

First Lutheran Church and School

The Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 10, 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

 $flespon cacity @\,gmail.com$

Office Hours

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

Elders on Duty:

Don Young

Dan McGregor

Music Director:

Chris Schelp

Altar Guild on Duty:

Sherry Blubaugh, Ch.

Sarah Davis

Heather Flowers

Linda Lyons

Reader:

Sarah Brey

Acolyte:

Cailyn Olechnowicz

Attendance
March 3rd - 197

Sunday – 9:00am Divine Service *Braille Dedication

10:30am Sunday School

Monday –9:30am Tai Chi (FH)

6:30pm Scouts (YH)

Tuesday –8:30am Coffee w/Jesus (FH)

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

NO CUP OF JOE

6:30pm Council Meeting (FH)

Wednesday –7:00am PBJ

9:00am- Chapel

5:15pm – FLY (YH)

5:30pm – Handbells

5:30pm Lent Supper (FH)

6:30pm Lent Service

7:30pm Choir

Thursday – 9:00am Matins

9:30am Ladies Bible Study (FH)

2:00pm XYZ

3:30pm Tai Chi (FH)

6:30pm Scouts Round Table (BR)

7:00pm YALL (YH)

Friday -

Saturday – FLY WinterJam

Sunday – 9:00am Divine Service

VOTER'S MEETING

10:30am Sunday School

10:00-1:00 OBI Blood Drive

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

Education Opportunities at First Lutheran

Adult Sunday School	Pastor Highley	Sunday 10:30 am (FH)
Psalm 41 Lent Series		
New Member Class	Janet Goll	Sunday 10:30 am (Narthex)
FLY Sunday School	•••••	Sunday 10:30 am (YH)
Children's Sunday School	•••••	Sunday 10:30 am (GYM)
Koinonia Group	Dave Zimmerman	1 st & 3 rd Monday 7:00 pm (FH)
1 st and 2 nd Thessalonians		
Men's Bible Study	John Bley	Tuesday 8:30 am (BR)
Understanding the book of Revel	lation	
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)
Divine Service		

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

Having a quip often makes someone think. "Don't major in the minors." "Jesus loves you and so do I." --famed quips of Pastor Tom Ramsey who repeated them enough that people remembered. This shows two things. Brevity is the soul of wit and quips cause thought. (Think Yogi Berra) It's advertizing principle: repetition makes them remember. So what are your quips? Do you have a handful? Think about things you have experienced and develop a quip about such things. During COVID I kept saying, "My life's in God's hands. If I have done enough, beam me up! If not, let's get crackin'." Paraphrased Bible passages also make good quips for a variety of situations. "The suffering of this present time ain't nothing compared to the glory we shall see." Quips invite feedback and questions. Great way to start a witnessing! Such as: "You can't be a \$2 Christian—Just give me two bucks worth!" "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

"Love is not a feeling. It's an act of the will."







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

Ephesians 2:10 – "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Even the good we do in this world is a gift from God, prepared beforehand for us to do. And this too is a gift! For isn't doing good also a good thing for the one who does it? So from first to last, from the Lord's free salvation given to us to the good works He's prepared for us, everything is a gift of God's grace.

BLESSINGS ON YOUR STEWARDSHIP JOURNEY!!



Do you need to meet with a Thrivent rep?

Have questions about Thrivent?

Daryl Osmus will be at First Lutheran in Ponca City all day Thursday,
March 14th and the morning of Friday,
March 15th.

Call the office to schedule a meeting time.

thrivent[®]

Braille Ministry Training and Dedication

March 9th Training in the Youth House
10:00am - 2:00 pm *lunch provided

March 10th Dedication of Braille Ministry
9:00am Worship Service

Contact Nannette Hill for more information

Lutheran Braille Workers exists to bring the Word of God to the 338 million people throughout the world who are Blind or Visually Impaired, completely free of charge, in Braille and Specialized Large Print.





OKLAHOMA DISTRICT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD 1924 - 2024



Established in 1924, we are thankful to celebrate our centennial year in 2024. Our 100th Anniversary Celebration will take place May 19th, 2024 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Okarche, Oklahoma. If you'd like to attend this celebration please sign up in the Narthex. Space is limited! *attendees may appear in district photos and videos

SUNDAY, MAY 19TH

Divine service 4:00pm Meal 5:30pm

RSVP's due no later than March 28th

General Announcements

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

Afternoon appointments are available

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.

LENT During this season of Lent we invite you to join us each Wednesday evening. Supper will be served beginning at 5:30 and service will begin at 6:30.

YOUTHLEAD *FUN FACT!!* Did you know First Lutheran Church is the only church in the OK District sending and youth to the YouthLead program again this year? Even in our small part of the OK District our youth are making a big impact! To God be the Glory!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS Do you know about Thrivent Choice Dollars? If you have a Thrivent product, you probably have Choice Dollars. Those dollars are already set aside by Thrivent on your behalf to be designated for your favorite charity (maybe FLCS?). They need to be designated by the end of March. If you have not yet done so, please do. If you need help call the church office for assistance.

