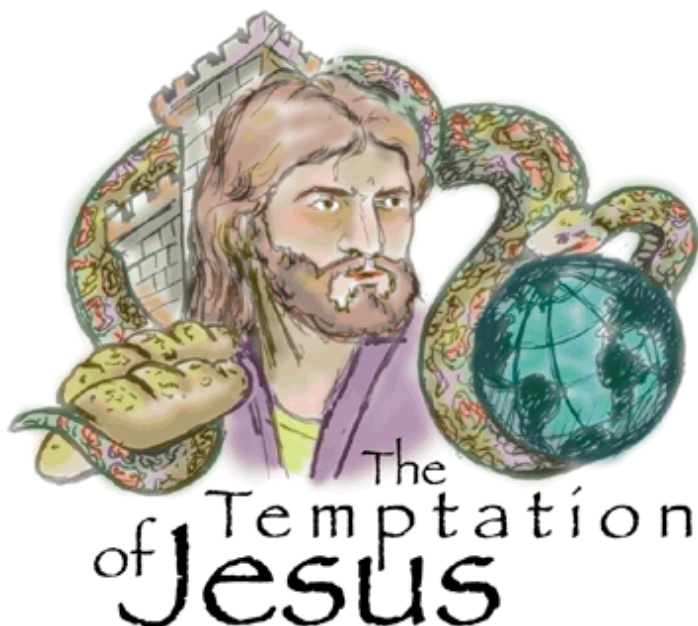


# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3600 W. Friendly Avenue

Greensboro, North Carolina 27410-4844

336/292-9125 E-mail: [info@firstlutheran.com](mailto:info@firstlutheran.com)



## Sunday Schedule

Traditional Worship – Fellowship Hall	8:45 A.M.
Contemporary Worship – Worship Room	9:00 A.M.
Education Hour	10:00 A.M.
Traditional Worship – Worship Room	11:15 A.M.
Shout! Evening Service – Worship Room	6:30 P.M.

**The Mission of First Lutheran Church is  
to serve God's purpose in the world  
to gather, equip and send.**



**First Lutheran is a partner in the NC Synod  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

**WELCOME GUESTS:** Please take a candle (or bubbles for children) from the gathering space near the Worship Room or the table in the café as a reminder of your visit. Also, please pick up a newsletter to see what is happening at FLC. For questions, please call 292-9125, email [info@firstlutheran.com](mailto:info@firstlutheran.com) or check website, [www.firstlutheran.com](http://www.firstlutheran.com).

*\*those who are able may stand*

*+those who are able may kneel*

Preparation for Worship

+Silent Prayer

Greeting and Recognition of Frank Moore's 20 years at FLC

Handbell Prelude (11:15)

"Fantasy on *Kingsfold*"

H. Dean Wagner

**++ God Gathers Us Together ++**

\*Thanksgiving for Baptism

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Assembly: Amen.**

Leader: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,

**Assembly: we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.**

Leader: Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters

**Assembly: and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.**

Leader: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

**Assembly: At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.**

Leader: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

**Assembly: Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

Leader: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Assembly: Amen.**

\*Gathering Song

"How Firm a Foundation"

Hymn 796

\*Greeting

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Assembly: And also with you.**

\*Prayer of the Day

Leader: Let us pray. Blessed Lord God, you have caused the Holy Scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people.

**Assembly: Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**++ God Speaks to Us ++**

Children's Sermon Pastor Jay Hilbinger

First Lesson Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Pages 2-3

Psalmody Psalm 32 Jim Brown

**REFRAIN** (First time: piano introduction, then choir, then all)

You are my hid - ing place; you pre-serve me from trou - ble.

**VERSE ONE**

Reader: Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,

**Assembly: And whose sin is put away!**

Reader: I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

**Assembly: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."**

Reader: Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**Assembly: Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;**

Reader: When the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**REFRAIN (all)**

**VERSE TWO**

Reader: Great are the tribulations of the wicked;

**Assembly: But mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

Reader: Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;

**Assembly: shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

**REFRAIN (all)**

\*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.**

\*Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Page 879

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

“Choose Wisely...Choose Life”

Pastor Jay Hilbinger

\*Hymn of the Day

“Come Down, O Love Divine”

Hymn 804

**++ We Respond to God’s Grace ++**

\*Apostles’ Creed

ELW Page 105

Offering and Signing of Fellowship Books

Musical Offering

(8:45)

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Schubert

*Fellowship Choir*

(11:15)

“A Promise for Strength”

Schwoebel

*Chancel Choir*

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us.  
Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**++ God Empowers and Sends Us ++**

