



## SHARING THE LIGHT

*The mission of First Lutheran Church is to grow together in Christ through Prayer, Worship, and Education and to spread the love of Christ to our community.*

**December 2022**    *Publication of*    **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**



Love,  
Pastor Scott

# DECEMBER

*December 2022*

**Ushers** Craig Boehne, Dave Lassanske, and Don Lammerts  
**Greeters:** December 4 Sharon Corey  
December 11 Pat Caballero  
December 18 Connie Kean  
December 25 Norma Boehne

**Readers:** December 4 & December 20 Richard Swanson  
December 11 Christine Getz



**Gatherings:**

- Load the Van to Friends in Deed, December 2, Friday at 8:30 a.m.
- Soup and Sandwich, December 7, Wednesday at 12:00 noon
- Mission Development Team Meeting, December 8, Thursday at 10:30 a.m.
- Volunteers at Friends in Deed, December 10, Saturday
- Mission Development Team Barbeque, December 16, Friday at 12:00 noon
- Board of Directors' Meeting, December 18, Sunday from 11:00 a.m.



Sunday Worship Times, December 4, 8:30 a.m.  
December 11, 8:30 a.m.  
December 18, 8:30 a.m.  
December 25, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School Times, Every Sunday from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

**Not receiving email special announcements and/or prayer requests??**

If you are currently not receiving emails and would like to be included, please share your email address with Church Administrator at [admin@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:admin@firstlutherantc.org), or call: (626) 287-0968 and leave a message.

**Pastoral Care:** Pastor Scott Ganas at: (951) 795-8162 or  
Board of Directors Chairman, Judy Gunther at: (626) 833-5613.

**Electronic Newsletter:** Let the Church Administrator know your email address if you would prefer to receive your monthly newsletter via email at: [admin@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:admin@firstlutherantc.org).

# Burn the Mortgage!

In addition to the \$5,028 monthly payment we made toward our mortgage this month, a principal only payment of \$979.13 was sent as a principal only payment. We continue to pray that the mortgage would be paid off by the end of 2022. You can contribute to this fund by marking your envelope Debt Reduction.



## Friends in Deed

We know that we are all paying more at the grocery store, the rich and people economically challenged are all experiencing it. Please consider adding a few items to your grocery cart and bring them to our collection for Friends in Deed. Last month, members and friends of First Lutheran Temple City contributed 636 pounds of food items. Have you ever examined the extensive selection of canned meals in the grocery aisles? I am amazed at

the chilies, the soups, stews, and pastas, just waiting to be warmed up for a meal. The director of the food pantry once told me that it is difficult to supply food items high in protein for the clients. Think of peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken and other meat products in a can.

## Mission Development Team

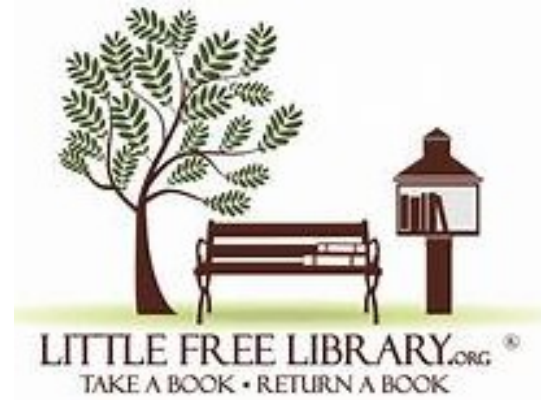
The monthly, first Wednesday, soup and sandwich meals are well attended. Pastor Frese's talk about "Dealing With Culture Contempt" was thought-provoking. On December 7, Jacqueline Hasty will be sharing a holiday craft. Please join us in the Fellowship Room at 12:00 noon.



On December 16, the team will be hosting a barbeque honoring the staff and students of Foothill Preparatory School as well as our church members. We want to share a bit of American Christmas with the Chinese students. We hope you will join us for the activities and our next planning meeting on Thursday, December 8 at 10:30 a.m.

## Little Free Library

We continue to receive donations of books from neighbors and members. It is time to put some Christmas books in the library. Please share whatever you have. Certain popular authors publish a Christmas book each year. You can put your donations in the Little Library or give them to Jo Tschopp.



## Community Prayer Box

The needs of our community and nation are great. Please remember to pray for our neighbors. There are many who do not know Jesus and do not have the peace and comfort of God in their lives.

*<sup>7</sup> The peace of God is much greater than the human mind can understand. This peace will keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:7

## Sunday Worship at Home

If you are unable to attend worship, you can listen to the Lutheran Hour sermon at 8:00 a.m. on station KBRT AM 740 each Sunday.

