



IN THE FIRST PLACE

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

First Lutheran Church

1234 SW Fairlawn Road

Topeka, KS 66604

785-272-5302

Visit our website at:

www.firstlutherantopeka.org

Email us at:

1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net

Like us on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/
1stlutherantopeka](https://www.facebook.com/1stlutherantopeka)

Children's Day Out

785-272-5999

www.childrensdayout.net

director@childrensdayout.net

Inside this issue...

From Pastor Jenny 1

Prayer Ministry 2

Worship 3

First Family & Topeka Area
News 4-6

CDO News 5

First in Action 6

January Calendar 7

January Celebrations 8

INSERT
Stewardship & Outreach

December 16, 2021
Volume 28, Issue 12

O Come Let Us Adore Him! Christ the Lord!

Join us for Christmas Eve worship.

In-person

3:00 p.m. Special Christmas Prelude Music
3:30 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Communion
7:00 p.m. Special Christmas Prelude Music
7:30 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Communion

Online (Facebook Live)

7:00 p.m. Special Christmas Prelude Music
7:30 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Communion

For in-person worship, we will be continuing our current practices of wearing masks and social distancing while in the building. Communion will be distributed in the pews. Candles will also be brought to you in the pews after communion for the candlelight portion at the end of the service.

Join us again on Sunday, December 26th at 10:00 a.m. for a Christmas Carol Communion service with litany for healing and anointing. (In-person and online.)

"Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of GREAT JOY for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

With love and hope, Pastor Jenny

"What does the Lord require of us but to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God" Micah 6:8

Prayer Ministry

EACH OF US ARE A PART OF OUR CHURCH'S PRAYER MINISTRY.

PRAYER CHAIN MEMBERS NEEDED

If you would like to serve on our prayer chain (email or phone), please contact the church office.
Prayer Journals available for all prayer team members and anyone else who would like them.

WE PRAY for our church community, especially: Joyce Koenig (home), Carolyn Sandquist (home), Diane Dukat (home), Michelle Black (home), David Schmidt (home), Kevin Eaton (home), Martha Donohoe (home), Laura Martin (home), Lois Lykins (home), Phil Engelhardt (home), Verla Buch (home), Blake Hopper (home).

WE PRAY for our homebound members: Betty Deutscher, Deneen Dotzel, Lois Lykins, Helen Nunemaker, Marian Orton, Bob Papp, Alice Purdy, Charlie Vaughn, and Margaret Worrell.

WE PRAY for our family and friends: Monica Collins (friend of Barb Collins), Michael Kuner (friend of Mark Fuller), JoAnn Likness (friend of Barb Collins), Heidi Mark (Bill & Joyce's daughter), Richard Holliday (Marian Orton's son), Amanda Gill (friend of Trudi Myers), Drew Hartz (Steve & Kathy Couch's son-in-law), Mackenzie Lamott (CDO Director Julie's daughter), Sheila Mitchell (Shirley Brower's niece), Deloris Patton (Nancy & Charlie Vaughn's sister-in-law), Don Kaphingst (Margaret Stewart's brother), Linda Byrd (friend of Barb Collins), Newt Newstrom (Dawn Graham's father), William Durham (Trudi Myers' son-in-law), Tavia Shaker (friend of Lindsay Blank), Pat Grant (friend of Ron Bessler), Dan Fraleigh (Sherrie Petersen's brother-in-law), Velda Jacobs (Eileen Caspers' aunt), Lewis Sanders (Rachelle Witherspoon's father), Syndee Haake (daughter of friend of Nancy Vaughn), Blanche Stephansen (Ron Bessler's sister), Nicole Klein (Patti's God-daughter), Georgi Peterson (Rhonda Dealey's mother), Lawrence & Lenette Kottas (Eileen Caspers' parents), John Browne (Penny & Marvin Boleski's brother-in-law), Camille Baehni Engler (former member), Brennan Soukup (Julie Bender's cousin), C.A. & Mary Lou Brunkhorst (Ann Sanders' parents), Heather Roesch (Tracy's sister-in-law), Katelynn Herring (Jeanie Schuler's great niece), Linda Myers (Trudi's daughter-in-law), David Metzenthin (Bud's son).

OUR CONDOLENCES to the family and friends of ***Mary Gregoriew***, widow of the late Pastor Dale Gregoriew, who died November 25, 2021. A Celebration of Life service was held on December 7th in Texas.

OUR CONDOLENCES to ***Glenn Caspers*** on the death of his father, Alvin.

OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE PEOPLE REMOVED FROM THE PRAYER LIST DUE TO DEATH: Dan Lykins (cousin of Nancy Sherbert), and Linda Boleski (Penny & Marvin Boleski's sister-in-law).

