



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.

March 2021 Publication of FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Lent is

our annual journey with our Lord to the Cross. We watch Him because He goes alone in our place.

Each of us have so many memories and stories, but it is the Lenten journey that is our eternal story. We live forever because He moves toward the cross in obedience and love. We have temporary trials and headaches that will fade away in time. Lent and the payment is forever!

Ephesians 1:7 (ESV)

“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ...”

May God bless you with freedom of the knowledge and assurance of what Jesus has done for us.

Love,
Pastor Scott



March 2021

Gatherings:

Friends in Deed's Van loading, Friday, March 5, 8:30 a.m.

Mission Development Team, Sunday, March 7, 11:00 a.m.

Board of Directors, Sunday, March 14, 11:00 a.m.

Defined Neighborhood Walk to distribute invitations, Sunday, March 14, 11:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 27, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. (tentative)

Major Leaguers is cancelled until further notice.

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

Saturday Prayer Group, 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!

Generous givers during February contributed \$1605 toward the principal of our church mortgage, giving us a balance of \$166,119. As usual some of the gifts were large and some small, some single donations, some members have set up a regular monthly amount that they donate. They all help us reach the goal of retiring the monthly mortgage payments of \$5028. It is easy to designate you gift by writing on your check or envelope "Debt Reduction."



Friends in Deed

Last month members contributed 692 pounds of food items to the food pantry. We continue to collect items weekly and take them to the Pasadena pantry at the end of each month. It is so easy to drop a few items into your shopping cart each time you visit the grocery store. Soups, stews, pastas, rice, beans, boxed mixes, instant potatoes, powered milk, and cereals are items always appreciated during the winter time. You can bring your items weekly or bring them on the Friday that they are loaded into the van for transport to Friends in Deed.

Worship At Home Opportunity

Some members of our congregation have made the habit of attending the worship services at First Lutheran and then going home to watch Worship Anew via their computer, smart phone or recording the service from the 8:30 a.m. presentation on TV. It is that good! A great way to experience a 30-minute indoor worship with liturgy, choirs, and a sermon delivered by experienced pastors.



Try it out! You can view the weekly TV program on DIRECTTV Channel 377 at 8:30 am on Sundays. If you have a computer you can watch it at any time by visiting the Worship Anew site. The worship service is filmed at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Another opportunity for worship at home is to listen to the morning **Lutheran Hour** sermon from 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. on station KBRT AM 740 each Sunday, as well as listening to the uploaded sermon online via <https://firstlutherantc.org>

Thrivent Choice Dollars



If you have Thrivent Financial products you may be eligible for Choice Dollars, which can be directed to First Lutheran or many other worthy causes. Don't forget that the deadline for designating your Choice Dollars is March 31. Since 2011 First Lutheran has received more than \$40,000 in Choice Dollars. You can designate via phone or computer. Your Thrivent agent can help you, or let Jo Tschopp know if you are having difficulties.



Saturday Prayer Group

This small prayer group meets via the phone to pray for First Lutheran, the members, concerns of our local area, and the world. They have experienced many answers to prayer throughout the years and feel blessed coming before God with our petitions. You can join us each Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Contact Jo Tschopp at: (626) 355-9433 for information about arranging the conference call.

Appreciation to Pastor Frese

As Chairman of the Board at First Lutheran Church, I would like to take this time and thank Pastor Kenneth Frese for stepping in when Pastor Scott Ganas had heart surgery. Pastor Ken was very caring and served our congregation with Love and Respect. It will be nice having Pastor Scott back, but Pastor Ken shall be missed. I am hoping that Pastor Ken will come out every once in a while, and be a member of our congregation.

Yours truly,
Judith Gunther

Mission Development Team

COVID hasn't completely done away with Easter Egg Hunts. Our large field is waiting for eggs and children to find them. The Mission Development Team is planning to walk our defined neighborhood on March 14 delivering invitations for families to participate in this masked and social distancing egg hunt on Saturday March 27 between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. or Saturday April 3 between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. After hunting and turning in their paper eggs participants will receive a "goody" bag. The event is being planned for the community and all those who are eager to resume traditions and activities in safety. Christine Geltz used her marketing expertise to advertise our recent February 14 Chalk Festival. We were a little disappointed in the small participation, but eager to move forward planning another one for later in the year. Norma Boehne won a prize for her chalk art "Spend Your Kisses" showing a purse with hearts inside. Please join us on March 7 at 11:00 a.m. as we plan the egg hunt and future outreaches to our neighbors. Contact Jo Tschopp at: (626) 355-9433 for further information.



Tuesday Bible Study

In the weeks to come this small group will be reading about the problems David had with his son who turns against him to take the throne, his friends who desert him, even some of his closest allies fail to support him. Yet David turns to God seeking guidance and help and writes some of his most well-known Psalms which cry out to God and which we read today. You can join us each Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. For further information contact Oscar Tschopp at: (626) 355-9433.





Borchard Prayer

Papua New Guinea

January 2021

January 28, 2021

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you so much for your faithful support of Lutheran Bible Translators. I certainly appreciate your partnership in the Ipili translation work.

I started out this year writing various reports and doing other paperwork. Reports are necessary, but I'm glad that last week I have finally gotten back to working on the translation in the afternoons!



Mandita and Amos

Pastor Mandita has made good progress on editing chapters of Exodus. In the last few months, he has gone through chapters 15-28. I am currently in chapter 17 checking his changes and updating the English back-translation of the translation. This English translation of the meaning of the Ipili will be needed when we have a translation consultant check the translation. ***Please ask the Lord to give us wisdom as we do this work.*** I am hoping that once I've checked the translation through chapter 21, I will be able to work with Mandita and Margret on the team check of chapters 15-21. During November we were able to work together through the Internet using the Skype program. I'm hoping that we will be able to do the same with chapters 15-21.

