

**August 3rd, 2025
Traditional Worship
10 AM**



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
19419 Royalton Road
Strongsville, Ohio**

Mission Statement

*Living God's love through our devotion to
service, worship, and one another.*

Good Morning!

If you are a visitor today,

Welcome!

Sunday Schedule for Next Week, 08/10/2025

Single Summer Worship – 10 AM

To contact the Church, call the office at 440-238-7890
or email firstchurchalive@hotmail.com

Office Manager Hours are Monday 10 AM – 1 PM

Thursday, Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM

Pastor Kathy - 440-666-8758 or revklk@gmail.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

Don't forget that if you ever have any questions or concerns,
you may contact your Council representatives:

President: June Zakrajsek: 440-336-1678, jfzakrajsek@gmail.com

Vice President: Ken Holda: 440-665-2836, kenjholda@gmail.com

Secretary: Lindee Flater 330-416-4406, lindeelout@gmail.com

At Large: Janet Kaiser: 216-215-4572, janetmackakaiser@gmail.com

At Large: Margaret Bewie: 440-263-5748, bewie@att.net

Treasurer: Gary Walters: 216-645-8472, gwaltersoh@yahoo.com

Mutual Ministry: Dawn Zima: 440-821-6545, dzima@cox.net

Controller: Brenda Jacob, 440-655-1535, bkjacob1@hotmail.com

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting 4

WELCOME to you all this morning. May God bless us as we gather and raise our hearts and voices in thanks and praise to our God. We celebrate the Eucharist this morning. All baptized believers in Jesus Christ are welcome to come to the Lord's table. Those who have not yet been instructed are welcome to come for a blessing.

The center ring of cups in the trays contains non-alcoholic wine for those who desire it and the pedestal in the center contains gluten-free wafers

Communion at 10 AM is continuous at two stations.

* Please *turn off all electronic devices* during our time of worship.

PRELUDE

"Dorian Mode"

David Gooding

Flor Peeters

PRAYER of PREPARATION

Gracious God, keep us centered. Amen

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,
C **you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

P You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✙ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
C **Amen**

GATHERING SONG ELW #650

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **And also with you.**

This Is the Feast

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER of the DAY

P Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Sit

FIRST READING: ECCLESIASTES 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

After the reading: **R** The Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

SOLO

“Look Up Child”

Megan Uline

Lauren Daigle

SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God’s love in Christ.

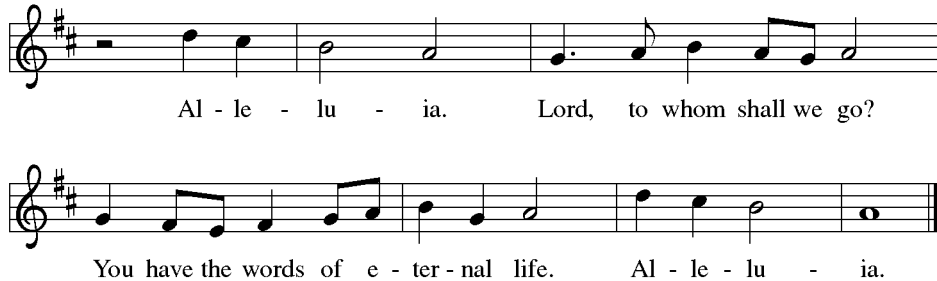
So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

After the reading: **R** The Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



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GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 12th Chapter

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN'S SHARING TIME

SERMON

"Important Pointers"

Stand

HYMN of the DAY

ELW #589

"All Depends On Our Possessing"

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

P In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

After each portion of the prayers:

P God of grace,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C Amen

Sit

PRESENTATION of the GIFTS

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

MUSIC
"Zion's Walls"

Chancel Choir
arr. Aaron Copland

Stand

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful
Offering Song

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and dreams of
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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- P Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Preface Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

