



A Community in Christ
Making Christ Known
Growing as Disciples
Loving Others in Jesus' Name

First Lutheran Church

www.firstlutheran-sanmarcos.org

July 2010



From the Pastor's Desk!

July is often considered 'freedom' month. School is out, graduation ceremonies have occurred, weddings have been celebrated, vacation plans come to fruition and, of course, the whole country celebrates the 4th of July Independence Celebration. It is considered by many the 'break free' month!

In 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote these words:

We hold these truths to be self evident,
That all men are created equal,
That they are endowed by their creator with certain
unalienable rights,
That among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of
happiness!

At the age of 33, Jefferson had put into words what the revolutionary war was all about. Living under the tyranny of the British Crown was no longer tolerable. Though most of us cannot imagine the conditions of the time, history tells the story with deep human emotion.

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Annual Picnic

Sunday, July 25
After Worship Service
Multi-Use Room

BBQ Chicken, Sausage, Hot Dogs, Tea and
Lemonade will be provided.

Bring your favorite picnic foods to share
(salads, beans, fruit, desserts, homemade
ice cream, etc.)

There will be a water slide and water
balloon toss for the kids outside while the
adults enjoy games in air-conditioned
comfort inside. Come in comfy picnic
attire, bring your favorite games, and invite
your friends and neighbors. All are
welcome!

If you need transportation to the picnic, please call
the office, 392-2064.

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Now, living in these 50 states we all have the responsibility to protect these rights, and in so doing, live out our constitutional dreams and hopes for all people.

For years and years, the whole human family lived under the tyranny of sin! And into this sin-scarred and inhuman world, Christ came to give us back our humanity, to live in forgiveness and grace as a restored people, freed from sin. What a revolution! Biblical history records it, and we believe it!

In 1 Peter 2:16 we read: "Live as free people, but don't hide behind your freedom when you do evil. Instead, use your freedom to serve God."

This is the challenge and the opportunity! Serving God is a way of life for us in the family of faith. Christ daily leads us all to break through the tyranny of sin and live in forgiveness. It moves us beyond ourselves into places of service where we can proclaim grace and forgiveness to those around us.

We are free to do so - but not free not too!

Enjoy your freedom in Christ and keep on serving forgivingly and gracefully!

Pastor Dorn



Celebrate Our Nation's Independence!

O Christ, Strong Son of God, who art always speaking to us and showing Thyself among us, we pray this day for a blessing for our country. Make her strong in her devotion to truth. Make her great in her desire for honor. Make her wise in her labors with the nations of men. Make her ready to sacrifice all else, but never righteousness or virtue. Strengthen our leaders that they may walk with Thee as they carry burdens of responsibility. Strengthen our people that in honorable service and humble spirit we may bring peace by doing Thy will. Judge of the nations spare us yet, by Thy mercy, Thy love, and Thy peace. Amen

Oscar F. Blackwelder, Former Pastor
Lutheran Church of the Reformation
Washington, D.C.



Please continue to pray for the Call Committee as they interview candidates to serve as pastor of First Lutheran. If you would like to meet with this prayer group, please contact Joyce Franklin at 353-2199 or jamesjoycef@centurytel.net.

Lutheran Night at the Ballpark July 29

The West Bexar County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will sponsor Lutheran Night at the Ball Park on July 29 at Wolff Stadium in San Antonio. In 2009, 604 members of Lutheran congregations attended. Game time is 7:05 p.m. Tickets are \$5.50 for a reserved seat.

A picnic before the game is also available starting at 6 p.m. July 29 is a "Dollar Night" when most snacks are only a dollar.

Lutheran Night at the Ball Park is a social event for Lutherans and their families and is not a fundraiser. For tickets, contact Bill Dorey at (210) 673-2371.



It's summer and the shelves at the Food Bank are almost empty. It happens this time of year because donations drop off about the same time kids get out of school for the summer. Low-income families already stressed by the slow economy now have an added burden of feeding their children who usually eat breakfast and lunch at school through the free and reduced lunch program.

Non-perishable food items can be left in both the Narthex and Centrum. Monetary donations are also welcome.

The VISTA Online

A new website for The Vista has been launched at www.thevistaonline.org. Register your email address to receive a message when news about ministries from across the synod are posted.

JULY EVENTS

MEN'S BREAKFAST

WILL NOT MEET IN JULY. ENJOY VACATION!

TIME: FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:00 A.M.

COME JOIN THE FELLOWSHIP.

ALL MEN WELCOME!

