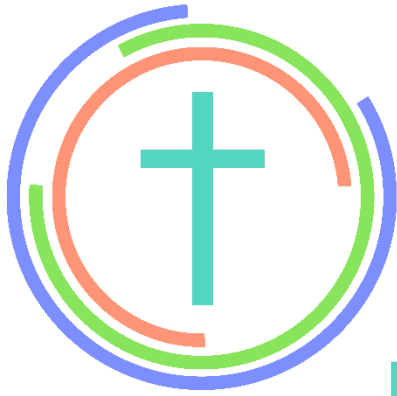




First Lutheran

relationships that transform

November 2026 Newsletter

Something to Think About...

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."
(Matthew 26:26-28)

During this month of November, we will celebrate our national day of thanksgiving. Focusing on giving thanks is important in our lives as Americans and certainly in our lives as Christians. It is important for us to look at who we are and what we have and give thanks for it.

As Christians, one of the things that we give thanks for is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, which grants us life and salvation. And we experience that gift through the Sacraments, particularly, for this discussion, the Sacrament of the Altar (or one of its other names). So,

this month, I would like to remind us of the various names, or expressions, of the Sacrament of the Altar and what they mean for us.¹

As the scripture verses above demonstrate, this sacrament is first and foremost a meal. In the Bible, it occurs at the conclusion of the Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples. So it is called the Lord's Supper, which for us is an event which celebrates the connection of God's Word with our faith.

The most common reference to the sacrament in our context is Holy Communion. This refers to the fellowship of those who cling to the Word and promise of God. There is a connection amongst the people and God. The communion is a community of faith.

Perhaps the least common descriptor for the sacrament in our context is eucharist. However, this descriptor is most significant in this month of

November. Eucharist is the Greek word for thanksgiving. When we use this term to describe the sacrament we are reminded of what God has done for us in Christ, and we offer thanks.

As we move through this month, may we be reminded of the Word and promises of God which connect us, draw us into fellowship with one another, and call us to be thankful for all that God has done and is doing among us.

In Christ,
Pastor Jeff



in Relationship with God



Bibles, Buddies & Beverages

Men's Fellowship

November 16th @ 6:00 pm

In the FLC Fellowship Hall

× × × × — ATTENTION MEN: — × × × ×

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

November 14th @ 8:00 am
FLC Fellowship Hall

Women ^{of the} **ELCA**

Monthly Bible Studies

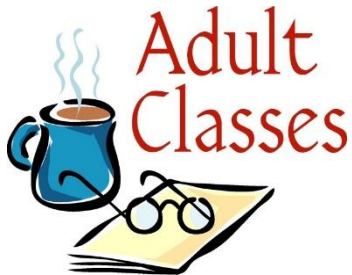
Each month, women have opportunities to gather and study God's word. Both groups use the *GATHER* magazine as a study guide.

Friendship Circle
November 3rd and 17th
@ 9:30 am
In the Conference Room

Dorcas Circle
November 9th
@ 6:00 pm
In the chapel



in Relationship with God



Adult Classes

Classes offered on
Sunday Mornings at 9:30 am

- **Reflective Bible Study**
Led by Vivian McElligott
- **Study of the book of Genesis**
Led by Kevin Bond
- **The Augsburg Confession**
Led by Pastor Jeff & Bill Anderson

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY



Stepping into God's will and purpose for your life

TUESDAYS
6:30 PM

Join us in taking steps that can help develop a healthy, peaceful, and harmonious relationship with God, with others, and with yourself.

God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, the courage to change the one I can, & the wisdom to know that one is Me. Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time; Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; Taking, as Jesus Christ did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that Jesus will make all things right if I surrender to His will. So, that I may be reasonably happy in this life & supremely happy with Him forever & ever in the next! Amen!

SERENITY PRAYER

First Lutheran Church
3901 Bill Owens Parkway
Longview, Texas 75605
(903) 295-7423

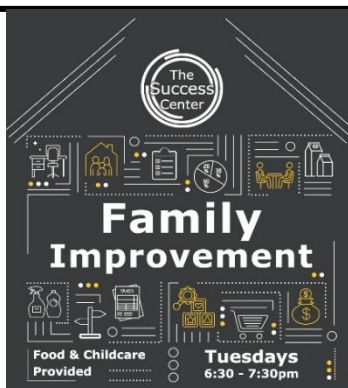


The Angel Tree benefiting the Longview Child Development Center will be available mid-November.

If you have any questions, contact
Renee Slegeir 903-736-8546



Sunday Evening Bible Study
at 6:00 pm.
All are welcome.



Do you know a family that is struggling with managing all that life brings? Invite them to join our Family Improvement class where practical teaching helps parents and families build better lives! Contact John Parsons for more information 903-295-7423.

FAMILY IMPROVEMENT MEAL

One of the things that makes the Family Improvement class work so well for families is that we serve them a meal (cooking is not required). We need volunteers to help provide a meal. Donna Louvier is the meal coordinator 903-399-8553. Those who are willing to help in this way may sign up for a Tuesday night on the sheet in the narthex.



