

FIRST FOCUS



March 14—March 27, 2010

In this issue...

Worship Ministries	Page 2
<i>Worship and Music Notes</i>	
<i>Joy of Cooking</i>	
Children's Ministry	Page 2
<i>Equipping Parents</i>	
<i>Camps</i>	
Youth Ministry	Page 2
<i>GUM Night</i>	
<i>Mission Trips</i>	
<i>Camp</i>	
Generosity Report	Page 3
Stewardship	Page 3
<i>CommunitH Conversation</i>	
Memorials/Honorariums	Page 3
Community Ministries	Page 4
<i>Habitat Build</i>	
<i>Chicks for Change</i>	
<i>Chile Update</i>	
<i>Congratulations, Louise!</i>	
Easter Flowers	Page 4
Our Church Family	Page 5
Fair Trade Coffee	Page 5
Congregational Retreat	Page 5
Building Space	Page 5
Spring Cleanup Day	Page 5
Calendar	Page 6
Worship Attendance	Page 6

HOLY WEEK

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday	March 28
	8:45, 9, 11:15 am, 6:30 pm
Maundy Tuesday	March 30, 11 am
Maundy Thursday	April 1, 7 pm
Good Friday	April 2, 7 pm
	<i>Durufle's Requiem (see page 2)</i>
Easter Eve	April 3, 8 pm

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4
(details in the next First Focus)

March 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	14	15	16	17	18	19
	21	22	23	24	25	26
	28	29	30	31		

Office closing at 3 pm

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

God's work. Our hands.



Worship Ministries

Worship and Music Notes:

We have some special music planned for upcoming Sundays in March:

- March 14 at 11:15: the Handbell Choir will play the prelude
- March 21 at 11:15 : John Brumbaugh will join me for cello and piano

In addition, please note the following events in your calendars:

- The Chancel Choir, accompanied by organ and small orchestra, will share Duruflé's *Requiem* as the major portion of our Good Friday service at 7 pm on April 2. The passion story will also be read to set the tone of the service.
- On April 25, both traditional choirs will come together to share some of their favorite anthems during the 11:15 am special music service. The congregation will also be involved in hymn singing and service music. Because of this special service at 11:15 am, there will be no choir leadership at the 8:45 am service on that one Sunday; there WILL, however, be the regular 8:45 am service with pastor and piano leadership. We wanted to make you aware of this special event and opportunity.

The Joy of Cooking

Have you seen or read "Julie & Julia"? Were you there for Frank Moore's and Karen Brown's anniversaries in ministry? Has anyone ever shared the kick they get out of serving in one of our 100+ ministries? There's a spirit that runs through each of them, a spirit that's part of this "Week That Changed the World" we're studying this Lent. Any time we really know the Good News of God's down-reach to us and feel the warmth of others' out-reach to us, the joy becomes contagious and looks hard for an outlet, be it community service, caregiving, faith formation, or the many acts that help our four worship services be places to meet God and be renewed.

The two great hopes of Worship Ministries are that our worship services bring home the joy of God's "cooking" and that, in turn, you feel like cooking up better things for your neighbors. There's a lot on the stove in Worship these days, and with the kitchen getting a little shorthanded, we're asking you to prayerfully (and joyfully!) consider helping us sing, play instruments (all kinds), dance, read, bring the light and the cross into God's house, run sound, make recordings, learn video, take up offerings, prepare and serve communion, dress up the worship space, or help people prepare for worship.

And, if none of those are handy, do tell us more about how the food tastes these days (worshipfeedback@firstlutheran.com) Contact Maryellen Paton (patonmar@triad.rr.com), Pat Bergen (patbergen@triad.rr.com), Karen Brown (karen@firstlutheran.com), or any member of the Worship Ministries Division (http://www.firstlutheran.com/WM_roster09_10.pdf).

Children's Ministry

Equipping Parents

Talking to Children about Sex Part 2

On Sunday, March 21, 2010 at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall Rob Harmon will lead a discussion with parents about how to talk to your children about sex. This is a follow-up to our session in February. Feel free to join the discussion and see what is going on in the world around us (sexting, experimenting, etc.) You do not need to have attended the February session. Bring a Friend.

Faith-filled summer fun!

