

**September 21, 2025
Contemporary Worship
9:00 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, 09/28/2025

Contemporary Worship at 9:00 AM

Sunday School at 10:15 AM

Traditional Worship at 11:15 AM

To contact the Church, call the office at 440-238-7890
or email firstchurchalive@hotmail.com
Office Manager Hours are Monday, Thursday & Friday 9 AM - Noon
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 330-391-4627, lindeeloulou@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

Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Songs:

“Open Up the Heavens”
“Today”

Prayer

Lesson:

Luke 16:1-13

Children’s Sharing Time

Sermon

“Bottom Line”

Song:

“Less Like Me”

Offering

Prayers of the Faithful

Holy Communion

Lord’s Prayer

Blessing

Song:

“Everyday”

Dismissal

Music

PRAYERS

Hospitalized/Home and Recuperating

Rhonda Fox, 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, Chris Hamel

On-going Prayers

Linda Stanley, Nighman Family, Heidi Balicki, Tia (Simpson) Russell, Ron and Joanne Cvelbar, Cheryl Mooney, Elaine, 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, 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, Cindy Walker, Ron Shorts, Jason Labay

Homebound

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NAMETAG SUNDAY

Today is Nametag Sunday. Please take a minute to fill out a nametag and wear it during service.

OFFICE STAFFING NOTE

Please note, Pastor Kathy will be out of the office September 26th through October 8th. Please call the church office 440-238-7890 or the office administrator directly - Vanessa, 216-548-5345, if you have a pastoral emergency during this time.

2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Stay alert! We are excited to announce that the 2026 Stewardship Appeal is coming soon. The theme for this year's appeal is "Rooted in Faith - Growing Our Missions."

We thank all of you for our successful 2025 Stewardship Appeal that allowed us to meet our goals and expand our important missions. We hope to continue that momentum in 2026 as we prepare to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our congregation.

You will be receiving a letter in the mail this next week that will provide additional information regarding our stewardship appeal, as well as outlining our goals for 2026. In addition, we will keep you informed of what is happening via other forms of communication, including regular email updates, church bulletin announcements, notices in This Week at First and temple talks.

Please stay tuned. We wouldn't want you to miss anything.

CHAIR YOGA – MONDAYS, 1:30 pm

Sign up for Chair Yoga, Monday's at 1:30 PM. Contact Maureen Shorts at shortsstuff3@gmail.com for additional information.

EMAIL MIGRATION – PLEASE NOTE

We are going to be working to migrate from our current email delivery system to a new delivery system, but we want to make sure we don't lose you. For the next few weeks, you won't be seeing double or getting spam. You will, however, be getting TWO copies of This Week at First. One from each email delivery system.

Please be sure to OPEN BOTH copies. That way we know you are seeing our weekly news blast in both systems.

Once we confirm that everyone is receiving both copies, we will work to change completely over to the new system.

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

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UPS

There are Altar Flower Vase openings in November and December. If you have a special event or celebration you would like to recognize or remember, please consider signing up for one of the available spots. Altar flowers are \$20.00 and can be taken home or donated to shut-ins. Please sign up in the Welcome Center

STEPHEN MINISTRY – UPDATE

We have several congregation members interested in becoming Stephen Ministers. Interviews will be conducted October 7 and 9. We are excited to get training going on November 4! Please continue to pray for our Stephen Ministry team and our care receivers.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY – SATURDAY, 09/27 9 AM – 3PM

Join Habitat for Humanity for their Spruce Up Day, Spruce-Up days are where 50+ volunteers gather to help existing residents on the street with minor exterior repairs, debris removal and yard maintenance. Often, when Habitat builds homes on a street, we like to hold a Spruce-Up to thank the surrounding residents for putting up with our dust and trucks on the street.



Scan the QR code or use the link to sign up!

<https://bit.ly/HABITATSPRUCEUP2025>

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH NURSERY

We are excited to announce the reopening of the nursery for children aged newborn to 3 yrs old. Information regarding the nursery and our volunteers will be provided to the parents/guardians upon registration. This week the nursery is at our 11:15 AM Service

We are still in need of additional volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please see the Open Service Opportunities below to sign up!

STRONGSVILLE EMERGENCY FOOD BANK - DONATIONS

The Strongsville Food Bank is in need of the following items: URGENT NEED FOR Mac and Cheese, Tuna Fish - (all sizes) Canned Vegetables (except canned corn, we have tons, Jelly, Squeeze Bottle, 18 oz, 30 oz, 32oz; Peanut Butter – All Sizes, Boxed Baked Goods (cake & brownie mixes; pudding & jello mixes), Snacks (Pop tarts, cheese and/or peanut butter crackers, saltines, etc...)
URGENT NEED FOR HYGIENE PRODUCTS: Bars of Soap, Deodorant, Shampoo & Conditioner, Razors, Band Aids, Anti-Bacterial Ointments

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL – PLEASE REGISTER

If you haven't had time, please take a minute to complete our online registration for EACH student that will attend this year! We are so happy to be back!



YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL – GARDENING

On Sunday, September 28, Pat Sauernheimer will be sharing her talent of gardening at church with the Sunday School at 10:15. Wear gardening clothes/shoes. Bring a pair of gardening gloves/rake if you have them.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP EVENT – 10/05, 12 PM – 3 PM

Join us for lunch at church at noon and then on to ACTIVATE at Southpark Mall!- ACTIVATE is a state of the art facility with a variety of active games. Complete physical and mental challenges while hanging out with friends. "Enter the game where you become the player in the world's first active gaming facility. Jump, climb, problem-solve and laugh as you and your friends move between challenges. Each dynamic game room has interactive technology that reacts in real-time, ensuring an adrenaline-filled adventure." Sign up in the Welcome Center or the High School Sunday School Room!

FIRST LUTHERAN MEN'S RETREAT – 10/21, 9 AM – 4 PM

Calling all Men of First Church! Join us at Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, 9201 Brecksville Road, on 10/21 at 9 AM for a free retreat that will include Christian Fellowship, Bible Study, Devotional and Stimulating Conversation. Bring your own breakfast, soup and salad lunch will be provided. Contact Dale Piper (dalerpiper@gmail.com) or 440-344-8860 to RSVP.

FIRST CHURCH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Our next book is The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife by Anna Johnston. We'll meet on October 18 at 10:00 at 88 Fox Hollow in Brunswick. Happy reading!

WOMEN WHO WINE (and those that don't)– 10/03, 6 PM

Join us at 88 Fox Hollow in Brunswick for Women Who Wine (and those that don't). Space is limited to 18, so please sign up and let us know you plan to attend! BYOB and bring an app/dessert. There is a paper sign up sheet in the welcome center.

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!



MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

- *Outreach Ministry Leaders – Gayle Kovach & Monika Muller*
The Outreach Ministry Team is an outward focused ministry that reaches out to prospective members and spreads God’s word and love by doing God’s work to address critical needs of the community and world at large.
- *Congregation Ministry Leaders – Linda Browning & Maureen Shorts*
The Congregation Ministry Team conducts programs and activities that provide comfort and assistance to the members of FLC in various times of need. It is an inward focused ministry that includes fellowship activities as well as teams that provide services to FLC members.
- *Youth & Adult Enrichment Leaders – Beth Hartman & Carolyn Roman*
The Youth and Adult Enrichment Ministry Team covers all educational and special activities that enrich the mind and soul of congregation members at all stages of their life. This Ministry is especially focused on providing support and guidance to future members.
- *Dynamic Worship Ministry Leaders – Pat Sauernheimer & Sandy Treudler*
The Dynamic Worship Ministry Team ensures that worship services are conducted regularly and in accordance with the practices of the ELCA. This Ministry also explores innovative approaches for worship to enhance the dynamic worship experience, allowing members to thrive in their relationship with God.



**The Altar Flowers are given to the
Glory of God by
Jeff & Ellen Kolman in celebration
of their 34th Wedding Anniversary
And the Smith-Whitford Family
in celebration of
Owen's 19th Birthday
The bulletins are given to the
Glory of God by
Dennis Bailey in celebration of
Bonnie's Birthday.**

Last Week's Attendance
9 AM – 80
11:15 AM - 41
Online – 26

Upcoming Worship Times
Dates – Times
September
09/21 – 9 AM & 11:15 AM
09/28 – 9 AM & 11:15 AM
October
10/05 – 9 AM & 11:15 AM
10/12 – 9 AM & 11:15 AM

**Thank you to the following
volunteers:**

Reader

Tony Rugar

Ushers

Dale & Becky Piper

Counters

Gayle Kovach, Mark Schultz,

Chris Hamel

Altar Guild

Pat Sauernheimer, Janet Kaiser,

Maureen Harris

Communion Assistants

Tony Rugar, Pam & Herb Simpson

Communion Bread Baker

Ellen Kolman

Nursery Volunteers

Ellen Kolman, Barb Nalette

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday, September 15th

Chair Yoga – 1:30 PM

AA at 7:30 PM

Tuesday, September 16th

Governing Board Meeting – 6:30 PM

Toastmaster's at 7:00 PM

AI Anon at 7:00 PM

