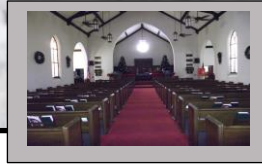


FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS

BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON

May 2025



Volume 28 No. 5

First Things First...

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23

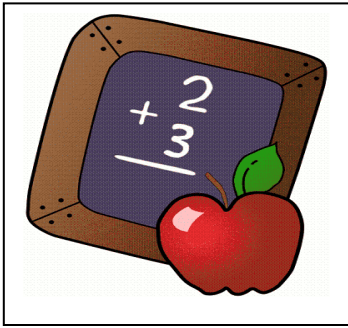
We have all seen them, heard them, and even fell for them. They look so good; they sound so promising; they are too good to be true! (And that means, they **ARE** too good to be true.) “They” are BOGO, 50% off today only, pay \$39.99 get a second one free! inventory is running low -buy yours before they are gone, you only pay a small handling and shipping fee...and other scams/questionable sales practices/tricky reading/tiny, tiny, tiny fine print.

The secular adage: ‘there ain’t no such thing as a free lunch,’ is thought to have originated in the 1930s when saloon and bar owners would advertise a “free lunch” to entice customers to come in for a drink.¹ Experience will often provide evidence that the proverbial-worthy thought is true. The cost of whatever is advertised as free is recovered by being spread throughout the other merchandise of the business. There is no free lunch... Nothing comes for free...

Or is there something absolutely and completely free? The GIFT of God to us is eternal life through Jesus’ death and resurrection. Nothing we think, nothing we say, nothing we do can pay the price for a single sin. Jesus took all our sin on Himself and nailed it to the cross. God gives us forgiveness as a gift. Freely, He offers it. Freely, He gives it. He gives the Holy Spirit so that hearing the gospel we believe it. We simply receive it. The word “free” does not appear in the Greek text of Romans 6:23. It is understood in the word “gift” (CHARISMA) as a gift given without merit or consideration of worthiness on the part of the recipient. **God gives because HE chooses to give.** Hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ, by grace the Holy Spirit creates faith in us to receive His word as truth. Today, God freely offers His salvation to you; freely receive it as His gift! His FREE GIFT!!

Jesus loves you and so do I! Pastor Grier

¹Wikipedia:Article:*No such thing as a free lunch*



First School And Day Care

The First School is excited about our annual end of the year program. We have 36 Preschool and PreK kids that will be participating in this special event! The parents look forward to it each year. We invite you all to come out and see our program on Thursday, May 15th, at 6:30 pm in the church sanctuary. Hope to see you there!

Many blessings,
Bree Joines

**First School Board Meeting –
Thursday, May 8th – 5:00 p.m.**

**End of Year Program –
Thursday, May 15th – 6:30 p.m.**

FLCEC Manna Meals Team

Our FLCEC Manna Meals Team will be serving on Thursday, May 29th. Please let Cathy Schoenfield know if you will be able to help. Many meals are served on Monday and Thursday each week!

Where all are family and all are fed

MAY READINGS

05/04 Leviticus 4:27-35, Psalm 86:6-10, Ephesians 6:10-20, Luke 19:41-48
05/11 Leviticus 5:1-13, Psalm 86:11-17, Ephesians 6:21-24, Luke 20:1-18
05/18 Leviticus 5:14-19, Psalm 87:1-7, Philippians 1:1-11, Luke 20:19-40
05/25 Leviticus 6:1-7, Psalm 88:1-7, Philippians 1:12-18a, Luke 20:41-21:4



05/01 Kim Kainer
 05/05 Robert Hollingsworth
 05/20 Emery Langston
 05/23 Dagny Thane
 05/25 Shane Langston
 05/26 Kathleen Joines
 05/30 Evon Atchete



Our FLC Family

Cecil Anderson
 Dorothy Atchete
 Harlo & Rhonda Atchete
 Cora Lee Bishop
 Pastor & Alys Grier
 James & Sheila Herington
 Marilyn Kight
 Kim & Larry Ledwig
 Lloyd Nelson
 Ashley Schoeneberg
 Bentley

Friends of FLC



05/02 Kirk House
 05/11 Ed Campbell
 05/13 Sheila Herrington
 05/14 Shane Langston
 05/14 Sarah Langston
 05/24 Abigail Hernandez

List will be cleared on the 1st in January, April, July and October. Please help us stay current; call the office with changes or additions.