PRAYER CHAIN: If you have a more private prayer request (not to be printed on public list), please contact Pastor Jenny and the team of dedicated people will be contacted to start the prayer chain.

**FOR ADDITIONS TO OR REMOVALS FROM ANY OF THESE PRAYER LISTS,
PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE
785-272-5302 OR 1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net.**

"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." — Martin Luther



Worship



Worship with us!

Hebrews 12:28 *Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.*

COVID UPDATES FOR WORSHIP AND IN-PERSON GATHERINGS

With the new guidelines released by the CDC and County Health Officials regarding COVID-19 precautions, the following changes were made for worship and ministry beginning July 28th:

We are asking both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals to wear masks and social distance when gathering inside the church.

May God continue to bless and keep us.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN-PERSON

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ONLINE

Facebook Livestream Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

YouTube Upload Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:4-7)

DATES	ATTENDANCE TOTALS	TITHES & OFFERINGS
11/20 & 21/21	18 + 84 = 102	\$6,701.00
11/27 & 28/21	21 + 76 = 97	\$3,595.00
12/4 & 5/21	23 + 81 = 104	\$7,922.71
12/11 & 12/21	21 + 113 = 134	\$9,390.00



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24th CHRISTMAS EVE

3:00 p.m. - SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PRELUDE MUSIC

3:30 p.m. - CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS COMMUNION

7:00 p.m. - SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PRELUDE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. - CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS COMMUNION

7:30 p.m. – FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS COMMUNION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26th FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

10:00 a.m. – CHRISTMAS CAROL COMMUNION AND HEALING SERVICE

First Family and Topeka Area News



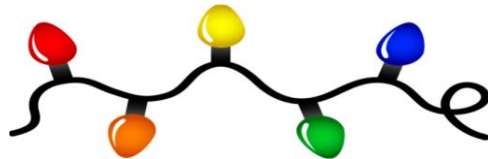
After a 2-year hiatus, the **DRIVE THROUGH LIVING NATIVITY (DTLN)** came back in splendid fashion! By all reports, it was very successful. The weather cooperated nicely. As did the sheep and donkey. The settings, costumes and lighting were all in great shape and looked terrific. Many thanks and blessings to the 126 volunteers, filling 209 jobs, (both FLC members and non-members) who pulled it off with nary a hitch. A special thanks to the Steering Committee who worked tirelessly to provide leadership and labor. We were able to share our gift to the community with 120 vehicles that came through; we received many thanks and blessings from our guests.

My heart-felt THANKS to all who supported in any way! –Jeff Montague, Chair.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

It has been the custom at First Lutheran to provide a monetary gift to First's staff at Christmas. If you would like to make a contribution for the **STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT**, please either mail in or drop off checks payable to "First Lutheran Church" and indicate "staff gift" in the memo line. You can also go to our website www.firstlutherantopeka.org and use the contribute tab. **Please have all contributions in by December 19th.**

Robert Hanna, Council President



Did you know Tamales are Christmas food?

Come eat to find out why, ride in the bus to see the TARC lights, and gather around a fire to make s'mores!

Save the Date: December 19th at 5:30 p.m.

What: Tacos, Tamales, TARC Lights and S'mores

Who: Children, Youth and Families

The **WHAT-SEW-EVER QUILT MAKERS** will not meet on **December 22 or 29**. We will resume our production on January 5, 2022. New workers are always welcome. We work from 9:00 a.m. until noon each Wednesday.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Friday, December 24th – OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON

Monday, December 27th – OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, December 31st – OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON

Monday, January 3rd – OFFICE CLOSED

BUILDING ALARM WILL BE SET WHEN OFFICE IS CLOSED



Parents/Youth/Children - A reminder that **there will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on 12/26 or 1/2** as we break over the Christmas and New Year's weekends. However, **Sunday School will resume on 1/9 with Alpha to start at 9:00 am.** We'll be so excited to see everyone and hear about the wonderful things you did over the holidays!



ANNUAL REPORTS DUE MONDAY, DECEMBER 27th

ALL Committees and Organizations may submit their annual reports to the church office by **Monday, December 27th**, so that the annual booklet of reports can be printed and collated for availability to the congregation by **Sunday, January 23rd**. Please email reports to the Church Secretary, LaDonna at 1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net or mail a typed copy to the church office. Thank you!



ETERNAL CANDLES can be found in both the main Worship Center and our beautiful Chapel. In **2022** you may **DONATE** both candles in remembrance or in honor of someone for the entire month. Please contact LaDonna, in the church office, (785) 272-5302 or email her at 1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net to sign-up for a month and give information that will be included in the bulletin. **The cost will be \$20 for the month. Available months are: August, September, October, and November.**

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR 2022

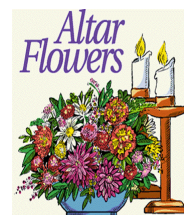
Fresh flowers on our altar are a special way to enrich our worship space and to honor and memorialize special people in our lives. Please join in this beautiful practice by reserving your dates for 2022 now.

