

*My sheep
hear my voice*

JOHN 10:27



Called by the Spirit, we serve Christ, sharing God's love with all.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEBSITE: 1stlutherantopeka.org

1234 Fairlawn Road, Topeka, KS 66604 Church office: (785) 272-5302 CDO office: (785) 272-5999

Ministers

Senior Pastor

Coordinator of Stewardship and Outreach

Children's Day Out (CDO) Director

Caring for Kids 1st Director

Organist

Director of Music

Director of Handbell Choirs

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Bookkeeper

Nursery Attendant

Missionaries in Russia

Missionaries in Guinea

All Members of First

Reverend Jennifer Jackson

Pastor Bob Dealey

Kathy Dale

Julie Bradley

Jerry Anderson

Mark Fuller

Linda Anderson

LaDonna J. Little

Jill Loomans

Cindy Crawford

Tahira Schmidt

Rev. Bradn & Natasha Buerkle

Jim & Dawn Anderson

WE WELCOME all who worship with us today! We extend a special greeting to our visitors and invite you to worship with us again soon. Please make yourselves known to our pastor and people.

COME TO THE FELLOWSHIP TIME BEFORE AND AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Gather in the Nave Lounge to enjoy refreshments, talk with fellow worshippers, greet people you don't know, make new friends, enjoy your time at First and share the love of Christ.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION Lutheran Christians believe that in the sacrament of Holy Communion, by the power of God's Word and Holy Spirit, we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ, along with the bread and wine, for our forgiveness and salvation. If you share in this belief, you are welcome to participate with us. Non-communicating children and adults may come forward to receive a blessing. White grape juice is available, as well as gluten free wafers. If you desire to receive communion at your pew, please alert an usher during the prelude.

A NOTE TO PARENTS: First Lutheran Church welcomes children of all ages to be a part of our worship services. Children's Bibles are located in the pews and a number of items are available on a cart in the Nave Lounge to help them (and you) have a pleasant worship experience. We hope you enjoy these activities in church and at home!!

CHILDCARE: If you prefer, you may leave your preschool children in our well-equipped, staffed nursery during the service. Or, if you need to take a walk with your child, our speaker system provides audio of the service in the Nave Lounge and Library.

WHEELCHAIR available in the north entranceway or in the church office.

EARPHONES for the hearing impaired and **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS.**

PLEASE, NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE MAIN WORSHIP CENTER.

THE CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOLY COMMUNION - EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING THREE

5:00 P.M. & 10:00 A.M.

MAY 11 & 12, 2019

Before worship, talk to God. During worship, let God talk to you. After worship, talk to your fellow worshipper.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE “Partita on Saint Anne” (“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”) (Paul Manz)

1. Theme 2. Adagio 3. Pastorale 4. Fugue-Finale

Today we Celebrate the 100th anniversary of Paul Manz’ Birthday – born May 10, 1919

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

C: **God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.**

P: God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

C: **In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.**

P: For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

C: **For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.**

P: God has been made known to us in deeds of power, signs, and wonders, and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives.

C: **God, you have made known to us the ways of life. Yet, too often, we put other things above you and turn away from the ways of life and toward the ways of death. Forgive us and guide us back into your presence, that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.**

P: My friends, God is our refuge and will not abandon us. In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God. That is a promise of peace and joy. In the name of Christ.

C: **Amen.**

Turn and face the back of the church. As the procession passes, turn and face the front of the church.

855 GATHERING SONG “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

C: **And also with you.**



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Congregation shall sit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECOGNITION OF EDUCATION MINISTRY

See Bulletin Page 15

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

See Bulletin Page 15

WORD

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung, and preached.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing was well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

778 PSALM HYMN *"The Lord's My Shepherd"***SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17**

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering, in whose blood the saints have washed their robes and made them white.

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the 10th chapter.

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

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Congregation shall sit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

502 HYMN OF THE DAY "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Stanza 1. ALL 2. Women 3. & 4. in Harmony 5. Men 6. ALL

WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS

NEW MEMBERS AND SPONSORS

MAY 11 & 12, 2019

Greg & Teresa Smith

George & Cindy Hopper

Brad Merryman

Ted Ensley



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Shine your light through this and every congregation. Reveal to us the light of your salvation in places of hopelessness and decay. Anoint us and make us overflow with goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We give thanks for gentle rains that nourish green pastures and rejuvenate rivers and streams. Provide clean water for thirsty people, animals, and crops. Heal places suffering destruction caused by floods, typhoons, storms, and mudslides. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Empower authorities to be faithful shepherds who lead nations in pathways of righteousness and peace. Disrupt and deter the work of terrorists, religious and political extremists, and all who would choose the way of violence over the way of mercy. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Give strength and perseverance to those facing struggles of hunger or thirst, unemployment or homelessness, chronic illness or anxiety (*especially - see bulletin page 12*). Be our never-failing voice of comfort through all the trials of this life. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

The Assisting Minister offers additional prayers.

