



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
- Wednesday Evening 6:30 pm

Readings for the
4th Sunday of Easter, Apr. 21st
Acts 4:1-12; Psalm 23;
1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

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Message from Pastor Kent



Dear Easter People,
ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

I just read an interesting, yet unsurprising, story about some sheep and their "shepherds" in Turkey. I say "shepherds" in quotes because that's what they called themselves as they ignored their flock during their breakfast. The sheep without shepherds started following one another. Off a cliff. Falling 45-feet to their deaths – as the shepherds looked on in horror. Over 1,500 sheep followed each other off a cliff. Almost 500 of them died. Probably because they broke the falls for the other 1000.

These shepherds are clearly more like the hired hands Jesus speaks of when He calls Himself "the Good Shepherd" and compares Himself to "hired hands." They were more concerned for their own well-being than the sheep's – leading them near a dangerous cliff, ignoring them while they took care of feeding themselves.

Jesus says, *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep."* A good shepherd sacrifices himself for his sheep ... giving up his own comfort to keep them safe from danger. And Jesus is **THE Good Shepherd**. He gave up more than His comfort, but His actual life for His sheep, including sheep that weren't even in His flock!

Jesus laid down His life to bring all who are aimlessly wondering around in darkness and danger – including you and me – doomed to fall off a deadly cliff to their deaths because of their ignorance of God's words of law (which show the sinfulness separating us from God forever) and His words of grace through

faith in Jesus (which shows God's desire to bring us back to Him through His merciful forgiveness).

Today Jesus has called us. We've heard His voice and followed Him. Now He uses us to call to others who are still not a part of His flock. Let us allow Him to use us to call to others through our words and works of love that they also become part of one flock under the Good Shepherd.

HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

In the Love of our Risen Savior,

Pastor Jim

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
thru May 31st**

\$40/person starting June 1st

For Registration please visit
<https://vbsmate.com/>
firstlutheranhuntingtownmd

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?

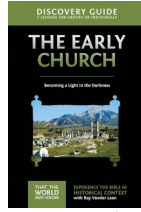
Call 301-715-8592 and enter the following code:
88993441481

Bible Classes

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

The Early Church

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



First Lutheran Church Staff

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Little Lambs Preschool Staff

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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

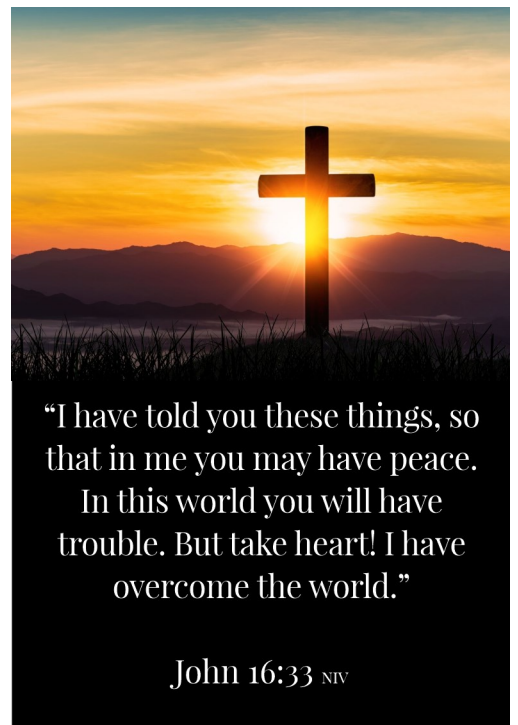
Lunch Bunch Bible Study

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 not join us?



"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33 NIV

Ministry Assistants for Sunday

	8:00 am		10:45 am
Acolyte	Garrett Dillon	Acolyte	Luke Garrison
Reader	Kristy Lester	Reader	Tammy Salo
Usher	Scott Lester	Usher	Scott Salo
Altar Guild	Kristy Lester	Altar Guild	Tricia Smeltzer
SS Setup	Maassel	SS Takedown	Salo

Outreach & Fellowship



CAPITAL REGION HONOR FLIGHT OPERATION "WELCOME HOME 2.0"

Come out to greet Calvert's Senior War Veterans (71-102 years young!) as they return from their Day of Honor.

