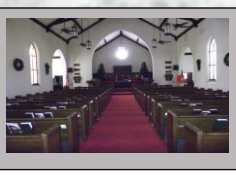
FIRST FRUITS

WE GIVE OUR FIRST FRUITS **BECAUSE HE GAVE US HIS ONLY SON**

May 2026 **Volume 29 No. 6**



First Things First...

This I Believe

"...in your hearts honor Christ, the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you yet do it with gentleness and respect." **1 Peter 3:15**

Belief exerts a powerful influence on every aspect of life. As Peter says above, there is a hope in everyone who believes in Christ the Lord. Each one of us should be ready, at any time, to make a defense (tell the reason) for that hope. In the upcoming issues of *First Fruits,* I share summaries of what I believe so that you may know me more fully and so you may see the reason for the hope that is in me. This month resumes the expansion of my belief regarding prayer.

And He (Jesus) said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.'" **Luke 11:2-4**

(Jesus said,) "Pray then like this: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come, Your Will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.'" **Matthew 6:9-13**

Drawing near the end of this creed, I will briefly touch on prayer structure. At its minimum, a prayer should offer adoration, worship, oblation and love to God: as an acronym, AWOL. Children's bedtime, table prayers, liturgical chants and responsive prayers model this style and parameter. Other abbreviations guiding our prayers are given in the following list.

Prayer acronyms are mnemonic tools that help structure prayers, covering praise, confession, thanksgiving, and requests to God. I will close this chapter of "This I Believe" with a list of prayer acronyms. I encourage you to select three or four, using them to enrich and focus your prayers.
Common Prayer Acronyms and Their Meanings

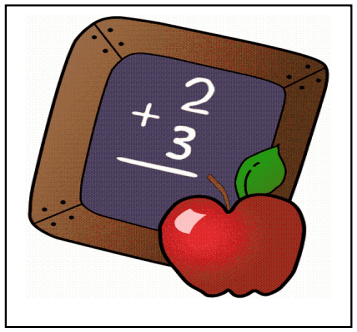
- **PRAY** Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield. This acronym guides you to start with worship, confess sins, present requests, and surrender to God's will.
- **ACTS** Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication. A widely used method emphasizing worship, repentance, gratitude, and requests.
- **ASAP –** Always Say A Prayer. Self-explaining.
- **ASK** – Ask, Seek, Knock. Encourages persistence in prayer, based on biblical instruction.
- **PATH** – Praise, Admit, Thanksgiving, Help. Focuses on acknowledging God, confessing, giving thanks, and seeking assistance.

- **FACTS** Faith, Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication. Combines trus t in God with structured prayer elements.
- **PAST** Praise, Acknowledge, Supplication, Thanksgiving. A simple framework for daily prayer.
- **STOP** Surrender, Temptation, Obedience, Purity. Helps focus on spiritual alignme nt and moral guidance.
- **3P's** Praise, Petition, Provision. Emphasizes worship, requests, and God's provis ion.
- **ALTAR** Adoration, Listen, Thanksgiving, Ask, Remember. Encourages attentive and reflective prayer.
- **PRAISE** Praise, Repent, Ask, Intercede, Speak the Word, Enjoy His Presence. A comprehensive approach including intercession and scripture.
- **WORSHIP** Welcome, Openness, Reflection, Surrender, Humility, Intercession, P raise. Focuses on a holistic spiritual posture.
- **PRAYER** Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield, Express, Renewal. Covers all key aspects o f prayer, including attitude and spiritual renewal.
- **HEART** Honor God, Examine your life, Ask for help, Request for others, Thank G od. Encourages self-reflection and intercession.

- **ARROW** Ask, Reflect, Repent, Openly, Worship, Silence. Combines active and co ntemplative worship.
- **PARTS** – Praise, Ask, Repent, Thank, Share
- **PART** – Praise, Admit, Request, Thank
- **HEART** Honor God, Examine your life, Ask for help, Request for others, Thank Go d
- **FAITH** – Full Assurance In The Heart
- **LOVE** – Living Our Values Every day
- **GLORY** – Give Love, Offer Reverence, Yield
- **HOPE** – Hold On, Pray Earnestly
- **TRUST** – Thank, Repent, Understand, Seek, Thank again
- **BLESS** – Believe, Listen, Express, Seek, Serve
- **GUIDE** – Give, Understand, Intercede, Depend, Express
- **LIGHT** – Listen, Intercede, Give Thanks, Honor, Trust
- **PEACE** – Praise, Express, Ask, Confess, Enjoy
- **JOY** – Just Offer Yourself
- **SERVE** – Seek, Express, Repent, Value, Encourage
- **TRIUMPH** – Thank, Repent, Intercede, Understand, Meditate, Praise, Hope
- **REFLECT** – Repent, Express, Faith, Listen, Examine, Confess, Thank
- **ABIDE** – Adore, Believe, Intercede, Depend, Express[1]

