



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 2021 Publication of FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Advent ... Our Advent

The personalities of the Advent: Joseph, Mary, the Wise men, the shepherds, the innkeeper, the angels, and Jesus still exists.

Each of us baptized believers will see the Advent angels usher us in to, physically, meet the Baby that grew up to be our Lord and Savior.



Many characters of the Bible will be with us in the presence of our Lord forever!

The significance of the season of Advent is its eternal importance. We will be folded into the Advent / Easter work of God with all believers.

No matter what is happening, remember that you are eternally loved by God through His Son – Jesus Christ!



Love,
Pastor Scott



December 2021

Ushers Craig Boehne, Dave Lassanske, and Don Lammerts
Greeters: December 5 Hazel Benscoter
December 12 Pat Caballero
December 19 Connie Kean
December 26 Norma Boehne



Gatherings:

Mission Development Team, Monday, December 6, 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Room

Mission Development Team Christmas event, Saturday, December 11, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Board of Directors' Meeting, Sunday, December 19, 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Worship, Friday, December 24, 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Cookie Sharing, Friday December 24, 3:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship Times, December 5, 8:30 a.m.

December 12, 8:30 a.m.

December 19, 8:30 a.m.

December 26, 8:30 a.m.

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

Load the van to Friends in Deed, Friday, January 7, 2022, 8:30 a.m.

Major Leaguers is cancelled until further notice.

Tuesday Bible Class, every Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Room

Saturday Prayer Group, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This group is currently meeting via the telephone. Let Jo Tschopp know if you want to participate.

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, 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.

Burn the Mortgage!

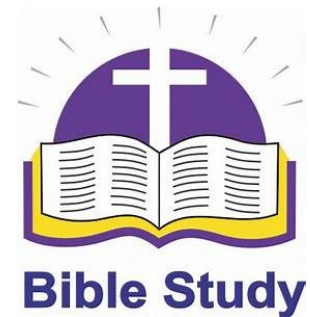
The new balance on our mortgage loan is \$90,940. We are thankful for members who designated a total of \$300 towards the principal during November. Some members like to make year-end contributions to various charities. Please consider the mortgage loan as an option. You can make your gift using your weekly envelopes by indicating, "mortgage." God loves a cheerful giver.

Luke 6:38

"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

Tuesday Bible Study

The Tuesday Bible study will resume in January to complete their study of Matthew. For further information, please contact Oscar Tschopp at: (626) 256-8333



Community Prayer Box

Our Community Prayer Box continues to be monitored and prayer requests passed to our email prayer chain. God desires our prayers.

"Call to Me, and I will answer you. And I will show you great and wonderful things which you do not know."

Jeremiah 33:3



December Birthdays

*Dave Lassanske
Patricia Caballero
Erich Armbrust
Betty Nelson
Sharon Corey
Judy Gunther*

*December 11
December 15
December 20
December 24
December 28
December 28*

Friends in Deed

Many families and individuals are experiencing food insufficiency. You can help by including some food items in your grocery shopping. The Pantry reports that because of the tremendous need they are not receiving as much aid from the Los Angeles Food Bank and really appreciate our food donations. Numerous recipients of the Pantry are senior citizens and the working poor. Please consider gifting the needy with food items. You can bring them to church each Sunday. At the end of the month, they are taken to Friends in Deed in Pasadena.



Little Free Library

We continue to have people of the community use our Little Free Library. It is difficult to determine what kind of books are the most popular because there is such a variety donated. Children's books are well liked, especially those in good shape. Ragged pages aren't appealing but I always think well-worn books show love for the contents. You can put your book gifts in the library or give them to Jo Tschopp. (626) 256-8333.

Mission Development Team

A Christmas neighborhood outreach is being planned for Saturday, December 11 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Participants will enjoy a Christmas craft; decorate cookies, and a Christmas film.

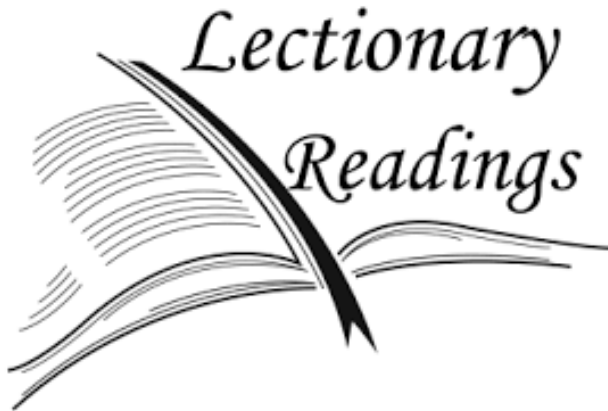
Pat Grabowski received a Thrivent Action Team Grant of \$250 to fund the event. Plan to attend and invite some friends to join you. You can be a part of this group of mission-minded workers. Join them on Monday, December 6 at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. Call Jo Tschopp for further information at (626) 256-8333.