This Honor Flight is made up of Veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam.

Let's show these Veterans how a grateful community welcomes these Warriors Home!

When the bus pulls into Dunkirk Park, we want to hear you loud and PROUD!

Ceremony with Honor Guard, Taps and Calvert County proclamation

**WHERE: DUNKIRK DISTRICT PARK
10750 SOUTHERN MARYLAND BLVD.**

APRIL 25TH @ 6:00 PM

SHOW UP, CHEER LOUD, SHAKE A HAND!
Homemade signs, American flags encouraged

Volunteers on hand to help direct parking/celebration zones.
For more information call/text:
Mark Brickell 301-643-4450



Teacher Wanted!

Little Lambs Preschool is looking for qualified a qualified teacher for 1 Day 2 year-old class 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



Cinco de Mayo

YOUTH PARTY

May 5th

Pastor Kent's House
at 3:00 pm

REGISTER TODAY! WELLSPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT DAY

\$65 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
per person if registered by May 1st



U-TURN

TRUSTING GOD WHEN LIFE CHANGES DIRECTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sometimes, life is going along as expected, when suddenly an unavoidable U-TURN appears! What can you do? Jennifer Shaw has been there, more than once! Come for this day of beautiful music and encouragement that will bring laughter and tears and leave you inspired to trust God in all circumstances and find blessings beyond measure in every twist & turn of life!



The Wellspring Center at The Lutheran Church of St. Andrew
15300 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20905

\$75 per person (after May 1st) for full day program, music, gourmet lunch and snacks!

Get Details & Register Today at
mystandrew.org



Featuring Award-Winning Speaker, Author & Recording Artist

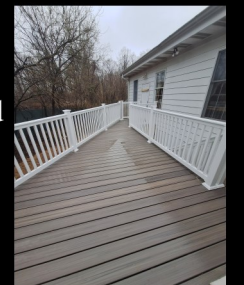
Jennifer Shaw

Both a special needs and adoptive mom, Jennifer is also a Telly-Award-winning speaker, Amazon best-selling author, and five-time Billboard Top 40 singer & songwriter who never thought she'd be doing what she's doing now! Her story will inspire you!



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!



Upcoming Events

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

SUN 21	Traditional Worship	8:00 am
	Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Confirmation Class	9:30 am
	Contemporary Worship	10:45 am
	Youth Group	12:15 pm
	Ladies Bible Study	6:30 pm
TUE 23	Body and Soul Deacon's Meeting	6:00 pm 7:00 pm
WED 24	Lunch Bunch Bible Study	11:30 am
	Evening Worship	6:30 pm
	Praise Team Rehearsal	7:30 pm
THU 25	Body & Soul	9:30 am
FRI 26	OFFICE CLOSED	8:00 am
SAT 27	Bible Study for All	10:00 am
SUN 28	Traditional Worship	8:00 am
	Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, Confirmation Class	9:30 am
	Contemporary Worship	10:45 am
	Youth Group	12:15 pm
	Ladies Bible Study	6:30 pm



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/TALENT
Feed the Homeless

FLC feeds Calvert County's homeless at **Project Echo the 2nd Saturday of each month (May 11)**. 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: <https://www.firstlutheranchurch.org/outreach>.



Project ECHO
Hope for the Homeless
www.projectecho.net



TREASURE
Gifts/Offerings

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 during worship service.



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.



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 & 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.

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.
NAME THEM **ONE BY ONE.**
COUNT YOUR **MANY BLESSINGS**
SEE WHAT **GOD** HAS DONE.

Christ

The Way, the Truth,
and the Life.

John 14:6