

First Notes!

March 22, 2020
Fourth Sunday
in Lent



First Lutheran Church & Little Lambs Preschool

6300 Southern Maryland Blvd + Huntingtown, MD 20639
410-257-3030 + LLPS 410-257-3530

Traditional Worship 8:00am
Contemporary Worship 10:45am
Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm
firstlutheranchurch.org
www.facebook.com/FirstLutheran

Joyfully Proclaim God's Word and Enthusiastically Share Christ's Love



Romans 13 reminds us that God has gifted us with civil authorities through whom He provides order in His creation. Since Governor Hogan has, as of March 16th, restricted public gatherings to 50 people and **President Trump has requested people limit gatherings to no more than 10, we are cancelling all in-person worship services and Bible studies at First Lutheran Church until further notice.**

However, I ask you to hear God's Word when He says, *"Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil ... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication."* (Ephesians 6:10-11, 18)

Hopefully you have God's armor around you already. But, if not, we'll be providing the armor of God's Word to you in several forms during this time. You can access a devotional thought, scripture lessons, and the message at the "Sermons, Blogs, & News" tab above. We are also looking into streaming a service live each week. Stay tuned for details and updates. In the meantime, remember God's promise to us, *"I am with you always to the end of the age."* (Matthew 28:20)

This Sunday March 22, we will begin having one worship service online via Zoom Meetings. You can either log in with the link provided below, click the link at our home page (www.firstlutheranchurch.org), or go to our Facebook page (either "First Lutheran Friends" or "First Lutheran Church") to simply watch the live stream. The service will then be available as a recording until the following Sunday.

When joining the Zoom meeting for worship and Bible studies, your camera and mic will be off when you join. If it is before the meeting time for worship, feel free to turn those on and chat with other folks. However, when attending worship, we do ask that once worship begins you turn off your mic and camera, as this may be a distraction for others, and keep them off until the end of service. However, if you would like to send a "private chat" to let us know how the video and audio are doing, or if you have a question about what the pastor is talking about, please let us know. We'll respond as soon as we can. Then, you may turn the camera and mic back on and chat again. This will be a great way to have virtual fellowship during this time.

Sunday Worship at 10am:
<https://zoom.us/j/619278652>

Sunday Adult Bible Class at 11am:
<https://zoom.us/j/693123954>

Sunday Confirmation Class at 12:30pm:
<https://zoom.us/j/202689804>

Youth Group on Sundays and Wednesdays at
4pm: <https://zoom.us/j/881186873>

By Calling In: Call (301)715-8592 The meeting ID is the last 9 digits of the of the meeting you are trying to join.

Sunday Worship at 10am
619278652

Adult Bible Class at 11am
693123954

Confirmation Class at 12:30pm
202689804

How to use Zoom meetings:
If you'd like more instructions on Zoom, you can find user guides here:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697-Getting-Started>

Please keep an eye out as more Zoom Bible Studies and groups are still being added to the schedule.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ...

While we have a paused our In-Person worship services, the costs to maintain our facility, staff, and outreach continue. Please continue your support of First Lutheran Church by making your offering on-line. The process is simple - instructions are as follows.

Enter www.firstlutheranchurch.org into your browser.

Click on the "Giving" menu

Click on the "Donate Now" link

If you have already registered on the web page:

Log In (upper right on page)

Click on "Add Transaction"

Follow the instructions on the "Donations" screen

If you have not already registered:

Complete "Create Profile" section

Follow the instructions

You can make your offering by Credit Card* or ACH (Checking or Saving)

*FLC is charged a fee of 3% for offerings by credit card so please consider using an ACH payment. You can enter a future date for your offering. You can make a "one-time" or "recurring" offering.

Offerings can also be made by check sent via US Mail to:

First Lutheran Church
6300 Southern Maryland Blvd.
Huntingtown, MD 20639

Praying for safety and wellness to all our faithful members and families.

Jeff Lauer, Financial Secretary

Prepare for worship this Sunday. Our readings for March 22nd will be Isaiah 42:14-21; Ephesians 5:8-14; and John 9:1-41

Please feel free to contact the church office for additional information on ALL church meetings and events.

