



## 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.*

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May 2021 Publication of FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### **The Resurrected Jesus and Evangelizing** **Luke 9:1–6 (English Standard Version – ESV)**

We are the priesthood of believers and Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever in what He wants to do with His people.



#### **Luke 9:1 & 2**

**9<sup>1</sup> And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, <sup>2</sup> and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.**

We are called to speak the Gospel to our neighbor, and if they believe, God will use us to lead them to the baptism font. They will be washed, born again, and given eternal life. We are ambassadors for Jesus' work on earth.

#### **Luke 9:3**

**<sup>3</sup> And he said to them, “Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics.**

Take nothing for our journey of faith, no earthly resources will accomplish God's will. In our humility, God works through us ...

#### **Luke 9:4 & 5**

**<sup>4</sup> And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. <sup>5</sup> And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them.”**

We are not called to fight, but walk away, and “turn the other cheek” to the judgement and violence of humanity. For those who open their hearts, we are called to bring peace and friendship.

#### **Luke 9:6**

**<sup>6</sup> And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.**

We go out into the community with Jesus, looking for divine appointments.

May God bless us who are in a rich harvest field of different cultures, difference languages but with the same need for the forgiveness of Jesus Christ!

He is Risen!

Love,  
Pastor Scott



May 2021



**Gatherings:**

- Mission Development Team's Neighborhood Distribution, Sunday, May 2, 11:00 a.m.
- Friends in Deed's Van loading, Friday, May 7, 8:30 a.m.
- Mother's Day Picnic, Saturday, May 8, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Mission Development Team, Sunday, May 9, 11:00 a.m.
- Board of Directors, Sunday, May 16, 11:00 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service, May 2, 8:30 a.m.
- May 9, 8:30 a.m.
- May 16, 8:30 a.m.
- May 23, 8:30 a.m.
- May 30, 8:30 a.m.

Major Leaguers is cancelled until further notice.

Tuesday Bible Class, every Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to 12:00p.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.



**May Birthdays**

- Richard Swanson* May 10
- Renee Errickson* May 12
- Dan Novak* May 24
- Hazel Benscoter* May 25

**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!

Our current balance of \$155,473 is getting us closer to the challenge of getting the loan below \$100,000 by the end of 2021. Thanks to the donors who contributed a total of \$1,208 towards the principal of the mortgage during April. The goal of the Board of Directors is to eliminate the church debt to provide funds for ministry. Some members have used part of their Stimulus checks to help this effort. To contribute you can write on you offering envelope the amount you wish to allocate to the mortgage reduction campaign.



Food  
Pantry  
Ministry

## Friends in Deed

A great big thanks to members and friends who contributed 975 pounds of food items in March to the Friends in Deed Food Pantry in Pasadena. The van was stuffed with bags and boxes of food for the financially challenged. Recently, the Pantry featured the story of a young woman who remembers services her family received 30 years ago. How wonderful the extra food was compared to her usual beans and rice. Freedom from hunger and food insecurity played a part in helping this woman to do well in school and become a successful adult.

She recalls a dignified, joyful experience that lifted up the whole family. Her experience with Friends in Deed inspired her to find ways to help other people. She has founded a nonprofit in Altadena that organizes volunteer groups to do community projects. We, sometimes, never know the result of our generosity, words, and actions. We keep giving because God has given so much to us.

## Worship At Home Opportunities

Because of the pandemic many churches have developed worship opportunities previously not available. If you have a radio you can listen to the Lutheran Hour sermon at 8 a.m. on station KBRT AM 740 each Sunday. Another opportunity is to watch and participate with Worship Anew at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday using Direct TV, Channel 377.

If you have a computer, you can view the program at any time by going to the Worship Anew website. This program is filmed at Concordia Seminary in Fort Wayne and includes choirs and a short Liturgy with Confession and Absolution.

You can also listen to sermons from the archive by Pastor Scott Ganas on our church website at: <https://firstlutherantc.org> under the Media section.





### Saturday Prayer Group

This small group meets regularly on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. By the time the participants are finished, they feel refreshed and renewed from spending quality time praying to God. Yes, the concerns we pray about are often heavy, sad, and impossibly difficult. Sometimes we don't have the words, yet we know that God knows best how to

respond, and the Holy Spirit will assist us when our groans aren't articulated. Contact Jo for further info at: (626) 355-9433.

