



# The Contact

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH — NORFOLK

1301 Colley Ave., Norfolk, VA 23517

Parish Office: 757 625 1953

www.flcnorfolk.com

VOL. XXXII

MARCH 2018

NO. 3

## An Invitation To Entire Congregation and Friends First Lutheran: Please come to our Grounds Days this year. *(two this Spring and two this Autumn)*

The two Saturday events this Spring will be held on March 10th and May 19th. (Makeup days if it's raining are the following Saturdays). We will announce Autumn days later in the year.

Come help us tidy up the church grounds from 9:00 AM until Noon on the above dates. We might also try to find a volunteer to help bring juice, make coffee, possibly order some pizza as well. Many tasks need addressed so many are needed.

Another great opportunity to serve is by signing up on our mowing sign-up sheet, located next to the Assistant to the Bishop's office. A mower is provided so I ask all who are able, to please sign up to mow on the Friday or Saturday before any Sunday of the year.

Several other gardening tasks need to be tended to throughout the year (mulching, edging, flower planting, weeding, lots of pruning, some watering), so please call me with questions at 757-404-2888 or E-mail me at DavidRedilla@gmail.com



I also want to thank the Grounds Committee for all their help thru out the year. We are always looking to grow our committee so feel free to inquire about participation.

The Grounds Committee thanks everyone for their support.

Yours in Christ,

David Redilla

### Holy Week and Easter Services:

**Maundy Thursday at 1:00 and 7:00 PM**

**Good Friday at 7:00 PM**

**Easter at 8:30 and 11:00 AM.**



# Stewardship in Action

Meet the Holy Folders.

No, not the Holy Rollers, the Holy Folders! Never heard of them? Perhaps, but you're familiar with their work. They're the three women who gather each month to collate, fold (get it?), address and mail our monthly newsletter, *The Contact*. *The Contact* is a rich source of information for what has happened and what is coming up here at FLC.

The first thing that struck me about Gail Stenberg, and Wilma and Evelyn Robinson, was how much fun they were having. They related that the monthly work session gives them time to catch up with one another and that they never run out of things to talk about. They have all been folding for at least five years.

All three have a business background. Evelyn served as church secretary at Larchmont Baptist for nine years, Wilma taught business courses, including typing and business machines, at the secondary level and at Old Dominion, and Gail, while working at ODU, ended up taking one of Wilma's typing classes. (Wilma said that Gail was her best student and the fastest typist she ever taught.)

In addition to their monthly *Contact* gig, the Folders pitch in during busy church seasons, like Christmas and Easter, to provide additional help to the regular bulletin preparations crew. That group, consisting of Pam Hiner, Pam Martin, Clara Strehlow, Barbara Cordrey, and Catherine Wass, collates, folds, staples and stuffs our weekly worship bulletins while simultaneously answering the phones, unlocking the



doors, and graciously greeting all visitors who come through the Welcome Center.

As you might expect, the Folders are each involved in other activities at First. Wilma and Evelyn (who learned to type by tagging along with her sister to her mother's typing classes) both sing in the choir and work with the Christian Service group. Evelyn also makes the individualized name tags and centerpieces for the Adult Ministries luncheons. Gail, a lifelong Lutheran whose daughter was confirmed at First, is a member of the book club, helps with Christian Service, and is one of the people who staffs the desk in the Welcome Center.

Wrapping things up, they all agreed that working on tasks around church was a great way to meet people. Said Gail, "It's amazing how many people it takes to get things done."

Chuck Baynard

Council Liaison, Stewardship

## Over 80s - Maundy Thursday Luncheon



**Where:** First Lutheran Church

**When:** Thursday, March 29, 2018

**Time:** Lunch at 11:30 AM followed by Service at 1 PM

Call the Church Office at 625-1953 by March 22nd to RSVP.

Please indicate how many will attend and whether transportation will be needed.

# March 2018

Worship every Sunday at 8:30 and 11 AM. Nursery available.  
 Sunday School at 9:45 AM with classes for children, youth and adults. Nursery available.  
 Office Hours: 9 AM—4 PM Monday, Thursday, 9 AM—1 PM Friday  
 Weekday Men's Bible Study: 7 AM Wednesdays at 21st Street IHOP