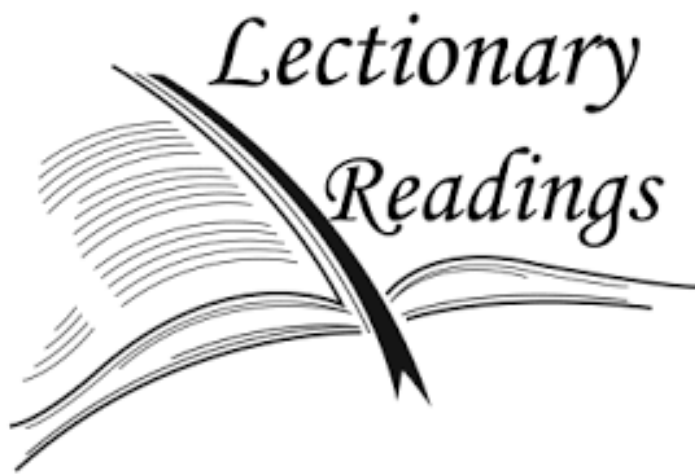
If you have a TV and can get DirectTV, Channel 377 you can view Worship Anew at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. This service is filmed at our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana. For those people who have a computer, the Worship Anew worship service can be viewed via the internet at any time.



## BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS MONTH



<b>Dave Lassanske</b>	<b>December 11</b>
<b>Patricia Caballero</b>	<b>December 15</b>
<b>Erich Armbrust</b>	<b>December 20</b>
<b>Betty Nelson</b>	<b>December 24</b>
<b>Sharon Corey</b>	<b>December 28</b>
<b>Judy Gunther</b>	<b>December 28</b>



### Reading the Lectionaries

Here are the lectionaries for December as they travel to various books of the Old Testament, Psalms, New Testament, and the Gospel as we celebrate Advent and Christmas – birth of our Savior King:

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
December 4	Isaiah 11:1–10	Psalms 72:1–7	Romans 15:4–13	Matthew 3:1–12
December 11	Isaiah 35:1–10	Psalms 146	James 5:7–11	Matthew 11:2–15
December 18	Isaiah 7:10–17	Psalms 24	Romans 1:1–7	Matthew 1:18–25
December 25	Isaiah 52:7–10	Psalms 2	Hebrews 1:1–12	John 1:1–18



## Lutheran High School La Verne Trojan Shield



Lutheran High School is YOUR Lutheran high school, supporting the San Gabriel Valley. The support that your congregation shows to LHSLV is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for all that you do for our little school!

### Upcoming Events:

- Christmas Concert – December 9.
- Association Church Ladies Tea Party – Saturday, February 11, 2023.
- The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is forming – if you are interested, details are on the next page.





## 50th Anniversary Committee Now Forming!

If you wish to help plan a few upcoming, celebratory events, or at least give your input, please let Kit know.

(626) 824-5125 (cell)

(909) 593-4494 (school)

[khittinger@lhslv.org](mailto:khittinger@lhslv.org)

There is a family-owned company that is liquidating their Churro carts. If interested, please contact Kit or Jan Foote at: (323) 259-0608 – Land line. One of the carts were converted into a pizza cart, and have been used at various locations. Vendor can deliver the carts to most locations, and is looking to donate to either schools or churches with a 501 © 3 status





Paul meeting with Dr Lalissa (Director of EECMY BT Department) and Dr. Bruk (President of MYS)

## Settling into a new Role

As we settle into a new house, the kids get used to a new school, and we start language learning, Paul has also been getting up to speed on his new role. As the Program Director for Lutheran Bible Translator's work in Ethiopia, that has meant learning the details about what is going on while also providing direction for the future.

There are two key areas in which we work in Ethiopia. First, we are partnered with the Mekane Yesus Seminary (MYS) in training theology students as translators. The first class of twenty-four students graduated in May of this year. Most are currently assigned to projects throughout the country gaining practical experience. In June a new six-story building was also finished on the MYS campus. Most of the floors in the building will be rented out to provide a sustainable stream of income

which will then fund the Bible translation training program. The goal is to eventually invite students from other parts of Africa to join the program here in Ethiopia.

We are also partnered with the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) in Bible translation. The church has current translation programs in twenty different languages. Along with providing financial support for a few of the translation projects, LBT also walks alongside the central office as it directs work throughout the country. At the beginning of October, the LBT Ethiopia and EECMY Bible Translation department moved into office space on the fourth floor of the new building. It is exciting to have a floor dedicated to Bible translation that brings LBT personnel, translation staff, and students together in one place.

