



# The Contact

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH — NORFOLK



1301 Colley Ave., Norfolk, VA 23517

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[www.flcnorfolk.com](http://www.flcnorfolk.com)

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NO. 2

## We Are a Welcoming Congregation...

### Sunday School Class On Welcoming LGBTQ People

Sharing the ELCA's affirmations of welcome to gay and lesbian people, going back to its social statement of 1995 and now reiterated in more recent years, this class beginning Sunday, March 15th, at 9:45 AM in Strickler Hall will devote several sessions on what it means to be a welcoming congregation to people of all sexual orientations and gender identification. Class will be led by Maynard Schaus and Paul Jersild. The discussion will focus on extending a welcome to LGBTQ people.

As we know, these brothers and sisters have for centuries been condemned by the church, and there still remains considerable anti-gay prejudice throughout our society. It makes an explicit welcome all the more needed and all the more important. God values and embraces each person as a beloved child, the Spirit gives a diversity of gifts for the common good, and Jesus Christ calls us to work for



justice. What steps should be taken in our providing a safe, nurturing, and affirming place for all to worship and learn?

Come and join the discussion!

## Save A Life: Give Blood

Mark your calendars! Wednesday March 11th is First Lutheran's annual Red Cross Blood Drive. Save the date and give the gift of life. Hours of donation are from 1:00-7:00 PM. We plan to do sign-ups at the church on Sundays, March 1st and 8th. Sign-up is also available at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (use the sponsor code GHENT). Please help change the life of someone in need.

**First Lutheran Norfolk Blood Drive**  
**Wednesday, March 11th**  
**1:00 PM - 7:00 PM**



# Christians United for Social Change

Members of First Lutheran and the Christians United for Social Change group attended a rally in Richmond on the opening day of the Virginia General Assembly to show support for legislative efforts that will allow localities to decide where,

and if, monuments to the Confederacy will reside within their respective jurisdictions. After the rally, they caught up with FLC members Lelia Milner and Alexandra Cook, who now reside in Richmond.



## Christmas Day Lunch Ministry

A big thank you to our dedicated Lunch Ministry volunteers who took time from their own Christmas Day celebrations to

serve others. Thanks to their efforts we were able to celebrate the birth of our Lord with 17 people.



## Confirmation 2019

*Pastor Goeres with Dana & Jenna Humphreys*



# Laundry Love

The Laundry Love ministry helps ease the burden and cost of doing laundry for area residents. In December we gathered to sing carols and in January we celebrated birthdays with good

wishes and cake for everyone! If you haven't participated before, consider joining us February 20th from 5:30 - 6:30 PM at the Soap n'Suds located on Colley Avenue near the Food Lion.



## February Birthdays

|                        |                        |                         |                          |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Feb John Porter      | 7 Feb Donna Kennard    | 16 Feb Bailey Ammons    | 23 Feb Kathy Schaus      |
| 1 Feb David Weisenbeck | 7 Feb Sean Rowan       | 16 Feb Blake Boykin     | 24 Feb Mark Utecht       |
| 2 Feb Noah Fisher      | 8 Feb Christian Haugen | 16 Feb Marcus Janik     | 25 Feb Randi Dandrea     |
| 2 Feb Evelyn Robinson  | 8 Feb Ardie Ilardi     | 16 Feb Debbie Mansfield | 25 Feb Kathy Prendergast |
| 4 Feb Tim Hund         | 11 Feb Caroline Echea  | 16 Feb Yolanda Shea     | 27 Feb Tony DiBiao       |
| 4 Feb Julie Silsdorf   | 11 Feb Wyatt Logan     | 18 Feb Julie Moberly    | 27 Feb Bobby Masters     |
| 5 Feb Joe Leafe        | 12 Feb Tina Dulong     | 20 Feb Chris Fenley     | 27 Feb Holly Milner      |
| 5 Feb Michael Robinson | 12 Feb Sydney Holbach  | 20 Feb Ed Grogan        | 27 Feb Kylie Williams    |
| 6 Feb Stephen Azar     | 14 Feb Leya Dalmia     | 20 Feb David Loope      | 28 Feb Nathan Mitchell   |
| 6 Feb Jeff Ross        | 14 Feb Elena Ilardi    | 20 Feb Chase Williams   | 28 Feb Ivy Peterson      |
| 7 Feb Waverly Douglas  | 15 Feb Gabe Dulong     | 21 Feb Lauren Kuehl     | 28 Feb Mike Stachour     |
| 7 Feb Marley Fenley    | 15 Feb Will Jordan     | 23 Feb Ali Miller       |                          |



# Epiphany Singers

On Sunday, January 12th, volunteers gathered to visit and sing Epiphany hymns with shut-in members.