Saturday Prayer Group

The Saturday Prayer Group continues to meet at 9:00 a.m. via the telephone to spend time praying for the church, our community, nation, and the world. Participants express joy as they bring requests to God knowing the He hears and answers prayer.



Reading the Lectionaries

Here are the lectionaries for December as they travel to various books of the Old Testament, Psalms, New Testament (Epistle), and the Gospel during the Advent and Christmas season:

	<u>Old Testament /</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
December 5	Malachi 3:1-7b	Psalm 66:1-12	Philippians 1:2-11	Luke 3:1-20
December 12	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Psalm 85	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 7:18-35
December 19	Micah 5:2-5a	Psalm 80:1-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-56
December 26	Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15	Psalm 111	Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:22-40

Change of Address

Oscar and Jo Tschopp
1420 Santo Domingo Ave.
Duarte CA 91010
(626) 256-8333

Margaret Bradfute (prefers no mailing)
1601 S. Baldwin Avenue
Arcadia CA91006

Federwitz Email Express



Dear Faithful Partners,

Last week, Paul was in Orlando attending a conference of Bible Translation organizations and major donors called Every Tribe Every Nation (eten.org). Now he is in Missouri at the LBT International Offices to on-board LBT's new IT coordinator, Calvin (pictured above). We are grateful that Paul was able to adjust his travel plans to attend his uncle's funeral in Detroit at the beginning of his US visit. These are always the hardest times to be away from family but we are grateful that he could be there to celebrate the life of Uncle John.

We are entering our hot season right now and the days have been quite sweltering. It the time of year where we hope for a rain storm to give us a break but we know it could be months before we see one heavy enough to bring reprieve. We will definitely be ready for our annual Thanksgiving at the beach where we can enjoy the cool waves!

Our latest prayer letter is out and should be arriving in some of your mail boxes at home. You can read about Paul finishing his master's degree and some ways to hear about our ministry through podcasts. https://lbt.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/2111_PAFederwitz-Prayer-Letter.pdf



Borchard Prayer Letter

Papua New Guinea

December 2021

We live by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)

Dear Praying Friends,

As I started preparing to go to Papua New Guinea, I realized that I still do not have the strength and stamina needed to live there. So, I decided that I will not be going back to Papua New Guinea at this point. This has been a difficult decision to make, but I believe that it is the right decision for me. I will continue to work here in the United States to help with the Ipili project.

I was able to have a Zoom meeting with Mandita to tell him that I will not be going to PNG as I had originally planned. I am disappointed that we will not be able to work together in person, but I am hopeful that we will be able to meet via the internet to do Ipili work. We have decided to stop work on the book of Exodus, and to, instead, work on getting Genesis, Exodus chapters 1-5, Ruth, and Jonah printed in a book so that pastors, evangelists, and other church leaders will be able to read those for their people. I will be doing one last advisor check of Genesis to make sure that the meaning is correct. **Please pray for wisdom as I do this check.**



Pastor Mandita Kunum

As the verse listed above from 2 Corinthians tells us, we live by faith, not by what we see. The Lord loves the Ipili people, and some of them are his children by faith in the Lord Jesus. The Ipili work is His work, and I believe that He will work His will in the Ipili people. They continue to face many difficulties, including fighting between clans in many parts of the area. I shared with Mandita the idea that he can work with church leaders to write Bible studies to address the various problems that Ipili people face in their lives. **Please pray for wisdom for the church leaders as they deal with these difficulties. Pray that they will use God's Word in Ipili to minister to the people.**

Although Mandita and Margret reconciled after their difficulty, Mandita told me that Margret continues to have problems that will keep her from rejoining the work, so now Mandita is the only Ipili person working on the translation. I am confident that he and I can complete the work that still needs to be done.

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Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. 1 Timothy 4:13 (NIV)

The apostle Paul gave Timothy these instructions, and it seems to me that these words can also help Mandita and the Ipili committee members know what their focus should be. During the next year they will need to take on responsibility for the Ipili work. They have God's Word in their language. They have the house/office to work at. There is a great need for Ipili people to hear and use God's Word. **Pray that Mandita and the committee members will go forward with the work in confidence that the Lord who gives them this work will work through them to do it. Pray that more and more people will desire to listen to and read God's Word in Ipili.**

Your Partner in Bible Translation,

Janet



Lutheran Bible Translators

Correspondence

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

December 2021

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E-Mail: admin@firstlutherantc.org
Website: <https://firstlutherantc.org>

Rev. Scott Ganas, Pastor

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