A: Raise up faithful women as witnesses to your strength and compassion. Bless mothers and all who offer mothering care. Protect victims of sexism, abuse, and gender-based violence. Restore dignity to those marginalized because of their gender identity or sexual orientation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Salvation belongs to you, O God. You promise to wipe away every tear. Give us the assurance that all who live and die in you will rest forever beside the river of life. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

The ministers and the assembly may greet one another with a gesture of Christ's peace, and may say these or similar words: Peace be with you.

Congregation shall sit.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING *Please place attendance form in the offering plate.*

"The Lord of All My Shepherd Is"

Senior Choir and Soloist-Jill Loomans

(G. M. Martin)

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

764 OFFERING SONG *"Have No Fear, Little Flock"* **Stanzas 1 & 4**

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Risen One, as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore,

C: meet us now in this meal. Nourish us to follow you, using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary, and all for your love's sake. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san - na in the high - est.

THE CONSECRATION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the table. Alleluia! Come to the feast.

Congregation shall sit.

COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"

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The musical score is written on four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the last staff.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

"You Raise Me Up" Jubilation Ringers Bell Choir and Carolyn Sandquist - Viola (arr. Joel Raney)

782 COMMUNION HYMN "My Shepherd, You Supply My Need"

Congregation shall stand or sit, as able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: The blessing of the living God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage.

C: Amen.

As the cross passes please turn and face the back of the church.

789 SENDING SONG “*Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*”

DISMISSAL

A: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE “*CWM Rhondda*” (“*God of Grace and God of Glory*”)

(*P. Manz*)

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ALTAR FLOWERS *are given by Kori & Dru Finney in honor of their fathers.*

ETERNAL CANDLE FOR MAY *is given by Ken & Nancy Sherbert in thankfulness for those who care for her mother, Lois Lykins.*

PARENTS' take this bulletin home for a fun game with your kids! Have them search through the bulletin and circle or highlight **this week's word: SHEPHERD.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Jeani Anderson (home), Ann Sanders (KU Med in KC), Pat Wild (home), Rob Peterson (home), Breck Edds (home), Ann Johnson (home), Mike Wilson (home), Vera Pearce (home), Ken Sherbert (home), Charlotte Weddle (CDO Teacher), Julie Bradley (Caring for Kids 1st Director), Tim Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders' brother), Steve Magee (Kim's husband), Rick Watson (Lisa Arndt's father), C.A. Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders' father), Ken Buch (Verla's son), Mary Roesch (Tracy's mother-in-law), Micah Ewing (friend of the Luber's), Betty Fleming (LaDonna Little's aunt), Joan Stahlman (Joyce Koenig's sister-in-law), Lynette Kottas (Eileen Caspers' mother), Pete Godlove (Michelle Black's father), Carolyn Hale (friend of Margaret Stewart), Don Kaphingst (Margaret Stewart's brother), Lewis Crawford (Cindy's husband), Dan Lykins (cousin of Nancy Sherbert), Nancy Isley Wolfe (friend of the Wolgast's), Linda Deines (Karen Papp's sister), Ben Beery (friend of Haden Roark), Jerome Gutierrez (Dolores Ussery's nephew), Heather Roesch (Tracy's sister-in-law), Norm Stahl (friend of Carolyn Olson), Katelynn Herring (Jeanie Schuler's great niece), Bob Avery (friend of Carolyn Olson), Robin Michael (daughter of friend of Nancy Vaughn), Mary Lou Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders' mother), Linda Myers (Trudi's daughter-in-law), David Metzenthin (Bud & Lois' son), Annika Lundgren (friend of the Engelhardt's).

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



LAY MINISTERS TODAY**10:00 am**

Assisting Minister	Evelyn Wilson
Lector	Jeff Montague
Candlelighter / Crucifer	Katie Krumins / Madison Price
Communion Assistants	Ruth Denno, Karen Wollin
Presenting the Gifts	Bryan & Tamra Price
Council Member Team	Bob Wollin /
Altar Guild	Patricia Drake, Nancy Vaughn
Ushers	Ted & Elna Ensley
North Door / South Door Greeters	Alan & Anne Hageman / Bryce & Judy Cripps
Coffee Hosts	Ted & Elna Ensley
Bus Driver & Host/Hostess	Marvin & Penny Boleski
Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA	Martha Donohoe / Kim Magee / Dave Krug
Stephen Minister 5/13-19/2019	Dick Schaeffer

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK**May 19th – FIFTH EASTER****10:00 am**