# February 2020

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, Please contact Pastor Mims for more information.

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday                   | Friday | Saturday  |
|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|--------|---|
| 2<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11 AM Worship<br>12:15 PM FLY Lunch<br>6:00 PM Prime Timers<br>Super Bowl Party  | 3<br>7 PM Congregation<br>Council                    | 4<br>10 AM Quilt Group<br>11 AM Lydia Circle<br>7 PM Martha Circle                                      | 5<br>7 AM Men's Bible Study<br>12 PM Lunch Ministry<br>2 PM Women's Bible<br>Study<br>7:30 PM Choir Practice   | 6                          | 7      | 1<br>8  |
| 9<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11 AM Worship<br>12:30 PM Youth<br>Scholarship Luncheon<br>12:30 PM Worship<br>Committee<br>6:00 PM FLC Book<br>Discussion Group | 10   | 11  | 12<br>7 AM Men's Bible Study<br>12 PM Lunch Ministry<br>2 PM Women's Bible<br>Study<br>7:30 PM Choir Practice  | 13                         | 14     | 15<br>7:15 PM Contra Dancing<br><div>Contact Deadline</div> |
| 16<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11 AM Worship   | 17<br><b>President's Day</b><br>Church Office Closed | 18  | 19<br>7 AM Men's Bible Study<br>12 PM Lunch Ministry<br>2 PM Women's Bible<br>Study<br>7:30 PM Choir Practice  | 20<br>5:30 PM Laundry Love | 21     | 22<br>8:30 AM Good Shepherd<br>Council Retreat at FLC       |
| 23<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11 AM Worship   | 24   | 25<br><b>Shrove Tuesday</b><br>9:30 AM Christian<br>Service<br>6:00 PM Shrove<br>Tuesday Pancake Supper | 26<br><b>Ash Wednesday</b><br>7 AM Men's Bible Study<br>12 PM Lunch Ministry<br>1 PM Ash Wednesday<br>Worship<br>2 PM Women's Bible<br>Study<br>7PM Ash Wednesday<br>Worship | 27                         | 28     | 29  |

\*\*\* 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



## Coffee Hour

FLC's youth will be hosting both Coffee Hours on **February 2, 2020** to promote the Youth Scholarship Luncheon set for February 9, 2020 following the 11am service. Coffee Hour presents an opportunity for our youth to mingle and share some of their experiences at the AMAZING events and talk about the upcoming Scholarship Luncheon.



## Laundry Love

First Lutheran will be hosting Laundry Love on Thursday, February 20th, from 5:30-6:30 PM at the Soap n' Suds on Colley Avenue near the Food Lion. Come and share God's grace through water and detergent. Contact Merrie Jo Milner, 560-0781, or [merjomil@cox.net](mailto:merjomil@cox.net), or Pam Baynard, 638-4812, or [pbaynard65@charter.net](mailto:pbaynard65@charter.net).

## Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet on February 4th at 7:00 PM at the home of Jeanne Walters, 1016 Cambridge Crescent, Norfolk. All are welcome! Please join us for a program on Lake Taylor Transitional Care Hospital and its mission to care for children with special needs, ventilator-dependent children and adults, rehab patients, and those with long term care needs presented by Jean Bozeman, Lake Taylor Auxiliary Vice President. Questions? Contact Paula Cook at [pbcook513@icloud.com](mailto:pbcook513@icloud.com) or 793-0551.



Lutheran World Relief  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

## Christian Service

Christian Service will meet Tuesday, February 25th, at 9:30 AM in Strickler Hall to tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We are well on our way to finishing 75 quilts in honor of the 75th Anniversary of LWR! Contact Pam Baynard, 638-4812, or [pbaynard65@charter.net](mailto:pbaynard65@charter.net), if you have questions.

