



The Contact

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH — NORFOLK

1301 Colley Ave., Norfolk, VA 23517

Parish Office: 757 625 1953

www.flcnorfolk.com

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NO. 5

Easter Sunday at First Lutheran!



Easter Sunday

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Dining Out for Life

Here is an opportunity to join other Hampton Roads friends in supporting the DINING OUT FOR LIFE fund-raising event for our LGBTQ Center in Norfolk – a national program which has been halted by Covid for two years.

Save Thursday, May 12th to dine out at one of the participating restaurants. It can be for any meal of the day (breakfast, lunch, or dinner, at any time you choose). If you'd rather not dine alone, invite a friend or two and spread the word.

To locate the restaurants involved, who are committed to return 25% or more of a diner's bill to the LGBTQ Center, check out the site: www.diningoutforlife.com.

Popular local restaurants committed at this point are Baker's Crust, California Pizza Kitchen (MacArthur Mall), Gershwins (332 Granby St.), Streats, (915 W. 21st St.), and Voila (509 Botetourt St). Reservations are recommended.

Our FLC committee on LGBTQ issues shares the anti-discrimination concerns of the Norfolk LGBTQ Center, which has been a source of help when needed.

Should you like to join a group attending one of the restaurants, sign up at the bulletin board next to the elevator. Feel free to contact Merrie Jo Milner at merjomil@cox.net, should you have any questions.

Exodus: Homecoming with the Social Justice Committee



The Social Justice committee invites you to join them at the Attucks Theatre on May 5th at 7:30 PM for a performance of Exodus: Homecoming, a brand new play, being created with people from all over Hampton Roads for the 25th Anniversary Season of the Virginia Arts Festival.

Inspired by the inherited Exodus narrative, this humorous and thought-provoking drama reimagines the 7 cities in Coastal Virginia as an intergenerational family exploring the hidden (and not so hidden) struggles of the area.

If you have questions, please contact Merrie Jo at (757) 550-0781 or you can buy tickets directly here: <https://secure.vafest.org/inheritance/>

NEST Concludes Operations

For almost 30 years we have conducted NEST thanks to all the leaders among you who have stepped into difficulties, taught volunteers, and new churches, managed the NEST program at your church or synagogue, taken up challenges, and embraced our guests. For that, we thank you.

Though we were originally moving towards registering NEST as a 501c3 prior to Covid (with Martha Gorman spearheading that goal), given our present situation, the Administrative Team has voted to formally dissolve since the city has taken over sheltering for homeless persons in Norfolk. This article covers the conclusion of NEST operations, its distribution of assets and funds.

Our mat and blanket inventory, formerly kept at Cornerstone Baptist by Teri and Kevin Vinson, was first offered to the city who declined. HER (a woman's shelter), St Columba, and the Catholic Worker, picked up the ones they could use with the remainder being given to My Renew (a program like NEST).

In addition to an annual grant from the city, NEST received donations from the church community and civic organizations dedicated to helping the homeless. As Covid progressed and the city took over sheltering, we ceased allowing donations but were left with \$77,621.53 in funds. After receiving input from many of our volunteers, the Administrative Team decided to

keep the original intent for the funds—to support churches and agencies that were continuing to assist the homeless in Norfolk by serving meals such as: Blessed Sacrament, Beth El, Wesley Grace, Sacred Heart, New Hope CCC, St Mary's Basilica, Miles Memorial, Norview Baptist, Christ and St Lukes, Central Baptist, Crossroads, First Baptist Bute Street, First Lutheran, First Presbyterian, Freemason Street Baptist and Ohel Sholom. The following agencies who support the homeless will also receive funds: FoodBank, Norfolk Street Choir Project, St. Columba, Ghent Area Ministry, and the Catholic Worker. Any remaining funds will be used to purchase bus tickets.

We would like to thank the Administrative Team whose members also served as Duty Officers throughout the season: John Case, Diane Collins, Barbara Craig, Gloria Emanuel, Martha Gorman, Dave Hutcheson, Merrie Jo Milner, Anne Odell, Tracey Trimyer and Stephanie Van Leeuwen. We would also like to thank the others who served as Duty Officers: Ann Straus, Jim Rhodes, Sharon Ross, and Kami Lannetti. Thank you to Tracey Trimyer who managed our bank account and to Martha Gorman who wrote the thank you notes to donors.

Thank you for continuing to support and embrace those among us who are homeless.

Sheltering for the Homeless in Norfolk—Update

The City's new initiative focused on sheltering the homeless has replaced NEST and is providing year-round sheltering and services.

