



# First Lutheran Church and School

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 4, 2024  
As Great Commission disciples of Jesus Christ, we will make disciples by  
*Growing Up...Reaching Out...and Walking Together with Jesus.*

We will ***Grow Up*** by attaining to the full measure of Jesus Christ through ***Worship*** and ***Teaching/Learning***.

## Pastor:

Rev. Joseph Highley  
flcsponcacity@gmail.com

## Office Hours

Mon. 9-12, Tues. 10:30-12  
Wed. 10:30-12, Thur. 9:30-11

## Elders on Duty:

Ron Roehl  
Dan McGregor

## Music Director:

Chris Schelp

## Altar Guild on Duty:

Edie Hunt, Ch.  
Becky Bacher  
Jan Pinnegar

## Reader:

Scouts Pierce Wagner  
and Noah Wagner

## Acolyte:

Adam King

## **Sunday – SCOUTS SUNDAY**

9:00am Divine Service

10:30am Sunday School

## **Monday – 9:30am Tai Chi (FH)**

6:00pm LWML (FH)

## **Tuesday – 8:30am Coffee w/Jesus (FH)**

8:30am Men's Bible Study (BR)

## **Wednesday – 7:00am PBJ**

9:15am- Chapel

5:15pm – Palms to Ash ceremony (YH)

5:30pm – FLY (YH)

6:00pm Handbell Choir

7:00pm Choir

## **Thursday – 9:00am Matins**

9:30am Ladies Bible Study (FH)

2:00pm XYZ

3:30pm Tai Chi (FH)

7:00pm YALL (YH)

## **Friday – Valentine's Salad Luncheon**

## **Saturday –**

## **Sunday – 9:00am Divine Service**

10:30am Sunday School

FH – Fellowship Hall BR – Board Room YH – Youth House

## Attendance

January 28<sup>th</sup> - 150

## Education Opportunities at First Lutheran

**Adult Sunday School.....Pastor Highley.....Sunday 10:30 am (FH)**

The Large Catechism

**New Member Class.....Janet Goll.....Sunday 10:30 am (Narthex)**

*\*Meet in the Narthex beginning February 4<sup>th</sup> during the Sunday School hour\**

**FLY Sunday School.....Rachell Highley .....Sunday 10:30 am (BR)**

**Children's Sunday School.....Sunday 10:30 am (GYM)**

**Koinonia Group.....Dave Zimmerman.....1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 7:00 pm (FH)**

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians

**Men's Bible Study.....John Bley.....Tuesday 8:30 am (BR)**

Understanding the Book of Revelation

**Coffee with Jesus.....Janet Goll.....Tuesday 8:30 am (FH)**

Revelation Study

**Thursday LBS.....Jan Pinnegar.....Thursday 9:30am (FH)**

God's Word for Today: Luke

**YALL.....Jennifer Heitman.....Thursday 7:00 pm (YH)**

Lutheranism

## Holy Communion

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in glad confidence that our Lord Jesus, as He says, gives His very body and blood under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sin.

Previously we have had non-alcoholic wine available in the center of each tray. It is now available upon request. If you are in need of gluten free wafers or non-alcoholic wine please notify the Elder or Pastor and we will gladly provide these options for you.

We will **Reach Out** by inviting those who do not know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, Lord, and Friend into a personal relationship with Him through **Witnessing** and by ministering to the human needs of people in our local community through lives of **Service**.

### Prodigious Profession

There is nothing like a close Christian friend. When Jim had cancer at age 19 and I was suddenly a single dad, we decided to go out to eat each week and then pray in the car. (whoever’s car was working) It got intense and personal. We drew each other into a closer walk with God. One time the burger joint guy came and knocked on our window. We okay? Why were we sitting in the parking lot 45 minutes? Talking with God. My Beloved and I spawn projects for the church and proofread each other constantly. I suspect that was at work when she decided she could tackle teaching a women’s class. There is nothing like a friend to share scripture with or listen to a problem. And because they are a believer, you know that their advice is not just some psychobabble. It is a Jesus thing. Giving us Christian Fellowship is God’s way of being a mom: “Now don’t hang around with a bunch of losers. Stand with the stars and learn from them.”

### LWR Baby Kits

A new baby is a blessing, but bringing a baby into the world can also be a difficult and scary thing for a mother living in poverty. Keeping a new baby healthy, clean and comfortable can take a lot of resources. Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits provide the basics a family needs to care for their newest members and introduce them to the world with pride. Can you help us build baby kits to send to mothers in need? We’re collecting the following items for our baby kits:

- Light weight t-shirts
- Receiving blankets
- Jackets, sweaters, or hoodies
- Socks
- Bath sized bars of gentle soap



- Sleeper gowns (without feet)
- Cloth diapers
- Baby hats/caps
- Dark colored hand towels
- Diaper pins or large safety pins

Our goal this year is to make 83 kits for LWR. Now is a great time to hit the thrift stores and find some of these baby items! If you have any questions or would like to help in this effort contact Deena Loret.