Sign-ups are underway for summer camps! Camp brochures are available on the bulletin board outside Denise Riley's office at the church. Scholarship money is available for these camps, so don't skip camp just because of the cost.

And don't forget Grandcamp on June 16 (more to come!), or Agape Day Camp June 21-25 here at First Lutheran! The cost for Day Camp is \$125 if you register by April 5. After that, the cost is \$140.

Youth Ministry

GUM NIGHT for all 5th & 6th Grade Youth & Families Thursday, March 25 5:45 PM - 8:00 PM

Put it on your calendar and join the serving team! Since we expect to serve close to 150 homeless guests during this very cold season - we are counting on YOU!! Homemade Chicken Tetrazzini was successful last time so we are doing it again. We are requesting that interested FLC members prepare a 9x13 casserole ahead of time. Sign up will be on the youth board. Grades 5-6 & Families will be asked to provide desserts and/or rolls plus the people power to prepare & serve the meal. Shopper family also needed to get the sides & bread - see Carol.

Don't Miss The Mission Possible - this Summer!

The High School (current 9-12 graders) Youth Group is heading to Copperhill TN June 27 - July 3 to serve people living in the rural Appalachian area of TN, GA or NC. The current 7-8 graders are heading to Seiverville TN, July 18-24 to help out there. Either trips estimated cost is \$350, which will include some 'high adventure' activities. TeamEffort coordinates our service & worship, but our group stays together to work on projects. March 21 is your very last chance to sign up with a \$75 deposit. See Carol, the Teameffort website or the youth board for more details.

All 5th & 6th Graders

Sign up Now for Summer Camp!

We encourage all 5-6 graders to look into Camp Agape, Lutheridge or Lutherock camp opportunities for this summer. Find a friend or two from FLC and head off to an incredible faith-filled week! See the Camp board outside Denise's office for details.

All Youth Volunteers (Gr 5- 12) -- make sure that you have VBS dates on your calendar - July 26-30.

Generosity Report.

<u>Mission & Ministry Budget</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>%</u>
February 2010	\$74,014	\$75,833	102.5%

2009-10 Fiscal Year-to-Date	\$654,806	\$629,868	96.2%
-----------------------------	-----------	-----------	-------

Building Fund Gifts as of December 31: \$1,684,406

All payments to benevolent organizations, such as Greensboro Urban Ministry and Mobile Meals, continue to be up-to-date as are transfers to our Property funds.

Please see the invitation below to a Community Conversation on Sunday, March 14 at both 10 and 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This Conversation will give further updates on our financial status.

Stewardship

Come to the Community Conversation Sunday, March 14 TWO opportunities: 10 and 11 a.m., Fellowship Hall Hear updates on building progress and financial situation going forward

The Congregation Council hopes the following information will help you to become more aware of our current giving situation and we ask that you pray about how you might respond.

Despite a weakened economy which has affected some families at First Lutheran, many members and guests have continued to share resources to fulfill 96 percent of the mission and ministry plan (or budget) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. However, if this shortfall percentage continues, our deficit would be \$37,256 by the end of June. Please keep in mind that the 4% decline is in addition to a previous 5% cut from the 2008-2009 plan, which funds our staff, property needs, worship and faith formation, children's and youth ministry, and supports the greater mission of the Lutheran church, local mission and other ministries. We also have been using designated funds to help meet our goals.

In addition, and of great concern to the Council, is that we alerted the congregation to the need for a 6 percent increase to cover operational, insurance and program costs in the 2010-11 fiscal year when we voted 78% to 22% to move forward with the building program. That increase has not happened. Building continues and, as you might expect, poor weather has caused some delays.

Planning for the 2010-11 mission and ministry plan is underway, and we have told the staff to plan on no increase, pending your response to our current situation. We are facing some challenging decisions as a faith community, and I encourage you, on behalf of the Council, to attend next Sunday's Community Conversation as we hear updates on the progress of the building and an assessment of our current and projected finances.

