#### First Notes Weekly Newsletter April 14, 2024

Third Sunday after Easter



### 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<br>Second Wed. of Month | 1:15 pm |
|---|---------|
| Wednesday Evening                         | 6:30 pm |

### Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Easter, Apr.14th Acts 3:11-21; 1.John 3:1-7 John 24:36-49

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# Message From Pastor...

#### Dear First Friends and Family,

May the grace of God and the peace of Jesus Christ continue to be with you all this Easter season! I've have been out of town this week attending a Pastor's Conference. I truly appreciate the blessing it is that you all allow me the privilege of spending time to restore and recharge.

My weekly greeting to you all will return to these pages next week. Until then, I encourage you to spend a few moments reflecting on this week's readings listed on the left side of this newsletter, as you prepare to worship God and hear His word proclaimed to you this weekend.

May God bless you and keep you as you serve Him and His creation with the many gifts He has blessed you with.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Jim



t is always with a mixture of sadness and joy that we face the passing of friends and family. Sadness because their - deaths leave a hole in our lives. Joy because we know God's promises to receive His children into His holy and eternal presence. I am at once sad and joyful to let you know that our brother-in-Christ Ray Nieves passed away on April 6, 2024.

Services will be held at St. Nicholas Lutheran Church, 1450 Plum Point Rd, Huntingtown at 12:00 pm. A visitation at 11:00 am will precede the service and an internment will follow the service. If you would like to send cards or notes of encouragement, please send them to Carolyn Nieves, 3112 Whispering Dr., Prince Frederick, MD. 20678.



First Lutheran IVE!

irst 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

### First Lutheran **Church Staff**

| James E. Kent Pastor  |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| pastor@firstlutheranchurch.org  |  |  |
| DCE Shawn Maassel Family Life Ministry<br><u>smaassel@firstlutheranchurch.org</u>     |  |  |
| DCE Susan Fogleman Youth Director   |  |  |
| sfogleman@firstlutheranchurch.org   |  |  |
| Stephanie Sainsbury Admin. Secretary<br><u>flc@firstlutheranchurch.org</u>            |  |  |
| Dr. Robert Beeson Music Director  |  |  |
| music@firstlutheranchurch.org   |  |  |
| Marilyn Beeson Accompanist/Organist   |  |  |
| Little Lambs  |  |  |
| Preschool Staff   |  |  |
| Stephanie Mosely Little Lambs Director<br><u>directorllps@firstlutheranchurch.org</u> |  |  |

Jessica Cook Administrative Assistant littlelambs@firstlutheranchurch.org

# **Bible Classes**

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

### **The Early Church**

Faith Lessons in the early church takes us through an in-depth video tour of the

THE EARLY

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 wellknown 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 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 Shawn Maassel 14 Contact 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

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 vou.

## 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/ i/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-byverse 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, April 7, 2024

|             | 8:00 am            |             | 10:45 am        |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Acolyte     | Abby Cummings      | Acolyte     | Colt Hanna      |
| Reader      | Ken & Cindie Brown | Reader      | Melli Lantz     |
| Usher       | Kenny Brown        | Usher       | Need Assistance |
| Altar Guild | Tricia Smeltzer    | Altar Guild | Melli Lantz     |
| SS Setup    | Shawn Maassel      | SS Takedown | AHG             |

# Outreach & Fellowship





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

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 <u>**THIS IS ONGOING!**</u> Please consider signing up. Our April date is still open!

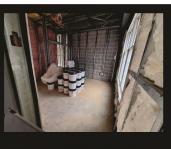


Visit our website: <u>www.firstlutheranchurch.org</u> for helpful links for recipes and helpful tips for determining how to feed a crowd or just some easy recipes to share!

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!





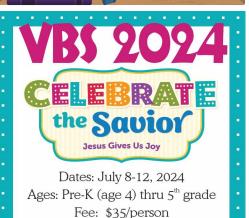


### **Teachers Wanted!**

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@firstluthe ranchurch.org or 410-257-3530



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 VSB 2024



#### Upcoming Events at First Lutheran Church for Sun. April 7—Sun. April 14

| Traditional Worship<br>Jackson White Baptism<br>Adult Bible Study, Sunday<br>School, Confirmation Class | 8:00 am<br>9:30 am  |
|---|---|
| Contemporary Worship<br>Moore Family Baptism  | 10:45 am  |
| Ladies Bible Study  | 3:00 pm<br>6:30 pm  |
| Body and Soul   | 6:00 pm   |
| Mission Board Mtg.  | 7:00 pm   |
| FLC Staff Meeting   | 1:30 pm   |
| 0 1   | 6:30 pm   |
| Praise Team Rehearsal   | 7:30 pm   |
| Body & Soul   | 9:30 am   |
| OFFICE CLOSED   | 8:00 am   |
| Ray Nieves Funeral<br>St. Nicholas Lutheran<br>Church   | 12:00 pm  |
| Traditional Worship<br>Adult Bible Study, Sunday  | 8:00 am   |
| School, Confirmation Class  | 9:30 am   |
| Contemporary Worship  | 10:45 am  |
| Youth Group   | 12:15 pm  |
| Ladies Bible Study  | 6:30 pm   |
|   | Jackson White Baptism<br>Adult Bible Study, Sunday<br>School, Confirmation Class<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Moore Family Baptism<br>American Heritage Girls<br>Ladies Bible StudyBody and Soul<br>Mission Board Mtg.FLC Staff Meeting<br>Evening Worship<br>Praise Team RehearsalBody & SoulOFFICE CLOSEDRay Nieves Funeral<br>St. Nicholas Lutheran<br>ChurchTraditional Worship<br>Adult Bible Study, Sunday<br>School, Confirmation Class<br>Contemporary Worship<br>Youth Group |



G od 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/TALENT Feed the Homeless

FLC feeds Calvert County's homeless at



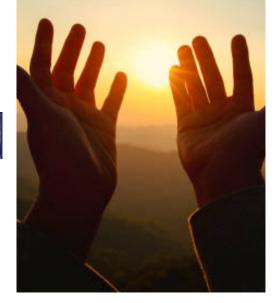
**Project Echo** the **2nd Saturday of each month** (April 13). Please consider volunteering to show Christ's love to some of Calvert's most in need people by providing this meal ... or teaming with others to provide a part of it. Details to include sign-ups and some yummy recipes, are at: <u>https://www.firstlutheranchurch.org/outreach.</u>



- You can continue your support of **First Lutheran Church** by:
- 1. On-line (via the website) www.firstlutheranchurch.org/donatenow.
- **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 during worship service.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18



I can do ALL THINGS Ihrough who STREN NS ME.

- PHILIPPIANS 4:13

#### Human Care and Spiritual Care Ministries

G od 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 tithe 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 & 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 & community members in need of help to celebrate Thanksgiving & 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.