



# First Lutheran Church & Little Lambs Preschool

6300 Southern Maryland Blvd., Huntingtown, MD 20639

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

Web: [www.firstlutheranchurch.org](http://www.firstlutheranchurch.org) • FLC Ph: 410-257-3030 • LLPS Ph: 410-257-3530

*Epiphany*



## Sunday Services (Communion every Sunday)

**Traditional  
Worship 8:00 am**  
(In-Person/Online)

**Contemporary  
Worship 10:45 am**  
(In-Person/Online)

## Sunday School

Children's Sunday School,  
Adult Bible Class &  
Confirmation Class 9:30 am

## Monthly

### Communion

2nd Wed. of the month  
1:15 pm

## Wednesday

### Evening Service

6:30 pm

January 14, 2024 Second Sunday after Epiphany

## Words from our Pastor...

*Dear Disciples of Christ,*

I can – if I want – eat a whole box of ice cream. I can – if I want – binge watch as many episodes of *Yellowstone* as I'd like. I can – if I want – indulge myself in whatever fantasy I might desire. But just because I can, doesn't mean I should.

This belief we can do whatever we want because we can isn't a new affliction. It goes back to the beginning. After all, the *Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil* wasn't locked away; protected by swinging swords, lightning bolts, and fire. It was in the middle of the garden. Adam and Eve could eat it any time they wanted. But just because they could, didn't mean they should. In fact, God told them they shouldn't – and if they did, they'd die. But it looked so good. What harm could possibly come from a bite? So – they ate. And the rest is history. ([Genesis 3](#))

God, our creator, knows exactly what He created us to do ... and how to do it. He's given us all access to gifts He expects us to use. But ... not to abuse by using

them in ways that bring harm to us or others. God doesn't leave us guessing. He tells us how to use the gifts He's given us.

Yet, like Adam and Eve, too many think having access to something enables us to use it as we see fit. Especially if that gift brings us pleasure. But God warns us against misusing His gifts, "*All things are lawful ... but not all things are helpful,*" ([1 Corinthians 6:12](#)) – "Just because we can doesn't mean we should." Then He hits on two items that often draw us into sin – food and sex. Both, used as God intended, serve godly purposes. But when abused, they lead to sin and death. Fortunately, by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ, He forgives us for our penchant to do whatever we can ... even when we shouldn't. Thank You God for Your patient grace and mercy.

*In Christ's Love,*  
Pastor Jim



# Volunteers Needed!

## Saturday, January 13th at 9:00 am

Christmas season is coming to a close and we need to take down our decorations in the church. Any help is greatly appreciated.

## THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

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Prepare for worship this Sunday, our readings for Jan 14th are  
1 Samuel 3:1-20; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

**James E. Kent**  
Pastor

**DCE Shawn Maassel**  
Family Life Ministry

**DCE Susan Fogleman**  
Youth Director

**Stephanie Sainsbury**  
Admin. Church Secretary

**Dr. Robert Beeson**  
Music Director

**Marilyn Beeson**  
Accompanist/Organist

## LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL

**Stephanie Mosely**  
Little Lambs Director

**Jessica Cook**  
Administrative Assistant

FIRST NOTES

# BIBLE CLASSES



Worship  
Information  
for



**First Lutheran LIVE!**

First Lutheran Live offers live access to worship services, Bible Studies, classes, and small groups through Zoom. The livestream opens 15 minutes before services start to enable you to catch up with others in virtual fellowship. Please submit prayer requests and any questions you may have about the readings, message, or other areas through Zoom's chat feature.

## ZOOM LINK

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88993441481>

Please call the church office for passcode

### Joining the Service by Phone?

Call 301-715-8592 and  
enter the following code:  
88993441481

## † SUNDAY †

### Sunday Morning Sunday School and Bible Classes

Join us Sunday Mornings: Children's Sunday School,  
Confirmation, Youth & Adult classes  
from 9:30 am—10:30 am.

## SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

### Digging Deeper...

Join us on Sunday morning at 9:30, as we dig deeper into the lessons of the week. We will be following the Lectionary and taking a look at the context behind each week's Holy Scriptures. I hope to see you there as we explore God's Word.—*David Chenevert*

## DISCOVERY CLASS

First Lutheran Discovery Class with Pastor Jim ... Are you interested in learning more about what we believe, teach, and confess about God's Word, the gift of His Sacraments, and how we live our lives as His children? Are you new to First Lutheran and desire to know more about how you can participate in the life of God's Church here? **Starting on Sunday, January 7th at 9:30 am and running through Feb. 11th**, join me for a 6-session class called "Discovery" that answers these and other questions you might have. We will meet for about an hour in the Church Library between Sunday services. Please "RSVP" to Pastor Jim by calling the office or sending him an email at [pastor@firstlutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@firstlutheranchurch.org). I look forward to spending time in God's Word with you in this class.  
— *Pastor Jim Kent*

## SUNDAY EVENING

### Ladies Bible Study



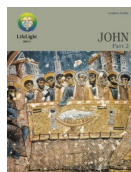
Ladies, join us on Sunday nights via Zoom from January 21st through March 17 as we take a look at 'Navigating Gospel Truth' by Rebecca McLaughlin. You can purchase the book at [Lifeway.com](http://Lifeway.com) or on Amazon.

Please let Shawn Maassel know that you plan to participate so she can send you the link to join.

## † MONDAY †

### "Beautiful Feet" Bible Study

How frequently do we turn to the book of Psalms to find comfort? What the book of Psalms is to the Old Testament the Gospel of John is to the New Testament in the opinion of many. It is a refuge, a harbor. Come dig deeply into the **Gospel of John (Part II)** in an online study group meeting on Monday evenings starting in January (TBD). Contact the Church Office at [flc@firstlutheranchurch.org](mailto:flc@firstlutheranchurch.org) for information on how to receive a Zoom link from Dawn Boyd. The group meets at 7:30 PM Eastern time on Mondays on a weekly basis. Purchase the needed study guide from *Concordia Publishing House*.



## † WEDNESDAY †

### Lunch Bunch Bible Study

**The Gospel of John (Class is January 10th)**

Lunch Bunch meets on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month**. We'll gather at **11:30 am** for fellowship and bag lunch followed by the study at 12 Noon. This time around we'll be immersing ourselves in the Gospel of John. **If interested in attending, please let Pastor Jim know so we can have books available for you.**

## † SATURDAY †

### Saturday Bible Study for All!

Our Saturday morning Bible study is now open to all—men, women, young, old, anyone who has an interest in understanding the Word of God. The Saturday morning study meets every week via Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/339451332>) from **10:00am-12:00pm**. Our study usually revolves around the Sunday scriptures of the week so it's a great way to prepare for Sunday worship! The study isn't a verse-by-verse lecture, but a discussion guided by the study leader. This type of study allows us to get to know each other better. After all, how can we love one another if we don't know each other? Why not join us?



## Ministry Assistants Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024

	8:00 am	10:45 am
Acolyte	Abby Cummings	Luke Garrison
Readers	Ken & Cindie Brown	Melli Lantz
Usher	Ken Brown	Assistance Needed
Altar Guild	Melli Lantz	Tricia Smeltzer
SS Setup Takedown	Shawn Maassel AHG	



# OUTREACH



# FELLOWSHIP

## COLLEGE STUDENT CARE PACKAGES

We are sending out care packages to First Lutheran's out-of-town college students. Please consider donating to the box located in the lobby at the church. We will take, individually wrapped snacks, toiletries or other fun items through **FEBRUARY 4TH.**



*"Speak, LORD,*  
  
*for Your servant hears."*

1 Samuel 3:9



## CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS!

We need help re-stocking the food pantry!  
The following donations are much needed and appreciated:

- breakfast items such as oatmeal
- grits, cereal, cream of wheat
- canned fruit, apple sauce
- rice
- jelly
- canned pasta
- drinks
- mac & cheese
- canned tuna or chicken

Kindly leave donations just under the coat rack to the right side so we can move the items to the pantry in the kitchen downstairs (far left corner).

**Please make sure to check the dates on your items, nothing out of date can be used!**

Thanks for helping with this vital ministry for our community!