In Christ,
Madeleine Dassow
Council President

Memorials and Honorariums

Mclver Fund for Special Artists

In memory of Marilyn, Tammy and Gene Burkart given by Dann Burkart

Emergency Assistance Fund

In honor of Frank Moore given by Ray O'Neal

Pastors' Discretionary Fund

In memory of William Heckman (Bill Heckman's father) given by Ellie Schlentz

In memory of Adeline Hoch (Rudy Hoch's mother) given by Joe and Deborah Duszka, and Carolina Custom Surfaces employees

In memory of Charles Spencer given by Bob and Laura Gobble

In memory of Herbert Borgelt (Doris Cline's father) given by Dennis and Barbara Gesse

Endowment Fund

In memory of Charles Spencer given by Margaret and Jerry Carr, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Johnson, and Margaret Cowles

In memory of Herbert Borgelt given by Tom and Carol Wood, and Jim and Frances Cooper

Landscaping Fund

In honor of Ken and Sylvia Shue given by Gene and Genie Surbey

Habitat for Humanity

In honor of George Arnold given by Ken and Sylvia Shue

In honor of Frank Moore given by Gene and Genie Surbey, Jeremy and Erika Kosin, Henry and Hildan Jacobs, Tom Jacobs, Dotte McMasters, Charlie and Ann Finch, John and Sandy McCulloch, Joe and Deborah Duszka, Betty Stubbins, Norman and Maria Bledsoe, Dave and Laura Limburg, Hoover and Barbara Harelson, Ermund and Glenda Huseh, Doris Briscoe, Pete and Bea Petrea, Clare Mann, Doris Hansen, Ray and Joy Lindberg, Peggy Schmidt, Phil and Virginia Crockett, Christina and Scott Weaver, Margaret Todd, Janice Eberenz, Billy and Kathy Johnson, Jane Connelly, Phil and Dawn Barry, George and Betty Burfeind, Clint and Glenda Eudy, Glenn Grayson, Todd and Beth McKay, Elaine and Don Wilson, Jimmy and Kathy Davis, Betty Masters, Tom and Ginny Rice, Ray and Donna Walli, Chuck and Jan Mortimore, Jim and Sandra Daye, Helen Spencer, Kay Thompson, Winifred Woodruff, Bess Morgan, Mattie Williams, Elizabeth and Joe Fortin, Jim and Bonnie Heaton, Fred and Kathy Burke, Jim and Leslie Elza, Jean Young, Bob and Maryellen Paton, Ruth Zeemer, Jay and Phyllis Lambeth, Pastor Jay and Cindy Hilbinger, Pastor Charlie and Kay Zimmerman, Elizabeth Ferenczek, Andy and Debbie Mitchum, Ray O'Neal, Dorothy Moore, Ginny Gaskin, Ken and Sylvia Shue, Ron and Jan Swanson, Kimberly Embry, Kathryn Lochra and Rett Saslow, Jim and Judy Coleman, Ellenor Shepherd, Ellie Bohlken-Schlentz, Rick and Carol Diehl, Tom and Carol Wood, John and Becky Shore, Jim and Frances Cooper, Andrew and Sheri Chamberlin, Charles and Linda Bernhardt, Todd and Lindy Herman



Community Ministries



It's time to start building hope for another family by starting Saturday, April 10, on a new Habitat Home!

Here's how you can help:

- 1. Want to build?** See information on bulletin board around the corner from Frank Moore's office OR sign up near the library Sunday, March 14. There are about a dozen Saturdays to work, and dedication is planned for June 26. Also, Habitat is working on an online registration system, and we will update you soon about how to sign in to the FLC build. Contacts: Kimberly Embry, 332-3359, embryk@vfc.com, Colette Gibson, 856-7481, hornung107@triad.rr.com.
- 2. Want to prepare food?** Again, go to bulletin board for details or contact Ruth Zeemer, 454-5229, rzeemer@northstate.net or Jim Rhodes, 288-6851, jr102404@bellsouth.net. We will need help with breakfasts and lunches. Groups or individuals can do those separately or together.
- 3. Want to get to know the family better?** See bulletin board for list of responsibilities. We do not know which family will be selected yet. Stay tuned for details on bulletin board and in worship bulletin.
- 4. Site hosts are also needed.** See board for list of tasks such as check-in, bringing coffee, light refreshments for FLC group only.

The home is at 422 Bingham St., near the last house that was built. See map, directions on bulletin board.

