



The Contact

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH — NORFOLK



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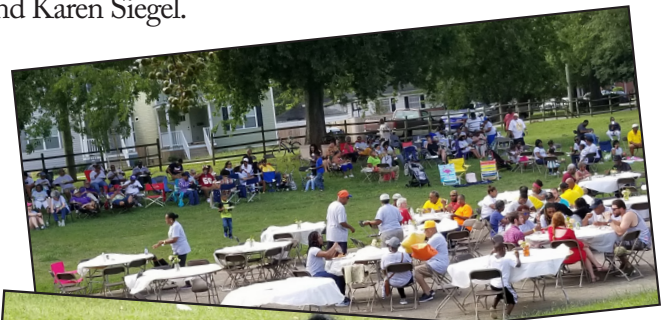
OCTOBER 2019

NO. 10

September 8 Picnic with The Basilica of St. Mary's Celebrating Faith, Family, and Friends!

Our first big get-together with the Basilica of St. Mary's is behind us, and by any measure it was a great success! Christians United For Social Change (CUSC) is the joint leadership group established to help guide the relationship between FLC and the Basilica, and earlier in the year its members decided to use the Basilica's annual parish picnic on September 8th as an opportunity to create a combined event of fellowship and unity between the two congregations. FLC members participated in the planning for the event, and FLC took responsibility for providing drinks and many of the games for the children. We owe great thanks to Gail Plauka, Merrie Jo Milner, and Shelagh Humphreys for their service on that planning committee. We were also blessed by the presence of many members of FLC and the Basilica who attended the picnic, which was large in a way that was reminiscent of the FLC church picnics of years past. Though not scientific, estimates based upon food and drink consumption put the number somewhere close to 400 attendees. There was music, games, raffles, a bake-off, great food, and wonderful fellowship. In the spirit of ecumenism, our own Pastor Mims was asked to provide the blessing before the meal. Pastor Gores, along with the Basilica's Father Jim, were also present and helped make everyone in attendance feel warmly welcomed. The CUSC thanks all who continue to support this ministry that seeks to show how Jesus Christ provides the love and unity that crosses racial and denominational barriers and brings all of God's children together.

The next event sponsored by the CUSC will take place on October 17th. FLC and the Basilica will co-host a dinner and a screening of Episode 1 of the mini-series "When They See Us," followed by a discussion on the issues raised in the series. This series chronicles the story of the now-exonerated men once known as the "Central Park 5." The event will take place in the Fellowship Hall on the 3rd Floor of FLC, beginning at 6:30 pm on October 17th. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Welcome Center, and you may also contact Eric Peterson, Paul Jersild, or any other members of the CUSC for details. Other CUSC members from FLC are Elena Ilardi, Gail Stenberg, Gail Plauka, Elizabeth Janik, Merrie Jo Milner, and Karen Siegel.



Blessing - of the - ANIMALS



A Blessing of the Animals will take place at 3 PM in our Colley Ave. courtyard on Sunday, October 6th. This service witnesses to the love, care, and concern for creation expressed by God through the Church. We invite you to celebrate the joy of God's gift of creation – especially our pets – as we acknowledge God's gracious care for all creatures, great and small. We welcome all animals, whether they walk, slither, fly, or swim! Consider extending an invitation to friends, neighbors and co-workers. Please note that bringing an animal is not a requirement to rejoice with us!

Weather back-up plan: Meet at the stairs under the portico on the parking lot side of the building.

Greetings from the Stewardship Ministry!

Stewardship - the care of all that God has given to us - is an important part of our Christian life, and the ministry team works to give the congregation guidance, encouragement, and opportunities both to serve and to give.

First Lutheran has been invited to participate in a pilot program of the Virginia Synod to help renew and strengthen our congregation's stewardship. Please prayerfully consider if you'd be willing to serve on the Stewardship Team for First Lutheran.

Please also mark your calendars for this year's Stewardship Sunday: October 20. In preparation, we ask each member to prayerfully consider his or her 2020 contribution.

If you have any questions about Stewardship Sunday or would like to discuss the Stewardship Ministry, please reach out to Pastor Mims.



Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

October Birthdays

2 Oct	Don Strehlow	13 Oct	CJ Mendelson	25 Oct	Dana Benson
4 Oct	Dena Strong	14 Oct	Jack Curran	25 Oct	Ginny Fox
4 Oct	Joan Werner	14 Oct	Harrison Kuehl	25 Oct	Andrew Hund
5 Oct	Jo Ann Hughes	14 Oct	Joanne Lundquist	26 Oct	Judy Biboum
7 Oct	Marilyn Booker	14 Oct	Lelia Milner	27 Oct	Irene Brady
7 Oct	Cassie Elverum	15 Oct	Matthew Faircloth	27 Oct	Alexandra Cook
7 Oct	Jim Koch	16 Oct	Grady Erwin	27 Oct	Donna Koch
9 Oct	Katie Alexander	17 Oct	Carrie Saich	27 Oct	Cheryl Weeks
9 Oct	April Carver	18 Oct	Jim Harvey	27 Oct	Vicki Wittmann
9 Oct	Olivia New	18 Oct	Beckett Hutchings	28 Oct	Frieda Grimball
9 Oct	Linda Perron	18 Oct	Cole New	28 Oct	David Kuehl
10 Oct	Joe Peterson	18 Oct	Sadie Porter	29 Oct	Kristin Bourcier
11 Oct	Debbie Affeldt	19 Oct	John Azar	29 Oct	Tammy DiBiaso
11 Oct	Julie Erwin	20 Oct	Jenn Holbach	29 Oct	Felix Janik
12 Oct	Mollie Mae Ammons	20 Oct	Al Pedersen	31 Oct	Tyler Fisher
12 Oct	Samantha DiBiaso	21 Oct	Lynda Falkiner	31 Oct	Bernard Sutton
12 Oct	Kerry Kisa	22 Oct	Jeff Hood		
13 Oct	Gail Anthony	25 Oct	Mary Lou Anderson		

Connect with Others

FLC Book Discussion Group

Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S. by Lenny Duncan offers a bold new vision for the future of the ELCA and the broader mainline Christian community of faith. Duncan rejects the narrative of church decline and calls everyone to the front lines of the church's renewal through racial equality and justice. Don't miss this sure-to-be-lively discussion. Read this short, but important book, and join the FLC Book Discussion Group November 3rd at 6:30 PM in the Reception Room.



Laundry Love

First Lutheran will host Laundry Love, Thursday, October 17th, from 5:30-6:30 PM at the Soap-n-Suds near the Food Lion on Colley Avenue. Join us if you can to meet our neighbors.



NEST

Save the Date – NEST will be January 1-7, 2020!

Christian Service

Christian Service will meet on Tuesday, October 22nd, at 9:30 AM in Strickler Hall.



Global Concerns Committee

Our annual Bread Sunday will take place on October 20th.

- Bring a loaf to share for the bread sale (either homemade or from a bakery). The loaves can be “purchased” in the Welcome Center for a recommended \$8 donation. All proceeds will benefit Bread for the World.
- Write to your U.S. Senators and Representative to ask them to support policies that combat hunger. We'll have postcards and letter-writing materials available in the 1st-floor reception room.
- Attend Social Justice Sunday School on the 3rd floor to learn more about Bread for the World, a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decisionmakers to end hunger at home and abroad.

Please join Christians United for Social Change for a dinner and movie night at First Lutheran on Thursday, October 17, starting at 6:30 pm. We will watch the first episode of the Netflix miniseries *When They See Us*, about the Central Park Five, to be followed by discussion with our friends from St. Mary's.

Lydia Circle Meeting

What an opportunity! Our own Pastor Mims will be beginning a Bible study on prayer for Lydia Circle, Tuesday, October 1st, at 11:00 AM in Strickler Hall. All women of First Lutheran and their friends are welcome. Bring lunch if you have time to stay after the program to chat. If you have questions, please contact Pam Baynard at 638-4812 or pbaynard65@charter.net.

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet on October 1st at 7:00 PM at the home of Debbie Acors, 515 Country Club Blvd., Chesapeake. All are welcome! Please join us for fellowship, food and conversation about the ELCA Sanctuary status. Questions? Contact Paula Cook at pbcook513@icloud.com or 793-0551.

Grounds Help Needed

Our Fall grounds workday dates are: Saturday, October 19th and Saturday, December 7th. We will meet from 9:00 AM until noon. Volunteers are needed to help rake, prune, and plant. Everyone is welcome! In the event of rain, workdays will be held the following Saturday.

