



The Contact

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH — NORFOLK

1301 Colley Ave., Norfolk, VA 23517

Parish Office: 757-625-1953

www.flcnorfolk.com

VOL. XXX

DECEMBER 2016

NO. 12

SPOTLIGHT
ON THE:

Property Committee

2 Kings 12:11 *“They gave the money which was weighed out into the hands of those who did the work, who had the oversight of the house of the LORD; and they paid it out to the carpenters and the builders who worked on the house of the LORD;”*

Last year at this time, our beautiful altar stained glass window was undergoing some major and urgent repairs to address some serious structural issues. Remember the scaffolding around the altar and outside the church? Thankfully that repair went according to plan with no major issues, with the majority of the cost covered by a very generous, anonymous contribution. Unfortunately, that repair was just one of many that our beloved house of worship is facing over the coming years. The past nearly 90 years has taken its toll on our church building due to many factors, including the weather and environment, aging of materials, construction techniques used at the time, and general wear and tear. Some of the items needing to be addressed to the building exterior include roof repairs, replacement of the flat roof, stonework repairs, gutter repairs, and dormer repairs, all to address the many water infiltration issues we are seeing throughout the building. We also need to update the old HVAC systems through much of the building, especially the steam heating system and related old steam pipes inside

the interior walls which could burst and cause major water damage.

Over the next few weeks, the Property Committee will put together a series of displays in the Welcome Center to show the congregation the various building issues that need addressing, including pictures and a description of the damaged areas, along with a rough cost estimate for each area to be addressed.

In a previous column, I mentioned that one of my favorite TV shows was This Old House on PBS, where the TV show has corporate sponsors to underwrite much of the cost, and companies that donate their products which are showcased during the restoration of old houses. For our version of This Old Church, we are totally dependent upon the generosity of our congregation and endowments provided to the church. The Building Fund portion of the recent Stewardship Campaign provided a good start to addressing our needs, and we thank all of those who continued contributing to the Building Fund, those who increased their commitment, and those who started contributing. Together we will find a way to preserve our lovely church for the generations to follow.

Mike Haag

Property Committee Liaison to Council

New Members



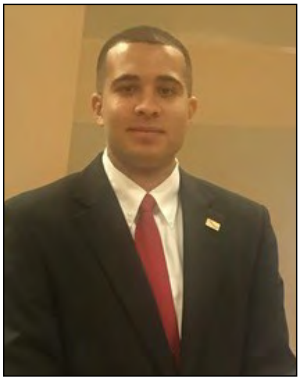
Kristen Gonzalez

I am originally from Charleston, SC. My husband was stationed here so we found new place to call home. I work full time in the international logistics industry. I am lucky enough to work from home! I enjoy people, getting to know different life stories is very interesting. I have recently discovered that I enjoy refinishing furniture. Spending time with Jorge, Victoria and our two dogs is my favorite thing to do.



Alexis and John Krenzke

Alexis is originally from Chicago, Illinois. She is a Philanthropy Associate at Chesapeake Regional Healthcare, and her interests include baking, travel, and football. John is originally from Racine, Wisconsin, and is an Associate Professor of History at Tidewater Community College. His interests include history, cars, and home-brewing.



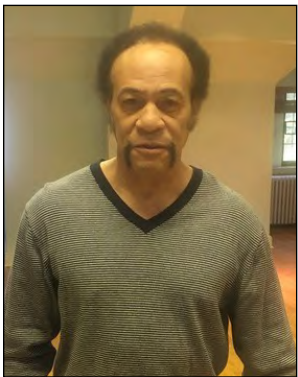
Domeniquè Brazwell

I am from Clarksville, Tennessee, but was born in Germany. I have one brother, Renè and he also lives in Norfolk. I am stationed here for the next two years with the Navy on board the USS Normandy(CG-60).

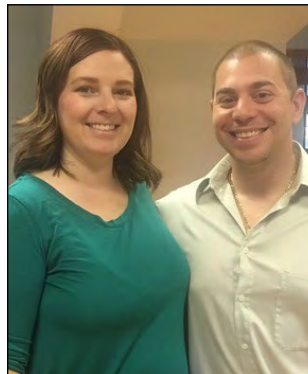


Tom and Kim Stevens

Tom is from Des Moines, Iowa and is retired Air Force and GS Employee. He is interested in family, exercise and pets. Kim is from St. Clair Shores, Michigan and is an Active Duty Navy Nurse. She is interested in family, exercise and pets.



Cornell Jones



Dominick, Nicole, and Alistair Ruggiero

Nicole is an Anesthetist and Dominick is a Physician Assistant. Baby Alistair was baptized at First Lutheran on September 11th, 2016.