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:30 PM Natl. Youth Gathering 12:30 PM Youth	5 7:00 PM Church Council	6 11 AM Lydia Circle 12:30 Adult Ministry 7 PM—Martha Circle	7 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry 1:00 PM Lenten Worship 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Lenten Worship 7:30 PM Choir	8 10 AM—Quilt Group 5:30 PM—Refugee Ministry (800 Colonial Ave)	9	10
11 <b>Daylight Savings Time</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	12	13 6 PM 125th Committee	14 <b>Blood Drive</b> 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry 1:00 PM Lenten Worship 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM LMG 7:00 PM Lenten Worship 7:30 PM Choir	15 <b>Contact Deadline</b> 5:30 PM Laundry Love (at Soap 'N Suds)	16	17 <b>Council Retreat</b> 7 PM Contra Dance Group (3rd Floor)
18 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:30 PM FLY 12:30 PM First Communion Class	19	20	21 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry 1:00 PM Lenten Worship 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Lenten Worship 7:30 PM Choir	22 10 AM—Quilt Group	23	24
25 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:30 PM First Communion Class	26	27 9:30 AM Christian Service	28 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study @ Charlie's Cafe 12:00 PM Lunch Ministry 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir	29 11:30 AM Over 80s Luncheon 1 PM Maundy Thursday Worship 7 PM Maundy Thursday Worship	30 7 PM Good Friday Worship	31
*** NA: Sunday 8 PM, Tues 5:30 PM, Fri 12 PM, Sat 5 PM AA: Mon 5:30 PM, Fri 8 PM, Sat 8 PM SAA: Thurs 7:30 PM Women's AA: Tues 6 PM, Thurs 6 PM ***						

# Connect with Others

## FLC Book Discussion Group

The Book Discussion Group will meet Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM at church to discuss *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi, a biography of the author who, at the age of thirty six, on the verge of completing a decade's worth of training as a neurosurgeon, is diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. One day he was a doctor treating the dying, and the next he was a patient struggling to live. *When Breath Becomes Air* chronicles Kalanithi's transformation from a naïve medical student "possessed," as he wrote, "by the question of what, given that all organisms die, makes a virtuous and meaningful life" into a neurosurgeon at Stanford working in the brain, the most critical place for human identity, and finally into a patient and new father confronting his own mortality.

Looking to our April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will discuss *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles. Come to one or both meetings. Join the fellowship and discussion.

## Lydia Circle

Lydia Circle's next meeting is March 6<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM in Strickler Hall. The program will be "Stories of Our Crosses." Each of us should bring one (or more) personal crosses (a necklace would be perfect) and share the story about how we got it and what the particular cross means to us. Remember to bring lunch if you have time to stay after the meeting to chat. Questions? Contact Pam Baynard, 757 638 4812, [pbaynard65@charter.net](mailto:pbaynard65@charter.net)

## Emerald Singers

On Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, the "Emerald Singers" will visit and sing with our home bound members. Lunch will be provided. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us. All are welcome to participate in this important ministry!

Any questions? Call Ginny Fox (481 0242) or Merri Jo Milner (226 7962)

## Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet on March 6 at 7:00 at First Lutheran in the Reception Room. All are welcome! Please join us for fellowship, food and our annual cleaning of the church silver. We will also assemble Easter baskets for Hope House. Questions? Contact Paula Cook at [pbcook513@icloud.com](mailto:pbcook513@icloud.com) or 793 0551.

## Red Cross Blood Drive

Calling ALL Blood Donors!! Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup> is OUR annual Blood Drive. This is the one time each year that First Lutheran acts as host for the Red Cross in their effort to gather the Gift of Life for so many in need. Whether you have given previously or not, WE NEED YOU to make this drive a success.

Sign up will be held in the Welcome Center on Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> and March 11<sup>th</sup>. You can also sign up online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) by using the sponsor code GHENT when you enter the site. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer your help at our registration desk or canteen, please call Bob or Liz Ritchey at 962 8921. Thank you!

## First Communion Classes

Pastor Goeres will lead a class after the 11:00 AM service on March 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> for anyone ready to begin taking communion. Children should bring their parent/s, grandparent/s, or another sponsor. Participants are welcome to bring a sack lunch and pick up a drink and dessert in the reception area as you will finish around 1:30 PM. Class location will be announced in the Green Sheet of the Sunday bulletin and by email to participants. The students will then be invited to have their First Communion with their families at any service during Holy Week. Please let Amy Hood, [rhoor7@cox.net](mailto:rhoor7@cox.net), know if you would like to attend this class that meets twice.