<i>This Week at FLC</i>			
Monday	23	Beautiful Feet Bible Study (on-line)	7:30p
Tuesday	24	Board of Directors Meeting	7:00p
Wednesday	25	Lunch Bunch Bible Study TBD	11:30a
Sunday	29	Worship Service (on-line)	10:00a
		Adult Bible Study (on-line)	11:00a
		Confirmation Class (on-line)	12:15p
		Youth Group	6:30p

New FLC office Hours: Monday - Thursday – 9:00a - 2:00p



**Vacation Bible School
July 13-17, 2020
Ages 4 – 8th grade**

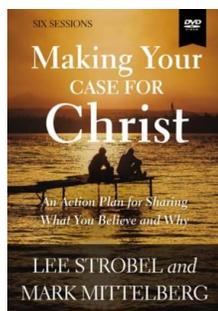
Register now for VBS! Forms are available online at www.firstlutheranchurch.org or in the church lobby. Volunteer sign up is available in the church lobby.

DCE Shawn Maassel

*Opportunities to GROW
in God's Word*

Sunday Adult Bible Study

To access the study on line ...
Sunday Adult Bible Class at 11am:
<https://zoom.us/j/693123954>



March 8 - April 5, 2020

“Making Your Case for Christ”

In his bestselling book *The Case for Christ*, Lee Strobel retraced his spiritual journey from atheism to faith by showing how the evidence he obtained from experts in the field of history, archaeology, and ancient manuscripts led him to the verdict that Jesus truly was the Son of God.

~ Neil Kennedy

**Mondays
“Beautiful Feet”**

The Gospel According to Matthew includes thirty references to the kingdom of heaven. The “Kingdom” was something for which Jewish people were hoping and waiting. It would be the culmination of all their needs, their desires, and their dreams. When the Promised

One, the King, came, everything would be all right. All people, no matter when or where they live---no matter what their nationality or country---have needs, desires, hopes and dreams. Can the answer to all our searchings be found in the King and the Kingdom, promised by God? How does a person become a citizen of this kingdom? What duties and responsibilities does citizenship in this kingdom bring? (quote from Pauline and Leonard Erdman). This study is meant to enhance the Gospel readings from Lectionary Year A so that by the season of Pentecost the entire book of Matthew has been studied in depth.

Join our Beautiful Feet on a journey to study the Gospel of Matthew on Monday evenings at 7:30 PM (EST) using the platform Zoom via smart phones or iPads or desktop computers. Contact Dawn Boyd (dawn_boyd@me.com) for information on how to use your email address to receive an invitational link. Jesus followers from locations around the country gather together via the Holy Spirit and our screens. There is currently a group meeting at the home of Bill and Cindy Peil that signs on from that location. Get your email address registered with Dawn. The class study book can be obtained from Concordia Publishing House (cph.org) or 1-800-325-3040. The item is from Concordia's Lifelight series and is item # 203301 (Matthew Part 1 student's guide and enrichment magazine) and it sells for \$9.99. Behold! A light in the darkness! Our King is the answer!

Wednesdays

**~ Wednesday Lunch Bunch ~
Fellowship & Bible Study
2nd & 4th Wed. of each month
+ 11:30am**

ALL AGES WELCOME

This study will be held online. Please contact the Church office for details



**Wednesday Evening Worship Services, until further notice, will be held on line via Zoom.
6:30 p.m.**

Saturdays

Men's Bible Study at 9:00am

Details on how this study will continue are being worked out. Stay tuned for details. John Stellabotta

+ + + +

*Prayer Ministry
of First Lutheran Church*

Prayer is the privilege of every Christian. Through Jesus' death and resurrection God brings forgiveness of sins and makes every believing person part of His family, the church. At the initiative of His grace, the Holy Spirit empowers faith for eternal life as well as faith for answered prayer. Prayer is conversation between a child of God and their heavenly Father.

*Pray continually; give thanks
in all circumstances...” 1 Thess. 5:17-18a*

Our Country: President, Vice President, Congress, Leaders Local, National, & International.

For Those Currently serving in the Military.

Our God is compassionate... Psalm 116:5

Expecting a Baby:

- 1) Aaron and Lindi Liersemann (3.22.20) (grandparents to be are Pastor Paul & Kathy Liersemann).
- 2) Derek Lantz and Amanda Gindlesperger (7.04.20) (grandparents to be are Dennis and Melli Lantz).

Extended Member Care: Keith Hawkins, Christa LaVendt, Sally Plusch.

"I am the Lord who heals you..." Exodus 15:26



New Prayer Request:

Sally Plusch and her family. Please grant your merciful comfort and peace to Sally as she enters her final days on earth. Grant peace to her faithful husband of 63 years, Al, and to her children Kathy, Allen, and Will.