Darrell Kristo

Born in California. Works for Virginia Dept. of Taxation as an Auditor. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Tunisia in 1980's. He enjoys bike riding and hiking at Back Bay Wildlife Refuge. He joined First Lutheran in 1995, and is returning to FLC after several years of membership at Trinity Lutheran located here in Norfolk.

Confirmands

<u>Confirmand</u>	<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Confirmation Verse</u>
Steven Herman	Bob Masters	Luke 15:4
Brett Hogan	Steve Velotas	2 Corinthians 5:7
Max Kelly	Robert Green	Philippians 4:13
Ella Kopf	Amy Hood	Romans 15:13
Nina Metzger	Kristin Bouncier	1 Peter 2:10
Olivia New	Merrie Jo Milner	Psalms 91:11-13
Lauren Silsdorf	Merrie Jo Milner	Psalms 91:2



(L to R) Max Kelly, Ella Kopf, Steven Herman, Brett Hogan, Pastor Goeres



(L to R) Nina Metzger, Olivia New, Lauren Silsdorf, Pastor Goeres

Hanging of the Greens to Decorate Church

What does this entail?

- Assembly of the 25' Christmas tree & hanging the Chrismons (tall, strong people highly encouraged to volunteer!)
- Hanging the mounted and framed Chrismons
- Preparing the hand held candles for the Christmas Eve service

- Hanging wreaths throughout the church
- Assembly of the crèche

Lunch will be provided.

Please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Center (near the Flower Schedule) so we know we have enough hands (and food!). Or call the office to be added.

Hanging of the Greens

Join us as we decorate the church for Christmas!

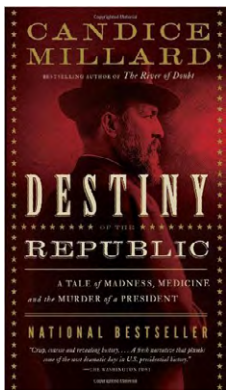
Saturday, Dec. 3rd
10 AM to 1 PM
Light Lunch served.

First Lutheran Book Discussion Group

The November meeting of the Book Group had a thought provoking discussion of *Just Mercy*. We enjoyed having new readers and their insights!

For our December 11th meeting, the Jersilds will host a discussion of *Take a Stand: Lessons from Rebels* by Jorge Ramos. This book talks about the role of journalists — a great topic following the national election. Each chapter is a vignette of interviews. If you want to read a few and join the discussion, your input would be great (this is a chance to read part of the book and contribute.)

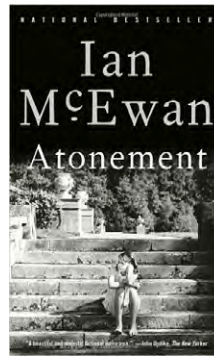
Future books are as follows. Read one or all and join us!



January 8

Destiny of the Republic

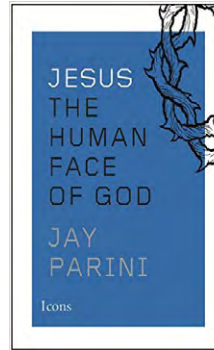
by Candice Millard



February 5

Atonement

by Ian McEwan



March 5

Jesus: The Human Face of God

by Jay Parini.

If you are looking for fellowship and great discussions of important books for Christians to read, join us for any or all of the books. Location of meetings will be in the Sunday "Green Sheet."

If you would like to be added to our e-mail group to receive information on upcoming gatherings, contact Betty Jean Meyer at bettyllg1@yahoo.com.

Christmas Eve Worship

5:00 pm
Family Worship

7:30 pm
Lessons & Carols Worship

10:30 pm
Music of Christmas

11:00 pm
Candlelight Worship

Christmas Day Worship

10:00 am

Connect with Others

Sunday School Pageant

FLC Sunday School presents,
"From Heaven Above:
A Martin Luther Christmas Pageant"

Sunday, December 18th, at 9:45 AM in the sanctuary.

Dress rehearsal for all participants will be held Saturday, December 17th from 9:00 – 11:00 AM. An important rehearsal for 1st – 6th graders will be held during Sunday School on December 11th.

Please contact Amy Hood at rhood7@cox.net with any questions or offers of assistance.

*** Children's Sunday School Update ***

There will be no Children's Sunday School on December 25th. Children are invited to attend a movie during the Sunday School hour on January 1st in Room 209.

Church Grounds Day

Come spend a Saturday morning gardening around the church. Our next Grounds Day is December 3rd, from 9 AM until noon. Rain date is the following Saturday. Thanks to all in advance for your interest and assistance!

The Lord's peace be with you!

David Redilla

You Are Invited

The seventy-fifth anniversary of Pearl Harbor is December 7, 2016. In observance of that historic day, the Adult Ministry Committee has asked members to share their memories of the attack and of the war years that followed at a luncheon on December 6, at 11:00 AM in the Reception Room. This is an opportunity for those too young to remember World War 2 and its impact on our nation to hear firsthand accounts from some of our own members who lived through those challenging years. RSVP to Pam Hiner at 757-455-6475.

Poinsettia Sponsor Forms

Forms to sponsor a poinsettia this Advent season are currently located in the Welcome Center near the mailboxes. Help to decorate our worship space for our Christmas Eve services for only \$9.00! Forms must be returned by **Tuesday, December 15th** and may be placed in the offering plate, in Sarah McKean's box, or returned by mail to FLC.



**Nighttime
of Our
Souls**

*A Liturgy of Remembrance, Support, Scripture
& Carols for those Grieving or Enduring Loss*

Sunday, December 11th at 4:00 pm

Service offers comfort for the broken hearted

The Nighttime of Our Souls worship service is a 30-minute liturgy of scripture, carols, prayer, candle lighting and reflection that offers an opportunity to support one another when loved ones are absent and to remember family and friends who have died. Fellowship and refreshments will follow the service, hosted by Adult Ministries. Service begins at 4:00 PM on Sunday, December 11th.



Mark your calendars for N.E.S.T.

Put N.E.S.T. (Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team) on your calendar. This organization provides meals and overnight shelter to homeless adults during the winter months. Transportation to the shelter is provided from a pickup site at the Norfolk Department of Human Services. From January 25th through February, 1st 2017, FLC will be hosting the homeless in our community, providing meals and a place to stay overnight as part of this program. Keep the space open on your calendar to assist with meals, supervision, or other support for this life-saving program.

Martha Circle

Martha Circle members will meet on December 6 at 7:00 PM at the home of Kaye McGinnis for their annual Christmas gathering. They will be wrapping gifts for Lutheran Family Service children and having a cookie and ornament exchange. Contact Cathy Whittecar at richwhitt@cox.net or Phyllis Hund at phyl-lishund@gmail.com for more information.

Prayer Concerns for December

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 thanks

...that Jesus gave his life for us, redeems us and makes us right with God.
...for the women's Bible study and Pastor Mims.
...that God gives us grace in great abundance.
...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 for and give thanks

...for grandchildren.

Pray for

...peace and comfort for Paula Nagle upon the death of her son.
...peace and comfort for Crystal Sockman upon the death of her father and grandfather.
...the friends and family of John Scheer.
...the Yoder Family.
...the stranger, the refugee and all those unknown persons that Jesus calls us to welcome and love.
...our military members and peacekeepers around the world.
...for journalists who generate conversations to unite us rather than divide us.
...all who are traveling.
...peace in Maya's classroom.
...high school seniors making decisions about their future.
...refugees throughout the world.
...those suffering from allergies.
...all those searching for the path where you are leading them.
...comfort for those who mourn.
...for the homeless, unemployed and underemployed.

Jean Bozeman, Janet Eggen, Jeanette Franklin, Roger Fuller, Susan Griffin, Amy Hood, Carolyn Meakin, Marilyn Melendy, Kelley Minschke, Lorna Moss, Betty Phillips, Rick Pougher, Don Strehlow, Malcolm Van de Water, Howard Warren, Glenn Broman, Clay, Charles Davis, Crystal, Deb, Merle Fleet, Gale, Devin Hubert, James, Jo, Bill Kraiger, Mana, Cathy Moye, Mary Redilla, Ryan-Michael, Amber Seeley, Mary Lou and John Smart, Annie Stewart, Julia Whittle, Debbie Wright

Those dealing with cancer

Ray Hinton, Betty M., Chris, Don Jones, Kim, Suzanne Lasseigne, Rose Peluso, Greg Reep, Amy Riberdy, Shirley, Stephanie

Military and their families:

Austin Davidson, Erica Flanagan, Mason Fox, Kelly and Eric Keiser, Dan Kelly-deployed, John Kennard, Joseph Milner, Roland Sanchez, Bill Seaman, Beth Silsdorf, Kevin Foster, Tim Kelly-deployed

Almighty God, you have promised to hear all those who call upon your name. We commend all our spoken and silent prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings for December

December 4th

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

December 11th

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

December 18th

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

December 25th

Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2: 1-20

Council Summary, Stewardship, Letters

Council Summary

At our December 7th meeting, the Council:

- Cathy Whittecar gave the opening prayer and devotions on Saints.
- Approved Consent Agenda items.
- Voted to approve a recommendation from the Worship and Music Committee to hold only one service at 10:00 AM on December 25th.
- Voted to accept the 2017 SPFM and Real Estate budget as presented by Finance for the Annual Meeting.