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES ORDER PICK-UP

SATURDAY, JULY 31

PLACE: VFW POST @ 1701 HUNTER ROAD

TIME: 8:00AM TO 10:00AM

Call Cindy House @ the Church Office for more information

DORCAS CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

WILL NOT MEET IN JULY. ENJOY VACATION!

PLACE: FIRST LUTHERAN

COURTNEY DIECKMAN - CIRCLE LEADER

SARAH CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

WILL NOT MEET IN JULY. ENJOY VACATION!

PLACE: HORIZON BAY ASST. LIVING, RANCH ROAD 12

AGNES DREIBRODT – CIRCLE LEADER

PRIME TIMERS

WILL NOT MEET IN JULY. ENJOY VACATION!

TIME: FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, @ 11:30 AM

PLACE: NEXT MEETING TO BE ANNOUNCED.

RINGERS AND SINGERS

BELL CHOIR – SUMMER VACATION – RESUMES SEPTEMBER 1

VOICE CHOIR – RESUMES SEPTEMBER 1

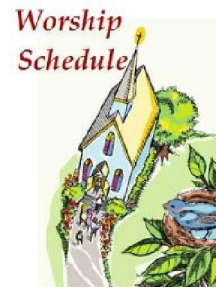
CRAFT GROUP

WILL NOT MEET IN JULY OR AUGUST. ENJOY VACATION!

TIME: EVERY THURSDAY @ 7:00 PM

CALL ANNITA ALBERS FOR INFORMATION-396-2187

- 4 Pixie Hageman
- Marsha Moore
- 11-18 Patti Seiffert
- Kristin Seiffert
- 25 Annita Albers
- Valerie Morrison



Sunday School ~ 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

(Please read the information about the intergenerational class in this newsletter.)

Worship ~ 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.



Congratulations to Dana Elkins and Bradley Breed, married on June 26th. Dana is the daughter of FLC members Gary and Diana Elkins.



Dear First Lutheran Family,

Thank you all for your many prayers and support during Larry's illness and following his death. It is so wonderful to have such an awesome church family.

Gladys Switzer and Peggy Meiners

CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE FOR QUESTIONS

angelfood MINISTRIES

Order deadline is Noon, Sunday, July 25

Online orders may be placed until 10:00 pm CST at www.angelfoodministires.com.

Specials may be purchased with or without the purchase of the Standard boxes.

Payment is due when order is placed in church office. Cash, check, and Lone Star Card are accepted.

Order Pick Up is Saturday, July 31 -8:00 am – 10:00 am

All are invited to be a part of this wonderful ministry!

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is the July distribution host. Please come and share God's love!

Call Cindy House at 392-2064 for questions about volunteering or ordering.

VFW Post at 1701 Hunter Road

Bring a medium size box for your food.

We do not have any storage. Orders not picked up will be given to the needy.

A joint ministry of First Christian Church, First Lutheran Church, & St. Mark's Episcopal Church



Trey Hubbard's exercise class will resume meeting this month Monday and Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome!

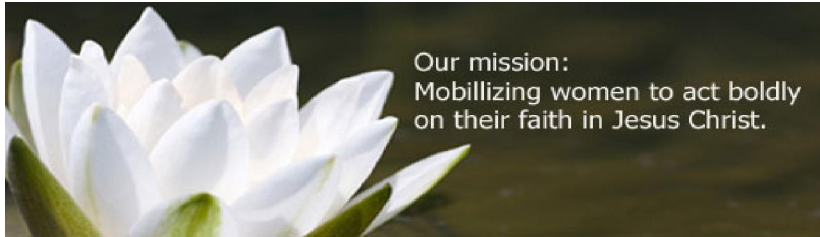
Kids of the Kingdom News

Summer is here, and the Lord has blessed us with beautiful weather. The children of Kids of the Kingdom will be celebrating the 4th of July this month and Parent's Day on July 25th.

All the classes have been learning about "summer" and activities that happen during this time of year, from barbeques to summer vacations. To help cool off from the heat and learn about water safety, the children have been enjoying splash days. Our Kid Camp has had many exciting, fun-filled field trips and is looking forward to many more.

Just a reminder to our families – Kids of the Kingdom will be closed July 5th in observance of Independence Day. We would like to say "thank you" to all the men and women who serve and have served in the military. If not for you and your bravery, we would not be able to celebrate our independence and freedom!

Many Blessings to you and your family, *Jennifer Velasquez, KOK Director*



Our mission:
Mobilizing women to act boldly
on their faith in Jesus Christ.

