



The Friendly Visitor

First Lutheran Church

November 2025 Edition

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Welcome Visitors

We are so glad you are here. At our Lutheran church, we gather as a community rooted in God's grace and love. Lutherans believe that we are saved by grace through faith, not by our own works, and that God's Word and Sacraments are central to our life together. We welcome you to join us in worship, learning, and service as we grow in faith and share Christ's love with the world.

Newsletter

A Letter from the President

"Dear friends at First Lutheran Church:

Last month, Jay and I were visiting Bethany in New Zealand. We have traveled up and down the coast and seen many interesting plants, birds and beautiful scenery. New Zealand is a lovely place.

During our trip, we were in Christchurch, New Zealand. About 15 years ago they were hit by a devastating earthquake. The main cathedral of the city was destroyed. The community of the cathedral built a "transitional cathedral".

This has become known as the cardboard cathedral. From the outside, it appears to be a huge triangle when you enter you are in an open space with chairs and a huge vaulted ceiling all created by the cardboard tubes construction workers use to cast concrete. Everything, railings. The Cross in front and chairs are made either of cardboard or plywood. The side supports appear to be train storage cars that have been painted white.

From devastation, the people of Christchurch created an unique, interesting and beautiful worship space. The city is filled with stories of people working together after the earthquake to rebuild. I can only hope and pray that in Louisville, we would do as well if another disaster such as tornado struck us again. It is certainly a goal to strive for — to have that type of community.

See you Soon,

Sharon Lillie,
Council President"



Updates from the Office Manager

We have finally completed the revitalization of our parking lot! The Project was completed October 31st!



Arts and Crafts

Bruce and Melody Sterling are out of town for the first week of November. We pray God may keep them during their journey. Due to this, Melody is moving the Craft Group meeting to November 13th.

Music Ministry

Sunday, the day we remember those who have passed away in the past year. They are now memories in our hearts and minds. We sing the beloved hymn *For All the Saints* (ELW 422). We also remember our baptism which brings us the promise of life eternal after our earthly life ends. The liturgical color of the paraments changes to white, the color of light, innocence, purity, joy, triumph, and glory.

Then we have the final two Sundays in the Time after Pentecost. The liturgical color of the paraments returns to green, used for its symbolism of our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.

November continues with Christ the King Sunday, the day we celebrate Christ not as a king on the earth, but as an eternal king bringing life everlasting. It is also the last day of the Christian Year or Liturgical Year. On this day we celebrate the all-embracing authority of Christ as King and Lord of the cosmos. The loving and merciful and just King of the universe is praised and glorified. The liturgical color of the paraments returns to white.

November ends with the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Liturgical Year. The word Advent means “coming” or “arrival”. It is a season marked by a spirit of expectation, of anticipation, of preparation, of longing. The liturgical color of the paraments now changes to blue, a color suggesting hope.

David McNease

Advent Festival Potluck Dinner, Cookie Exchange, and Advent Craft

The Advent Season is rapidly approaching. To herald this season of anticipation on the First Sunday of Advent, November 30, following worship, there will be an Advent Festival potluck dinner and cookie exchange together with an Advent craft in the dining room. The church will not provide any food, so please bring a dish to share. For the cookie exchange bring a dozen cookies to share, and take some cookies home. Missy Schroeder, Director for Evangelical Mission for the I-K Synod, will give a short presentation on the E-Connect (Ecumenical-Connect) program. This is a transformational ministry that equips faith leaders and teams to listen deeply—to God, to each other, and to their communities—so they can discern their next faithful steps through coaching, mentoring, and faith formation.

A Word from the Worship and Music Committee

Lay Readers

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 to read, 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.)

November 2025

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

Find the underlined words amongst the letter grid at the bottom.

The remaining letters will reveal a hidden message.

Colossians 1: 11-20

May you be made **strong** with all the strength that comes from his **glorious** power, so that you may have all **endurance** and patience, **joyfully** giving thanks to the **Father**, who has **enabled** you to share in the **inheritance** of the **saints** in the light. He has **rescued** us from the power of **darkness** and transferred us into the **kingdom** of his beloved Son, in whom we have **redemption**, the **forgiveness** of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn** of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and **invisible**, whether **thrones** or **dominions** or rulers or powers—all things have been **created** through him and for him. He **himself** is before all things, and in him all things hold **together**. He is the head of the body, the **church**; he is the **beginning**, the firstborn from the **dead**, so that he might come to have first place in **everything**. For in him all the **fullness** of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to **reconcile** to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the **blood** of his cross.

S C N O L O E C N A R U D N E S S I
B S I R A N Y L L U F Y O J S I N S
E R E C O N C I L E O F M T E H N C
G A E N T B E F L E S M I H E G S B
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By Puzzlemaster Jay R. Lillie