## Christian Service

Christian Service will meet on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM in Strickler Hall to tie quilts for our display on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

# Council Summary February

At our February meeting, the Council

- Opened with a devotion
- Met with Parish Council members from St. Mary's Basilica of the Immaculate Conception
- Approved Consent Agenda items
- Authorized Waters Consulting to proceed with repair work to the Altar and Maury Street windows not to exceed \$4,200. Authorized Waters Consulting to clean gutters that can be reached by a 60' ladder at a cost not to exceed \$500.
- Approved a motion to exercise an optional Capital Reserves distribution in the amount of \$28,651 and authorized the transfer of said funds from the Endowment to the BB&T restricted Capital Reserves account.
- Approved a motion to accept the Audio Light and Musical (AL&M) proposal to refurbish and replace the existing sound system in the nave.
- Gave thanks for Sarah Mahnke's work with FLC that concluded on February 8th and welcomed Sylvia Eley who started as our Admin Assistant one day a week.
- Heard that Pastor John Mocko will lead our Council Retreat in March and guide our work towards Mission and Ministry Renewal.
- Shared blessings and prayer concerns

The Council normally meets at 7 PM on the first Monday of each month. Council will be participating in their annual retreat in March.



## Sponsor an Easter Lily by March 16th

Easter lilies will be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

The cost to sponsor a plant is \$10.00. Printed forms are available in the Welcome Center, or you may call the Church Office at 625-1953.

**FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED  
BY MARCH 16TH**

## March Birthdays

Christopher Holbach	1 Mar	Charlene Loope	11 Mar	Linda Joella	20 Mar
Antoinette Sires	2 Mar	John Poston	12 Mar	Steven Velotas	20 Mar
Donna Mulder	3 Mar	Chuck Baynard	13 Mar	Antoinette Sires	21 Mar
Wyann Kaiser	5 Mar	James Benson	13 Mar	Anthony Echea	22 Mar
Stephen Griffin	6 Mar	Rhiannon Smith	13 Mar	Amanda Affeldt	23 Mar
Esther Williams	6 Mar	Caroline Asam	14 Mar	Maggie Utecht	23 Mar
Courtney Faircloth	7 Mar	Johnathan Buckley	14 Mar	Jacob Weeks	24 Mar
Margel Fisher	7 Mar	Sylvia Bourcier	15 Mar	Hope Fischer	25 Mar
Kathleen Foster	7 Mar	Caroline Boykin	15 Mar	Jeanne Walters	25 Mar
Jay Gill	7 Mar	Albert Burckard	15 Mar	Sarah Ammons	26 Mar
Lorna Moss	7 Mar	Jeff Willis	15 Mar	Julia Callahan	28 Mar
Norma Moss	7 Mar	Nathaniel Masters	16 Mar	Donald Fisher	29 Mar
Christian Asam	9 Mar	Helen Porter	16 Mar	Trudy Hill	29 Mar
Nathan Pitsch	9 Mar	Vickie Zelasko	16 Mar	Zachery Posey	30 Mar
David Redilla	9 Mar	Patrick Beck	17 Mar	Howard Warren	30 Mar
Evan Vera Cruz	9 Mar	Frances Halcrow	17 Mar	Dawn Richardson	31 Mar
Matthew Badgett	10 Mar	Norman Stones	17 Mar	Gary Weeks	31 Mar
Jason Shea	10 Mar	Lynn Utecht	17 Mar		

# Winter Celebration 2018

**N**ot *By Bread Alone*, based on the Temptation story in Matthew 4, was the title of the VA Synod's High School retreat know as Winter Celebration. Youth and adults from our congregation and across the Synod gathered at Eagle Eyrie retreat center outside of Lynchburg, VA, to explore this passage presented in a ski lodge scene. *Not By Bread Alone* highlighted the truth that Jesus is with us in all of the temptations and challenges of life with strength, forgiveness and guidance.

## ***Morgan Brown***

I liked singing the variety of songs and the small group, and the energy from all the people even when exhausted. I learned God loves you no matter the circumstance. Even when you have doubt in your faith, it doesn't mean you're lost or alone because God's always there with you.

## ***Johnny Sackel***

The event was about Satan's continuous temptation, and Christ's abundance. I enjoyed the whole event but singing on Sunday was my favorite part. I learned that Satan doesn't give up, and we have to resist forever.

## ***Lauren Silsdorf***

I learned that temptations can be overcome by believing in God. I liked my small group, meeting new friends, and reconnecting with old friends. Winter Cel is about reconnecting with God, and, for me, escaping life's temptations and stress.

## ***Ella Kopf***

Winter Cel is a weekend event to reconnect with God. I liked seeing my friends and meeting new ones. I learned that God accepts me for who I am.

## ***Maggie New***

At Winter Cel, I learned how we get tempted by bad things but God will forgive us. I liked the skits the most, and I learned that God loves us no matter what.