There is a chart of reserved dates and forms to complete in the hallway by the offices. You may complete the questionnaire and leave it there. For those who are not coming to the building at this time, please contact either LaDonna at the church office 785-272-5302 or Jeanie Schuler 785-845-7964 and we will gladly take your information over the phone.

For those with annual orders, the chart has been completed and we will call you to confirm your order information. **The altar flowers cost \$25 per vase plus tax.** Reservations may be made for one (\$25) or two vases (\$50). Pulpit flowers are also an option to recognize a special occasion for \$50 plus tax.

OPEN 2022 DATES FOR BOTH VASES (unless indicated otherwise) ARE:

1/9, 1/16; 2/6 (one vase); 4/24; 5/1 (one vase), 5/15, 5/29; 6/5; 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/31; 8/7, 8/28; 11/20 (one vase), 11/27; 12/11 (one vase).



Children's Day Out Preschool

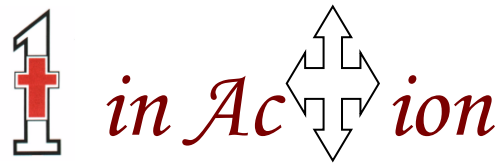


It's the most wonderful time of the year! We are excited to be concluding the year 2021 and welcoming in 2022.

Throughout December we learned about holidays and how each of us celebrate with our families. We are helping the children learn that there are many different ways that families celebrate. Most are celebrated with a gathering of friends and family, special foods, and sometimes gift giving. In the classroom we show the heart of Christmas by teaching and reading the Christmas story. As we focus on the Truth of Christmas, its simplicity naturally shines through. Treasure your priceless gifts-your family, embrace the added time with loved ones.

Thank you for all of your love and support and ministry to our program.

**Merry Christmas,
Julie Lamott
Tanya Romig**



REMEMBER THE "BLESSING BOX" NEEDS FILLING.



Blessing Box items can be almost anything that is small, easy to use/eat, and useful for folks in need.

PLEASE, NO ITEMS REQUIRING REFRIGERATION.

FOOD ITEMS: Canned food with pull tops, non-perishable foods, bottled water, small snacks. More specifically: granola or breakfast bars, small boxes of dry cereal, instant oatmeal, mac & cheese cups, ramen cups, cheese & crackers, pudding/jello cups, peanut butter, canned fruit/vegetables, dry noodle/rice/pasta packets, dry milk powder, instant coffee singles, hot cocoa packets, chips (individual bags), crackers.

PERSONAL ITEMS: Socks, toothpaste/toothbrushes, wet wipes, bar soap, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, laundry soap (small boxes of dry powder), tissues, toilet paper, feminine sanitary products, shampoo, lotion, dish soap.



Thanks for your continued support of this ministry. Let's keep them in our prayers for the work they do and that they stay in good health. For more information, contact *Gary Anderson*.



Monday – Friday from 9am – 2pm
1119 SW 10th Avenue, South Door
785-357-5341

DOORSTEP NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

We are asking for donations for the **55TH ANNIVERSARY FUND** to replace our HVAC system which is 60+ years old. Anything over the HVAC amount will go to help more of our neighbors in need with basic needs such as rent and utility assistance. We are asking our supporters to donate a minimum of \$55 per person towards our 55th Anniversary Fund.

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO DOORSTEP.

You can mail donations to: Doorstep, Inc., 1119 SW 10th Ave, Topeka, KS 66604. You can also donate through PayPal on our website: www.DoorstepTopeka.org under the Donate tab, note the anniversary fund with your donation.

JANUARY 2022

Information effective 12/15/21 and is subject to change.

Children's Day Out Preschool (CDO) schedule: M, T, W & T 9am-3pm Friday 9-11:30 am

Saturday, January 1

5:00 p.m. – Worship Service

Sunday, January 2 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS ENDOWMENT SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

12:15 p.m. – Youth & Family Ministry (Library)

4:00 p.m. – Parish Life Committee (Zoom)

Monday, January 3

OFFICE CLOSED

5:45 p.m. – Property Committee (NL)

6:30 p.m. – Finance Committee (202)

7:00 p.m. – Altar Guild Committee (Sanctuary)

7:00 p.m. – Outreach Committee (Zoom)

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

Tuesday, January 4

CDO Teachers Return

6:30 p.m. – Cub Scout Pack 175 (PH)

Wednesday, January 5

CDO RESUMES

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

Noon – Area Pastor's Lunch at Our Savior's

6:00 p.m. – Adult Learning Committee (Zoom)