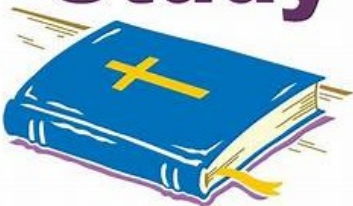
*Romans 8:26 "Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words."*

### Mission Development Team

On May 2, this team of volunteers and others will be walking our neighborhood to leave on the doorsteps an invitation to the planned Mother's Day picnic on May 8, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. A boxed sandwich lunch will be given to all mothers while family members feast on hot dogs. Mothers will, also, be gifted with a mask painted with original designs and a card created by an artist. Guests are encouraged to bring picnic side dishes, a blanket and chairs, or tailgate and eat in their car. Everyone is invited because everyone has a mother. The purpose of this picnic is to reach out into our neighborhood and let them know that First Lutheran welcomes them and cares about them. For further information contact Jo Tschopp at (626) 355-9433 or send an email to: [jtschopp@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:jtschopp@firstlutherantc.org)



## Bible Study



### Tuesday Bible Study

We will be moving into the New Testament to study the book of Matthew. The disciple Matthew was an eyewitness to the earthly life of Jesus. He records the Sermon on the Mount, many parables and discourses of Jesus, and even the End Times. This small group meets weekly from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. No previous Bible knowledge needed, just a willingness and eagerness to learn

about Jesus. For further information, contact Oscar Tschopp at: (626) 355-9433.





## **Community Prayer Box**

The community pray box recently received a request to pray for a man with a growth on his lungs. We haven't received a response from any of the past requests saying the "prayers worked," however, we know God hears and answers prayers according to His own timetable. Going through past requests from the box encourages us to continue steadfast in praying for our community.

One person asked for a family member to be healed from drugs, and another request for someone with Aids, others include: emotional healing, world peace, healing of our divided country, safety, keep demons away, marriage challenges, those that don't know God, injured back, families, homeless, people to pick up trash, city government, better times ahead, healthy pregnancy, and health issues, etc. There's a lot of hurting people nearby, let's challenge ourselves to pray intensely for our neighborhood.



**Don't forget to direct  
Choice Dollars®**

## **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Recently the congregation received \$445 from members and friends of the church as they designated their Choice Dollars to First Lutheran. Since 2011, First Lutheran has received \$41,846 Choice Dollars. If you are a Thrivent member, chances are that you can direct Choice Dollars to a charitable organization. For further information contact your Thrivent agent, or Jo Tschopp at: (626) 355-9433, or send an email to:

[jtschopp@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:jtschopp@firstlutherantc.org)

First Lutheran, also, received a grant check in the amount of \$3,934 made possible through the generosity and recommendation of **The Erna Maron Memorial Fund** of Thrivent Charitable Impact Investing™.



## **Little Free Library**

Needed in our Little Free Library are children's books. If you have some or can pick several up at a thrift store, please give them to Jo Tschopp or put them in the Little Free Library yourself, you just might find a book that interests you. Neighbors, who in turn leave book donations, are taking advantage of this community outreach effort.



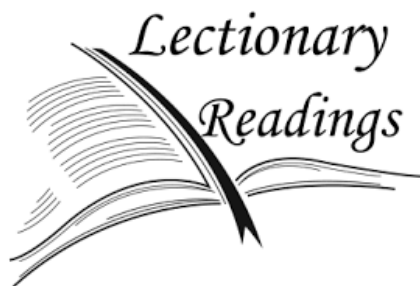
## **Mother's Day Picnic**

The Mission Development team would like to extend an invitation to you and your Mom to a fun-filled afternoon on May 8 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. A sandwich lunch box shall be provided to all the Mothers as their family members enjoy a tasty lunch of hot dogs. The Mothers will be given special gifts, as well. Guests are encouraged to bring picnic side dishes, a blanket and chairs, or tailgate and eat in their car. Everyone is encouraged to attend this event.



**The Lutheran Hour** was first broadcast in October 2, 1930 and continues on the air today, making it the world’s oldest continually broadcast Christ-centered radio program. To listen: go to LHM podcasts: <https://www.lhm.org/podcasts/> 24/7, go to: <https://www.lhm.org/> in our LLL district, here are the popular radio stations and broadcast times are:

- 8:00 a.m. Costa Mesa KBRT 740 AM;
- 1:30 p.m. Glendale KKLA 99.5 FM; and
- 7:00 a.m. Sirius – XM Family Talk131.



**Reading the Lectionaries**

Here are the lectionaries for May as they travel to various books of the Old Testament, Psalms, Epistles, and the Gospel as we celebrate the Day of Pentecost May 23:

	<u>Old Testament /</u> <u>First Readings</u>	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
May 2	Acts 8:26–40	Psalm 150	1 John 4:1–21	John 15:1–8
May 9	Acts 10:34–48	Psalm 98	1 John 5:1–8	John 15:9–17
May 16	Acts 1:12–26	Psalm 1	1 John 5:9–15	John 17:11b–19
May 23 –	<b><u><i>The Day of Pentecost</i></u></b> Ezekiel 37:1–14	Psalm 139:1–16	Acts 2:1–21	John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

9123 Broadway  
Temple City, CA 91780

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

*May, 2021*

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**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL**

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Temple City, CA 91780

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SONshine House Preschool: (626) 285-3380

E-Mail: [admin@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:admin@firstlutherantc.org)

Website: <https://firstlutherantc.org>

*Rev. Scott Ganas, Pastor*

*Elvia Ibanez, Preschool Director*

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