



The Contact

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH — NORFOLK



1301 Colley Ave., Norfolk, VA 23517

Parish Office: 757 625 1953

www.flcnorfolk.com

VOL. XXXIV

JUNE 2020

NO. 6

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

Ephesians 1:15-16

Dear Beloved in Christ,

Thank you for the generosity you have demonstrated in this topsy-turvy year, 2020. Despite the drastic changes all of us have had to make in our lives, you have continued to give witness to your faith in Jesus through your financial offerings to the First Lutheran.

Because of your faithful stewardship, people's lives are being impacted by the good news of Jesus Christ. The gospel is preached every Sunday morning and broadcast through the internet into people's homes. Many of you have shared your gratitude for our on-line worship services. Choir members provide moving and beautiful music to augment our worship. We can financially support all our staff members (and we did not need to apply for the PPP loan, allowing organizations with greater need to receive those funds). Sunday School, Confirmation, and planning for summer learning opportunities are ongoing, and small groups continue to meet to pray, study, and support one another. Our Eucharistic Ministers, Adult Ministry, and Council leaders are checking in with our shut-ins and congregational members. Volunteers still prepare and serve meals for Lunch Ministry and are helping in the community with NEST to provide showers and shelter for our homeless population.

Furthermore, out of our abundance, Council has given generous gifts to support three important institutions that have a direct impact on people's health and well-being: the FoodBank of Southeastern Virginia, located on Tidewater Dr., which provides food and meals to families throughout the Tidewater area; the Minnick Education Centers of Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, which services children who are unable to attend public schools because of their physical or mental challenges; and the Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Center which offers help, guidance, and support to those wrestling with mental health concerns. You have made these gifts possible.

Our council members have also committed to personally donate to one of these ministries as a model of generosity, and you are invited to join the Congregational Council members and your pastors in praying for and supporting these institutions as well. You may support them directly with your financial gift or click on one of the links below to donate electronically.

Thank you faithful stewards of God's abundance! You are shining the light of Christ into a troubled world!

May the peace of God surround and keep you,

Pastor Cathy Mims

FoodBank www.foodbankonline.org

Lutheran Family Services www.lfsva.org

Tidewater Pastoral Care Counseling Center www.tidewaterpastoral.org

When Will We Resume In-Person Worship?

We all long for the day when we can gather in person. Being church together in the same physical space is a gift we all cherish. It is also clear, in the midst of our current health crisis, in-person worship is not feasible at this time.

Our top priority is the health and safety of all. Our Congregation Council is moving forward in developing plans to open the many ministries of First in a healthy manner. Guidance for returning to in-person ministry has been received from our VA Synod and ELCA Churchwide Office. We will use this information, along with best practices from our elected officials and health experts, to phase in gatherings for worship, learning and service at First.

Until the day comes when we can gather in person for worship, you are invited to continue to join as one in Spirit at our online worship service each Sunday at 10:00 AM.