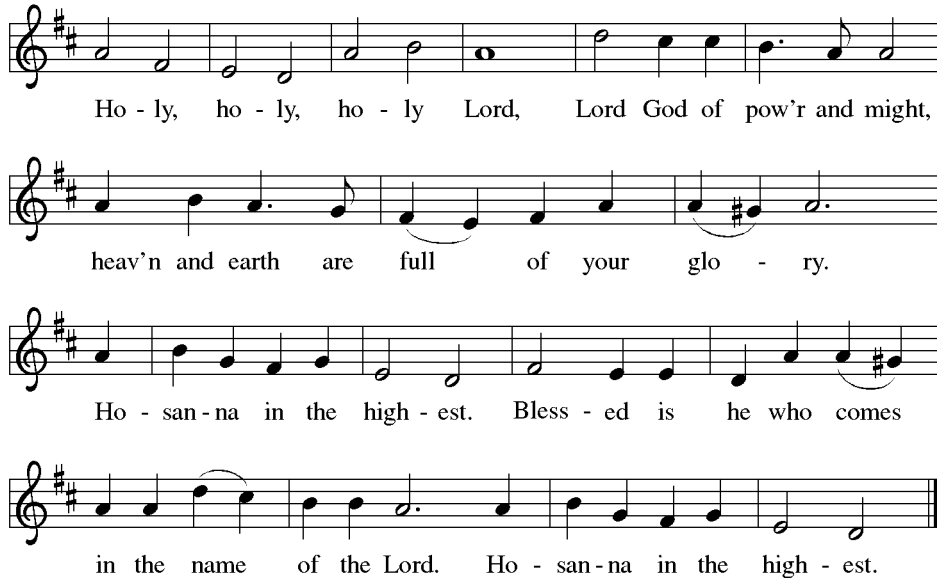
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

Sit

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may respond: **Amen***

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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Stand

P Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C Amen

BLESSING

P The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.

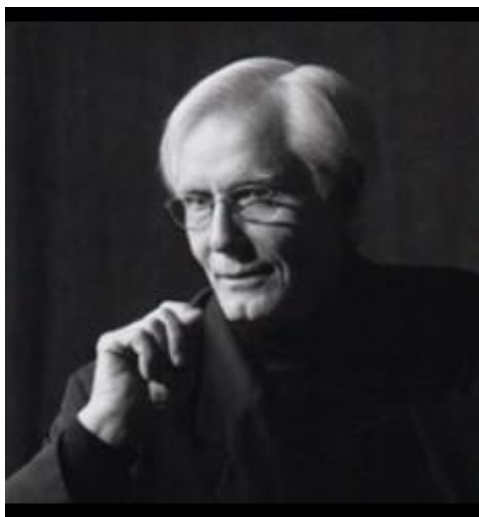
C Amen

SENDING SONG **ELW #647**

"Glorious Things Of You Are Spoken"

- Verse 1 Glorious things of you are spoken,
 Zion, city of our God!
 He, whose Word cannot be broken,
 formed you for His own abode;
 On the Rock of Ages founded,
 what can shake your sure repose?
 With salvation's walls surrounded,
 you may smile at all your foes.
- Verse 2 See, the streams of living waters,
 Springing from eternal love,
 well supply your sons and daughters,
 and all fear of want remove.
 Who can faint while such a river
 ever will their thirst assuage?
 Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,
 never fails from age to age.
- Verse 3 Round each habitation hov'ring,
 see the cloud and fire appear,
 for a glory and a cov'ring,
 showing that the Lord is near;
 Thus deriving from their banner
 light by night and shade by day,
 safe they feed upon the manna
 which God gives them on their way.
- Verse 4 Savior, since of Zion's city
 I through grace a member am,
 let the world deride or pity,
 I will glory in your name;
 Fading are the world's vain pleasures,
 All their boasted pomp and show;
 solid joys and lasting treasures
 none but Zion's children know.