Paul has enjoyed getting to know the leadership and staff of both organizations as well as the LBT missionaries who have already been serving in Ethiopia. There is a lot going on and we feel blessed to be a part of it.

## Settling into a new Home

Since leaving Ghana at the end of May, our family had been in temporary housing situations until moving into our home in Ethiopia in mid-September. We knew that our house would not be ready for us to live in when we first arrived in the country at the beginning of August, therefore we made arrangements to stay in guest housing for the first few weeks. Although we were mentally prepared for it, living out of and among suitcases for 6 weeks took its toll on us. We were all very ready to have a place to call our own and to hide the suitcases away for a long time.



The seminary took the responsibility to renovate the kitchen and the main bathroom to make them both functional and beautiful. We are grateful for the people who worked very quickly on these major projects. The kitchen is a bright and beautiful place to be, especially since Ali spends a good deal of time in there these days!

This house is truly a blessing for our family. Our kids are thrilled that they each get to have their own



# Paul & Ali FEDERWITZ

Hannah, Levi & Eden

## ABOUT US

Paul is LBT's Assistant Director for Program Ministries & Ethiopia Programs Director. He also serves as a computer consultant to missionaries and organizations in West Africa.

Ali is the Member Care Facilitator for LBT.

Paul and Ali's ministry is funded solely through donations from individuals and groups.

## CORRESPONDENCE

✉ Paul and Ali Federwitz  
C/O LBT  
P.O. Box 789  
Concordia, MO 64020

@ Paul-Ali.Federwitz@LBT.org

🌐 pafederwitz.wordpress.com

📌 on.fb.me/138ZLI5



Lutheran Bible  
Translators

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Lutheran Bible Translators  
P.O. Box 789  
Concordia, MO 64020

Please make checks payable to Lutheran Bible Translators and designate *P/A Federwitz Ministry* or *P/A Federwitz Household Setup*

Online giving at  
<https://go.lbt.org/pafederwitz>

bedrooms, a first for them! The living room and dining room are spacious, and we have already been able to include guests into our family game time on Sunday afternoons. Our large front porch is a perfect place to chat with others while enjoying a cup of coffee. We hope to have more gatherings in our home and build new memories in this lovely place. Praise God along with us for the provision of a home that suits all of our needs.

## Settling into a new Language

We began Amharic language learning lessons on September 1. Our teacher, Jalalie, comes to our house 4 mornings a week and spends 3 hours with us each day. In the afternoons, we are supposed to have 3 listening sessions for the recordings from that morning's lesson as well as review vocabulary from previous lessons. This, as you can imagine, is both time-consuming and tiring. There have been days where we don't feel like we are making much progress and other days we are encouraged to realize we can recognize words in the conversations going on around us. As our lives have gotten into a comfortable routine and work responsibilities have become more pressing, it is more and more difficult to find time and focus for learning this new language. We would appreciate your prayers for us in this endeavor.



Ali practicing Amharic with dolls as verbs are gender, number and/or age specific

## Settling into a new School

The kids started school about two weeks after we arrived in Ethiopia. For Levi and Eden, this is their first year in traditional school as they have previously been educated at home. Hannah had attended an American school in Ghana for the past 3 years. It is never easy being the new kid in school, but Bingham Academy has been a welcoming place for our kids so far. The student body is made up of a large number of missionary kids who are used to people coming and going from year to year. This made it easier for our kids to fit into their classes at school. At the recent teacher-parent meet and greet night, we were glad to hear encouraging reports about our kids from their teachers.

Hannah decided to try her hand at volleyball. She has not previously played a team sport and finds it challenging and exhausting, but it has been a positive experience. Levi and Eden are tapping into their hobbies and have joined an after-school robotics club. An added bonus is that the kids get to see Dee, who was with us for our final months in Ghana, several days a week at school. Dee teaches at the elementary level at Bingham and our kids sometimes go to visit her during their free time.

There are 9 other missionary children from the seminary campus that attend Bingham. The parents have worked together to hire a large van to drive the kids to and from school each day, our own little school bus! The 30-minute ride to and from school each way continues to be our kids' favorite part of the day. They thoroughly enjoy interacting with these kids, who come from several different countries, and learning from them. Thank God along with us that Bingham has been a positive place for our kids. Pray for them as the academic load for the Cambridge curriculum is quite challenging.



**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
9123 Broadway  
Temple City, CA 91780

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**  
**DATED MATERIAL**

*December 2022*

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Temple City, CA 91780  
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E-Mail : [admin@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:admin@firstlutherantc.org)  
Website : <https://firstlutherantc.org>

*Rev. Scott Ganas, Pastor*

8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP  
Holy Communion every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays only  
9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY  
Every Sunday