With every blessing,

Pastor Rick Goeres and Pastor Cathy Mims

First emailed in Life Together on Thursday, May 14, 2020

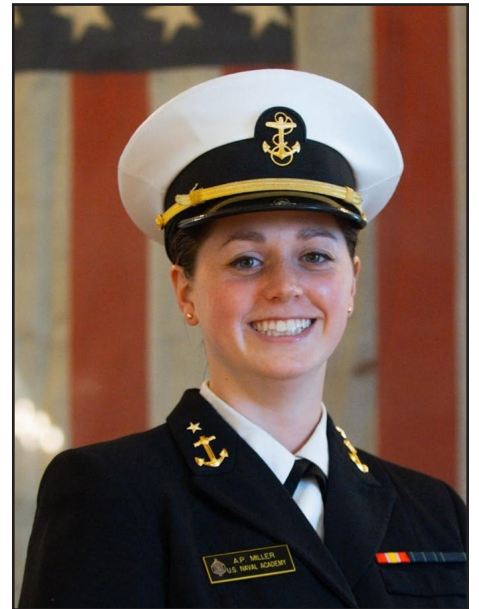
2020 Graduates



Elizabeth Acors



Dr. Sandra McCoy



Ali Miller

June 2020

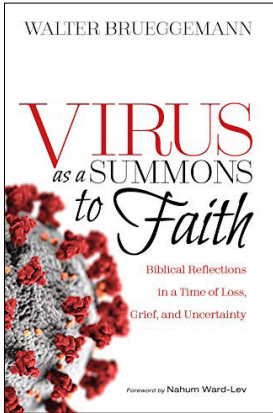
Worship every Sunday at 8:30 and 11 AM. Nursery available.
 Sunday School at 9:45 AM with classes for children, youth, and adults. Nursery available.
 Office Hours: 9 AM—4 PM Monday-Thursday, 9 AM - 1 PM Friday
 Weekday Bible Study: Men at 7 AM Wednesdays at Charlie's American Café, 4024 Granby Street,
 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
	1 10 AM Fellowship Time via Zoom 7 PM Congregation Council via Zoom	2	3 12 PM Lunch Ministry	4 5 PM Fellowship Time via Zoom	5	6
7 10 AM Worship Service Online	8 10 AM Fellowship Time via Zoom	9	10 12 PM Lunch Ministry 2 PM Women's Bible Study	11 5 PM Fellowship Time via Zoom	12	13
14 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	15 10 AM Fellowship Time via Zoom Contact Deadline	16	17 12 PM Lunch Ministry 2 PM Women's Bible Study	18 5 PM Fellowship Time via Zoom	19	20
21 <i>Father's Day</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	22 10 AM Fellowship Time via Zoom	23 9:30 AM Christian Service	24 12 PM Lunch Ministry 2 PM Women's Bible Study	25 5 PM Fellowship Time via Zoom	26	27
28 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship	29 10 AM Fellowship Time via Zoom 7PM Congregation Council	30				

*** 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 Group



Looking for an *up-to-the-minute* book discussion? Join the First Lutheran Book Discussion Group on Sunday, June 14th at 6:30 PM to discuss *Virus as a Summons to Faith: Biblical Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief and Uncertainty* by Walter Brueggemann. Just published last month, in this 90 page volume, Brueggemann hears in the devastation caused

by COVID-19 the same summons prophets throughout time have heard in the midst of calamity: the call to a right relationship with God, a call to a deeper more caring relationship with all that is.

Order this book and plan to join us to make sense together of our lives this year.

Congregation Council Summary

At our May meeting, the Congregation Council

- Met by Zoom and opened with devotions on Psalm 46, noting the challenge and opportunities in these times to “Be still, and know that I am God!” (vs. 10a)
- Received a Certificate of Appreciation from Lutheridge for our 2019 financial support
- Used funds designated for support of ministries beyond the congregation to give \$1,000.00 to each of the following: Foodbank of Southeastern VA and Eastern Shore; Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Services; and the VA Synod and Lutheran Family Services Partnership Project of Internet support for Minnick School students with disabilities.

- Agreed to participate in the pastoral care of our members by contacting households
- Explored re-opening strategies and phases for our building, worship and ministries
- Discussed stewardship stories of generosity and impact
- Designated June 29 at 7 PM as our Council meeting for July, if needed
- 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.

June Birthdays

3 June Phil Shore
 3 June Emily Young
 4 June Elizabeth Acors
 5 June Audrey Lopez
 6 June Kolby Seese
 6 June Charles Sikorski
 7 June Bonnie Elverum
 8 June Jeanne Lampton
 9 June Danusia Mason
 9 June James Weeks
 10 June Kelly Hogan
 10 June Eric Peterson

11 June Lawrence Carr
 12 June Barry Halcrow
 12 June Taija Medley
 12 June Emily Mitchell
 12 June Maya Zamani
 14 June Rachel Jordan
 14 June Katie O'Brien
 15 June Steve Fox
 15 June Kinsley Nordan
 16 June Simon Scott
 17 June Mia Levensalor
 17 June Rich Whittecar

18 June Stephen Asam
 19 June Kacy McGinnis
 20 June Anne Krueck
 20 June Bob Ritchey
 20 June Kerri Seaman
 21 June Grace Moore
 21 June Maggie New
 22 June Lynn Hayden
 23 June Alex Gillotte
 23 June Kaye McGinnis
 24 June Terry Coleman
 24 June Tucker Gates

24 June Sarah Hilton
 26 June Michelle Fenley
 27 June Kenzie Levensalor
 28 June Henrietta Evenson
 29 June Grady Erwin
 29 June Julianna Schaus
 29 June Dallas Williams
 29 June Pei Williams
 29 June John Wittmann
 30 June Molly Kenyon

Connect with Word and Body

Prayer Concerns for June

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world and all who are in need.

