

The Friendly Visitor

First Lutheran Church

September 2025



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From the President

Dear Friends,

September will be a busy month for Jay and me, as we will be traveling to see Bethany in New Zealand. Although we won't be in Louisville for 1/2 the month, all of our friends and family here will be in our hearts. We hope everyone has a safe and happy September.

Three items:

1. First Lutheran Goes to Hollywood!! (or at least to the Lifetime channel)

On August 27th, First Lutheran became a temporary set for a movie being created by Sunshine productions for the Lifetime Channel. It was a fortunate occurrence for us because the HVAC system decided to break and the donation from the company covered most of the cost of the repair, which will see us through to spring next year.

Vicky and Roberta, Tim, David P and I have been taking turns monitoring their use of the space and although I am writing this article with 5 hours to go, I can say they have been very good guests.

Production of a film takes quite a while, so several months will pass before anyone has a chance to see our building on the small screen. The working title of the film is "The Pastor Next Door", but that is likely to change.

We will pass along any news we get!

2. There is a new program of the ELCA called E-Connect. It is a revitalizing tool first heard about at the Synod Assembly. We will be having an informational Zoom meeting to learn more about it on October 28th (a Tuesday) at 4pm. Please contact Sharon at sews13rd@gmail.com, if you'd be interested in learning more.

3. You may have noticed a green Memorial Marker has been erected close to the front of the church on Broadway. It is to Mae Street Kidd, a business woman and Louisville's Representative to the State Legislature from 1968 to 1984. During that time she helped to create the Kentucky Housing Corporation. Before her time in politics she served with the Red Cross during World War II and worked for many years in insurance. As a woman of mixed racial heritage, she did all of this while dealing with the prejudices against both African Americans and women in general. The section of Broadway our church is situated on has been designated Mae Street Kidd Memorial Highway, in her honor.

Sharon



Call Committee Update

Since our last update in last month's newsletter, the Call Committee has had two interviews with our second candidate. We are still in active discussions with Synod about additional candidates. They have provided us with some creative options concerning our pastoral search, which merit further discernment. Remember, your input is valued and important to this process. Please continue to hold the committee in your prayers.

Larry Askins, Chair
Call Committee

A Word from the Worship and Music Committee

In a continued effort to implement ideas brought up in our strategic planning process, we are continuing to use lay readers in the worship service. In the Lutheran tradition, liturgy is the work of the people. Using lay readers involves the people of the congregation in that work on a weekly basis. We appreciate those who have volunteered recently, and look forward to their continued participation as we rotate lay readers. We encourage others to step up and participate in this easy and important ministry. Please see Larry Askins about opportunities to participate.

Gospel Procession

God's word comes to life in the people. We, the assembled, are the ones who carry the word into the world in lives of justice and peace. In a response to our strategic planning process we have added a gospel procession to our liturgy. During the gospel acclamation, leaders carry the cross, candles (sometimes), and book from their places at the pulpit and come to a designated spot among the assembly, down a center aisle or at the middle of the room. There, the gospel is read. Then the procession returns. This movement adds drama and visual diversity, as well as bringing home the idea that the word is planted in us for a harvest of mercy and justice. (Adapted from *Sundays and Seasons* online.)

Chancel Choir Rehearsals resume September 3

Chancel Choir rehearsals have started for the fall season. We'd love to have you join our First Lutheran choir family! Consider these reasons to join the church choir.

David McNease
Director of Music and Organist

Reasons to Join the Church Choir

(compiled from various anecdotal sources)

- ♪ The offering plate is never passed to the choir.
- ♪ Being at rehearsal every Wednesday evening definitely beats watching sitcom reruns on TV.
- ♪ Rehearsals are weekly which means that, for those few hours, you will significantly reduce your risk of contracting tendonitis from non-stop operation of a television remote or computer mouse.
- ♪ It's exactly like singing in the shower, except you're wearing a robe and people are actually listening.
- ♪ Sitting with a group in the chancel every Sunday morning is excellent practice in case you're ever called for jury duty.
- ♪ No matter how packed church is on Easter or Christmas, you'll be assured of having a great seat in the Sanctuary.
- ♪ Because there's a clock in the back of the Sanctuary, you'll be the first to know when it's 11:45 each Sunday.