## Lydia Circle Meeting

Lydia Circle will meet Tuesday, February 4th, at 11:00 AM in Strickler Hall to continue our study of prayer. Pastor Mims will lead the program and everyone is welcome to attend. Bring lunch if you have time to stay afterwards for fellowship. Questions? Contact Pam Baynard, 638-4812, or [pbaynard65@charter.net](mailto:pbaynard65@charter.net).

## FLC Book Group

The FLC Book Discussion Group will explore *The Wisdom of Wolves* by Jim & Jamie Dutcher at its March 2nd meeting. From the world-famous couple who lived alongside a three-generation wolf pack, this book of inspiration, drawn from the wild, will fascinate animal and nature lovers alike. In this book the Dutchers reflect on the virtues they observed in wolf society and behavior. Each chapter exemplifies a principle, such as kindness, teamwork, playfulness, respect, curiosity, and compassion. Their heartfelt stories combine into a thought-provoking meditation on the values shared between the human and the animal world and can help us reflect on the heroic efforts to save animals in Australia in the fires. Join us at 6:30 that evening.



Reminder that on February 9th (changed from February 2nd), the book group will discuss *The Undertaking* by Thomas Lynch.

# Connect with Word and Body

## Prayer Concerns for February

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

...that Jesus' baptism connects God with humankind.  
...for the gift of grace we receive in baptism.  
...that while we each have our own heritage, we all have the same inheritance 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

...find a way to bring The Word into this frightening world.  
...sit in the warmth of the water and soak up what God has done for us through baptism. May we walk wet and a little wrinkled.  
...care for one another and pull back the veil to further expose racism, bias, and injustice.  
...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 and friends of Jim Clifford upon his death (father of **Greg Clifford**).  
...the great granddaughter of Madeenah who was born 2 months premature.  
...all who are affected by the fires in Australia.  
...peace in the Middle East.  
...all who are in harm's way in the Middle East and all around the world.  
...all who are battling colds, the flu and other health issues.  
...immigrants in peril at the border.  
...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, Alvene Buckley, Roger Fuller, Jay Gill, Al Miller, Kelley Minschke, Emily Mitchell, Lorna Moss, Linda Perron, Betty Phillips, Fay Rogner, Deb Thompson, Jeanne Walters, Doris and Randall Wiele, Andy, Julia Ashby, Rob Burger, Christian, Dallas, Dave, Dave and Susie, Rick DeRasmo, Gert, Dottie Isaac, Jim, John, Katrina, Kyle, Leslie, Lydia and Rachel, Mark, Anna Mason and Mason James Fernandez, Theresa Smith Milne, Cathy Moye, Patty, Rachel, Rema, Rob, Sandy, Helen Thompson, Barb Velotas**

### Those dealing with cancer

Larry Atkinson, Jo Brouwer, Iris Corbin, Dave Guelcher (father of Beth Zaletski), David Kelly, Vickie Mack, Phil, Lydia Powell, Andie Seagraves, Dave Wildt, Rocco Wilson, Jess WineKing

### Military and their families:

All military personnel in the Middle East and around the world.

**Austin Davidson, Mason Fox, Kyle Hefner** (deployed), **Dan Kelly, Ted Peterson**, Brian Becker, Alex Diaz and shipmates as they mobilize to Horn of Africa for a year long deployment, Jonathan Goeres, Amy Hardbower, Nicolette Huntley, Tim Kelly, Ian Logan, Kelly Mackenzie, John Marfield, Nikki Parkman, Syd

Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## Readings for February

### February 2nd

Micah 6:1-8

Psalms 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

### February 9th

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

Psalms 112:1-9 [10]

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

Matthew 5:13-20

### February 16th

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalms 119:1-8

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-37

### February 23rd

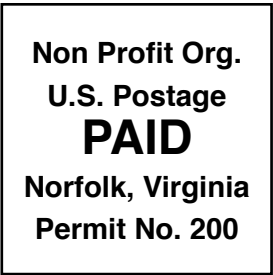
Exodus 24:12-18

Psalms 2

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