The Success Center
Free Tutoring on
Tuesdays &
Thursdays
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Volunteers and Students are
welcome!

See John Parsons for Information.

in Relationship with the Community

Brain Injury Support Of North East Texas

PILOT INTERNATIONAL

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY GROUP

- Education
- Awareness
- Support
- Friendship

Tuesday, November 10th
6:00 pm in the Activity room

For more information contact
Mary Stuart
903-738-3613



The Classic Quilters Group meets on Saturday, November 14th at 10:00 am in the activity room. See Susan Kay Smith for information.



in Relationship with the Community

JOIN US FOR THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP & MEAL

WORSHIP | AT 10:30 AM
LUNCH | AT 12:00 PM



You're Invited to Thanksgiving Worship & Lunch feast!

Come as you are—and come hungry.

Don't want to cook a big meal this Thanksgiving? Have no one to share the holiday with? Is your family too large to fit comfortably in your home? Whatever your reason, there is a place for you at our table.

Join us for a warm Thanksgiving meal filled with good food, friendly faces, and fellowship. We'll provide the gathering place, the turkey, and share the meal together. Please bring one or two dishes to contribute, if you are able. All are welcome—individuals, couples, families, friends, and neighbors.

There is always room for one more at our Thanksgiving table.

Just bring yourself, your appetite, and a dish or two to share!

RSVP & sign up for a dish to bring in the narthex or by calling the church office.

"To go" meals available for those who are homebound.

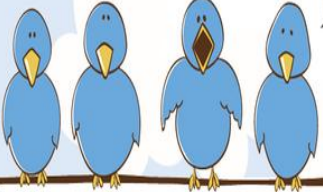


in Relationship with one another

Meeting @ 1:00 pm
November 3rd at Cheddars Scratch Kitchen
3074 N. Eastman Road, Longview

*Birds of a Feather
Flock Together*

Ladies Group



**EXERCISE
CLASS**

Tuesdays & Thursdays

4:30—5:30 pm

In the Fellowship Hall



**BUNCO
NIGHT**

Monday,
November 16th
@ 6:00 pm
in the Café



Come and join the
First Lutheran

**BOOK
CLUB**

- Meetings monthly on 3rd Tuesday
in the Café @ 6:00 pm
- Discover New books
- Make friends

**The next meeting is November 17th
at 6:00 pm in the Café.**
**Discussing the book *The Lincoln Highway*
by Amor Towles**



COME JOIN THE FLC QUILTING GROUP!

WEDNESDAYS @ 10:00 AM

FELLOWSHIP HALL



in Relationship with one another

FLC Council Moments – NOT Minutes

This year's overall 2026 Council focus has been "Change, Growth, and Team Building." To that end, the Council feels it is important to communicate to you what we discuss at our monthly meetings and how we are moving forward. What follows is general information about what we are discussing, planning and doing –

At each Church Council meeting we begin with a Bible study. At our October 15th meeting we discussed "things" that FLC is known for in the community, and the importance of the connections created by those "things". First Lutheran Church has a history of serving in the community – Newgate, House of Hope, Longview Community Ministries and its activities, Trunk-or-Treat, Boys Scouts, Tutoring – it seems there is a FLC member helping out or serving everywhere you turn, creating connections. And those connections are our history – our legacy – making the community aware of our values, our commitments and that we are servants of our Lord. What we do also tells each other who we are, our values and who we serve. Take a moment to think about who you are (child of God), your values, and who you serve. These are the connections that bind us together as a church. We applied these discussion topics to the larger conversation of planning and moving forward to the 2027 year.

THE COMMON DENOMINATION IS PEOPLE.

The Nominations Committee reached out to FLC members and a slate of Officers for the 2027 Church Council has been filled. The vote for approval of the ballot will be taken at the Congregational meeting on November 15th.

A Maintenance Coordinator has been hired. His name is Tim Foley, and he began his employment with FLC on October 12th. The search for a Children and Youth Ministry Assistant continues.

Randy Cathey is Chair of the 2027 Budget Committee. The Committee completed their work and presented the proposed Budget to Council at the October meeting. The Council approved the Budget, and it will be presented to the Congregation at the November 15th Congregational meeting.

Council continued discussions on:

- review of updates to the Children and Youth Protection Policy continues
- creation of a group for young adults/single & married couples.
- creation of a group for post-high school/college age individuals
- a structured ride program for individuals needing rides to Church and events (this is in addition to children)
- a Bible/topic-centered study for all Church members

Please reach out to one of your Council members if you have questions, concerns or suggestions.

Beverly Bell, President
First Lutheran Church Council



Financial Report - November 2026

Operating Account - September 2026						
September Operating Account				Year to Date Operating Account		
	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under)	Year to Date	Budget	Over/(Under)
Contributions	\$ 55,023	\$ 51,108	\$ 3,915	\$ 436,202	\$ 459,972	\$ (23,770)
Expenses	\$ 55,161	\$ 51,106	\$ 4,055	\$ 484,552	\$ 459,972	\$ 24,580
Difference	\$ (138)			\$ (48,350)	t	

Now thank we all our God . . .