### Lutherans 4 Life

“Please rejoice in knowing prayer works and keep praying for the states who still haven’t banned abortions and for those states trying to ward off those who want to bring it back. We are not done praying and never will be. God is on our side, and He has a plan. We need to stand firm and with faith never give up praying. God controls the power of prayer, and He is amazing.”  
*Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

We will **Walk Together** by forming deep and abiding relationships with people in our Church/School community through **Stewarding** and **Fellowshipping** activities organized and designed for the mutual uplifting and consolation of the Saints of FLCS.

Faithful

Stewards



**BLESSINGS ON YOUR 2024 STEWARDSHIP JOURNEY!!**

Luke 8:5 – “And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot ...” Know any farmers like this? Who just throws their crop seed wherever? That’s crazy! But God’s ways are not our ways — He is generous beyond compare! He delights in giving. As we are more and more conformed to His image, may we also learn the joy of generosity and giving!

### Valentine’s Salad Luncheon

Thank you to those who have already signed up to help setup, serve, and prepare salads! We still have spaces to fill! Friday, Feb 9<sup>th</sup> from 11-1 is our Valentines Salad Luncheon. If you would like to help with decorating or working the luncheon please see the sign-ups in the Narthex. Any questions, call Kathy at (580)763-7440. Tickets are available for \$10 each in the Church and School offices, as well as at the door.



## General Announcements

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8:00am-12:00pm

**WE'RE HIRING** We currently have an opening for Church office secretary. If you or someone you know are interested, email a resume to [flcsponcacity@gmail.com](mailto:flcsponcacity@gmail.com).

**YOUTHLEAD FUNDRAISER** The YouthLead team will be hosting another charcuterie board fundraiser for the Super Bowl this year! \$35 for a 10" snack board, or \$25 for a 10" dessert board. *Pickup Saturday, Feb 10 between 12:00-1:00pm.* Signup is in the Narthex. Contact Jaclynn Heitman if you have any questions.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Our Braille ministry is coming soon! We will need volunteers to help print Braille materials. We will be only the 3<sup>rd</sup> Braille site in Oklahoma, joining Oklahoma City and Edmond! Volunteer training will take place Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, times to be announced at a later date. Prayerfully consider your involvement with this new ministry opportunity. If you have any questions contact Sandy Sibley.

--- 2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX ---

### A SCOUT IS REVERENT

Thank you to Boy Scout Troop 534, sponsored by FLCS, for assisting in today's service. Jay Wagner is the Scout Master.



YouthLead is an annual church leadership program designed for High Schoolers to help them grow in their faith and leadership skills so that our youth are better equipped to lead and share their faith with their church and community.

Last year we sent Jaclynn and Josie to this training. Their leadership skills have grown (and shown) tremendously over the past year. This year we are taking 2 adults and 5 youth! Jaclynn Heitman, Josie Gales, Jordyn Heitman, Saxxon Lorette, and Kelby Grimes. We will have the opportunity to preview the New Orleans area where we'll spend a week in 2025 for the National Youth Gathering! Over the next few months we'll be holding fundraisers to help pay for this experience. The total cost of our trip will be approximately \$6000 for 7 of us to travel. To date we have raised a little over \$1000 with the one fundraiser we have held, in addition to a few donations. Upcoming opportunities include the SuperBowl charcuterie boards and sponsorships. Our youth will present these opportunities as they become available.

**Thank you for supporting our youth and helping us build future leaders!**

# Hymn Corner

"On Eagles' Wings" (LSB 727)  
(main text by Samuel J. Eatherton)  
Director of Music, Chris Schelp

Composer and author Jan Michael Joncas (b. 1951), a Roman Catholic minister, tells the story behind the creation of this song: "Around 1977 I visited a friend with whom I had attended college seminary here in St. Paul, MN, as he was doing graduate seminary studies at Theological College at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. We had gone out for dinner and when we returned to the dorm there was a message waiting for him that his father had had a heart attack. We talked and prayed and checked for flights back to Omaha for him that evening, and he flew home the next day. The song was generated between that evening and the wake service held in Omaha after my friend's father's death." The song was first sung at that funeral service. Psalm 91, the basis for the verses, is a psalm appointed for Night Prayer (Compline) in the Liturgy of the Hours of the Roman Rite. Joncas had been praying it for some time when the opportunity arose to set it in this way. Psalm 91 testifies to the security of all who place their trust in God. The shelter of God can be understood literally as His temple or figuratively as His protection. A New Testament perspective may interpret the shelter as the Church, guarding and preserving the people of God through the Word and Sacraments.



