.

## LCMC Annual Gathering

**October 7-10, 2018**

**HyVee Hall**

730 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, De Moines, IA

**Keynote Speakers – Worship -- Fellowship –  
Networking – Service Project**

**Theme: Growing Up**

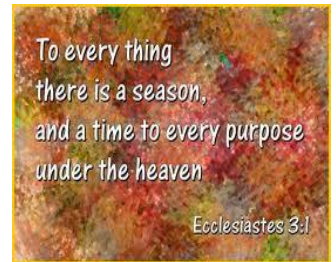
**To Register:** Registration forms are available in the church office

**For more information and to register online:**

[www.lcmc.net/annual-gathering](http://www.lcmc.net/annual-gathering)

Register by September 1<sup>st</sup> to receive the lowest price!!

# September 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM w/Communion	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM	9 WOW Meeting 6PM	10 First School Board Meeting 5:30PM	11	12	13	14
15 Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM w/Communion	16	17	18	19 Church Council Meeting 6:00PM	20	21
22 Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:45 AM	30 Manna Meals 5-6:30PM FLCEC Team serves					

## September Responsibilities

**ASSISTING MINISTER:** Ted Schoenfield

**SEXTON:** Daniel Wilfert

**USHERS:** Doug Mathews, Ed Campbell

**ALTAR GUILD:** Pat Marek, Ruth Speckels

### ACOLYTES

1<sup>st</sup>  
8<sup>th</sup>  
15<sup>th</sup>  
22<sup>nd</sup>  
29<sup>th</sup>

### READER

Ruth Speckels  
Ty Schoenfield  
Kirk Marek  
Ted Schoenfield  
Sheila Herrington

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



## SEPTEMBER FLOWER CALENDAR

1<sup>st</sup>

Open

8<sup>th</sup>

Open

15<sup>th</sup>

Open

22<sup>nd</sup>

Shane & Heather Langston

29<sup>th</sup>

Kyle & Haley Orsak

## **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

304 Oscar  
El Campo, TX 77437  
979-543-5847

Email: [office@firstlutheranec.com](mailto: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*

September

Join us on **FACEBOOK** or check us out at  
[www.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM](http://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](http://WWW.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM)



**Join us on Sunday mornings!**

**Sunday School – 9:30 a.m**

**Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.**