The city-run Center at Greyhound Bus Station (701 Monticello Ave) provided day services and overnight lodging from May to October 14, 2021, for adults experiencing street homelessness in Norfolk. (80 overnight and additional ~20 daily day services guests)

On October 14, 2021, the new location "The Housing Center on Tidewater" (The Center) at 1050 Tidewater Drive (former Budget Lodge) opened. This Center is open every day and night throughout the entire year. Adults from Norfolk who are experiencing street homelessness are eligible for admission to the day center. Persons wanting an overnight bed must go to the day center in person 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM or be brought to the center by outreach. Case managers will assess their situation for eligible admission and/or waitlist for a bed. No

minors (under 18 years old) are allowed. Day center guests are provided access to all services at the Center including showers, laundry, case management, and additional services. About one hundred guests are housed overnight. During the Winter Season, this site will also provide for overflow during the WOW nights (weather which is dangerous for individuals to remain outdoors).

If you would like to contact the Center, the main phone number is 757-708-4354. Program Manager Contacts are: Rafael Roman (rafael.roman@norfolk.gov)

Leanne Pelsner (leanne.pelsner@norfolk.gov)

To donate and/or provide pre-approved meals, please contact: Rafael Roman (Rafael.roman@norfolk.gov)

If you have any questions, would like to volunteer, or provide meals, the contacts provided are eager to work with you.

Upcoming Youth Events

FLY Lock-In May 29 - 30 • 6 p.m. - 9 a.m.

We're holding a lock-in this Memorial Day weekend, and we invite all Youth to bring a friend and join us! Our lock-in will begin on Sunday, May 29 at 6:00 p.m. and run through 9:00 a.m. Monday morning. Youth are welcome to bring their favorite video games (and consoles), board games, cards games, and movies for a night of junk food-powered fun. Games with explicit language or sexual content are not allowed. Please sign up in advance so we have an idea of how many people to expect. For more info or to sign up, email Pastor Scott at smims@flcnorfolk.com.

Confirmation Camp June 26 – July 1

Youth who are currently enrolled in Confirmation and anyone interested in beginning Confirmation classes in the fall are invited to join us this summer at Camp Caroline Furnace for Confirmation Camp. What is Confirmation Camp? It is a fun mixture of Confirmation and summer camp. The “confirmation portion” is organized and directed by the pastors of the participating churches, while the staff and counselors of Caroline Furnace provide all the excitement and fun of an outdoor summer camp. Attending Confirmation Camp at least one time is a required

component of our Confirmation Program at First Lutheran, however, since each summer is a little different, many students enjoy the opportunity to attend more than once.

The dates for this year's Confirmation Camp are June 26th – July 1st. Our departure time on Sunday will be as soon after our morning worship time as possible. We will return around 6:00 p.m. on Friday, July 1. The cost for the week is \$215. For information on the week and instructions on how to register, please contact Pastor Scott.

Kairos June 26 – July 1

Kairos is the Virginia Synod's week-long faith formation event offered each summer for youth who will be 9th-12th graders in the fall. Drawing Lutheran youth from across Virginia, Kairos includes large groups with lots of singing and skits and fun, a small group that meets throughout the week, daily prayer, t-shirts, faith testimonies, comic relief, person reflection, free time, and more! This summer, Kairos is back fully in-person, and many find it one of the best events of the whole year.

Registration for Kairos is now open. Go to <https://vasynod.org/event/kairos/> to register online, or pick up a registration form from the Youth Room. The cost is \$325 for the week, of which FLC will pay half.

May Birthdays

2 May Johnny Sackel	7 May Holly Weisenbeck	15 May Betty Peterson	27 May Max Kelly
2 May Katie Sackel	9 May Sonja Baker	16 May Cheyenne Dandrea	28 May John Bissey
3 May Lynn Broman	10 May Julie Coffing	16 May Angelo Ilardi	28 May Claudia Burckard
3 May Margaret Fleet	12 May Brett Hogan	16 May Matthew Thompson	28 May Paul Jersild
3 May Scott Silsdorf	12 May Dylan Holbach	21 May Angela Hogan	28 May Cathy Mims
5 May Megan Hurdle	12 May Brianna Kelly	22 May Gregg Clifford	30 May Bruce Johnson
5 May Heera Simon	12 May Lori Kintsche	22 May Erik Kisa	31 May Rick Brown
5 May Jackie Velotas	12 May Lindsay Logan	22 May Gail Simos	31 May Sam Erbig
5 May Meghan Velotas	12 May Kelley Minschke	22 May Ben Williams	31 May Sophie Erbig
6 May Joann Klotz	13 May Paula Cook	23 May Louise Hill	
6 May Carol Swan	13 May Mike Haag	23 May Betty Jean Meyer, PhD	
6 May Wil Thompson	14 May Elizabeth Moll	24 May Kenzie Griffin	