Barb Michael – keep her in prayer as she mourns the death of her son Keith. (3/22)

Tricia Smeltzer, continue to hold her, her family and caregivers close in prayer and pray for minimal side-effects as Tricia undergoes 21 radiation treatments. (3/8)

Elissa Streaker, Beatrice Callis' mother - prayers of gratitude for improved health – please continue praying for progress in healing from back pain and diabetes. (3/8)

Tommy Thompson, friend of Pastor Paul & Kathy Liersemann – Praise God for his freedom from pain ... praying for God's perfect healing.

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Tom Abitable, (from Anne Swope) father of our daughter-in-law, Kristen. He is having serious medical issues and possible diagnosis of ALS. Please keep him in prayer. (3/1)

Debbie Baucom – Linda and Al Benzer's sister-in-law – lung collapsed. Had surgery on March 7, to remove the weak portion of the lung. Prayers for Debbie's strength and quick healing. (3/8)

Idalee C. Bausewein, pray for healing and comfort as she goes through tests and treatment for her illness. (2/22)

Cathie Behneman, Pat Brown's daughter, is in excruciating pain all of the time. Please pray for relief from pain. (1/12)

Donna Brewer, Nikki Humphrey's Mom: thank God for bringing her to remission. Continue to pray for comfort and healing as her treatments continue. (7/7)

Mike Caughy, will be facing brain surgery in March. Please keep him in prayer. (1/26)

The Chenevert family, going through difficult times; please keep them in prayer. (12/8)

David Chenevert, Sr. (David Chenevert's dad) – Grant peace, comfort, strength and healing to him as he undergoes diagnosis and treatment of cancer and heart trouble. (2/23)

Anthony Chilkowich, Tammie Lauer's father continues to suffer from muscular degeneration. He has become very depressed. Pray for his overall wellness and strength. (4/29)

Tracie Courtney, prior FLC receptionist, undergoing chemo treatments. Keep her and her family in prayer. (3/22)

Pat Curtin's 90+ year old dad, Dorsey - Grant him peace, comfort, and strength as he struggles with the effects of aging. Help Pat and her family get Dorsey the help he needs to live safely and without fear of injury. (2/16)

Douglas Daniel, family friend of the Chick & Barb Michael's, continue prayers for healing. (12/8)

Tunde Davies, Victoria's husband; grant strength and healing as he recovers from illness. (2/2)

Victoria Davies, for recovery and rehabilitation following surgery. (2/2)

Doc Evans, slipped and broke his leg. Pray for healing. (2/16)

Susan Fogleman, keep her in prayer as she mourns the death of her mother, Paula.

Jeff Gill, friend of Gloria Tayman, pray for recovery from a serious illness. (7/7)

Peggy Hayden, friend of Pat Brown, has pneumonia. Pray for improved health. (3/8)

Dick Hayes – friend of Dick Ziehl's – diagnosed with cancer, please keep him in prayer. (3/8)

Gina Kopack, battling cancer, but is undergoing treatment. Grant her strength and healing (2/9)

Nicky Kovacs, Sara Heisler's Aunt, continue praying for her comfort and peace, as well as bringing about healing, as she battles cancer. (7/7)

Maureen Long, Ronnue Kissinger's sister and Angie Hohl's aunt, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Please keep her in prayer. (2/2)

Cheri Lusby, Lisa Kennedy's aunt, is currently undergoing chemo treatment for cancer. Please pray for healing and peace. (1/27)

Cora Miskolczi – Vince Turner's cousin, has cancer – grant peace & comfort during treatment; bring healing. (10/13)

Ray Nieves – grant him healing from cancer as well as comfort and strength to endure his treatments. (2/16)

Marge & Frank (Keith Sainsbury's Aunt and Uncle) - Marge for healing for stage 3 cancer; Frank for Dementia. (2/23)

Brandon Simonds, friend of the Dettmer's – grant this infant healing through an organ transplant following an organ failure. (9/15)

Diane Smallwood, friend of Dick Ziehl's – is fighting cancer. Please continue praying for strength and comfort. (3/8)

Brenda Spies, friend of Mary Ziehl, battling cancer, but is under treatment. Grant strength and healing (3/1)

Richard Stellabotta, John Stellabotta's brother, needs prayer for salvation. (12/2)

Terri Troutman, grant peace, comfort, hope and healing. (2/16)

Cindy Thurlow, sister of Jeri Wilke, for extended life through treatment for cancer. (11/5)

George V., Grant him peace and strength in Your presence as he goes through a difficult time in his life. (6/30)

Peggy Widman, LLPS assistant, prayers for healing (2/2)

Vernon & Ruthie Widmayer (relative of Vicki Turner): grant healing, peace & strength in time of serious illness. (3/22)

Jeri Wilke, treatment for early stage breast cancer. (11/5)

Prayer requests may be submitted to the church's email address, through the website, or by calling the church office (410-257-3030). Prayer requests may be removed after 3 weeks pending updates.



