



First Lutheran Church AND Little Lambs Preschool

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



Our Worship Services

(In-person/Online / Communion every Sunday)

SUNDAY SERVICES

- Traditional Service 8:00 am
- Contemporary Service 10:45 am
- Sunday School 9:30 am
- Adult Bible Study, Children's Sunday School
- Confirmation Class

WEDNESDAY SERVICES

- Monthly Communion 1:15 pm
- Second Wed. of Month (No Monthly Comm in April)
- Wednesday Evening 6:30 pm

Readings for the
2nd Sunday of Easter, Apr. 7th

Acts 4:32-35
1 John 1:1-2:2
John 20:19-31

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Message

from our Pastor...

Dear Easter People,
ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS

RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

There's an old saying we've all heard, "Seeing is believing" or it's cousin, "You've got to see it to believe it!" But there are lots of things we've never seen, yet still believe. Why? Because people we trust have told us about them.


The disciples had heard stories about Jesus' resurrection, but still couldn't believe He was alive. It didn't make any sense to them – until Jesus showed up at dinner on that first night of the week. They saw Jesus and believed in His resurrection. But Thomas wasn't there that night. He still didn't believe ... and wouldn't "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." (John 20:25) So, Jesus showed up the following week ... to show Thomas His hands and side ... Thomas believed. Then Jesus said,

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29)


We believe today, not because we've literally heeded the old saying, "You've got to see it to believe it" but because our Father has given us eyes of faith through the Holy Spirit in our baptisms. Seeing with eyes of faith we believe the word of the many witnesses recorded in God's word. To use the lyric from one of my favorite music groups, U2, which flips the saying on its head and explains how we see Jesus each day and one day will see Him in His kingdom, "You're packing a suitcase for a place none of us has been, A place that has to be believed to be seen." (Walk On, U2) We believe ... and so we see. And seeing through faith, Jesus tells us to go into the world and help others to see Him through our words and deeds of love in response to His love for us.

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

In the Love of our Risen Savior,
Pastor Jim



Project ECHO
Hope for the Homeless
www.projectecho.net



Volunteers

First Lutheran Church is committed to providing the evening meal for the homeless on the **second Saturday of each month!**

Individual community members, families, civic and ministry groups prepare or purchase meals for our residents nearly every day of the month. It's a blessing to know that our homeless won't have to go hungry. Meals can be made ahead and frozen or refrigerated and delivered in the morning, afternoon or evening on your designated day. Prepared dinners should feed 40.

Please help us meet our commitment to this community service project. It's a great chance to help our community and share the love of Jesus! Scout groups, our youth group, AHG, families and friends have been past contributors, but **THIS IS ONGOING!** Please consider signing up. Our April date is still open!

Visit our website: www.firstlutheranchurch.org for helpful links for recipes and helpful tips for determining how to feed a crowd or just some easy recipes to share!

Personal Memories

"Project ECHO is synonymous with Calvert County & caring & compassion & taking care of others." -Anonymous

Great fellowship with church members preparing meals for the shelter for many years. And seeing so many persons & families helped through the love & care from Lori and her volunteers. Thank you, Lori - Love you. -Debbie D'Amico

"My friends and family at ECHO. I wanted to thank all of you for the love and support you offered my family and me after the terrible loss of our child. Thank you for the cards, your thoughts and your prayers. They have helped more than I can say."

"Your generosity to my family really encouraged me! It helped me and my father in our time of need. Thank you - I really can't say enough!"

Worship Information

for

ONLINE



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

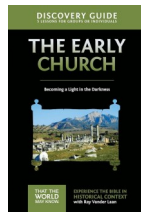
Bible Classes

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

The Early Church

Starts April 7th

Faith Lessons in the early church takes us through an in-depth video tour of the buried, distant, or otherwise forgotten places where the stories of the Bible actually happened. From this cultural perspective, teacher and historian Ray Vander

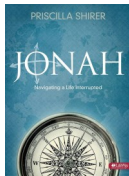


Laan challenges long-held Western assumptions about even the most well-known Scripture passages. The result? You and your family will simply never read the Bible the same way again. Hope to see you on Sunday mornings at 9:30am for this exciting study. -Deacon David