God has blessed us abundantly, so that we may be a blessing to others. We can invite them to join us in experiencing the grace, mercy and peace God has lavished on us by His love through Jesus Christ.

*** Contributions were lower than expected and the cost of the technology upgrade.

Ranette Carter
Treasurer

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 ALL SAINTS 8:15 am Worship & Children's Church 9:30 am Sunday School 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship & Children's Church	2 9:30 am Staff Meeting	3 9:00 am Friendship Circle 1:00 pm Birds of a Feather 3:30-5:30 pm The Success Center 4:30 -5:30 pm Fitness Class 6:30 pm Family Improvement 6:30 pm Spiritual Journey	4 10:00 am Quilters 5:00-6:00 pm Dinner 5:45 pm Mentoring plus & Bell Choir 6:00 pm Confirmation & High School Group 7:00 pm Activity Hour & Choir	5 3:30-5:30 pm The Success Center 4:30-5:30 pm Fitness Class FLC'S 91ST BIRTHDAY 	6	7 Scout Troup Training Day
8 8:15 am Worship & Children's Church 9:30 am Sunday School 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship & Children's Church 6:00 pm Bible Study	9 9:30 am Staff Meeting 4:30 pm House of Hope 6:00 pm Dorcas Circle	10 11:15 am Stew Pot 3:30-5:30 pm The Success Center 4:30-5:30 pm Fitness Class 6:00 pm Brian Injury Group 6:30 pm Family Improvement 6:30 pm Spiritual Journey	11 10:00 am Quilters 5:00-6:00 pm Dinner 5:45 pm Mentoring plus & Bell Choir 6:00 pm Confirmation & High School Group 7:00 pm Activity Hour & Choir	12 3:30-5:30 pm The Success Center 4:30-5:30 pm Fitness Class	13	14 7:00 am Newgate Breakfast 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Classic Quilters
15 8:15 am Worship & Children's Church 9:30 am Congregational Meeting 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship & Children's Church 6:00 pm Bible Study	16 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm 3B's for Men 6:00 pm Bunco	17 9:30 am Friendship Circle 11:15 am Stew Pot 3:30-5:30 pm The Success Center 4:30-5:30 pm Fitness Class 6:00 pm Book Club 6:30 pm Family Improvement 6:30 pm Spiritual Journey	18 10:00 am Quilters 5:00-6:00 pm Dinner 5:45 pm Mentoring plus & Bell Choir 6:00 pm Confirmation & High School Group 7:00 pm Activity Hour & Choir	19 3:30-5:30 pm The Success Center 4:30-5:30 pm Fitness Class 6:30 pm Council Meeting	20	21
22 8:15 am Worship & Children's Church 9:30 am Sunday School 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship & Children's Church 6:00 pm Bible Study	23 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10:00 am Meals with Love	24 11:00 am Meals with Love 11:15 am Stew Pot 4:30-5:30 pm Fitness Class 6:30 pm Family Improvement 6:30 pm Spiritual Journey	25	26 Church Office Closed THANKSGIVING DAY 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Lunch	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 8:15 am Worship & Children's Church 9:30 am Sunday School 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:45 am Worship & Children's Church 6:00 pm Bible Study	30 9:30 am Staff Meeting					

CHURCH STAFF		2026 CHURCH COUNCIL	
JEFFREY BORGWARDT	PASTOR	BEVERLY BELL	PRESIDENT
DONNA ASHBY	DIR. OF MUSIC	RANDY CATHEY	VICE PRESIDENT
JOHN PARSONS	DIR. OF FAMILY & OUTREACH	ARLENE HICKS	SECRETARY
TINA SEWELL	OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	RANETTE CARTER	TREASURER
RACHEL KEISER	BOOKKEEPER	JENN BELCOURT	RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
TIM FOLEY	BUILDING & GROUNDS	JOHNNY DAVIS	RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMUNITY
		MARY STUART	RELATIONSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER

Sunday Morning Volunteer Schedule		
	Lector 8:15 am	Lector 10:45 am
11/1/2026	Donna Ashby	Lakeita Walker
11/8/2026	Patti Reinhart	Bill Anderson
11/15/2026	Carolyn Ramirez	Mike Gentsch
11/22/2026	Ed Bero	Teresa DeShazer
11/29/2026	Katelyn Powell	Rachel Grundmann
	Altar Guild – Set Up	Altar Guild – Clean Up
11/1/2026	Carolyn Ramirez	Lucy Maxwell
11/8/2026	Joe & Donna Louvier	Teresa DeShazer & Randi McRae
11/15/2026	Gloria Bero	Eva Touchstone
11/22/2026	Ed Bero	Leslie Jenkins
11/29/2026	Gloria Bero	Leslie Jenkins
	Offering Counters	
11/1/2026	Mary Stuart	Deb Butts
11/8/2026	Arlene Hicks	Deb Paschal
11/15/2026	Peri Topel	Diann Greifenkamp
11/22/2026	Teresa DeShazer	Rachel Grundmann
11/29/2026	Randy Cathey	Johnny Davis