JUNE FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY The 5th Sunday in June we will have a potluck meal. As part of that Fellowship Activity, we are planning a Bible Verse Bee in which participants will be invited to recite Bible verses with citation. Please brush up on your memory work now so you will be ready to participate.

PHIL'S FRIENDS Last summer at LWML Convention in Milwaukee we went to hear Phil from Phil's Friends speak about his non-profit cancer organization. Your ladies in purple found another way to be in Christ's mission fields. Thank you to everyone who made this happen! The recipient of these handmade items will feel the love of Jesus upon receiving them.

VOTER'S MEETING A brief voter's meeting will be held next Sunday, March 17th, in between church service and Sunday School in the Sanctuary. Recommendation for the Deaconess candidate will be presented to the congregation for a vote.

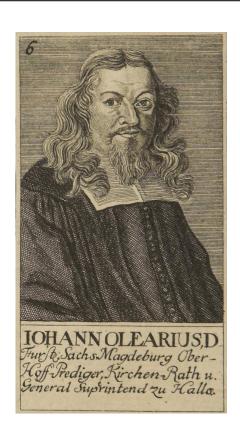
GREAT DAY OF SERVICE is one month away. Do you have projects that you need our help? Or are you willing to help someone with physical service on Sunday - April 7 (or another day of your choosing)? Please contact David Birnbaum.

OK DISTRICT CHURCH WORKER CONFERENCE Pastor Highley, Chris Schelp, and Jennifer Heitman will be in Oklahoma City at the OK District Spring Church Worker Conference Monday, March 11 and Tuesday, March 12.

Hymn Corner

"God Loved the World So That He Gave" (LSB 571)
(main text by D. Richard Stuckwisch and Carl F. Schalk)
Director of Music, Chris Schelp

Johann Olearius was born in 1611, the son of a Lutheran pastor. His mother died in 1622, and his father died a year later, when Johann was barely 11 years old. An attorney in Halle (a city in Germany) took the orphaned boy into his home and provided for his education. Olearius would go on to receive the doctor of theology degree at the University of Wittenberg, and later be court preacher at Halle and Weissenfels and a leading theologian of his time. He authored numerous devotional books and produced a commentary on the entire Bible, published in 1681. He also compiled the Geistliche Singe-Kunst (1671), the most comprehensive collection of the best German hymns available in his day. The first edition of this work, comprising 1,218 hymns in seven volumes, included some 300 of his own hymns (many of them written for times and seasons of the church year for which appropriate hymns had been lacking), including this hymn, which appeared in a section of hymns teaching the chief articles of the Christian faith. Olearius has numerous contributions included in LSB (along with this hymn, see LSB 347, 559, 794, and 908); his nephew, Johann Gottfried Olearius, was also a pastor and hymn writer (LSB 346 and 350).



Next Gen News

For the Lord is good;
His steadfast loves endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.
Psalms 101:5

GETCENINECTED Jennifer Heitman Next Gen Coordinator



flcsnextgen@gmail.com

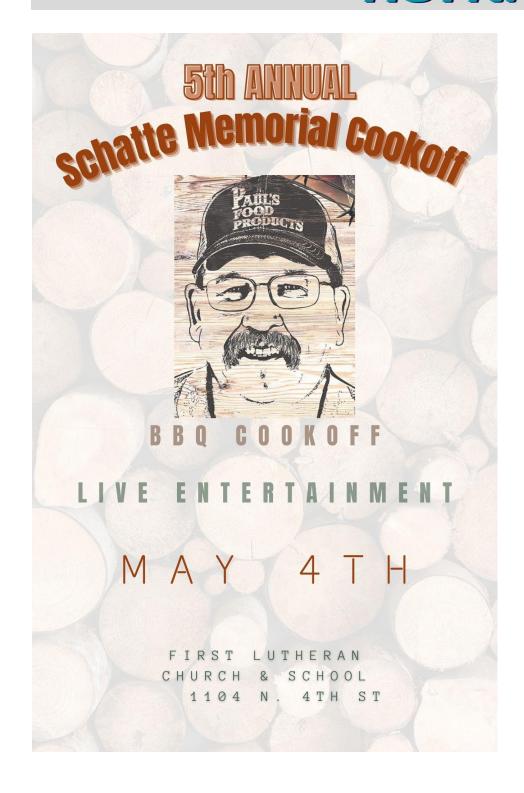
Celebrating 5 years of our NextGen Ministry!



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS LENT HOURS

5:15-7:30

First Lutheran Church 1101 N. 4th St





PERMISSION SLIPS WILL BE REQUIRED TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT ON THE BUS!

Sermon Notes

John 3:14-21





Attendance

Share the good news

Have any news to share with us? We'd love to hear! Email us at flesponcacity@gmail.com or call us at (580)762-1111.

*Please send announcements in by 8:00am Wednesday mornings.