Good news! We have passed \$20,000 on our way to the \$25,000 goal. Please make donations by April 1; make check to First Lutheran and put "Habitat" on the memo line.

Show God's love in action through "Chicks for Change"

Each \$10 contribution buys 10 chicks; our goal is 1,000 chicks by Easter, April 4. Please make checks to FLC or the ELCA World Hunger Appeal; put "chicks" on your envelope. There also are World Hunger Appeal envelopes in the pews. After you donate, sign your name on a chick on a bulletin board near the library. For details, Amy Schenck (540-8395, aschenck73@gmail.com).



The spring grocery store food drive is March 19-20 at the Harris Teeter behind Chick-Fil-A off Friendly Avenue. If you can help on Friday, contact Bob Meacham, 855-7396; for Saturday, contact Christina Weaver, 540-089, camorganpt@hotmail.com. Thanks to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for a \$1,000 gift, which will buy lots of food!

Chile Update: ELCA Disaster Response is continuing to assess damage in Chile and is working with the Lutheran Church in Chile and an emergency response organization to help people. Mission Support dollars in the FLC mission and ministry plan are used for ministries such as Disaster Response. To help, go to www.elca.org or send contributions to ELCA Disaster Response, 39330 Treasury Center, Chicago, IL, 60694-9300.

Congratulations: Louise Lampron-Welker has been installed as a member of the Board of Trustees of Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas. Louise is well known for her active participation in numerous social ministry projects at First Lutheran. LFS Carolinas is a social ministry organization of the North and South Carolina Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that each year it serves more than 14, 000 children in crisis, adults with special needs, refugees and individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless or struggling to recover from disaster. The Board of Trustees includes 17 people from North and South Carolina. FLC member Bob Klepfer is Chair of the Board.

Easter Flowers

Help celebrate the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday by placing flowers and greenery in the Worship Room and narthex, either as a memorial or honorarium.

In lieu of the lilies and hydrangeas you may make a contribution towards the purchase/rental of decorations and/or greenery.

Please complete this form and mail or bring it to the church office with a check made payable to First Lutheran Church NO LATER than Monday, March 22. Please DO NOT place your order form in the offering plate.

Name: _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Number of lilies _____ at \$10.00 = \$ _____

Number of hydrangeas ____ at \$15.00 = \$ _____

Miscellaneous contribution (Liturgical Arts) \$ _____

Total check amount \$ _____

Our Church Family



...to Ellen Hefner on the death of her father, Nick Nichols on February 24
...to Jean Lapeirre and Mike Lapeirre on the death of her mother-in-law and his grandmother, Eleanore G. Lapeirre on February 26

Calling all cooks!

Thanks to all those who have been preparing casseroles for the January & February Urban Ministry meal. It has been a great success! If you like to cook, here is a great way to support FLC's once-a-month dinner commitment to Greensboro Urban Ministry! We need cooks willing to pre-make a chicken tetrazzini casserole (in a 9 x 13 disposable pan) for our next two GUM dinners - March (& April). Please e-mail Carol@firstlutheran.com or see the youth board near the library for details & the recipe. For the next meal, we will need them in our church refrigerator by Wednesday, March 24. There is an increased number of people in our local shelters and we want to make sure everyone has a warm filling meal! The 5th & 6th Grade Youth & Families will be preparing, serving and providing the rest of this dinner on Thursday night, March 25.

The Human Race



The first day of spring is Saturday, March 20, the same day as The Human Race, a nationwide, community fundraising event that allows participants to raise money for their favorite nonprofit by running, walking or rolling their way to the finish line on race day. Two organizations that are participating that FLC supports are Shepherd's Center and Greensboro Urban Ministry.

For more information on Shepherd's Center go to www.shepctr.org or call 278-0766 and for Greensboro Urban Ministry go to www.greensborourbanministry.org or call 271-5959.

Fair Trade Coffee, etc.

Did you know....

Through the LWR Coffee Project, a partnership between Lutheran World Relief and Equal Exchange, Lutherans can enjoy delicious fairly traded products while supporting small-scale farmers across the world. Farmers can earn a fair price for their crops, have access to affordable credit and can invest in education, health care and sustainable agriculture, building a better future for their families

In addition, for all fairly traded coffee, tea and cocoa purchased through the LWR Coffee Project, Equal Exchange gives \$.20 per pound back to Lutheran World Relief for projects supporting small-scale farmers.