- 2/4 Jack Crossman
- 2/4 Savanah Fuller (13)
- 2/4 Janie Heitman (20)
- 2/4 Gabriel Tamez
- 2/4 Lenora Veloz
- 2/5 James Smith
- 2/6 Dakota Chessher (4)
- 2/7 Jessica Grimes
- 2/10 Darlene Alley (91)
- 2/10 Theron King
- 2/11 Shelly Schatte
- 2/12 Jane Miller (80)
- 2/13 Frances Brackett (96)
- 2/13 Beverly Roedel (86)



- 2/14 Steve and Tanya Hercyk (20)
- 2/16 Bill and Darlene Flegler (34)
- 2/17 Ron and Janel Geiser (51)

## Baptismal Anniversaries



- 2/5 Madeline Burkett
- 2/6 Joyce Abbuhl
- 2/7 Tanner Cline
- 2/7 Buddy Klumpp
- 2/8 Jordyn Heitman
- 2/10 Cole Pannell
- 2/11 Gene Allyn
- 2/11 Lauren King
- 2/11 Mellanie LeBaron
- 2/12 Tanya Hercyk
- 2/12 Sandra James
- 2/14 Rhonda Hurd
- 2/14 Lila Kizer
- 2/16 Dolores Barnhart
- 2/19 Kade Burkett
- 2/22 Janie Heitman
- 2/23 Maureen Chamberlain
- 2/24 Daniel Grimes
- 2/25 Jay Laramy
- 2/25 Daine Taglialatela
- 2/25 Sean Taglialatela

First Lutheran Church is blessed with so many faithful members. In 2024 we will have 46 members 80 years or older; 14 men and 32 women. Of those 46 members, 17 of them will be 90 years or older! Many of these faithful members are still able to attend church service each week, while some others attend our XYZ services regularly. We are blessed with their many years of love and service to First Lutheran. We praise God for continuing to give them the strength and endurance to worship with us, whether from home or together with us, and for the love their families show in caring for them.

**What a faithful example for the rest of us! All Glory be to God!**



### Prayers for Our Church

Heavenly Father, forgive us for the selfish divisions we have brought to Your Church and world. Unite us by Your Spirit so we walk with the grace of Christ. In His name, Amen



**Those with chronic illness and their families:** Rachel Hawkins, Britney Duff, Becky May, Saxxon Loret, Marietta Kengle, JoAnn Ward, Svetlana Mayer, Heather Hoecker, Glenn Bacher, Jill Wright (*daughter of Jessie Peck*), JV and Jessie Peck, Gery and Marilyn Pralle, Lois Bintz, Sam and Caitlyn Meserve, Lyndsie Collins (*granddaughter of Lenora Veloz*), Luella Seeliger, Lori Kelly, Buddy McCoy, Trudi Stigge, Julian Aguilar, Lou Ann O'Neill, June, Don Young, Norma Tucker (*wife of custodian, Lane*), Geri Ayers (*sister of Jodi Cline*), Rita Rains (*wife of Pastor Butch Rains*), those with dementia and their caregivers

**Those suffering from cancer and their families:** Carol Rackley, Darla Hays, Debbie Deleon, Anastassiya Shvilko (*daughter of Lucy Rule*), Don Riley (*formerly on the Oklahoma District Board of Directors*), Elliot Strutton (*grandson of Rev. David Thompson, First Lutheran, Chickasha, retired*), Michelle Bodenstein (*daughter-in-law of HD and Carla Bodenstein*), Pastor Mozeik and Barb, Leah Stewart (*great-niece of Glenn and Becky Bacher*), Lisa Jacobson (*friend of Gary and Sandy Sibley*), Carol Davis, Bruce Ayers (*brother-in-law of Jodi Cline*), Phil Johnston, Jack and Pam Rawlins, Margaret Burkhart (*sister of John Bley*), Leslie Waite, Mike Wright (*son-in-law of JV and Jessie Peck*), Chris Mudd, Karen Runsy (*wife of Rev John Runsey, Guthrie*)

**Those whose needs are known to God:** Julie (*daughter of Jessie Peck*), Carolyn Goldsberry

### Prayer Requests

- ❖ Stacy Sato, FLS Principal call candidate, as he deliberates his call to First Lutheran School
- ❖ Ann Ozbun, ongoing health concerns
- ❖ Thanksgiving for health and recovery of Russell Jungemann (*brother of Carol Powell and Janet Goll*)
- ❖ David Zimmerman, as he continues recovering from knee surgery
- ❖ Family and friends mourning the loss of Joni Paynter

## PALMS TO ASHES

*"From dust you came and  
from dust you will return."*

### *Palms to Ashes*

Join us for a brief service in which we will burn last years palm leaves. Pastor will use these for the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday.

*Wednesday, February 7th  
5:15 in the courtyard*

Sermon Notes



Attendance

Share the good news

Have any news to share with us? We'd love to hear! Email us at [flcsponcacity@gmail.com](mailto:flcsponcacity@gmail.com) or call us at (580)762-1111.  
*\*Please send announcements in by 8:00 Wednesday mornings.*

Connect With Us!

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Email: [flcsponcacity@gmail.com](mailto:flcsponcacity@gmail.com) Call us: (580)762-1111  
Oklahoma District LCMS  
[www.oklahomalutherans.org](http://www.oklahomalutherans.org)