Connect With Us!

https://flcspc.360unite.com/home www.facebook.com/ FirstLutheranPoncaCity

Email: flesponcacity@gmail.com
Call us: (580)762-1111
Oklahoma District LCMS
www.oklahomalutherans.org

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



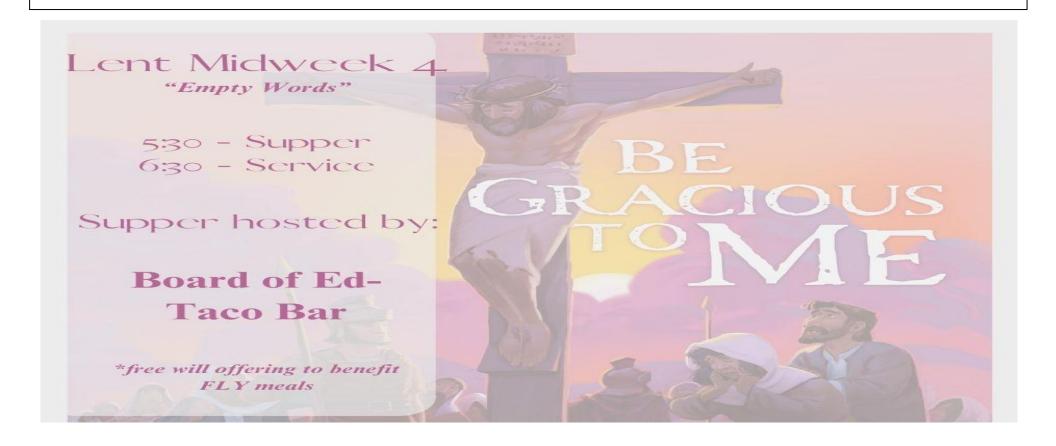
Those with chronic illness and their families: Rachel Hawkins, Britney Duff, Becky May, Saxxon Lorett, Marietta Kengle, JoAnn Ward, Svetlana Mayer, Heather Hoecker, Glenn Bacher, Jill Wright (daughter of Jessie Peck), JV and Jessie Peck, Gery and Marilyn Pralle, Lois Bintz, Sam and Caitlyn Meserve, Lyndsie Collins (granddaughter of Lenora Veloz), 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, Ann Ozbun

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, 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), Joni Paynter, Carolyn Goldsberry

Prayer Requests

- * For those healing and recovering from illness, injury, or surgery:
 - o Regina Anderson, recovering from an illness
 - o David Zimmerman, healing from surgery
 - o Becky Bacher, recovering from a fall
 - o Diana Vaughan, recovering from surgery
 - o Frances Brackett, recovering from surgery
 - Olivia Goldefen, (1 year old family friend of Nita Ports), recent diagnosis of cancer
- ***** For those seeking guidance and discernment:
 - o Jeremy & Sarah Brey, as they deliberate their calls to where they will serve next school year





3/13 Riley Meserve (6)

- 3/15 Dylan Powell
- 3/15 Anna Siemers
- 3/16 William Vaughan (13)
- 3/17 Jamie Sheehan
- 3/19 David Birnbaum
- 3/19 Ryan Burkett
- 3/19 Edith Hunt
- 3/21 Thomas Duff
- 3/22 Glen Mayer
- 3/23 Nicholas Broddle
- 3/23 Haley Lorett
- 3/23 Mako Taglailatela (12)
- 3/24 Emma Bickford (17)
- 3/28 Brady Gentry
- 3/28 Rita Nalepa



3/15 Jay and Tracy Ogden (16) 3/23 J.V. and Jesse Peck (12)

March Baptism Anniversaries



- 3/11 Chivas Fuller
- 3/11 Holly Fuller
- 3/11 Presley Fuller
- 3/11 Riley Fuller
- 3/11 Savanah Fuller
- 3/11 Shelly Schatte
- 3/12 Molly Carter
- 3/12 Gary Horton
- 3/12 Kyle King
- 3/12 Susie Klufa
- 3/17 Finley Kinkaid
- 3/18 Elaine Duff
- 3/22 Bethany Avila
- 3/24 Eileen Hinman
- 3/25 Bob Prescott
- 3/26 Janet Pinnegar
- 3/26 Dylan Powell
- 3/29 Lola Cawley
- 3/29 Sandy Sibley
- 3/31 David Birnbaum

HONORING OUR MILITARY

Bryan Davis:: US Army, son of Glenn and Becky Bacher

Jake and Cindy Williamson:: US Navy, niece and nephew of Paula Ingmire

Lt.Col. Angella Mudd :: US Air Force, daughter of Chris Mudd

Major Nicholas Meier:: USMC, brother of Katie Schelp Osei Asante:: US Navy, great nephew of Paula Ingmire Andy Talbot:: Navy Pilot, grandson of Luella Seeliger

Aidan Davenport :: US Air Force, son-in-law of Aaron and Nikki Cawley **Brooke Lyons** :: US Amy Reserves, granddaughter of Mike and Linda Lyons

Korben Lorett :: US Army, stationed in Alaska

Andrew Hanson :: US Army, great nephew of Doug and Barb Hanson

Carter Postier :: US Air Force, Little Rock, AR, nephew of Melinda McCormick

Alex Kramer :: US Air Force

Jason Highley :: US Navy, brother of Pastor Highley

Caitlynn Doan :: US Army PFC3, daughter of Amanda Carrigan

Maverick Sutton:: US Air Force, great-great nephew of Dolores Barnhart