- ♪ Your favorite movie of all time? *Sister Act*
- ♪ Because you wear a choir robe every Sunday, you are liberated from the challenging task of finding clothes that match properly. You don't have to dress up – the robe hides a lot.
- ♪ From your special vantage point every Sunday, in which you view the entire congregation from the choir seats, you will develop interesting new hobbies. Among these is a little guessing game called “Who’s Praying, Who’s Sleeping.”
- ♪ On the other hand, sitting prominently in full view of the congregation on a weekly basis makes it much less likely that you will give in to a chronic lack of sleep, although it has been known to happen!
- ♪ If you think your singing in the shower sounds good now, just wait till you’ve been singing with us for a few weeks.
- ♪ Singing in a choir is one of the few activities that does not require complex electronics or expensive power tools. This could be good for the household budget.
- ♪ For the fitness buffs, singing in the choir is not only “heart healthy,” but it’s “soul healthy” as well. There are no monthly membership fees, and it’s a lot easier on the knees than jogging.
- ♪ If you think you’ve “done everything there is to do,” and there are no great challenges in life, try singing with us and STAYING ON PITCH.
- ♪ When people ask whether or not you’ve been behaving yourself, you can say with the utmost sincerity, “Hey! I’m a Choir Member!”



Congratulations to Elijah McCoy on his graduation from Trinity high school. He will be attending the University of Kentucky this fall. Lots of love from your proud Grammy, Stephanie McCoy!





At First Lutheran Church we believe that God delights in the diversity of all creation. As a Reconciling in Christ community, we welcome all into fellowship; recognizing the dignity of every human being regardless of gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, economic status, race, or any other identifier. You are accepted and welcome here, no matter where you are on your spiritual journey.

If you need to contact one of the church's committee chairs, here is a list of all the committees and their chairs. Please let them know if you have any problems, suggestions for improvements, or compliments.

Building Users	Vicky Frank
Christian Education	Lori Caron
Endowment Funds Subcommittee	Harley Butler
Finance	Drew Wartschlager
Food Pantry	Sharon Lillie
Membership	Vicky Frank
Property	Paul Nellis
Social Ministry	Stephanie McCoy
Vision and Outreach	Paul Nellis
Worship and Music	Nancy Brian

THE FRIENDLY PUZZLER

Find the underlined words amongst the letter grid at the bottom.
The remaining letters will reveal a hidden message.

Amos 8: 1 – 10

This is what the Lord GOD showed me: a basket of summer fruit. He said, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the LORD said to me,

"The end has come upon my people Israel; I will spare them no longer. The songs of the temple shall become wailings on that day," says the Lord GOD; "the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!"

Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?

On that day, says the Lord GOD, I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son and the end of it like a bitter day.

F O R G E T E K S A B T A S W O R N
R M U O B L S N B W S A B B A T H D
U A I S P U A I S A T N E L I S H A
I S N M S E Y S C P L S M A L L E R
T H A E T H G I L Y A D R S I D A K
S R N C Y D E E N M O O N W N A D E
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E I A V G F P O O R A R B I T T E R
F M E L A M E N T A T I O N E R C A
F E L I N R T A E H W O M G T E E I
T O S S E D Q S L A D N A S O A D N

By Puzzlemaster Jay R. Lillie

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10:30am Worship Service	1 8:30am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	2 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry 7:30pm NA	3 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry 4:30pm LYG Staff Meeting 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial	4 8:30am Catholic Charities 4:00pm Food Pantry	5 9:00am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	6 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire
7 10:30am Worship Service	8 8:30am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	9 8:30am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 10:00am Food Pantry	10 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial 6:30pm LYG	11 8:30am Catholic Charities 12:00pm Craft Day 4:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting	12 9:00am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	13 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire
14 9:30am Breakfast 10:30am Worship Service	15 8:30am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	16 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry 7:30pm NA	17 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry 4:30pm LYG 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial	18 8:30am Catholic Charities 4:00pm Food Pantry	19 9:00am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire
21 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Council Meeting	22 8:30am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	23 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry	24 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial 6:30pm LYG	25 8:30am Catholic Charities 4:00pm Food Pantry	26 9:00am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	27 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire
28 10:30am Worship Service	29 8:30am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	30 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry	1 8:30am Catholic Charities 10:00am Food Pantry 4:30pm LYG Staff Meeting 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial	2 8:30am Catholic Charities 4:00pm Food Pantry	3 9:00am Catholic Charities Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	4 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire