



# 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](http://www.firstlutherantopeka.org)

Email us at:

[1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net)

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## Children's Day Out

785-272-5999

[www.childrensdayout.net](http://www.childrensdayout.net)

[director@childrensdayout.net](mailto:director@childrensdayout.net)

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January 20, 2022  
Volume 29, Issue 1

## *With love and hope, Pastor Jenny*

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation." 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17*

# 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:** Sara Welch (home), Joyce Koenig (home), David Schmidt (home), Kevin Eaton (home), Martha Donohoe (home), Laura Martin (home), Lois Lykins (home), Phil Engelhardt (home), Verla Buch (home), and Blake Hopper (home).

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

**WE PRAY for our family and friends:** Marilyn Tretcher (friend of Barb Collins), Linda Naugle (friend of Barb Collins), Linda Meyer (Verla Buch's sister-in-law), Shad Horchem (Shirley Perry's brother-in-law), Manny Ramos (Shirley Perry's nephew-in-law), Evelyn Ijams (CDO Student), Michael Kuner (friend of Mark Fuller), 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), Sheila Mitchell (Shirley Brower's niece), Deloris Patton (Nancy & Charlie Vaughn's sister-in-law), Don Kaphingst (Margaret Stewart's brother), 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 *Greg Smith* on the death of his mother, Joyce Smith.

**OUR CONDOLENCES** to the family and friends of *Deneen Dotzel*, who died December 19, 2021.

**OUR CONDOLENCES** to the family and friends of *Helen Nunemaker*, who died December 21, 2021.  
A Celebration of Life service was held on January 12, 2022, here at First Lutheran.

**OUR CONDOLENCES** to *Debbie Grondahl* on the death of her mother, Doris Dodson.

**OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE PEOPLE REMOVED FROM THE PRAYER LIST DUE TO DEATH:**

**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](mailto: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.*

**UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP –**  
**MINISTRY MOVING FORWARD UPDATE: January 13, 2022**

Given the recent spike in COVID infections in our community and based off information from the Shawnee County Health Department along with information about the new variant of COVID, the following changes are being made to in-person worship through the month of January, after which the Ministry Moving Forward Committee will review the status of community health:

- We will refrain from singing hymns during worship. Jerry will play the song during the service, but we will refrain from singing.
- The ushers will dismiss the congregation at the end of worship to help prevent congregating in the nave lounge.
- We will continue to social distance and wear masks regardless of vaccination status.

Singing and fellowship are important to our worship and life together and we understand these temporary changes may be a disappointment. We also fully believe this is a responsible decision to help do our part to protect you and ensure a safe worshipping environment.

As always, our congregation’s patience and understanding has been such a gift in this challenging time, so thank you. We are in this together!

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.

**ONLINE WORSHIP OUTREACH:** When you worship online, be sure to share the worship service as a way to welcome others to worship. It’s never been easier to invite your friends to worship!

*“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
12/18 & 19/21	24 + 101 = 125	\$8,630.00
12/24/21	77 + 137 = 214	\$5,572.00
12/26/21	56	\$2,010.00
12/31/21	Year End Offerings	\$10,396.14
1/1 & 2/22	Canceled + 36 = 36	\$1,785.00
1/8 & 9/22	16 + 43 = 59	\$13,781.00
1/15 & 16/22	8 + 33 = 41	\$5,176.00

# *First Family and Topeka Area News*

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP.**  
If you would like yours mailed to you, please contact LaDonna at:  
785-272-5302 or 1stlutherantopeka@sbcglobal.net

**ANNUAL  
MEETING**



CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

~**VERY IMPORTANT**~  
**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
***JANUARY 30, 2022***

The **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will take place on **January 30<sup>th</sup>**. This meeting takes place each year and the primary topic is to vote on an annual budget. The budget is an expression of the ministry and mission of First Lutheran and it reflects where our church's heart is.

**This year's meeting will be held VIRTUALLY, just like it was last year.** You can join by calling from your home phone or by logging into a video call. Below you will find a phone number as well as a website link to join the meeting.

The **MEETING ITSELF WILL BEGIN AT NOON**, but **technology assistance** will be available beginning at **11:30 a.m.**

We want to ensure everyone has the option and capability to join this meeting so please contact the church should you have any questions.

**PHONE:** Dial the phone number and listen for the prompts to enter the Meeting ID and passcode.

+1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 874 2827 6236

Passcode: 730554

**VIDEO:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87428276236?pwd=eXhFV0RFZXFpUVFyaTczYS9yMXI4UT09>

Meeting ID: 874 2827 6236

Passcode: 730554

### NEW MEMBER CLASSES BEGINNING SOON!

If you are interested in joining our church community through membership, wonderful and Praise God! **A 3-session class will begin at Noon on February 6<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.** We will welcome new members during worship on February 27<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to learn more, please contact Pastor Jenny, 785-633-3985 or by email.

We will be hosting a four-week series of classes entitled **“THE ART OF RADICAL HOSPITALITY”**, beginning **Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**. In-person classes will be offered in the church **sanctuary**, beginning at **11:15 a.m.** and **ZOOM** classes will be offered on Sundays, beginning at **1:30 p.m.** Each class will last approximately 45 minutes. Please call the church office at **(785) 272-5302 TO REGISTER** for the class and so that a book may be ordered for you. Pastor Bob Dealey will be teaching both in-person and ZOOM classes.

### HOPE YOU'RE READY FOR A NEW BOOK TO STUDY!

We will be reading and discussing **N.T. Wright's book “Surprised by Hope”**. The study will begin the second week of February, and we will meet every other week by Zoom. We will have two discussion sessions as last year. One meeting on **Monday at 1:00 p.m. and the other on Friday at 7:00 p.m.** **The first sessions will start February 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.**

Since this book is on the resurrection of our Lord, our sessions are timed out to finish the week before Holy Week. This leads us right up to our celebration of Christ's resurrection! Contact the church office if you would like more information or to join in.

### CDO AND CARING FOR KIDS 1<sup>ST</sup> WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

This is a very exciting time for two of First Lutheran's children's programs. Our Children's Day Out Preschool (CDO) and our summer elementary school-aged childcare (Caring For Kids 1<sup>st</sup>) have recently received Sustainability Grants. Sustainability Grants are available to all Kansas Department of Health and Environment licensed childcare and preschool programs in the state of Kansas to assist with hardships they may have experienced as a result of the Covid pandemic. The two programs are working together to use a portion of their grant funds to share the cost of some significant improvements to our playground.

A few of the more significant playground improvements will include a new interlocking stone block boarder around an enlarged wood fiber play area and a new concrete boarder around the large sand box. The new boarders around these play areas will replace the current badly deteriorated wooden timber boarders. All new 12-inch-deep wood fiber will be placed around the playground equipment inside the play area.

The improvements will also include a new handicapped accessible sidewalk into the wood fiber play area. A new piece of playground equipment will be installed alongside the existing play pieces. In addition, a large permanent sunshade will be installed over a portion of the sandbox.

The playground improvements are expected to begin soon and should be completed within a few months.



**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](mailto: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: February and October.**

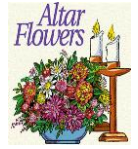
**PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US HAVE FRESH FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR IN 2022.**

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

4/24 (one vase); 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); 12/11 (one vase).

**Please call the church office at (785) 272-5302 or Jeanie Schuler at 785-845-7964 if you have questions.**



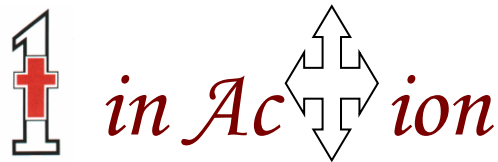
## *Children's Day Out Preschool*



Happy New Year! We hope that the holidays were wonderful for you and your family and that 2022 entered with peace and joy. The children have returned after the long break and are happily adjusting. It is heartwarming to see the children skip or run with exuberance into school after being away for so long. We hope they always find learning to be a joyful experience.

January and February will be busy months here at school. The children will be participating in winter activities, usually indoors, as the cold months are upon us. We are excited about the playground improvements that will be starting soon.

Registration for the 2022-2023 year will begin in February. Thank you for spreading the word to your friends and family!