October 2019

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 Bible Study: Men at 7 AM Wednesdays at Charlie's American Café, 4024 Granby Street,
 Corner of 41st Street
 Women's Bible Study: 2 PM Wednesdays, resumes October 2nd. Please contact Pastor Mims for
 more information.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11 AM Lydia Circle 7 PM Martha Circle	2 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry 2 PM Women's Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir Practice	3	4	5
6 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship 12 PM FLY Lunch & Eucharistic Lunch 3 PM Blessing of the Animals	7 7 PM Church Council	8	9 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry 2 PM Women's Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir Practice	10 10 AM Quilt Group	11	12
13 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship 12:30 PM Worship Committee	14	15 <div>Contact Deadline</div>	16 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry 2 PM Women's Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir Practice	17 5:30 PM Laundry Love @ Soap-N-Suds on Colley Ave 6:30 PM FLC & St. Mary's Dinner	18	19 7:15 PM Contra Dancing
20 <i>Stewardship Sunday</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	21	22 9:30 AM Christian Service	23 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry 2 PM Women's Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir Practice	24 10 AM Quilt Group	25	26
27 <i>Reformation & Confirmation Sunday</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	28	29	30 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry 2 PM Women's Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir Practice	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 ***

Congregation Council Summary

At our September meeting, the Congregation Council

- Opened with Devotions reflecting on the ELCA's first Social Statement from 1991 entitled *The Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective*
- Designated \$500 in support of Hurricane Dorian Relief through Lutheran Disaster Response and \$100 to each organization making a presentation at the Social Justice Sunday School class this fall
- Received updates on the Congregational Vitality Work with Small Group Ministry and Welcoming Visitors & Communications, the work of the Nominating Committee and the development of the 2020 Spending Plan for Ministry
- Discussed ways to celebrate the four areas of ministry we identified as strengths in the Congregational Vitality Process: worship, learning opportunities, engagement with youth, and community engagement/service
- Shared blessings, prayer concerns and prayer partners

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

FLC Goes to the Norfolk Botanical Gardens

SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH!!

Come and smell the roses with us! The Adult Ministry Committee invites all interested church members (and their guests) to join us on a trip to the Norfolk Botanical Garden.

Those interested in carpooling should be at the church by 9:45 AM. Otherwise, meet up with the group at Norfolk Botanical Garden, 6700 Azalea Garden Road, Norfolk, VA, 23518-5337, at 10:30 AM.

We will be taking a tram ride at 11:00 AM through the Garden, enjoying the fall colors, fall plantings, and the second blooming of the roses. We will also have time for visiting the gift shop and for lunch. For lunch, we plan to buy lunch and eat together in the Garden's Café, with each person responsible for their own meal.

We need all those interested in attending to please sign up, so we will know how many to expect. The sign-up sheet is located on the Congregational Life Bulletin Board in the Welcome Center.

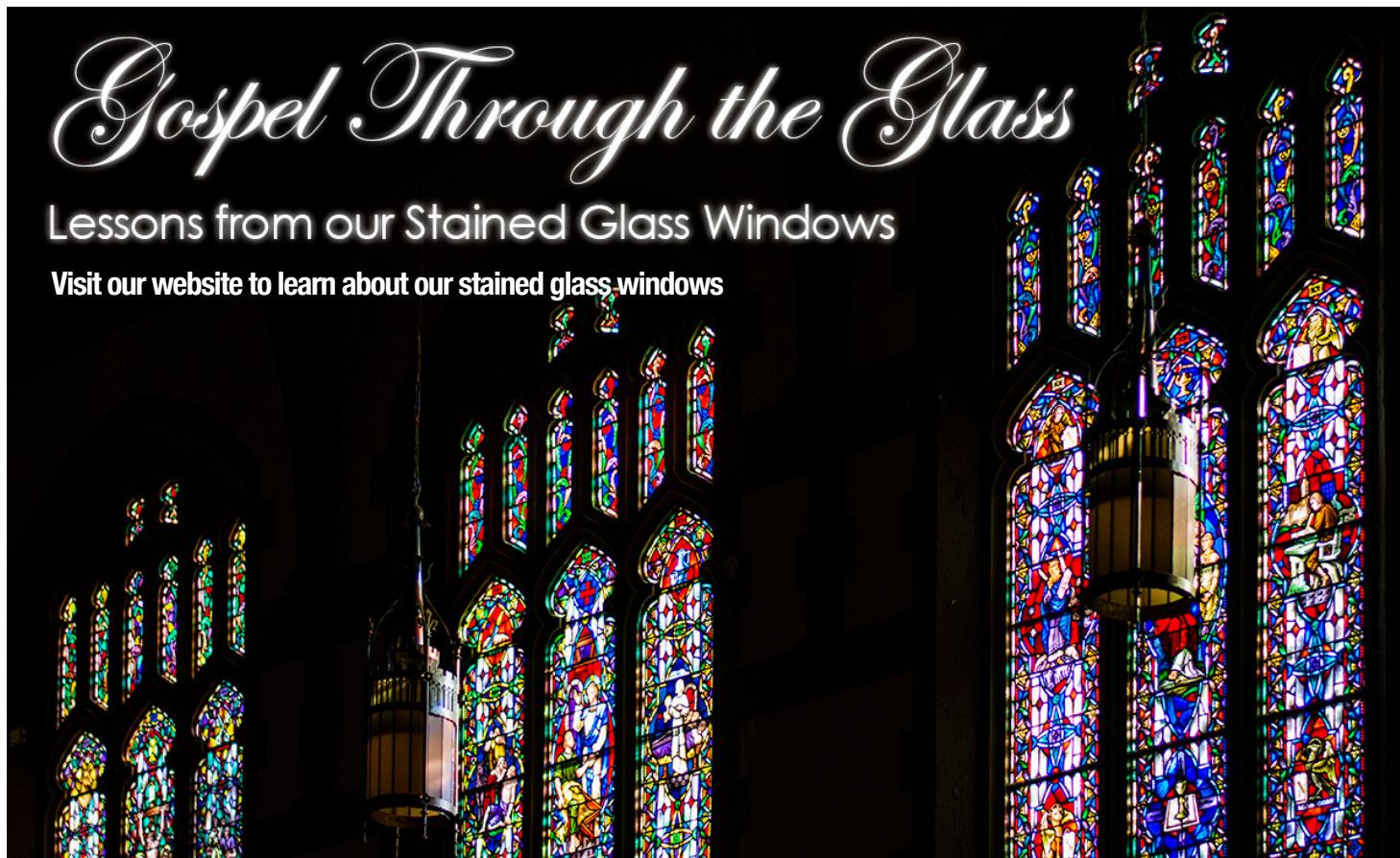
Come join us for all the fun!!