RECOGNITION OF DAVID GOODING'S 90TH BIRTHDAY



DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Con Anima"

David Gooding

Jon Eagleton

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PRAYERS

Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating

Rhonda Fox, Reagan Kolman, Alice Treiber, Bob Jacob

Military Members

Austin Holley, Deacon Nemet, Matthew and Teresa Dittman, Haley Uline

Stephen Ministry Team

Maureen Harris, Sam Reichert, Becky Piper, Beth David, Pat Sauernheimer, Pam Simpson, Marsha Ginley, Phil King, and Bob Strong

On-going Prayers

Linda Stanley, Nighman Family, Heidi Balicki, Tia (Simpson) Russell, Ron and Joanne Cvelbar, Cheryl Mooney, Elaine, Rob Shoens, Jessica Walsh, Sue Widdows, Wanda Woods, Stephania, Susan & George Bodovetz, Carol Rosenblum, Bonnie Bailey, Darlene and Jim Cassidy, Carrie Deal, Curt Kowalewski, Sarah Franko, Jim Taylor, Sue Sutton, Erica Kaminski, Jeanette Paus, Matt & Pat, Kevin, Zach Russell, Ryan Kuchta, Morgan Popple, Trish Nolder, Peter Duffy, Salay Family, Richard, Scott Hurley, John Walker, Don McKelvey, Karil Piskur, Clark Buckley, Laura Evangelista, Dennis Bailey, Eleanor Preston, Isabella, Amelia, Melina, Bob Jacob

Homebound

Mary Jane Knaack, June Beck, Marj Wilder, Audie Kiplinger, Sheryl Clark, Ron & Mary Jane Warzel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KIDS HOPE NEXT – DIRECTOR NEEDED

Kids Hope Next, the middle school version of our Kids Hope Program is in need of a director. The job description is on the Welcome Center. If you are interested, please reach out to Dawn Zima (dzima@cox.net) or Pastor Kathy (revklk@gmail.com)

SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATION COLLECTION – DEADLINE EXTENDED

Once again, we will be collecting school supplies and backpacks for students in need **through 08/10**. We will fill the backpacks and place them on the altar during our Blessing of the Backpacks during service on 8/10. Please drop your donations in the boxes by the Welcome Center.

BACKPACK BLESSING SUNDAY – 08/10/2025

Students, Teachers and Support Staff- Please join us on Sunday, August 10 for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks/school bag as you prepare for the start of the 2025-2026 school year. Join us for the church picnic immediately following this service.

CHURCH PICNIC – SUNDAY 08/10/2025

Our church picnic will be held on Sunday, August 10, immediately following the service in the social hall.

Last names A-M are asked to provide sides and/or a salad; N-Z appetizers and/or desserts; we will provide the main course. In addition to great food and games, we will have a free CHAIR YOGA demonstration, by Lisa Wittman. This will be an introduction to the chair yoga she will be teaching at First Church this Fall on Monday afternoons....more information will follow regarding the yoga classes.

Please use the link, <https://bit.ly/FLCPicnic25> or scan the QR Code to sign up and join us for what promises to be a fabulous afternoon!



GAME DONATIONS FOR CHURCH PICNIC - SUNDAY 08/10/2025

We are looking for games for our Church Picnic coming up on August 10th. If you have a volleyball set, pickleball set, cornhole, or any other yard games that we can borrow, please contact Jennifer Paine at 440-463-7769 or jpaine05@hotmail.com to coordinate drop off. Thanks!

STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATE

We are growing and are in need of an additional Stephen Leader and more Stephen Ministers. Please contact Maureen Harris for more information. She can be reached at (440)376-1506. On August 24, there will be an informational meeting following the service.

Please continue to pray for our Stephen Ministers and their care receivers. Thank you.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY – CHURCH NURSERY – VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

We still need a few volunteers in order to open the nursery!

If you are interested in serving in the nursery, please contact Barb Nalette 216-970-4131 mistylakenalette@gmail.com

Due to the requirements of our insurance carrier and the new standard set by the National ELCA Church, we must meet the following to care for children: **all** volunteers over 18 must pass a fingerprint background screening and at least two people will need to be in the nursery, teens are eligible to volunteer along with one adult when the nursery is in operation. The fingerprinting is quick and easy and is provided for by the church.