### **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 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South Door  
785-357-5341

### DOORSTEP NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

As we finish year-end paperwork, thank you's, grant reports, etc. here at Doorstep, life has not stopped, and the phone calls keep coming for assistance!

In many ways 2021 felt like a repeat of 2020, in good ways though too. Our member congregations, and the Topeka community, continued to step up and support Doorstep, and the services we offer. We received more CARES funds to assist with rent assistance. And, for the many other people who still had 'life happen' to them like non-COVID times, we did our best to help with all of those in need that we could.

In 2021, Doorstep spent \$342,434 on emergency services; this is over \$91,000 more compared to 2020. It was a challenging year, and our small staff is incredibly grateful to our volunteers who kept coming in week after week to help us provide services, sort donations, and help clothing room clients. We also feel very blessed by the support we have received from the Topeka community during this time!

In June we had our 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kick-off to raise funds for a new HVAC system at Doorstep. The current system, original to the building, is over 60 years old. At year end, we had donations of \$50,000! That is 1/3 of the amount needed... we have another \$100,000 to go! We are working on a match donation opportunity in February, and more information will be coming...

Unfortunately, with COVID still an issue, we will not have Operation Soup Line in 2022.

Finally, **Thank You** to everyone who donated money, blankets, games, puzzles and hygiene items for **Doorstep's Christmas Project** this past December! We assisted a total of **259 households with 822 individuals!** Hopefully, next year we can be back to 'normal' with the actual Christmas Store.



## DOORSTEP'S "SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY" FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>



**Bring soup and crackers to help stock Doorstep's pantry!**

**SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 13<sup>th</sup>!** Doorstep is asking for donations for SouperBowl Sunday! **Please bring SOUP AND CRACKERS to restock Doorstep's pantry.** A can of soup can be a meal, and in the past, with a successful collection, Doorstep has had soup and crackers to last them into the spring months! Please remember Doorstep when you go grocery shopping and pick up a few items for your neighbors in need.

**Doorstep currently needs the following items for our neighbors in need SEEKING CLOTHING:**

- Men's Coats – ALL Sizes
- Sneakers – Men's & Women's, ALL Sizes
- Adult Sweatpants & Sweatshirts – Men's & Women's, ALL Sizes
- Men's Jeans – Waist sizes 32 & 34
- Women's Jeans – Sizes 16 & 18
- Girls Jeans – Sizes 4 – 14
- Boys Jeans – Sizes 4 – 8
- Queen & King Comforters

# FEBRUARY 2022

*Information effective 1/19/22 and is subject to change.*

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

## **Tuesday, February 1**

6:30 p.m. – Cub Scout Pack 175 (PH)

## **Wednesday, February 2 GROUNDHOG DAY**

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

Noon – Area Pastor's Lunch

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

7:00 p.m. – Worship Committee (Zoom)

## **Thursday, February 3**

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

5:30 p.m. – Den Meeting

6:30 & 7:30 p.m. – Bell & Vocal Choir Rehearsals (tentative)

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

## **Friday, February 4**

Pastor Jenny's Day Off

## **Saturday, February 5**

5:00 p.m. – Worship Service

## **Sunday, February 6 FIFTH AFTER EPIPHANY**

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

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:15 a.m. – Children, Youth & Family Ministry

11:15 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – Art of Hospitality Classes

12:00 p.m. - New Member Class (Zoom)

4:00 p.m. – Parish Life Committee

6:00 p.m. – Pastor Jenny at Arbor Court

## **Monday, February 7**

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

1:00 p.m. – Book Study “Surprised by Hope” (Zoom)

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. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

## **Tuesday, February 8**

6:00 p.m. – Den Meetings

7:00 p.m. – Stephen Ministry Supervision

## **Wednesday, February 9 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

6:00 p.m. – Den Meeting

## **Thursday, February 10**

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

6:30 & 7:30 p.m. – Bell & Vocal Choir Rehearsals (tentative)

## **Friday, February 11**

Pastor Jenny's Day Off

7:00 p.m. – Book Study “Surprised by Hope” (Zoom)