## ***Emily Weeks***

The event was about the temptations of Satan that draw a wedge between God and yourself. I loved being able to openly share my faith with other peers. I learned that absolutely nothing can separate us from Christ.

## ***Grace McGhee***

I learned how to share my faith with new people. I loved singing songs in large group. Winter Cel was all about sharing our faith and teaching people about God's word.

## ***Grace Collins***

The event was about getting closer to God. I liked making new friends. I learned that God is always here with us.

## ***Natalie Schaus***

The event was about dealing with temptation and used the story of Satan tempting Jesus in the wilderness. I like all of the songs and the community. I learned that bread and materialistic things don't carry much value, but what you learn from Jesus is what has the most value.

## ***Lauren Kuehl***

The event was about the devil tempting Jesus. I like meeting new friends and seeing old ones. I learned about what the Devil can try and tempt us with and how he tries to drive a wedge between us and God.

## ***Sydney Brown***

Winter Cel was about Jesus going through the wilderness and how Satan tempted him. I learned about that story and how we are tempted in everyday life. I liked small group.

## ***Max Kelly***

The event was based on the temptation of Jesus by the Devil and also about growing our faith and connection with God. I liked my small group the most out of everything. I learned that I should put more faith in God.

## ***Stephen Herman***

The event was about getting closer to God. I liked the people, and I learned that temptation is everywhere.

## Prayer Concerns for March

Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of people in need, and the life of all creation.

### Give joyful thanksgiving

...for the Transfiguration of Our Lord when the veil is pulled back so we see who Jesus is.

...that Jesus comes down from the mountain into our messy, ugly lives to offer us love and hope.

...that by grace through faith God forms us to preach, teach and live God's Word.

...that we are so rooted in the Gospel that our lives overflow in worship, witness, service, learning and support.

### Pray that

...we heed our baptismal call to follow Jesus.

### Pray for

...peace and comfort for **Marty and Johanna & Family** upon the death of their grandson, Elliot.

...peace and comfort for the family and friends of Adam Graves upon his death.

...the Lucrezio Family.

...those who are traveling.

...world leaders.

...peace among nations.

...all those who are mourning the loss of loved ones.

...the homeless, unemployed and underemployed.

...those struggling with addiction and mental health issues.

**Jill Ann Whitson, Grady Erwin, Roger Fuller, Susan Griffin, Marion Ingersoll, Marilyn Jersild, Kelley Minschke, Lorna Moss, Betty Phillips, Johnny Sackel, Katie Sackel, Deb Thompson, Howard Warren, Marion Kiligas,** Autumn, Jonathan Balk, Bob, Gavin Brickhouse, Steve Coleman, Denise, Donicia, Leonard Forts, Winky Kennedy, Friedrich, Bill "Sweet William" Geiger, Hal, John, Andrew Jones, Marie, Bill Metheny, Cathy Moye, Holly Nitke, Cynthia Olson, Patty, Patrice Price, Rachel, Nova Rae, Amy Riberdy, Rob and Katrina, Rocco, Sheila, Gary Skrien, Annie Stewart, Susie, Jim Webb

### Those dealing with cancer

Adele Andrews, Eddie, Bill Metheny, Ann Wilson Rose, Stephanie Troy, Jess Wine King,

### Military and their families:

**Austin Davidson, Erika Flanagan, Mason Fox, Kelly and Eric Keiser, Dan Kelly, Roland Sanchez, Bill Seaman, Beth Silsdorf,** Jonathan Goeres, Amy Hardbower deployed, Tim Kelly deployed, Kelly Mackenzie deployed, John Marfield deployed, Nikki Parkman deployed

Pray for all our service men and women throughout the world.

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

## Readings for March

### March 4th

Exodus 20:1 17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18 25

John 2:13 22

### March 11th

Numbers 21:4 9

Psalm 107:1 3, 17 22

Ephesians 2:1 10

John 3:14 21

### March 18th

Jeremiah 31:31 34

Psalm 51:1 12

Hebrews 5:5 10

John 12:20 33

### March 25th

(Palm Sunday)

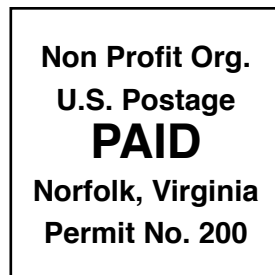
Isaiah 50:4 9a

Psalm 31:9 16

Philippians 2:5 11

Mark 14:1 15:47

First Lutheran Church  
1301 Colley Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23517



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