Give joyful thanksgiving

- ...for the marriage of **Bill and Karen Robinson**.
- ...for the birth of Caleb James Weber to Pastor Leslie and **Jacob Weber**.
- ...that there is room for all of us...including our doubts and our fears...to reside in God's eternal care.
- ...that we all have received God's mercy.
- ...that in seeing and knowing Jesus, we see and know God.
- ...for all who have shown mothering care.
- ...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

- ...be at peace because Christ loves us!
- ...remember our baptism whenever we encounter water.
- ...to deepen our understanding of the abiding relationship we have with God.
- ...to be mindful of the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe last week and give thanks for all who have been and continue to be willing to sacrifice and serve our country.
- ...to be patient with the necessary precautions we need to take to curb the coronavirus.
- ...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

- ...**Randy and Merrie Jo Milner and Family** upon the death of Randy's step-father, Thomas Henderson.
- ...Sherry and George Turner-Graveson and their children, Matthew, Timothy and Abigail.
- ...peace and comfort for **Alexis Krenzke** and her family upon the death of her Aunt Gloria.
- ...peace and comfort for their daughter Jennifer McWhorter, family and friends of Edward and Blanch Johnson (uncle and aunt of **Marilyn Booker**) upon their deaths.
- ...peace and comfort for the family and friends of Ahmaud Arbery upon his death.
- ...our neighbors who are working as essential personnel to keep us safe, healthy and fed.
- ...those furloughed or unemployed.
- ...those affected by the Covid-19 virus.
- ...countries, leaders and other organizations as they strive for health and prepare places for those seeking refuge and safety.
- ...all those who find Mother's Day a difficult day to celebrate.
- ...those who are dying, that they are secure in knowing that God loves them and will welcome them into everlasting life.
- ...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/or in need of shelter and food.
- ...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, Paula Barwick, Alvene Buckley, Roger Fuller, Jim Mason, Al Miller, Kelley Minschke, Emily Mitchell, Lorna Moss, Bill Newlon, Betty Phillips, Fay Rogner, Deb Thompson, Jeanne Walters, Randall Wiele, Dallas Williams, Anna, Mary and Earl Barbour, Bill, Stewart Bowden (father of **Janine Brown) Chip Broadbent, Richard Brown, Jr. (father of **Rick Brown**), Baby Shepherd Ford, Gail, Gert, John Horan, Joelle, John, Katrina, Margaret, Theresa Smith Milne, James Molusky, Cathy Moye, Geraldine Newsom, Paula, Rachel, Rema, Sandy and fiancé, John Wertz**

Those dealing with cancer

Larry Atkinson, Jo Brouwer, Iris Corbin, Dave Guelcher (father of Beth Zaletski), David Kelly, Vickie Mack, Mark, Phil, Rob, Sandy, Andie Seagraves, Libby Kanipe Willis, Jess WineKing

Military and their families:

All military personnel around the world.

Austin Davidson, Mason Fox-deployed, Kyle Hefner-deployed, Dan Kelly, Bobby Masters, Ted Peterson, Brian Becker, Avatar Boardman-deployed (son of **Mary Boardman), Alex Diaz and shipmates in the Horn of Africa for a year-long deployment. (Dec., 2019), Jonathan Goeres, Amy Hardbower, Nicolette Huntley, Tim Kelly, Ian Logan, Kelly Mackenzie, John Marfield, Nikki Parkman**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Readings for June

June 7th

Genesis 1:1--2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 14th

Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35--10:8 [9-23]

June 21st

Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15]
16-18
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

June 28th

Jeremiah 28:5-9
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