Connect with Others

Join Our Tech Ministry Team

We are seeking volunteers to form a Tech Ministry Team. The mission of this team will be to run our in-house sound while helping FLC to provide the highest quality online worship services and digital resources that we can. Members of this team will help to set up and operate our video and sound equipment, while having a lot of fun learning and playing with some really cool gear as we grow our tech resources and our ability to more effectively reach people in today's environment. While we most certainly welcome anyone with prior experience running sound or video, the main requirements are that you are (1) generally comfortable around technology and (2) willing to learn. Youth who are interested in being a part of this vital ministry are also encouraged to sign up. Interested? Please email us at office@flcnorfolk.com.



Spring Ministry Fair

Join us Sunday, May 15 for a Ministry Fair! What is a Ministry Fair? It is an opportunity to discover the many possibilities available at FLC to connect, get involved, and serve Jesus in our congregation and beyond. Following worship, representatives from the various ministry teams, Bible studies, and fellowship groups will be on hand to share about what they do and how those who are interested can get involved. In addition to the information and displays, a special coffee fellowship is being sponsored by the Stewardship Committee. Don't miss this chance to see what is happening these days at First Lutheran Church!

Want to have your group or ministry team featured at this year's Ministry Fair? Please contact the Church Office at (757) 625-1953 or office@flcnorfolk.org for more information.

Do you want to be a Greeter for the Sunday Service?

Have you ever wanted to greet the members and visitors as they enter the church on Sunday? It's a very pleasant experience, and can both help newcomers feel welcome, and give the Pastors a heads up on who is visiting!

Margaret Fleet has graciously volunteered to organize this important job for Sunday. So, if you are interested in being a greeter for a Sunday, or would like to do so on a recurring basis, contact Margaret, so she can add you to the list.

Thanks for helping with this wonderful task on Sunday!!

Margaret can be reached at: 757.630.1908, or at margaret556@verizon.net

Martha Circle hosts a Chat with Pastor Scott

Join Martha Circle ladies on May 3rd at 7:00 PM in the Reception Room as we host "A Chat with Pastor Scott." What a great opportunity to ask questions, share stories, and help him put names with faces!

Calling All Lectors!

If you are interested in serving as a Lector during the morning worship service, we welcome your participation!

Please use the Sign-Up Genius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d4dadab2aa5fd0-worship6>, or contact Kate Minnick at the church office (757-625-1953) to reserve your date.

If you have not served as a Lector previously, please contact Ryan Michael Blake, our Director of Music, to receive a training workshop on being a Lector.

Many thanks for serving in this important role for our Sunday worship!

If you have questions or concerns, please call Karen or Ed Grogan (757-934-1980) or via email at kegrogan62b@gmail.com.

May 2022

Office Hours: 9 AM—4 PM Monday-Thursday, 9 AM - 1 PM Friday
Men's Bible Study: 7 AM, Wednesdays, IHOP, 114 E. 21st, Norfolk, VA 23517
Women's Bible Study: 2 PM Tuesdays online, please contact Pastor Mims for more information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 AM Sunday School 9 AM New Member Class 10 AM Worship 6:30 PM FLC Book Club	2 FLC Staff Retreat Church Office Closed	3 11 AM Lydia Circle 12 PM Adult Ministry 5:30 PM Dinner Ministry 7 PM Martha Circle: Chat with Pastor Scott	4 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry	5 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry	6 Pastors' Day Off	7
8 Mother's Day 9 AM Sunday School 9 AM New Member Class 10 AM Worship	9 7 PM Congregation Council	10 10 AM Quilting Group 2 PM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Dinner Ministry	11 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry	12 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry	13	14
15 Contact Deadline 9 AM Sunday School 9 AM New Member Class 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Youth Group 11:30 AM Ministry Fair	16	17 2 PM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Dinner Ministry	18 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry	19 5:30 PM Laundry Love	20	21
22 Youth Sunday 9 AM Sunday School 9 AM New Member Class 10 AM Worship	23	24 10 AM Quilting Group 2 PM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Dinner Ministry	25 7 AM Men's Bible Study 12 PM Lunch Ministry	26 9:30 AM Christian Service	27	28
29 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 6 PM Youth Lock In	30 Memorial Day Observed Church Office Closed	31 2 PM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Dinner Ministry	General Deadlines: 12 PM Tuesdays—Life Together Weekly Edition 3 PM Tuesdays—Altar Flowers 4 PM—April 15th—The Contact Email kminnick@fncnorfolk.com with your articles & information.			