First Lutheran Women

"We can do no great things, just small things with great love. It is not how much you do, but how much love you put into doing it." -Mother Teresa

Belonging, Becoming, Blessing is the theme of the 23rd Annual Women of the ELCA Synodical Convention that will be held at the New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center on October 1-3. The theme focuses on the three mission areas of the Women - Mission: Community, Mission: Growth, and Mission: Action. The theme Bible verse is Romans 12:4-5. *For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.* The Physical Offering this year will benefit the New Life Treatment Center, Canyon Lake. We will begin gathering the following items now. Watches, rugs (small colored throw rugs for the bedside), house shoes and flip flops, hair gel, fun pillows to decorate beds, posters, cute stuffed animals, stretch bracelets (no metal), journals (no metal or spirals), stationery with stamps, board games and cards, ankle socks, candy bars, sticky tack, phone cards, and gift cards. Donations may be placed in the designated boxes in the Centrum and Narthex. Convention information, registration forms, physical offering list and scholarship forms are available on the Women's bulletin board located across from the church office and in the church office. Forms will be available at the Circle meetings also. Jan Seiffert will be our convention representative and Patti Seiffert will be the alternate. This is a great opportunity for us to attend this convention as a group to participate in the larger mission of Women in society today. A sign-up sheet is on the Women's bulletin board also.

The Lutheran World Relief Ingathering held on April 7th was a big success! A total of 9,895 quilts, 6,368 school kits, 711 sewing kits, 1,352 layettes, and 6,675 health kits were collected thanks to the efforts of Lutherans from the ELCA, LCMS, and LCMC. Isn't it exciting to see God's love and providing in action? Thanks to the members of FLC who support this effort every year. You make a difference!

A Bible verse to think about. Romans 12:5-12

...5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. 6 We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; 8 the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

CRAFT GROUP: The Craft Group will not meet during July or August but will resume in September. Please contact Annita Albers for more information.

SARAH CIRCLE: Sarah Circle meets for Bible study the third Thursday of each month, 9:30 am at Horizon Bay. Agnes Dreibrodt is the circle leader in 2010. The next meeting is August 19.

DORCAS CIRCLE: Dorcas Circle will resume meetings beginning in August. Stay tuned for more details.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

WELCA SWT Synodical Conference	October 1 – 3, New Braunfels, Texas
Thankoffering Service	October 17 (tentative)
Women of Faith	October 22-23, San Antonio, Texas
Fall Festival	October 30

Question, suggestions, concerns? Contact Diane Osborne (754-7295) or Annita Albers (396-2187).

*Live, love, and pray **BOLDLY!***

"Finding the Way Back to Mayberry"



Intergenerational Sunday School Youth Room

Class will continue until the end of the series

Have you heard people say, "I wish we could go back to Mayberry; back to a simpler time when life was far less complicated"? A cursory glance at the decade of the original series run reveals anything but a simple lifestyle. The threat of nuclear annihilation, civil unrest, and political assassinations were just a few realities of the turbulent sixties. But it was during this time that *The Andy Griffith Show* enjoyed its primetime success. Do people really want to return to the events of the 1960s, or is there something about the attitude of this television show that provides the appeal?

Interested? Please bring your curiosity and desire to enjoy some of these classic shows and talk together about the wonderful characters, content of the show, and the basic principles of living they taught! Parents, this is a fun and entertaining way to reinforce your teachings of good moral values, care for our fellow man and care for the society we live in. Todd Engeling is heading up this class and will continue through the summer months. Join us in the Youth Room for a big screen experience, comfortable couches and refreshments. Please call Todd (392-3205) if you have questions about the program.



Dear FLC,

We would like to thank all of you, and especially the Men's Group, for the wonderful benefit to help our family after the fire. There are so many people that worked so hard fixing food, cutting tons of onions and crying, making arrangements, creating t-shirts, making fliers and signs, loading tables and BBQ pits, serving food, and the list goes on and on. Our hearts are so full of thankfulness and love for all of you. We have always known that our church is a special place to be, and we are blessed to be part of FLC. God is so GOOD!