[1]AI summary of "The Faith Space" and centralbiblestudy.com articles on prayer acronyms

Jesus loves you and so do I! Pastor Grier



First School And Day Care

The First School Preschool and PreK kids are almost ready for our graduation celebration on May 14th starting at 10:30am in the church sanctuary. We will have refreshments in the fellowship hall with a gift of a Bible for each child. We hope you can come out and see our program!

Many blessings,
Bree Joines

First School Board Meeting –
Thursday, May 14th – 5:30 p.m.

End of Year Program –
Thursday, May 14th – 10:30 a.m.

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FLCEC Manna Meals Team

Our FLCEC Manna Meals Team will be serving on Thursday, May 28th. Please let Cathy Schoenfield know if you will be able to help.

Where all are family and all are fed

May Readings

05/03 Acts 6:1-9,7:2a.51-60, Psalm 146, 1 Peter 2:2-10. John 14:1-14
05/10 Acts 17:16-31, Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 20: 19-31
05/17 Acts 1:1-11, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1:15-23, Luke 24:44-53
05/24 Numbers 11:24-30, Psalm 25:1-15, Acts 2:1-21, John 7:37-39
05/31 Genesis 1:1-2:4a, Psalm 8, Acts 2:14a,22-36, Matthew 28:16-20

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 Atchetee

Our FLC Family
Rhonda Atchetee
Cora Lee Bishop
Pastor & Alys Grier
Charlotte Hansen
James & Sheila Herington
Marilyn Kight
Kim & Larry Ledwig
Pat Marek
Lloyd Nelson
Ashley Schoeneberg
Bentley

Friends of FLC
Candace Janecka
Misty Elliott

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

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

WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US

OR

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 18th
6:00 p.m.

Pastor Clyde Grier:
Phone: 979-541-6173

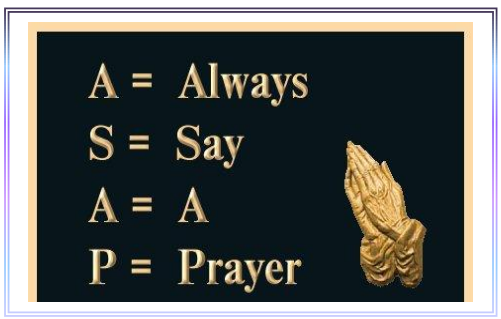
National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 7

Theme: "Glorify God Among the Nations, Seeking Him in All Generations."

"Tell of His glory among the nations,
His wonderful deeds among all the peoples."
1 Chronicles 16:24 NASB

First School Board
Thursday, May 14th
5:30 p.m.

Church Council
Monday, May 18th
6:00 p.m.



Women of the Word

Bible Study

Trued Room
Thursday, May 7
6:00 p.m.

May 2026

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

May Responsibilities

ASSISTING MINISTER: Kirk House
SEXTON: Will Joines
USHERS: Calvin Borak, Jimmy Nielsen
ALTAR GUILD: Nerissa/Kirk House

READER

3rd Ted Schoenfield
10th Helen Johnson
17th Calvin Borak
24th Cathy Schoenfield
31st Ty Schoenfield

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

MAY FLOWER CALENDAR

3rd Open
10th Open
17th Open
24th Jimmy & Sharon Nielsen
31st Open

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Email: office@firstlutheranec.com

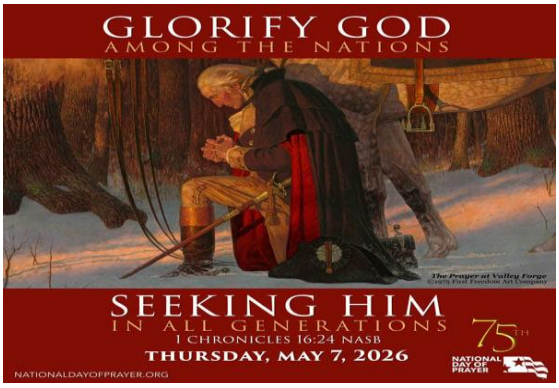
ESTABLISHED FEB 1893

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, Jan Chatel, Lionel Chatel, Will Joines, Karen Kight, 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.