Sunday Evening

New Ladies Bible Study- Apr. 14th

Interruptions. They're aggravating. Sometimes infuriating. But how we handle interruptions actually tell us more about ourselves. What do we do when God interrupts our lives? Many times, like Jonah, we run! Priscilla redefines interruption and shows that interruption is actually God's invitation to do something beyond our wildest dreams. When Jonah was willing to allow God to interrupt his life, the result was revival in an entire city. Ladies, join us for this 7-week study via Zoom starting April 14. Contact Shawn Maassel at smaassel@comcast.net to join. Purchase the book at Lifeway.com or on Amazon.



Monday Evening

"Beautiful Feet" Bible Study

From studying the Gospel of John, we will journey on to investigate three letters of John positioned close to the end of the New Testament: 1 John, 2 John, and 3 John. John wrote these at a time when the thrill of being a Christian was gone and faith was beginning to falter. False prophets within Christianity were arising. John squashes these heresies that still try to rise up today. Join us this spring beginning

Monday, April 1, via the Zoom on your smart phone, iPad or desktop computer, starting at 7:30 PM. Contact the Church Office at flc@firstlutheranchurch.org for information on how to receive a Zoom link and study questions from Dawn Boyd, the facilitator for the study.

Wednesday

Lunch Bunch Bible Study

(No Lunch Bunch April 10th)

Lunch Bunch meets in person and via Zoom 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're 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



First Lutheran Church Staff

James E. Kent Pastor
pastor@firstlutheranchurch.org

DCE Shawn Maassel Family Life Ministry
smaassel@firstlutheranchurch.org

DCE Susan Fogleman Youth Director
sfogleman@firstlutheranchurch.org

Stephanie Sainsbury Admin. Secretary
flc@firstlutheranchurch.org

Dr. Robert Beeson Music Director
music@firstlutheranchurch.org

Marilyn Beeson Accompanist/Organist

Little Lambs Preschool Staff

Stephanie Mosely Little Lambs Director
directorllps@firstlutheranchurch.org

Jessica Cook Administrative Assistant
littlelambs@firstlutheranchurch.org



-LUKE 1:37-

Ministry Assistants Sunday, April 7, 2024

	8:00 am	10:45 am
Acolyte	Need Assistance	Hayden Higgs
Readers	Tricia Smeltzer	Frank Bell
Usher	Need Assistance	Wayne Daniel
Altar Guild	Tricia Smeltzer	Tricia Smeltzer
SS Setup	Bosaks	
Takedown	Wayne Daniel	

Teachers Wanted!

Little Lambs Preschool is looking for qualified teachers and assistants for the 2024-2025 school year. To submit an application or for more information please visit our website: www.firstlutheranchurch.org. If you have any questions, please contact our Director at directorllps@firstlutheranchurch.org or 410-257-3530



Outreach & Fellowship



I would like to thank all who contributed to the music in worship throughout Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. It is moving to see your devotion to the Lord expressed through the gift of music! It is my prayer that we continue in like fashion to praise the Lord throughout the year! *Soli Deo Gloria - Rob Beeson.*

Sue Black
Cindie Brown
Kenneth Brown
Beatrice Callis
Clarissa Callis
Melvin Cheng
Ricardo Gabriel
Lilly Heisler
Sadie Holt
Beth Johnson
Bill Johnson
Lisa Kennedy
Shauna Kent

Sydney Kline
Paul Maassel
Shawn Maassel
Caitlin Piper
Justin Rawlings
David Sigmon
Julia Sigmon
Sabrina Sigmon
Sophia Sigmon
Kerri Stancil
Ross Thompson
Marcia van Gemert
AV Tech: Susan Fogleman, Duncan Squires

We greatly appreciate Pastor Kent for all of his insight and support. A special thank you to Susan Fogleman for her creativity and patience throughout the year, and preparing these special services. We offer thanks to the Lord for Marilyn Beeson who shares her keen gift for organization and musicianship to bolster the music program at First Lutheran!