Questions: Contact Karen Grogan 757-472-6501 or Merrie Jo Milner 757-560-0781.

Gospel Through the Glass

Lessons from our Stained Glass Windows

Visit our website to learn about our stained glass windows



Connect with Word and Body

Prayer Concerns for October

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 invitation to us from the congregation of the Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception to attend their Faith, Family and Fellowship picnic.

...that we are 1 human family in God.

...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.

Help us

...to prioritize and put our commitments to God where our hearts are.

...to joyfully give our time and return our resources to God's call.

...know we are God's beloved and our true worth comes only through him.

...as we focus on opportunities to strengthen our ministry to families with children, ministry into our local community and communication.

Pray for

...peace and comfort for the family (Jacqueline, Elizabeth and Owen) and friends of Jamie R. Kelly on his death.

...the family of Dale Sawyer.

...the family and friends of Bill Bouchard on his death.

...the Thrivent Team working in El Salvador this week.

...all whose lives have been impacted by Hurricane Dorian.

...our country and our leaders.

...people fleeing dire humanitarian situations for a better life.

...the sick, that they are comforted.

...the despairing, that they receive hope.

...persons who are homeless and need shelter and food.

...the unemployed and underemployed.

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

...those mourning the death of loved ones.

...for all who cry out to God in any need.

Sonya Baker, Alexandra Cook, Roger Fuller, Susan Griffin, Ray Hinton, Al Miller, Kelley Minschke, Emily Mitchell, Lorna Moss, Linda Perron, Betty Phillips, Fay Rogner, Amy Spangler, Mike Alsbrook, Angela, Bobbie, The Burger Family, Carl, Dalton and Family, Dave, Dave and Susie, David, Bob Everett, Gert, Dylan Guffey, John, Katrina, Baby Maggie Parker (granddaughter of Bill and Karla Trexler), Graham Knight, The Kraiger Family, Mason, Theresa Smith Milne, Mogens, Cathy Moye, Derek Nielsen, Patty, Philippe, Rachel, Rob, Sean, Bobbie Smith, Annie Stewart, The Stout Family

Those dealing with cancer

Larry Atkinson, Rob Burger, Jo, Ann Wilson Rose, Andie Seagraves, Dave Wildt, Rocco Wilson, Jess WineKing

Military and their families:

Austin Davidson, Mason Fox, Dan Kelly, Ted Peterson, Brian Becker, Jonathan Goeres, Amy Hardbower, Nicolette Huntley, Tim Kelly, Ian Logan, Kelly Mackenzie, John Marfield, Nikki Parkman

Assured by your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Readings for October

October 6th

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalms 37:1-9

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

October 13th

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalms 111

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

October 20th

Genesis 32:22-31

Psalms 121

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Luke 18:1-8

October 27th

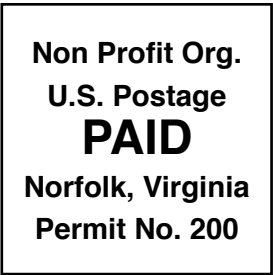
Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalms 84:1-7

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