PRAY FOR
 ALL WHO
 SERVE IN
 THE US MILITARY



WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US



OR



05/23 Stanley & Marolyn McMillan
 05/25 Daniel & Claudia Wilfert

Office hours: Tues & Thurs: 8:00am - 4:30pm
 Wed: 8:00am – 12:00pm

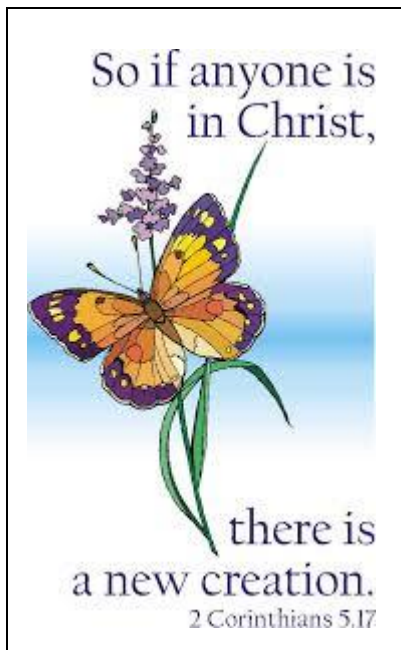
Phone: 979-543-5847

Email: office@firstlutheranec.com



COUNCIL MEETING
 Monday, May 19th
 6:00 p.m.

Pastor Clyde Grier:
 Phone: 979-541-6173



National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 1

**Theme: Pour out to the God of Hope and
be Filled!**

*"Now may the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace in believing, so that you will
abound in hope by the power of the Holy
Spirit."*

Romans 15:13

First School Board

Thursday, May 8th
5:00 p.m.

Church Council

Monday, May 19th
6:00 p.m.

A = Always

S = Say

A = A

P = Prayer



May 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 National Day of Prayer	2	3
4 Worship Service w/Communion 10:45 AM	5	6	7	8 First School Board Meeting 5PM	9	10
11 Worship Service 10:45 AM	12	13 Newsletter Items Due	14	15 First School Program 6:30 PM	16	17
18 Worship Service w/Communion 10:45 AM	19 Church Council Meeting 6PM	20	21	22	23	24
25 Worship Service 10:45 AM	26	27	28	29 Manna Meals 5-6:30 PM FLCEC Team serves	30	31

May Responsibilities

ASSISTING MINISTER: Kirk House

SEXTON: Kirk Marek

USHERS: Calvin Borak, Jimmy Nielsen

ALTAR GUILD: Nerissa House, Kirbie Woods

READER

4th Ted Schoenfield

11th Calvin Borak

18th Cathy Schoenfield

25th Diane Stewart

If you are unable to serve on your date,
please find someone to take your place.



MAY FLOWER CALENDAR

4th Open
11th Open
18th Jimmy & Kathy Joines
25th Jimmy & Sharon Nielsen

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

304 Oscar
El Campo, TX 77437
979-543-5847

Email: office@firstlutheranec.com

ESTABLISHED FEB 1893

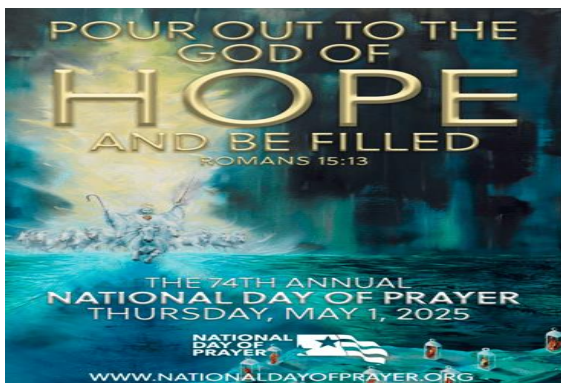
*Worshipping Christ and Sharing
the Word for over a century.*

Clyde Grier, Pastor
Helen Marie Kight, Organist
Christine Richter, Office Manager
Bree Joines, Director of First School



Join us on **FACEBOOK** or check us out at
www.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS: Calvin Borak, Will Joines, Karen Kight, Kim Ledwig, Kirk Marek, Cindy Mathews, & Doug Mathews



OUR NEWSLETTER
CAN BE FOUND ON
OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.FIRSTLUTHERANEC.COM



**Join us for worship
on Sunday mornings!**

Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.