Assisting Minister	Anita Wolgast
Lector	Robert Hanna
Candlelighter / Crucifer	Jon Black / Connor Black
Communion Assistants	Ted Ensley, John Hanna
Presenting the Gifts	LaVerne Engelhardt, Anita Nelson
Council Member Team	Bill Barker /
Altar Guild	Karen & Bob Wollin
Ushers	John & Kim Rasmussen
North Door / South Door Greeters	John & Judy Hedeem / Lu Heisler, Carolyn Olson
Coffee Hosts	John & Judy Hedeem
Bus Driver & Host/Hostess	Joe Montague, Leslie Malone
Saturday Lector / Altar Guild / CA	Sherrie Petersen / Kim Magee / Lyle Baker
Stephen Minister 5/20-26/2019	Sara Welch



✠ IN THE FIRST PLACE THIS WEEK ✠

CDO (Children's Day Out) Preschool *Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9a-3p Thursday 9-11:30 a*

**TODAY FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MOTHER'S DAY
NEW MEMBER SUNDAY
GRADUATION RECOGNITION
EDUCATION MINISTERS RECOGNITION**

8:40 a.m. – Adult Education
9:00 a.m. – Youth Bell Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. – Children's Choir Rehearsal
9:40 a.m. – Senior Choir Warm-up
10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion
11:15 a.m. – OMEGA Worship &
Sunday School & Adult Ed
4:00-8:30 p.m. – Parish Hall in Use

Monday, May 13

12:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

Tuesday, May 14

8:00 a.m. – Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study
2:00 p.m. – Stephen Ministry Leaders
6:30 p.m. – Cub Scout Den Meetings (115, 116)

Wednesday, May 15

First Volunteers at Let's Help
9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever
6:00 p.m. – Wednesday Worship in Chapel
6:00 p.m. – WELCA Spring Banquet (PH)

Thursday, May 16

5:30 p.m. – Endowment Committee
NO – Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal will resume in fall
7:30 p.m. – Senior Choir Rehearsal – Last One

Friday, May 17

CDO Final Fun Day for 2 year olds
Pastor Jenny's Day Off

Saturday, May 18

5:00 p.m. – Holy Communion (Chapel)

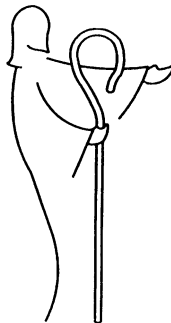
Sunday, May 19 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**CDO SUNDAY &
KATHY DALE RETIREMENT**

8:40 a.m. – Adult Education
9:40 a.m. – Senior Choir Warm-up
10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion

LESSONS MAY 18 & 19

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



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR EDUCATION MINISTERS!

Our church is filled with opportunities for faith formation. Our education ministers seek to form the faith of people **not only in the classroom**, but through **music, worship, camp retreats, library time, crafts, youth plays, book groups, Bible study, WELCA gatherings, committees, First Communion**, ... JUST TO NAME A FEW!



FAITH FORMATION

The list of people to thank would be too long to include here, but let us thank all who have participated in the faith formation of our members. Teaching and learning are foundational to growing closer to God.

God Bless you all -

Adult Learning and Youth & Family Ministry Committees

"I thank my God every time I remember you." - Philippians 1:3

2019 GRADUATES HIGH SCHOOL



ADAM CRAWFORD will graduate from Topeka West High School on May 18th. He graduated from Washburn Institute of Technology on May 9th from their Computer Repair and Network program. He intends to attend Washburn University in the fall to get a degree in Computer Information Science.

ZACK CUSHING is graduating from Shawnee Heights High School. He will be attending Coffeyville Community College on a baseball/academic scholarship.

MADISON LIBY is graduating from Shawnee Heights High School. She will be attending Kansas State University to receive a degree in Elementary Education.

SCOTT ADAM SCHULTZ will be graduating from Seaman High School on May 19th. He plans to attend KSU and major in finance. He will live at Farmhouse fraternity. This summer he plans to continue his mowing business and attend the National FBLA meeting in San Antonio.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY



MARY WOLLIN will graduate May 11th from Washburn University with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Adaptive Special Education. She will be working at Meadows Elementary School in Topeka.

The Best Kind of Recognition

Many security systems today use facial recognition, retinal scans, digital fingerprints, thermal imaging, and, yes, the distinctive features of the human voice. This technology may make some of us uncomfortable, but that doesn't hold back the tide of more and more data collection, profiling, and monitoring of who we are, what we purchase, and how we think.

With this in mind, it is such a relief to hear Jesus say, "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). He is communicating a powerful message of divine love, deep compassion, and fierce protection. This level of intimacy and mutual trust is astounding. We are known to Jesus, and he is known to us. This is the best kind of recognition there is because it does not create any anxiety or fear. To be known by God in this way is to find security far more trustworthy than the limited guarantees available from high-tech devices.