Little Lambs Preschool

It's time to think about registering for Fall 2020.

We currently have openings for children ages 3 & 4, and a wait list for 2's. Please let your friends and neighbors know about your school.

Contact Angie at angelsbox@aol.com or 410-257-3530 for more information.

~Angie Hohl, LLPS Program Director

<i>Our Christian Stewardship For the Week of March 15, 2020</i>	
Worship, 3/15 and 3/18	81
Sunday School and Adult Bible Study	32
Weekday Bible Study	16
Financial Gifts this week	
Weekly Ministry Commitments	\$ 8,654.00
Received for General Fund	\$ 5,618.00
Received for Following Him in Faith campaign	\$ 1,490.00
Budgeted Expenditures through 1/31/20	
Budgeted Expenditures through 1/31/20	\$ 260,867.25
Actual Expenditures through 1/31/20	\$ 257,974.39
	- \$ 2,892.86

March-April FHIF prayer cards are available in the church lobby.

Altogether Beautiful New Women's Bible Study

Meeting via Zoom. Contact
Shawn Maassel at
smaassel@firstlutheranchurch.org for invite.



Human Care Ministry News Wendy Kirkpatrick, (Human Care) Chairperson

Volunteers and Donations always welcomed!



The Mobile Compassion Center is a ministry of the Lutheran Mission Society.

Since Jan 2018 we have assisted almost 400 individuals through this ministry!

As you can see, this is a vital ministry for our community. Although we are blessed to have some very faithful volunteers, we would love to have others join us in this meaningful and fulfilling ministry to our southern Maryland community. If you find that you have 2 hours to spare to help man the trailer for just one shift, please let Tammie Lauer know. Please also consider donating any clothing or household items which can be dropped off when the trailer is at First Lutheran (preferable date for donations is on the Saturday the trailer is here).

Please keep these dates in mind: **The trailer will be here again:**

Apr 9, 10 & 11.

The Compassion Trailer is stationed at First Lutheran Church on the second full Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of each month.

I would like to thank the faithful volunteers who have helped to allow this ministry to continue. You are a blessing to this community.



BUILDING COMMITTEE:

On Sunday, Feb. 23, the Voters authorized the Building Committee to spend up to \$57K toward the next steps of securing a building design and site design, pending county approval of a Concept Site Plan which is underway.

Dave Anderson, Chair

SANCTUARY UPGRADE COMMITTEE:

The Committee is coordinating an installation schedule around our Holy week services and contractor availability to minimize disruption. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)

SIGNAGE COMMITTEE: Two signage design proposals were presented to the Voters' Assembly on Sunday, Feb. 23 and the second option was approved by the Voters. The committee plans to proceed with the next steps toward installation.



where faith and fitness meet

'ON-DEMAND' classes available at
www.bodyandsoul.org Discount for 'ON-DEMAND'
available with instructor code: IC063.



Make Joyful Unto The
a Joyful Noise Lord!

HOLY WEEK FESTIVAL CHOIR

ALL are invited to join the FLC Music Department during Holy week as we sing beautiful and poignant selections on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

Sunday Evening Rehearsals:

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 ~ CANCELLED

SUNDAY, APRIL 5 4:00-6:00 p.m.

w/ instrumentalists- full rehearsal.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I hope you will consider this addition to your Lenten worship.

In His Service,

Rob Beeson (301-706-5201)

+ + + + +



Clean Up Day ~ has been tentatively moved to April 4th We Need Your Help!

FLC is having a "Clean-Up Our Property Day" tentatively on Saturday, April 4th from 9:00a to 1:00p. Please stay tuned for additional details.