## THIS WEEK at First Lutheran Church

All Worship: In-person-Livestreamed

### Second Sunday after Epiphany

Sun	14	Traditional Worship Service	8:00 am
		Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Confirmation Class	9:30 am
		Contemporary Worship Service	10:45am
		American Heritage Girls	3:00 pm
Mon	15	<b>Martin Luther King Jr Holiday</b>	
Tues.	16	Body & Soul	6:00 pm
Wed	17	Staff Meeting	1:30 pm
		Evening Worship Service Praise Team Rehearsal	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
Thurs	18	Body & Soul	9:30 am
		BOD Board Meeting	7:00 pm
Fri	19	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	

### Third Sunday after Epiphany

Sun	21	Traditional Worship Service	8:00 am
		Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Confirmation Class	9:30 am
		Contemporary Worship Service	10:45am
		Ladies Sunday Night Bible Study	6:30 pm

For more info go to [www.firstlutheranchurch.org](http://www.firstlutheranchurch.org)

**Little Lambs,  
Youth,  
Worship Ministry  
Addition Progress**



**Building  
temporary  
roof for  
second  
story**







# Stewardship

GIVE...BECAUSE HE FIRST GAVE

God calls us to work in His vineyard using the gifts He has given us all – the time associated with our lives; the talents of knowledge, skills, and abilities to be His hands, feet, eyes, ears, and lips in the world; and our treasure. He calls us to use these gifts generously, trusting Him to replenish them as needed, to serve His church and the world. Please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to serve Him with the gifts He has given you.

## TIME

**Feed the Homeless:** FLC feeds Calvert County's homeless at Project Echo the 2nd Saturday of each month (Jan. 13). Please see signups and recipes at [www.firstlutheranchurch.org/outreach](http://www.firstlutheranchurch.org/outreach).

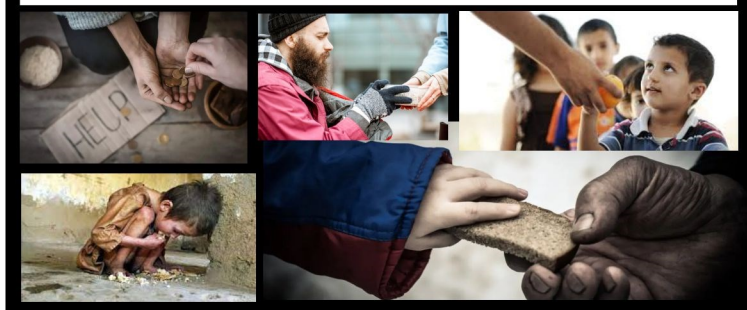
## TREASURE

You can continue your support of First Lutheran Church by:

1. **On-line:** [firstlutheranchurch.org/donate-now](http://firstlutheranchurch.org/donate-now) (be sure to enter the web address carefully)
2. **Mail:** First Lutheran Church, 6300 Southern Maryland Blvd., Huntingtown, MD 20639
3. **Drop off:** at the Church office, either in the outside mailbox, or in Secretary's mail slot in the church hallway.



**WHOEVER IS KIND TO THE POOR  
LEND TO THE LORD, AND HE WILL REWARD THEM  
FOR WHAT THEY HAVE DONE. PROVERBS 19:17**



## Your Treasure Supports the Administration of Ministries

Jesus calls us to be "in the world" not "of the world" (John 15:19). Because we are "in the world" we have obligations to the world—utilities, insurance, mortgage, and other bills - which come due each month so we can worship God, study His word, and care for His people. The tithes and offerings of God's people help pay these bills. In our current fiscal year, the administration budget includes:

- ♦ Licenses for software & equipment; Supplies for bulletins, Sunday School, restrooms, and cleaning: \$18,000
- ♦ Utilities (Electric, Internet, Trash Removal): \$23,000
- ♦ Property Services (Janitorial, Mowing/Snow Removal, Maintenance): \$20,000
- ♦ Property, Liability, and Workman Comp Insurance: \$15,000
- ♦ Mortgage: \$35,000