Community Groups (Strickler Hall): Mixed Groups—Sun. 7:00-9:30 PM; Happy Hour AA Home Group—Mon. 4:30—6:30 PM; Happy Hour AA—Mon. 5-7 PM; SAA—Mon. 7-8:30 PM; Thur. 7:30—9:30 PM; Just For Today—Tue. 10-11:30 AM; Continuing Quest—Fri. 12-1 PM; Candlelight—Fri. 8-9 PM; SNL AA—Sat. 7-9:30 PM

Connect with Word and Body

Prayer Concerns for May

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Give joyful thanksgiving

...For our congregation who witness your goodness and tell others of your abundant love
...For our commitment to use resources responsibly and to live well within your creation
...For those who lead your people in worship and praise

Help us

...Support those who are given authority to encourage them to lead with humility and compassion
...Provide comfort to your children who cry out to you and breathe into them your life and peace
...To recognize and nurture signs of resurrection life in the natural world

Pray for

...Peace and comfort to the family and friends of Gail Anthony upon her death
...Peace and comfort to the family and friends of Dana Benson upon her death
...Peace and comfort to the family and friends of Bill Wattai on his death
...Julie Heller & family upon the death of her father, Don Plautz
...Linda Braaten & family on the death of her mother, Helen Lane
...The people of Ukraine and an end to the aggression against them
...Inga Schaus' family who reside in the Ukraine
...Peace and comfort to the Hogan family
...First responders and military personnel who risk their lives in service of others
...Blessing and protection of children, the elderly, and the sick who cannot be vaccinated
...Justice for the victims of racial oppression & violence
...Those who are dying, that they are secure in knowing that God loves them & will welcome them into everlasting life.
...People fleeing dire humanitarian situations for a better life.
...The sick, that they are comforted and the despairing, that they receive hope.
...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.

Margaret & Ronald Ackley, Sonja Baker, Alvene & Don Buckley, Olivia Christianson, Barbara Cordrey, Janet Eggen, Jennette Franklin, Roger Fuller, Joelle Griffith (mother of Paula Barwick), Ed Grogan, Valerie & Jim Harvey, Marion Ingersoll, Joann Klotz, Kelley Minschke, Lorna Moss, Bill Newlon, Linda & David Perron, Betty Phillips, Grasea Pulliam, Gail Simos, Shirley Skees, Nancy & Jack Smith, Gail Stenberg, Melissa & Ken Zaletski, Barbara Harris, Barbara Omer, Betty Lou, Bill & family (nephew of Mary Bissey), Bob Moll, Charlie, Charlotte & Lee Peglow, Cynthia Moll, Deanna Kraiger, Donasia Lee, Donna, Gert, Harriette & Dave Wheatley, Jimmy, Katrina, Kevin Johnson, Jim, Marguerite, Mark, Mary, Mary Barbara, Megan (niece of Melissa & Ken Zaletski), Rema, Rob, Sue & Jim Webb, Suzanne & her sister's surgery, Tess Roberts, Vernon Welche, Vickie Zelasko

Those dealing with cancer

Alissa (friend of **Dorothy Shaffer**), Bob, James Collier, Iris Corbin, Harriette Wheatley (friend of the **Grogans**), Jenn, David Kelly, Chris Jones (nephew of **Karen Siegel**), Vickie Mack, Mark, **Melvin (Jack) Smith**, Phil, **Randall R. Wiele**, Rob, Sandy, Andie Seagraves, Gerald Stover, **Dallas Williams**, Jess WineKing

Military and their families:

All military personnel around the world.

Fox family, Tom Douglas, Gabriel Dulong, Kyle Hefner, Bobby Masters, Nano Masters, Nick Masters, Ted Peterson, Inga Schaus, Nathaniel Schaus, Brian Becker, Amy Hardbower, Nicolette Huntley, Tim Kelly, Eli Jones, Ian Logan, Kelly Mackenzie, John Marfield, Nikki Parkman

We offer to you these petitions and those we carry in our hearts, trusting in your abundant and ever-present mercy.

— **Amen.**

Readings for May

May 1st

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

May 8th

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

May 15th

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

May 22nd

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5
John 14:23-29

May 29th

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