7:00 p.m. – Worship Committee (Zoom)

Thursday, January 6 EPIPHANY

5:30 p.m. – Ministry Moving Forward Meeting (Zoom)

5:30 p.m. – Den Meeting

6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. – Executive Committee (Zoom)

7:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 7

Saturday, January 8

5:00 p.m. – Worship Service

Sunday, January 9 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School – Alpha Worship

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Monday, January 10

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

Tuesday, January 11

6:00 p.m. – Den Meetings

7:00 p.m. – Stephen Ministry Supervision

Wednesday, January 12 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

6:00 p.m. – Den Meeting

Thursday, January 13

5:30 p.m. – Ministry Moving Forward Meeting (Zoom)

6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 14

Saturday, January 15

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Pinewood Derby (PH)

5:00 p.m. – Worship Service

Sunday, January 16 SECOND AFTER EPIPHANY

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Monday, January 17 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

NO CDO

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

Tuesday, January 18

6:00 p.m. – Den Meetings

Wednesday, January 19

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

6:00 p.m. – Den Meeting

Thursday, January 20

5:30 p.m. – Ministry Moving Forward Meeting (Zoom)

5:30 p.m. – Den Meeting

5:30 p.m. – Endowment Committee

6:30 p.m. – CDO Board

6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 21 Pastor Jenny's Day Off

Saturday, January 22

5:00 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, January 23 THIRD AFTER EPIPHANY

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:15 a.m. – Guest Speaker – Rabbi Moti Rieber

Monday, January 24 CDO Chapel

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

Tuesday, January 25 CDO Chapel

7:00 p.m. – Topeka Lutheran Home Association

Wednesday, January 26

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

Thursday, January 27

Pastor Jenny's Day of Reflection

5:30 p.m. – Ministry Moving Forward Meeting (Zoom)

6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 28 Pastor Jenny's Day Off

Saturday, January 29

5:00 p.m. – Worship

Sunday, January 30 FOURTH AFTER EPIPHANY

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Monday, January 31

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. – FLC Book Group (NL)

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

Celebrations in January



BIRTHDAYS

Mark Fuller	1
Beckie Olson	1
Joe Cheray	2
David Drake	2
Tina Lewis	4
Fred Schneider	4
Kajsa O'Toole	6
Lisa Arndt	7
Pete Peterson	8
Jessica Guyle	9
Thomas Einck	9
Maureen Krumins	10
Sarah Garner	10
Russ Haley	12
Brylie Roesch	12
Kevin Rosebaugh	14
Tyson Hunley	14
Anne Hageman	15
Tom Ayers	15
Jenn Platte	16
Blake Arndt	18
Ryne Allen	18
Nancy Peterson	18
Steve Couch	18
Katie Smith	21
Pat Booth	22
Roxanne Sanders	23
Alice Purdy	25
Kristen Perez	25
Brooke Roark	26
Emily Crockett	26
Lindsey Sibley	26
Charles Vaughn	27
Breck Edds	27
Kristopher Bangert	29

Nikki Harding	30
Brenda Sanders	31
Makennah Whightsil	31
Sara Welch	31

BAPTISMS

Nicole Montague	1
Allyn Lockner	3
Evelyn Wilson	3
Teresa Smith	3
Carolyn Sandquist	6
Ethan Perez	7
Ivy Bacon	7
Keira Witherspoon	7
Jeanette Lewis	8
Anthony Mijangos	8
Joe Cheray	9
Sarah Garner	9
Joseph Garner	9
Samuel Garner	9
Myles Witherspoon	9
Tom Ayers	10
Orvin Grondahl	11
Haden Roark	11
Isabella Platte	11
Alec Sears	11
Isabella Sears	11
Lily Bacon	11
Katie Haugh	12
Sherrie Petersen	14
Cady Macfee	18
Fred Schneider	19

Madison Price	19
David Krug	20
Jim Petersen	22
Lois Lykins	22
Kathryn Rasmussen	23
Patrick Sandquist	25
Mark Fuller	26
Clare Crockett	26
Evan Crockett	26
Verla Buch	27
Brenda Brower	29
Joyce Koenig	29
Rio Tinoco	31

ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Nancy Sherbert	1/11/1975
West & Shirley Waugh	1/14/1984
Bill & Shirley Perry	1/23/1971

First Lutheran Church
1234 SW Fairlawn Road
Topeka, KS 66604

785-272-5302

www.firstlutherantopeka.org

1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net

Like us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/1stlutherantopeka

Children's Day Out

785-272-5999

www.childrensdayout.net
director@childrensdayout.net

December 16, 2021
Volume 28, Issue 12

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IN THE FIRST PLACE

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