MILITARY PRAYER REQUESTS

If you know someone in the military serving our country, we want to include them in prayer. Please scan the QR code or go to bit.ly/FLCMilitaryPrayers to add them to the list



ONLINE GIVING OPTION

Due to requests for people to have the option to give their offering electronically, we are providing a QR code to allow anyone who would like to give electronically.



SCAN ME

FIRST CHURCH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Our next book club will take place on August 9 at 10 AM at 88 Fox Hollow in Brunswick. We'll discuss the book, *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See! Happy Reading!

STRONGSVILLE EMERGENCY FOOD BANK - DONATIONS

The Strongsville Food Bank is in need of the following items: Cereal, (All types and Sizes), Oatmeal – (Cylinders any/all sizes), Mac and Cheese, Tuna Fish - (all sizes) Peanut Butter – All Sizes, Jelly – All Sizes, Ramen Noodles
Urgent need to Hygiene products: Bars of Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner, Band-Aids, Antibacterial Ointment, Rubbing Alcohol (any size or wipes), Peroxide (any size), Body Wash, Body Lotion, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH APP

First Lutheran Church has an app in both the Apple App Store (search FLC Strongsville) and the Google Play Store! (search FLC Strongsville) This communication option will help us stay connected and give us new and exciting tools to use. We continue to fine tune the options available on the app to best suit our congregation. If you see something that needs to be fixed, please reach out to the office and let us know.



Be sure to allow notifications when you download the app to get important updates!

BEHIND THE SCENES AT FLC

We all get repair surprises with our homes and cars. Even churches have surprise repairs! Over the past month, our refrigerator needed an unexpected repair—and we got it running again in time for VBS, thanks to Pierre David and your offerings. Our beloved organ also spoke up (or rather, didn't!) and is now on the list for repair soon.

We also have two furnaces and air conditioners in the classroom area of the Fellowship Hall that date to its construction, in 1997. They are 28 years old. They're still working for now but likely won't last another five years. We're doing our best to stay ahead of things—fixing what needs fixing now and preparing for what's coming. Last month, we had to repair one of the A/C units in the classroom area.

Your giving helps us take care of these behind-the-scenes needs that keep our church going strong. Thank you!

Here is a fun fact: We have a total of five air-conditioning units (one for the sanctuary, one for the office space, two for the classrooms, and one for the Fellowship Hall). We have six heating units; three boilers (two for the sanctuary and Wishing Well wing, one for the Fellowship Hall), and three gas furnaces (one for the office, and two for the classrooms in the Fellowship Hall wing).



**The Altar Flowers are given to the
Glory of God by
Monica Berens in celebration of
David Gooding's Birthday
And
Maureen & Steve Harris in
celebration of their 40th Wedding
Anniversary**

**The bulletins are given by
Claudia Lenarz in celebration of
Sarah Lenarz's 4th Birthday!**

**Last Week's Attendance
10 AM - 100
Online – 26**

**Upcoming Worship Times
Dates – Times
August
08/10 – 10 AM
08/17 – 10 AM
08/24 – 10 AM
08/31 – 10 AM**

Thank you to the following volunteers:

Reader

Curt Dean

Ushers

Wayne Mosley, Alan Evangelista

Counters

Reiner Meuller, Pierre David,
Sandy & Ray Treudler

Altar Guild

Barb Kreuger, Jacquie McLemore,
Shelley Hoffman

Communion Assistants

Curt Dean, Sandy and Ray Treudler

Communion Bread Baker

Sandy Treudler

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday, August 4th

AA at 7:30 PM

Tuesday, August 5th

Steven Ministry

Supervisory Meeting - 6:00 PM

Toastmaster's at 7:00 PM

Al Anon at 7:00 PM

Sunday, August 10th

Backpack Blessing – 10 AM

Governing Board Installation – 10 AM

Church Summer Picnic – 11:15 AM