VBS 2024

CELEBRATE
the Savior
Jesus Gives Us Joy

Dates: July 8-12, 2024
Ages: Pre-K (age 4) thru 5th grade
Fee: \$35/person

For Registration please visit <https://vbsmate.com/>
firstlutheranhuntingtownmd
or click on our
"Vacation Bible School" tab on the menu and click on the link under **VSBS 2024**



Project ECHO
Hope for the Homeless
www.projectecho.net

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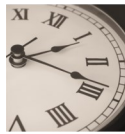
Visit our website: www.firstlutheranchurch.org for helpful links for recipes and helpful tips for determining how to feed a crowd or just some easy recipes to share!

Cinco de Mayo
YOUTH PARTY
May 5th
Pastor Kent's House
at 3:00 pm

Upcoming Events

at First Lutheran Church for
Sun. April 7—Sun. April 14

SUN 07	Traditional Worship Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Confirmation Class Contemporary Worship	8:00 am 9:30 am 10:45 am
TUE 09	Worship Committee Mtg.	7:00 pm
WED 10	Evening Worship Praise Team Rehearsal	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
THUR 11	Body & Soul Horsman Farm Pet Zoo Body & Soul Makeup	9:30 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm
FRI 12	OFFICE CLOSED	8:00 am
SAT 13	Bible Study for All	10:00 am
SUN 14	Traditional Worship Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Confirmation Class Contemporary Worship	8:00 am 9:30 am 10:45 am



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



Project ECHO
Hope for the Homeless
www.projectecho.net

Feed the Homeless FLC feeds Calvert County's homeless at Project Echo the **2nd Saturday of each month (April 13)**. Please consider volunteering to show Christ's love to some of Calverts most in need people by providing this meal ... or teaming with others to provide a part of it . Details to include sign-ups and some yummy recipes, are at:

<https://www.firstlutheranchurch.org/outreach>.

Human Care and Spiritual Care Ministries

God calls us to support and love our fellow man by walking with them in their times of need - physical needs of adequate food, drink, clothing, housing, and other necessities of life (*Leviticus 23:22*) and spiritual and emotional needs (*Micah 6:8*) At First Lutheran we respond to God's love for us by loving others through our Human Care and Spiritual Care Ministries. Much of the work done in these areas involves the tithing of time and talent. However, a portion of your offerings also support these vital caring ministries:

- ◆ Caring Card Ministry - provides personal notes of encouragement to those struggling.
- ◆ Bereavement Receptions - supports members and families grieving the death of loved ones with food, drink, and all supplies needed for post-funeral receptions.
- ◆ Bereavement Ministry - provides counseling and helpful resources through Stephen Ministry to help members more effectively cope with grief associated with

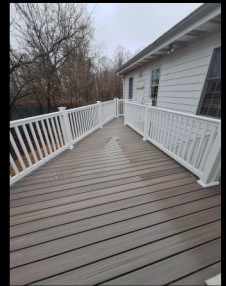
the death of loved ones.

- ◆ Food Pantry - donations of non-perishable food items from members are supplemented with gift cards to help those who are struggling to provide basic necessities to their families
- ◆ Thanksgiving Baskets and Angel Tree - assistance to church members and community members in need of help to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas with meals, gift cards, and gifts
- ◆ Lutheran Mission Society Compassion Trailer - FLC hosts, when it's available, the LMS Compassion Trailer - a mobile thrift store and spiritual outreach ministry designed to support those struggling to provide clothing and small household items that make a house into a home; LMS also staffs numerous Compassion Centers in Maryland that tend to the needs of the poor and disadvantaged.
- ◆ Project Echo Monthly Meal - provides food for the guests of Calvert County's largest homeless shelter on the 2nd Saturday of each month

Little Lambs,
Youth, Worship
Ministry
Addition Progress



County permits
finally received.
Progress is picking
up ... insulation and
walls going up.
Deck is complete!
Exciting times
ahead!



TREASURE

You can continue your support of First Lutheran Church by:

1. **On-line** (via the website)
www.firstlutheranchurch.org/donate-now.
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



Lord, I don't know what lay before me today, but I commit it all to You. Please give me strength and courage to get through the joys, challenges and happenings of the day. I thank You for my life and for all that I have; I commit this day to You. No matter what happens, I know You have me in the palm of Your hand. Amen.