How beautiful and comforting it is to affirm the power of our faith in such a way. What Jesus says today resonates strongly with the astounding story of Easter. After Jesus is raised from the dead, he keeps encountering people who aren't sure who he is—until he calls their names, shows his scars, lifts an ordinary cup, and breaks bread with them. It is thrilling to recognize him in the power of his resurrection—and to trust that in this world and in the world to come, he will also recognize us.

As we grow to know one another, the features of each other's bodies and personalities become more and more familiar: a wisp of hair, our manner of walking, the humor we enjoy, the things we fear, the experiences we cherish—and, especially, the sound of our voices. Today let us give thanks for mothers, friends, and all those in addition to Jesus who know us best.

Cover: Shepherd and a flock of sheep following him. Copyright © iStock/JurgaR. Used by permission.

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20190512-EAS4 Tracks 1 and 2 ELCA-L

PARISH NOTICES

REMEMBER THE "BLESSING BOX" NEEDS FILLING.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY GRACE WORSHIP

Come and Worship Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. ALL ARE INVITED to come for **sandwiches at 5:30 p.m.** (*PB&J are provided or you can bring your own food*) or **just come for worship at 6:00 p.m.** This will be a service unique from our weekend worship and will provide a different atmosphere. This worship will be a wonderful service for folks busy on the weekends, for folks wanting to bring friends to church for the first time, for families with wiggly kids, and for all who need to stop mid-week to pray, worship, and be renewed by God's promises and community. Invite your friends and we look forward to this new opportunity to reach more in our community.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA SPRING BANQUET

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 6:00 p.m.

Parish Hall, First Lutheran Church, 1234 SW Fairlawn Road, Topeka

Come learn from Kris Luber how she developed her *Textile Art Skills*. In recent years, she's been exhibiting and selling her fabric artwork, winning awards, and raising thousands for Camp Tomah Shinga and other non-profits with her art donations. After she entered two art quilts in the 2017 Women of the ELCA Triennial Quilt Challenge, Kris was asked to write an article about her God-given creative inspiration for *Gather* magazine.

Kris will be showing some of her artwork, talking about where she finds her creative spark, and giving an overview of her materials, including answering the question people ask most often, "How did you get those photos into your quilt?"

TICKETS are \$12.00 per person and will be available following services THIS WEEKEND, May 11-12. Get an extra ticket and bring along your family and friends. Everyone is welcome. Join us for a time of fellowship and learning!



MAY 19th is CDO SUNDAY AND RECOGNITION OF KATHY DALE

Kathy Dale is retiring. We will say "We Love You" and "Thank You" in worship, May 19th. Please look for a letter in the mail with an invitation to share some memories with Kathy. Kathy has been an integral part of growing our preschool and creating a loving space for kids to learn.

Dear congregation of First Lutheran,

CARING FOR KIDS FIRST would like to extend sincere appreciation for your overwhelming support of the program. We raised \$775.00 with our Valentine tree fundraiser which we will use to purchase much-needed toys, games and supplies for the children to use this summer. We are happy to announce that all spots quickly filled this year with many returning families. We look forward to another rewarding and enriching summer with the children. We couldn't have been so successful without your ongoing support.

With much gratitude, Caring for Kids First

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE SOME MAGIC?

On **Sunday, June 2**, you will have the opportunity to be dazzled and entertained as you have never been before, as First Lutheran Church hosts the first of three **MAGI MOMENTS**. Under the tutelage of Alan Hageman, Joe Montague and Pastor Bob Dealey, children, youth and others are invited to share and demonstrate their gifts of magic, in conjunction with a Parish Life Committee-sponsored **POTLUCK LUNCH** that will be held in the Parish Hall, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Originally conceived as a means to build self-esteem and self-confidence in children and youth, children and youth are encouraged to perform an illusion of their choice at the potluck. No performer is required to reveal how they performed their illusion and the audience is requested to affirm and encourage those who perform.

All potential performers are invited to contact Pastor Bob by phone at (785) 272-5302 or by email at Rtdealey@sbcglobal.net to make arrangements for their performance on June 2nd. You are welcome to bring family and friends to the potluck and the performance.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE

June 17–21

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

VBS REGISTRATION will be done online this year.

To register your kids or grandkids, go to
<https://vbspro.events/p/events/elcatopeka>

LOOKING FOR NEW EASTER BRUNCH COORDINATOR(S)

The Arndt and Roark families will be stepping down as FLC EASTER CREW in 2021 and would like the opportunity to have the next Crew shadow one event.

Individuals, a family, or families interested in learning more about Brunch responsibilities **please talk with Brooke Roark.**

We have truly enjoyed serving with this ministry and thank everyone for their abundant donations year after year.



Please see the **Adventures in Learning!** newsletter from Shepherd's Center of Topeka www.shepherdscentertopeka.org on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Shepherd's Center of Topeka is a community ministry whose mission is to operate a volunteer senior's organization that enhances physical well-being, spiritual growth, & education for life.