+Prayers

Leader: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

**Assembly: Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

Leader: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Assembly: Amen**

\*Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

\*Benediction

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**Assembly: Amen.**

\*Sending Song

"Be Thou My Vision"

Hymn 793

Leader: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Assembly: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude (11:15)

"Be Thou My Vision"

Setting by Clarke/Behnke

† † † † † † †

*To share this service or hear it again, please visit the website Worship page later this week or request a CD.*

*After 8:45 and 9:00 worship, you are invited to the Fellowship Hall/Cafe for coffee and conversation, then attend the Faith Formation class of your choice at 10:00 am.*

**We will receive into membership** by the sacrament of Holy Baptism today at the 9:00 service, Arwen Kelli Weske, daughter of Chris and Jeni Weske. Godparents are Brian and Elizabeth Russell and Jakes and Carrie Vandenberg. Grandparents are Patricia Miller, Edward and Chery Weske, Patricia Peltier, Rachel and Jerry Martin. Assisting is William Young. The Baptismal Napkin was lovingly made by a member of the former Lydia Shenk Circle.

## *Thank You to Those Serving Today*

**Lay Readers:** 8:45: Kevin Reinert

11:15: Pat Bergen

**Flowers in the Worship Room are given to the glory of God by** Lelia Moore in celebration of her grandson, Ryan Moore's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday and by Herb Voelkert in memory of Barbara.

## *Prayer Concerns*

**Hospitalized this week:** Shirley Wilhelm – Cone; John McCarthy - Duke

**We express sympathy to** Wayne Ford on the death of his aunt, Ceress Ford on 1/14 and to Howard, Russell and Kendra Whittington on the death of their father and grandfather, Homer Whittington on 1/17.

† † † † † † †



***God is love! As we focus on God's love here in his house, may we each strive to be loving and accepting of one another. Faith Formation begins at 10:00 am. Nursery care is available for those up to 4 years old.***

## *Congregational Ministries*

**Chicken Casseroles needed for GUM dinner on Thursday, January 28.** Check your newsletter for more details and the youth bulletin board to sign up and pick up a recipe.

**Grace Reigns Down Concert...** GRD invites you to their biggest show of the year on Saturday, January 30th, 3:00 PM at the Weaver Academy Theatre, Downtown Greensboro. Check out GRD at [www.myspace.com/gracereignsdown](http://www.myspace.com/gracereignsdown).

**Please mark your calendars** for a fun family concert that will benefit the children of SFYC. Carmen Eby, music teacher here at SFYC, has put together a benefit concert featuring Grace Reigns Down and many of our very own SFYC parents. The concert will take place in the fellowship hall at First Lutheran on **Tuesday evening, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** Though this is a free event, a donation of \$5.00 is being suggested with all proceeds going directly to SFYC. In addition to Grace Reigns Down, you will hear a variety of music from tangos performed by a fantastic saxophone quartet, to jazz and blues, to hymns, to classical clarinet and lyric soprano. Please bring a friend and come out to support SFYC. Treat yourself to a night of music brought to you by professional musicians who happen to live in your community, attend your church, and send their children to this wonderful preschool!

**Sullivan Huddle Circle will meet on Monday, February 1 at 7:30 pm** in the church parlor. Carol Wood will present the program and Tina Brewer will be our hostess.

**Powlas Deal Circle will meet on Wednesday, February 3 at 7:00 pm** in the café. The program will be presented by Gwen Bader.

**Natural Church Development (NCD)** is a process that helps church communities develop and maintain a healthy, thriving spiritual environment that is conducive to growth in faith as well as in numbers. While we believe FLC is healthy, we have not grown numerically. We wonder if there is some aspect of our life that needs to be strengthened.

NCD grows out of years of study in congregations large and small throughout the world. It is not denominationally specific, but rather looks at the behaviors common to congregations that thrive and therefore grow. About 10 years ago, the ELCA began training pastors to lead congregations through this process. Positive growth has happened in those congregations who've participated.

The 8 quality characteristics or behaviors are like muscle groups. They need to be toned and cultivated if the body is to function most effectively. These 8 characteristics include: Empowering Leadership, Gift-based Ministry, Inspiring Worship, Holistic Small Groups, Effective Structures, Passionate Spirituality, Loving Relationships, and Need-based Evangelism. Details about those were included in an earlier newsletter. An overview of the NCD process will be held on January 31 at 10 AM in the fellowship hall.