With much love and appreciation,
Randy, Tina, Kally, Kolton, and Kade Marbach



Altar Flowers

- July 4 Patti Seiffert
- July 11 Russell & Cindy House
- July 18 Rick & Celia Williams
- July 25 OPEN



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- Bayleigh Acosta (30)
- Priscilla Cost (22)
- Zachary Cox (3)
- Lavonne Crim (25)
- Mary Davis (26)
- Lindsey Elkins (21)
- Hayden Engeling(23)
- Kade Marbach (10)
- Kolton Marbach (5)
- Gwen McLeod (11)
- Cindy Meyer (18)
- Patsy Moore (28)
- Susan Patteson (30)
- Bernice Randow (3)
- Emily Schneider (27)
- Cory Jon Sivilay (23)
- Emily Ann Sivilay (23)
- Karen Stachowitz (17)
- James Wiede (30)
- Barbara Williams (07)
- Celia Williams (24)
- Taylor Wing (2)

JULY
Lawn Care Team
 Paul Berglund Mike Butler
 Garry Coles Kurt Dieckman



- *Frank Josserand*, recovering from cancer surgery.
- *Jon Hovde*, dealing with pancreatic cancer.
- *Betsy Meader*, metastatic cancer in liver, lung, and bone.
- *Roxanne Dorn*, recovering from surgery.
- *Sue Ellen Cook*, recovering from surgery.
- *Alec Castillo*, dealing with some personal challenges.
- *Robert Shannon*, recovering from radiation treatments.



- 1st--Courtney Overstreet
- 2nd--Kristin Seiffert
- 3rd--Bob Guerin
Harry Wiede
- 4th--Carolyn Linér
Jerry Niemiec
- 5th-- Dean Gourley
- 7th-- Barbara Wright
Ruth Schwartz
- 11th--Carrie Smith
- 13th--Pixie Hageman
- 16th--Diane Osborne
- 17th--Courtney Dieckman
- 18th--Kaleb Covarrubias
- 20th--Randy Marbach
- 21st--Brenden Patteson
- 22nd--Mike Cox
- 23rd--Susan Phillips
- 24th--Bryce Roles
- 26th--James Pohl
- 27th--Jacob Hoffman
- 28th--Carrie Jones
Joyce Franklin
- 29th--David Hanson
Joe Kenworthy
- 30th-- R.C. Banks

MEN OF FIRST LUTHERAN

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Thursday, August 26
 Dennis Krackau's farm
 6:00 p.m.

Annual "Get ready for bird hunting" meeting. Food, fun, and fellowship!

- Ren Linér 353-0217
rcliner@austin.rr.com
- Dennis Krackau 738-0464
dennisk@sacnpac.com
- Todd Engeling 392-3205
todd.engeling@tpwd.state.tx.us
- Ernest Vargas 665-1872
cigarman_ernie@yahoo.com

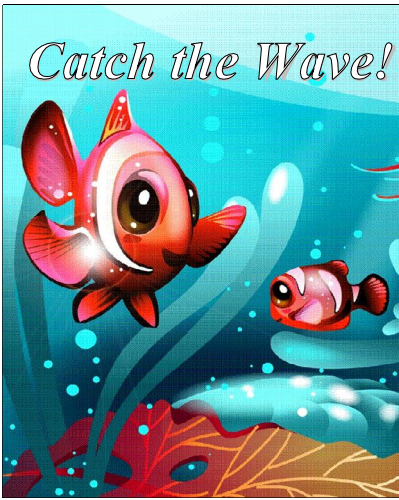
First Lutheran Church

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 San Marcos TX 78666
 Phone: (512) 392-2064
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Website:
www.firstlutheran-sanmarcos.org
 Email: firstlutheran@grandecom.net
 Interim Pastor: Rev. Arden Dorn



Gladys Switzer, Peggy Meiners, and family following the death of Larry Switzer.



Summer Christian Day Camp:
Youth who are 4 years old and are potty trained through 6th grade. An action packed day for school children which includes Bible stories, crafts, games (indoor & outdoor), songs, & more. Campers are cared for by Small Group Leaders and Support Staff throughout the day.

Register for 1, 2, or 3 weeks!

Early Bird Registration (before June 1) \$45/week

Registration after June 1st- \$50/week

Week One – July 12-16

Week Two – July 19-23

Week Three – July 26-30

Regular Camp hours are 9:00 am – 3:30 pm.

Before (7:00 – 9:00 am) and After (3:30-6:00 pm) Care available for \$20/week. Complete information is in the Camp Hope Packets available on the bulletin board outside the Youth Office.

Costa Rica Trip

Cross Trails Ministry is taking a group of young people to Costa Rica Aug. 8-16 and has a few openings left for the trip. Cost is \$1,550. Contact Jay Miller, (830) 257-6340 or jay@crosstrails.org.



First Lutheran Helps put a Cool Spin on Summer!

Many thanks to all members who participated in donating forty-four (44) fans to be distributed around the city for the annual Family Eldercare Summer Fan Drive. The effort targets donations of new fans to bring relief for summer temperatures to low income and medically fragile residents who often face the summer without air conditioning due to the high cost of equipment, repairs and utilities. Fans can help safeguard against heat-related illness. What a great way to spread God's love and providing!