Mandita emailed me recently because he was very concerned that his son Willy was quite sick in the Ipili area. He wanted to have Willy come to where he is living near the translation center for medical treatment. Willy arrived last week and saw a doctor. He has another appointment this week. ***Pray for wisdom for the doctors and for healing for Willy. Also pray for a grandchild of Mandita who was injured in an accident. In addition, pray for Mandita who is experiencing pain in his legs. This makes it difficult for him to walk so most days he is working on the translation at home.***

The other Ipili translator, Margret, is currently in the Ipili area where she is showing the Ipili videos and encouraging people to listen to and read the translation. She is also showing people how we work on the translation on the computer so that they can understand the work we are doing. We are hoping that this will help people to see the importance of the work we are doing. We have heard that there is a shortage of food in the Ipili area. ***Please ask the Lord to provide food for Margret and her baby, as well as for all the people in the area.*** Margret plans to return to the translation center at the end of January.

Janet Borchard

Lutheran Bible Translators

Millions of people don't have the Bible in their own language. Many speak a language that is not written down. Lutheran Bible Translators puts God's Word in their hands.

Email: Janet.Borchard@LBT.org or janet_borchard@sil.org

Mailing Address: 650 Harlow Rd., #139, Springfield, OR 97477 Home: 541-726-2889;

Cell: 541-579-1467. **LBT mailing address: PO Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020**

Little Free Library

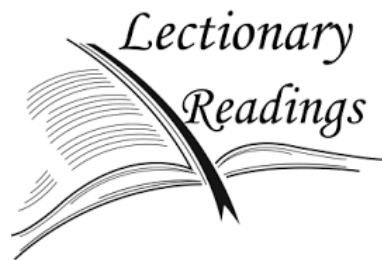
More and more neighborhoods are using our Little Free Library and donating books. You can join them by visiting and looking for something for yourself to read or donating your already read books. All books should be embracing a Christian lifestyle. We have some adult fiction and non-fiction. Children’s books are particularly welcome. Often we receive brand new books, which are donated. You can take books home, read them, and then return them for others to enjoy.



Community Prayer Box

We have received eleven prayer requests in our community prayer box. Many of us are amazed that the neighborhood has responded in such a positive way. Even young children have left their requests. Most of the people don’t provide their name, no one has left contact information, but God knows their names and hears their requests.

‘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



Reading the Lectionaries

Here are the lectionaries for February as they travel to various books of the Old Testament, Psalms, Epistles, and the Gospel during the Transfiguration of our Lord to the several weeks in Lent.

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
March 7	Exodus 20:1–17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18–31	John 3:13–39
March 14	Numbers 21:4–9	Psalm 107:1–9	Ephesians 2:1–10	John 3:14–21
March 21	Jeremiah 31:31–34	Psalm 119:9–18	Hebrews 5:1–10	Mark 10:32–45
March 28	Zechariah 9:9–12			
Palm Sunday		Psalm 118:19–29	Philippians 2:5–11	Mark 14:1–15:47

BLOOD DONATIONS

ARE
Essential



American
Red Cross

Blood Drive
First Lutheran Church

Location: Parish Hall
9123 Broadway Avenue
Temple City, CA 91780

Thursday, March 18, 2021
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: flcandschooltc to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass!

**Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by
visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your
pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of
your appointment.**



Scan to schedule
an appointment

Schedule a blood donation appointment today:

Download the Blood Donor App | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

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1446 | Order ID: 1162566 | Item ID: 4267027 - Qty: 1 of 1 - 060373714 - 2015-APL-01955 - 4905 - 21022

Mission Development Team
“Chalk It Up to Love”

“Chalk It Up to Love” was the theme of the community at-home chalk festival that our Mission Development Team put on recently. Culminating on Valentine's Day, the event invited all Temple City residents to celebrate by making chalk illustrations on their own driveway of things that are inspiring, positive or special—all because of love. And First Lutheran supplied the chalk for free, sponsored by Thrivent Financial.

The winner of the Resident Family category was the Chu family: Liza, Leon and Whelen were the artists. Their chalk art entry was entitled “Happy Valentine’s” and reminded us that “Love is patient, love is kind...” with their family quartet of smiling hearts.



Coming in first in the First Lutheran Church Member category was Norma Boehne with her whimsical entry showing a purse full of hearts entitled, “Spread the Love.”



Winner – First Lutheran Member Category
Norma Boehne – “Spread the Love”

Finally, the winner of the Resident Individual category and also BEST OF SHOW was Isabella Nava (a neighbor of Tom and Pat Grabowski) with her colorful and timely entry, “Neighborly Love” that encompassed the whole world, in addition to our Temple City neighborhoods.



Each of these winners will receive a framed award certificate and a \$25 gift certificate purchased by First Lutheran from Temple City restaurants with sponsorship of Thrivent Financial. The Best of Show winner will receive an additional award certificate and restaurant gift certificate.

The Mission Development team plans to present another at-home chalk festival (once again supplying the chalk for free to locals) during the summer and **YOU'RE INVITED!**

All First Lutheran members (past and present), First Lutheran School alumni and SONshine House families (past and present) will be invited to join in at home, near or far. Watch for the announcement and more details here and on the First Lutheran SONshine House Facebook page at @flctc!

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

9123 Broadway
Temple City, CA 91780

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

March, 2021

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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

9123 Broadway

Temple City, CA 91780

Office Phone: (626) 287-0968

SONshine House Preschool: (626) 285-3380

E-Mail: firstlutherantc@gmail.com

Website: <https://firstlutherantc.org>

Rev. Scott Ganas, Pastor

Elvia Ibanez, Preschool Director

8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Holy Communion every 1st & 3rd Sundays only

9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY

Every Sunday