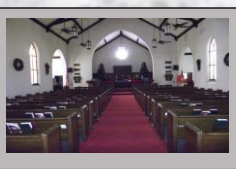
FIRST FRUITS

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

October 2025 **Volume 28 No. 10**



First Things First…

Interrupted now renewed.

I began this series some time ago, but life intervened and I allowed interruptions to distract me. I do believe that it is an important series of topics. The wise man once said, "writing makes an exact man." Recording my thoughts in print, I find I do have to be more exact and coherent through the words chosen. Therefore, I renew this series with the same introductory statement as before.

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 plan to resume sharing 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. Simultaneously, I am reviewing and editing previous presentations into a single document. I renew the series with my belief regarding the Ten Commandments.

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction (Exodus 24:12)." I remember watching the Cecil B. DeMille theater production "The Ten Commandments." The adaptation of Moses ascending Mount Sinai is one of the most vivid memories from my childhood. Picturing the finger of God as lightning bolts etching those words onto tablets of stone carved from the mountainside, the movie mogul created (for me) the reenactment of how it must have been. Reflecting on the scene, I see several Biblical truths symbolized. Permanence is depicted by the durability of stone, the law of God summarized in ten concise statements were meant to guide and govern faith and behavior. Alas, the sinful nature of the old Adam was starkly portrayed as unable to "be good" and the plaques shattered as Moses hurled them off the mountainside into the midst of rowdy revelers. People could not and cannot keep the commandments perfectly, rather the flesh willfully disobeys to destruction and condemnation. Romans 3:10-12,23 clearly state, *"None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; Together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one…for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* The rebellious and corrupt

nature, native and inborn in all people, turned the Commandments from a love-based guide into a mirror that reveals our sin, thereby convicting us as unworthy to receive God's loving mercy or to be His children. Despair and hopelessness would be hallmarks of our existence but for the Gospel of Christ. God's loving and merciful grace redeems us from the death earned by disobedience. *But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it--the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe"* (Romans 3:21-22a). *God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly"* (Romans 5:5b-6). *"But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:8). We cannot depend on ourselves to be worthy of His love and mercy, but we CAN trust His promise: *"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God"* (Romans 5:1-2).

Next month I will address the Two Tables of the Law, the Three Uses of the Law, and the various numberings of individual commandments. In the December issue I will conclude the topic—Lord willing.

Jesus loves you and so do I! Pastor Grier

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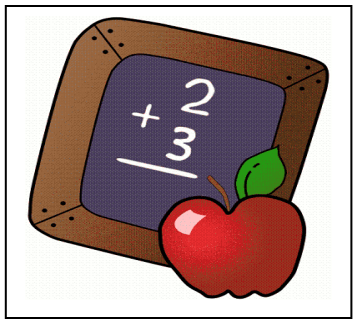
BIBLE READING SCHEDULE
OCTOBER 2025

DATE	READING	DATE	READING
1	Acts 1	17	Acts 17
2	Acts 2	18	Acts 18
3	Acts 3	19	Acts 19
4	Acts 4	20	Acts 20
5	Acts 5	21	Acts 21
6	Acts 6	22	Acts 22
7	Acts 7	23	Acts 23
8	Acts 8	24	Acts 24
9	Acts 9	25	Acts 25
10	Acts 10	26	Acts 26
11	Acts 11	27	Acts 27
12	Acts 12	28	Acts 28
13	Acts 13	29	Romans 1
14	Acts 14	30	Romans 2
15	Acts 15	31	Romans 3
16	Acts 16		



First School And Day Care

The First School is gearing up for our annual Trunk or Treat event. We invite you to our fall event on Thursday, October 23rd from 6:30pm - 7:30pm in the church parking lot. Costumes are encouraged and bring something to hold your candy. We hope to see you there!