Our clean up is open to men, women and youth. **We plan to:**

1. Clean up the area around the entrance to our Little Lambs facility. This will require a chainsaw and several "loppers" to cut away all the brush & help with removal.
2. Clean the area around the Chapel in the Woods where we hold our Easter SONrise service. We need pressure washers, weed wackers, wood chippers, tree trimming tools, rototiller, rakes, wheelbarrows, pitch forks, and a lot of laborers to pull weeds, etc.)
3. Rake the leaves and apply mulch where needed (mulch is loose ... please bring a wheelbarrow).
4. Tend to the Flower Beds – weed, mulch, etc.
5. Questions?
Contact: Tom Spragg 301-518-7499
taspragg1955@gmail.com

Church Library:

The Calvert County libraries may be closed, but the FLC library is still open! Besides Bible helps, we have many inspirational books, fiction, DVDs and children's books. Never checked any item out? Instructions are posted on the cart by the window. Come in and make use of our excellent library. Questions? Contact Kay Hoeferkamp. humancarekay@gmail.com



There will be a few Mission Board Chair openings in June.

Fellowship – open for nominees

Worship – open for nominees

Human Care – current Chair is running for another term.

We're also looking for a Bereavement Reception Coordinator.

If you'd like to find out more about any of these opportunities, please see me.

Wendy Kirkpatrick, Human Care Chairperson

Lutheran Colleges and Universities

The Concordia University System (CUS) is comprised of 10 colleges and universities affiliated with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Located across the United States, the colleges and universities offer more than 160 undergraduate and 50 graduate programs. While each institution is unique, all 10 campuses approach learning from a Lutheran context. The common goal is to develop Christian leaders for the church, community and world. To learn more about CUS, please visit www.cus.edu.

Valparaiso University is a selective, independent Lutheran institution in Valparaiso, Indiana, an hour's drive from Chicago. Founded in 1859, Valpo offers a thorough grounding in the liberal arts as well as professional training and graduate study, helping students find their own paths to lifelong personal, spiritual, and professional growth. For more information, please call Debra Albers at 219-464-6954 or visit <http://www.valpo.edu/about/>

Music is a powerful form of proclaiming God's word and Lutheran Summer Music (LSM) is an excellent opportunity for high school students to do just that. LSM is returning to Valpo's campus once again this summer where they transform lives and connect people through faith and music. They embrace three values: musical excellence, Lutheran faith, and a nurturing community. Their vision is to see churches and communities renewed through music for the sake of the world. Check out their website at

www.lsmacademy.org



Holy Week + Easter Sunday

Special Services + Events

~~~~~

**April 5 ~ Palm Sunday + 8:00am + 10:45am**

**April 9 ~ Maundy Thursday + 7:00pm**

**April 10 ~ Good Friday ~ Tenebrae Service +  
7:00pm**

**Easter Sunday + April 12**

**+ *The Resurrection of Our Lord* +**

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Outdoor SONrise Service | 6:30 am        |
| Easter Breakfast        | 7:15–10:15am   |
| Worship Services        | 8:00 & 10:45am |
| Children's Egg Hunt     | 9:45am         |



You are invited to our Easter breakfast and egg hunt! The Youth Group will be serving breakfast between services on Easter morning, April 12th starting at 7:15 a.m. We'll be serving breakfast casseroles, muffins, fruit salad, and beverages.

After breakfast there will be an Easter egg hunt for children ages 10 and younger. The egg hunt begins at 9:45 a.m.



## *We Are Here to Serve You...*

James E. Kent, Pastor

[pastor@firstlutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@firstlutheranchurch.org)

DCE Shawn Maassel, Family Life Ministry

[smaassel@firstlutheranchurch.org](mailto:smaassel@firstlutheranchurch.org)

DCE Susan Fogleman, Youth Director

[sfogleman@firstlutheranchurch.org](mailto:sfogleman@firstlutheranchurch.org)

Dr. Robert Beeson, Music Director

[rmbeeson@comcast.net](mailto:rmbeeson@comcast.net)

Marilyn Beeson, Accompanist

[rmbeeson@comcast.net](mailto:rmbeeson@comcast.net)

Nancy Pope, Administrative Church Secretary

[flc@firstlutheranchurch.org](mailto:flc@firstlutheranchurch.org)

Christine Marcus, Receptionist / Secretary

[receptionist@firstlutheranchurch.org](mailto:receptionist@firstlutheranchurch.org)

Tom Spragg, Property Management

[taspragg1955@gmail.com](mailto:taspragg1955@gmail.com)

## *Little Lambs Preschool*

Angie Hohl, LLPS Program Director

[angelsbox@aol.com](mailto:angelsbox@aol.com)

Laura Zeruto, Administrative Assistant

[littlelambs@firstlutheranchurch.org](mailto:littlelambs@firstlutheranchurch.org)