**The Power of Prayer...**A new prayer group, titled Power of Prayer, will meet on Mondays each week. We want to pray for those of you who feel the need for more prayer. This group will pray for joyous events of thanksgiving, times of trial, for you personally, for a family member or a friend. There is no limitation regarding the types of situations, nor the number of prayer requests. Prayer requests may be made one of two ways: place a prayer card in the prayer boxes that will be located in the café or narthex; contact the members of the group by calling or emailing, Jo Fleck, Gwen Bader, Mary Ann Boone, Penny Stein or Leslie Pipan. Phone numbers and email's for the group along with additional information can be found in your newsletter that will come out next week.

## *Youth Ministries*

**Youth Choir meets today at 4:30 PM in the Choir Room.**

**Hunger Lock-In, All Youth Grades 7 – 12, Friday, January 29 at 6 PM - Saturday, January 30 at 3 PM.** Cost is \$13 PLUS Canned Food Donations (cost covers T-shirt, supplies and "Breaking Fast" Meal). See your newsletter for more details.

**GUM NIGHT for all High School (Grade 9-12) Youth & Families, Thursday, January 28, 5:45 PM - 8:00 PM.** Put it on your calendar and join the serving team! Since we expect to serve over 150 homeless guests during this very cold season we will try something new with our main course. We are requesting that interested FLC members prepare a cooked chicken casserole (9 x 13 pan) ahead of time. Sign up will be on the youth board. High School Youth & Families will be asked to provide desserts and/or rolls plus the people power to prepare & serve the meal.

**Coming in February:** Lutheran Youth Organization Assembly, February 19 – 21. This is an ELCA Youth Synod Event. Cost \$125/person for 2 nights and meals at Embassy Suites. Sign up on the youth board.

## **CONFIRMATION REMINDERS! (check your November letter)**

**January 31** - FINAL Numbers & FULL Banquet payment due.... Youth Volunteer Hours are due -- check the youth board to make sure you have your 16 +16 complete! Turn in forms to the office (Barbara's box) ASAP!

**Coming February 6** - MANDATORY Saturday 9 am - 11:45 am Worship Rehearsal with the Pastors. Guiding Verses are also due!

## *Administration Ministries*

**2009 Contribution Statements are now available** on the table in the east hallway across from Frank Moore's office. If you cannot pick up your statement or if you have questions once you look it over, please call or email **Janice Eberenz** in the church office.

## *Community Ministries*

**HELP HAITI!** Make checks to ELCA International Disaster Response, put "Haiti" on offering envelope and give here OR mail to ELCA International Disaster Response, Attn: Haiti, PO Box 71764, Chicago, IL 60994-1764 OR go to [www.elca.org/disaster](http://www.elca.org/disaster) and give online OR call 1-800-638-3522 to give by phone OR If you are a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans member, you can: Give online at [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com) OR mail to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, 4321 N. Ballard Road, Appleton, WI 54919, Attn: Fraternal Service Center OR call 1-800-236-3736, say "directory" and enter Ext. 83003. Thrivent will supplement \$1 for every \$2 given up to \$250 per member.

**NEXT SUNDAY, JAN. 31, 2-5 pm, Room 2:** New Beginnings Class for people interested in joining First Lutheran. The class focuses on discipleship through a Lutheran lens and gives an overview of ministries here. Child care available; please contact Frank Moore by Wed., Jan. 27, 292-9125, [frank@firstlutheran.com](mailto:frank@firstlutheran.com), so adequate supplies can be provided.

**ON Sun. Feb. 7:** As part of our emphasis on fighting hunger, children and youth will collect food items and money for the Souper Bowl during the morning and 6:30 pm SHOUT! service.

\*\*\* Canned items: Food Assistance Inc. for Groceries on Wheels to older adults

\*\*\* Jars of jelly: Thursday/Friday breakfast teams at Urban Ministry

\*\*\* Financial donations: ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Let's collect 100 pounds of canned food + 100 jars of jelly + \$600 for world hunger!

Can YOUR household give \$5, a can of food and a jar of jelly?

**COMING IN LENT! .... God's Global Barnyard. Stay tuned for details.**

## *Stewardship Ministries*

**YOU can be God's love in action!** Discover how to get connected with mission and ministry at and through First Lutheran by contacting Rachel Gardner (Congregational Ministries), Maryellen Paton (Worship Ministries), Kimberly Embry (Community Ministries), Kathy Peterson (Stewardship Ministries) or Jackie Freeman (Administration Ministries) or any staff member. Call the church office, 292-9125, for email addresses or phone numbers.

**ID YOU KNOW?** FLC contributed nearly 17,000 pounds of food to Greensboro Urban Ministry in 2009!