Many Blessings,
Bree Joines
The First School Director

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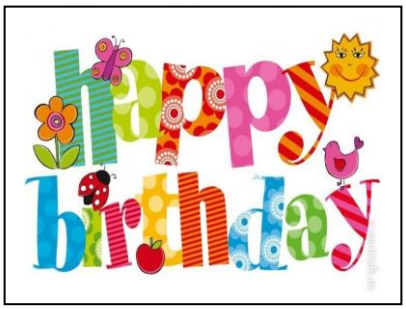
First School Board Meeting –
Thursday, October 9, 2025

October Readings

10/05 Leviticus 7:28-34, Psalm 89:25-28, Philippians 3:1-11, Luke 21:37-38
10/12 Leviticus 7:35-38, Psalm 89:29-33, Philippians 3:12-16, Luke 22:1-6
10/19 Leviticus 8:1-9, Psalm 89:34-37, Philippians 3:17-21, Luke 22:7-13
10/26 Revelation 14:6-7, Psalm 46:8-11, Romans 3:9b-26, Matthew 11:12-19



10/02 Michael Barosh
10/02 Sharon Nielsen
10/04 Teagan Stewart-Gallegos
10/05 Claudia Wilfert
10/08 Kirk House
10/14 Cheryl Young
10/19 Grace Clemons
10/25 Sarah Barosh
10/29 Lynette Hernandez

Our FLC Family
Cecil Anderson
Harlo & Rhonda Atchetee
Cora Lee Bishop
Pastor & Alys Grier
James & Sheila Herrington
Marilyn Kight
Kim & Larry Ledwig
Misty Ledwig
Lloyd Nelson
Ashley Schoeneberg
Bentley

Friends of FLC

10/06 Loretta Johnson
10/09 Asa Lundy
10/10 Stanley Mc Millan
10/11 Everly Orsak
10/18 Sawyer Schoenfield
10/23 Gloria Campbell
10/25 Liam Joines
10/25 Emma Moulden
10/25 Grace Clemons
10/27 Ty Mathews

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

10/23 Jimmy & Kathleen Joines
10/26 Evon & Linda Atchetee
10/30 Kirk & Pat Marek

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, October 20th
6:00 p.m.

Pastor Clyde Grier:
Phone: 979-541-6173

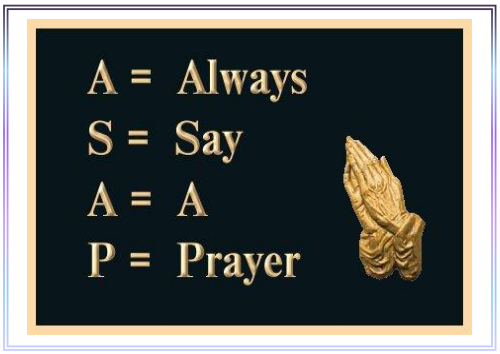
LCMC 25th Annual Gathering – October 5-8, 2025

THEME: Engaging Your Cultural Moment

- Speakers
- Focus Groups
- Breakout Sessions
- Fellowship Dinner
- District Meetings
- Recognitions
- Exhibitors
- Learn More About LCMC

First School Board
Thursday, October 9th
5:00 p.m.

Church Council
Monday, October 20th
6:00 p.m.



Manna Meals

Our FLCEC Team will serve on Thursday, October 2nd. Volunteers are needed!

LCMC 25th Annual Gathering
October 5-8, 2025

THEME: Engaging Your Cultural Moment

The Annual Gathering will be live streamed. (Please note: If you plan to tune in, all times listed on the LCMC home page/events will be local time for Lakeville, MN.)

October 2025

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

October Responsibilities

ASSISTING MINISTER: Kirk House
SEXTON: Gaynard Wigginton
USHERS: Will Joines, David Kight
ALTAR GUILD: Sheila Miller, Sharon Nielsen

READER

5th Calvin Borak
12th Cathy Schoenfield
19th Ty Schoenfield
26th Diane Stewart

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

OCTOBER FLOWER CALENDAR

5th Open
12th Open
19th Jimmy & Kathy Joines
26th 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, 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 on Sunday mornings!

Bible Study – 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:45 a.m.