On the second Sunday of each month, you can support this project by purchasing coffee, tea, cocoa and chocolate outside Frank Moore's office. **Sunday, March 14** come support fair trade at First Lutheran!

Congregational Retreat

2010 sounds like a good year to have another Congregational Retreat at Lutheridge.

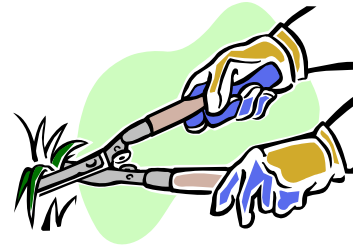


Please mark your calendars for Oct 8-10, 2010. Our first planning meeting will be April 11th at the church at 4:00 PM. Let's have a big group come together with excitement to help make this weekend special. Please call Donalyn Johnson at 288-5106 with questions and don't forget to mark your calendars.

Building Space

As we watch the progress of the new building going up, it is time to think about what should be done with the current rooms that will be made available. If you have ideas about how that space should be utilized, please contact Heidi Baer at heidibaer@aol.com or 688-4015.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH SPRING OUTDOOR CLEANUP



EASTER AND SPRING will be here soon and
WE WANT TO BE READY.

SATURDAY - MARCH 20, 9 am - NOON
All-time or part-time

There are always things to pick up, plant, trim, spread, etc., during spring cleanup.

We need 20-30 people to come dressed to work with gloves, rakes, trimmers, buckets, shovels, etc. Treats and bathrooms provided. Let Kay Reardon (kreardon@triad.rr.com) know you can come to help. Questions? 855-1880

**ONE MORNING CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE -
LET'S GIT 'ER DONE!**



First Lutheran Church
 3600 W. Friendly Avenue
 Greensboro, NC 27410
 www.firstlutheran.com

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Greensboro, NC
 Permit 111

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Deadline for next newsletter: Wednesday, March 17

March 14—March 27 at First Lutheran

Sunday, March 14

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
 8:45 am Traditional Worship
 9:00 am Contemporary Worship
 10:00 am Faith Formation
 10:00 am Community Conversation
 (see page 3)
 11:15 am Traditional Worship
 6:30 pm SHOUT! Service
 7:30 pm Luther Brass
 7:30 pm Bible Study

Monday, March 15

1:00 pm Chrismon Class
 1:30 pm Spirituality Group
 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study
 5:00 pm Grace Reigns Down
 6:45 pm Exec. Committee
 7:30 pm Sullivan Huddle Circle

Tuesday, March 16

10:00 am Chair Yoga
 11:00 am FACEOUT—Lenten Service
 1:00 pm Spirituality Group
 7:00 pm Living Stones

Wednesday, March 17

10:00 am Bible Study
 6:00 pm Handbells
 7:00 pm Lenten Service
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 18

10:00 am Bible Study
 7:30 pm Fellowship Choir

Saturday, March 20

9:00 am Outdoor workday

Sunday, March 21

8:45 am Traditional Worship
 9:00 am Contemporary Worship
 10:00 am Faith Formation
 10:00 am Parents Sexuality Meeting
 11:15 am Traditional Worship
 6:30 pm SHOUT! Service
 7:00 pm Annie Ray Moore Circle
 7:30 pm Luther Brass
 7:30 pm Bible Study

Monday, March 22

1:00 pm Chrismon Class
 1:30 pm Spirituality Group
 4:30 pm Women's Bible Study
 5:00 pm Grace Reigns Down

Tuesday, March 23

10:00 am Chair Yoga
 11:00 am FACEOUT—Lenten Svc.
 1:00 pm Spirituality Group
 7:00 pm Living Stones

Wednesday, March 24

10:00 am Bible Study
 6:00 pm Handbells
 7:00 pm Lenten Service
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 25

10:00 am Bible Study
 7:00 pm Bid and Construction
 7:30 pm Fellowship Choir

Friday, March 26

Office closing at 3 pm

Worship Attendance			
	<u>2/28</u>		<u>3/7</u>
8:45	99	8:45	95
9:00	227	9:00	233
11:15	150	11:15	168
6:30	70	6:30	45