## **Saturday, February 12**

5:00 p.m. – Worship Service

5:00-8:00 p.m. – Blue & Gold Banquet

## **Sunday, February 13 SIXTH AFTER EPIPHANY**

### **SCOUT SUNDAY**

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:15 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – Art of Hospitality Classes

12:00 p.m. - New Member Class (Zoom)

## **Monday, February 14 VALENTINE'S DAY**

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

## **Tuesday, February 15**

6:00 p.m. – Den Meetings

## **Wednesday, February 16**

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

6:00 p.m. – Den Meeting

## **Thursday, February 17**

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 & 7:30 p.m. – Bell & Vocal Choir Rehearsals (tentative)

## **Friday, February 18**

Pastor Jenny's Day Off

## **Saturday, February 19**

5:00 p.m. – Worship

## **Sunday, February 20 SEVENTH AFTER EPIPHANY**

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:15 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – Art of Hospitality Classes

12:00 p.m. - New Member Class (Zoom)

## **Monday, February 21 PRESIDENT'S DAY**

1:00 p.m. – Staff Meeting

1:00 p.m. – Book Study “Surprised by Hope” (Zoom)

7:00 p.m. – Boy Scouts Troop 175 (PH)

## **Tuesday, February 22**

CDO Chapel

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

## **Wednesday, February 23**

CDO Chapel

9:00 a.m. – What-Sew-Ever

## **Thursday, February 24**

Pastor Jenny's Day of Reflection

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

6:30 & 7:30 p.m. – Bell & Vocal Choir Rehearsals (tentative)

## **Friday, February 25**

Pastor Jenny's Day Off

7:00 p.m. – Book Study “Surprised by Hope” (Zoom)

## **Saturday, February 26**

5:00 p.m. – Worship

## **Sunday, February 27 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD**

### **NEW MEMBER SUNDAY**

9:00-9:45 a.m. – Sunday School

10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

11:15 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – Art of Hospitality Classes

## **Monday, February 28**

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 February



## BIRTHDAYS

Elna Ensley	1
Sylvia Levings	2
Austin Jackson	6
Larry Platte	8
Elsie Jenks	8
Marian Orton	9
Fred Smith	9
Jessa Farmer	9
Allyn Lockner	11
Charles Krumins	11
Nathan Leininger	11
Isabella Sears	11
Janet Johnson	12
Alan Schmidt	12
LaVerne Engelhardt	12
Austin Krug	12
Diane White	14
West Waugh	15
George Bales	16
Kenzie Kriss	19
Chris Cushing	21
Brenda Glaze	22
Heather Bacon	22
Margaret Worrell	23
JoAnn Stanley	23
Sadie Waugh	24
Blake Cheatham	24
Dave King	24
Kathy Montague	25
Joan Fries	26
Pat Collins	27
Teresa Roberts	27
Shirley Waugh	28

## BAPTISMS

Roxanne Sanders	2
Diane Dukat	4
Luke Jurgens	4
Emma Bunting	4
Madeline Jurgens	4
Autumn Jurgens	4
Maureen Krumins	5
Ray Tarvin	5
Patti Klein	5
Kristin Debenham	6
Russ Haley	7
Meghann Chaudhry	11
Emberly Stallons	11
Jean Abbe	12
Anne Hageman	14
Tyler Price	14
Dennis Haugh	15
Ivan Haugh	15
George Bales	15
Emily Crockett	16
Lowell Chellberg	19
Diane Wilson	20
Chloe Bunting	23
Brendon Roark	28
Brooke Roark	28
Nicholas Roark	28

## ANNIVERSARIES

John & Pamela Strahan	2/03/1971
Bob & Cheryl Hjetland	2/10/2001
Tom & Mary Bulkley	2/13/1970
Larry & Nancy Platte	2/13/2005
Dean & Lynnette Johnson	2/14/2004
Russ & Judy Haley	2/23/1963
Alan & Jill Loomans	2/24/1973
Dwight & Suzanne Cowan	2/28/1987
Jim & JoAnn Stanley	2/29/1980

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January 20, 2022  
Volume 29, Issue 1

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## ***IN THE FIRST PLACE***

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