The Council meets at 7 PM on the first Monday of each month. The meeting is open to the congregation.

Stewardship

Monthly Recap – Pledged and Non-Pledged Giving Through 10/31/16

Anticipated Giving Receipts	\$484,736
Actual Giving Receipts	\$502,690
Ahead	\$17,954

Thank you for the cards, calls, altar flowers, visits, gifts and meals, and prayers as Ken travels his journey to health. All are appreciated more than words can express.

Ken and Melissa Zaletski

First Lutheran Church Members,

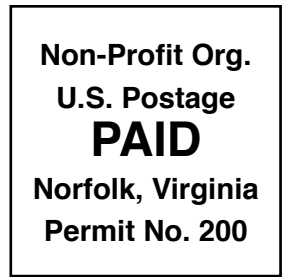
Thank you so much for the floral arrangement. I was touched and it cheered me up to know I'm thought of in my absence from FLC services while I battle cancer. Your continued thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Peace,
Roger Fuller

December Birthdays

Wallace Barry	1 Dec	Steven Gross	14 Dec
Morgan Brown	1 Dec	Shannon Wilson	16 Dec
Rachel Koehler	1 Dec	Stewart Wittmann	16 Dec
Timothy Bellott	2 Dec	Dana Humphreys	17 Dec
Judy Haynes	2 Dec	Jenna Humphreys	17 Dec
William Herman	2 Dec	Caleb Warren	17 Dec
James Ilardi	2 Dec	Kirstin New	18 Dec
Louisa Rowan	3 Dec	Mark Beyer	19 Dec
Jason Bishop	5 Dec	George Dancigers	19 Dec
Whitney Faircloth	5 Dec	James Hood	19 Dec
Ross Jones	5 Dec	Brian McElligott	19 Dec
Sarah Eliza Stinson	5 Dec	Shea O'Donnel	19 Dec
Julie Ware	5 Dec	Mary Vaughan	19 Dec
Rebecca Roode	6 Dec	Philippe Biboum	20 Dec
Malcolm		Carly Bradshaw	20 Dec
Van de Water, Ed.D	6 Dec	Joseph Milner	20 Dec
Kat Cummings	7 Dec	Gail Stenberg	20 Dec
Deborah Fox-Lopez	7 Dec	Seth Utecht	20 Dec
Brinkley Goranson	7 Dec	Lucian Clare	21 Dec
Becky Jackson	7 Dec	Nicolle Stopa	21 Dec
Abby Weisenbeck	7 Dec	Charles Poston	22 Dec
Sophia Bourcier	9 Dec	Shaw Winstead	22 Dec
Preston Holsten	9 Dec	Kyle Diduk-Gamache	23 Dec
Marian Sever	9 Dec	David Rosnik	23 Dec
Shirley Skees	9 Dec	Christine Gammon	24 Dec
Jeffrey Charron	10 Dec	Scott Wilkins	25 Dec
Christopher Coffing	10 Dec	Barbara Cordrey	26 Dec
Stephen Herman	10 Dec	Richard Goeres	26 Dec
Beverly Wolff	10 Dec	Shawn Krawetzki	26 Dec
Jennifer Wright	10 Dec	John Lewis	26 Dec
Jennifer Ely	11 Dec	Patty Graham	27 Dec
Travis Engel	11 Dec	John Heller	27 Dec
Christian Fenley	11 Dec	Bill Adkins	28 Dec
Justin Porter	11 Dec	Bethany Johnson	28 Dec
Levi Sutura	11 Dec	Diane Laine	28 Dec
Audrey Willis	11 Dec	Michael Seals	28 Dec
Megan Willis	11 Dec	Cindy Schultz	29 Dec
Anna Peron	12 Dec	Roger Seese	29 Dec
Judy Shore	12 Dec	Elizabeth Balmer	30 Dec
Brendan Kelly	13 Dec	Gwendolyn Carr	31 Dec
Thomas Robinson	13 Dec	Edmund Joella	31 Dec
Alex Watterson	13 Dec	Kevin Lane	31 Dec
Brittany Acors	14 Dec	Nathaniel Schaus	31 Dec
Leanne			
Currie-McGhee	14 Dec		

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
