

FIRST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
COLORADO SPRINGS



ekklesia

11.12.25

FROM THE PASTOR

LAST MONTH THE congregation voted overwhelmingly to move forward with an expansion of the Narthex and Gathering Place. I'm excited for this project which will strengthen our welcome of people into the life of First Lutheran and enhance our ability to create community. In our world people are hungry for authentic community, and we are creating a space that will foster those connections that bring real healing and life.

Let me give you a brief update as to where we are. There are two things going on simultaneously, the work of the Renovation Committee and the work of the Capital Campaign Committee. It's a bit of a dance since both groups need information from the other group to move forward, but it's a dance we know well and have done before with the Peel House.

The Renovation Committee has engaged with CRP architects for an assessment of the facility as it is now. Once that is complete, they will begin work on schematic designs for phase one. The committee has listened carefully to the congregation's feedback presented at the Ministry Gatherings and is working to incorporate that feedback into the design. We are looking to engage an artist to design the new stained-glass spire and focus on some elements of the façade of the new building that will inspire faith. We are also thinking through how to honor the history of the Bell Tower since it was an iconic part of First Lutheran's public image in the past. Over the next few

months, the Renovation Committee will more precisely define the scope of phase one and develop a budget for the project.

In the meantime, the Capital Campaign Committee is also getting organized. The committee has already begun meeting with lead donors who have committed to giving over \$100,000 to the project. That work will continue over the next couple of months as we build momentum for the public phase of the campaign, which will likely happen in the spring of 2026. It has been incredible and surprising how many people are anxious to make a commitment and even give this year. Significant donations have already been received! The campaign will work to tell the story and invite generosity, but we also recognize some people have already prayed about this and are prepared to give. We are ready to receive any gifts people feel called to make.

I will work to keep you updated so that you are aware of what is happening behind the scenes. Please keep this whole project in your prayers that God would use it to unite our congregation and strengthen our witness. I pray God will use this church and this project to proclaim the good news of the gospel of Jesus and bring people to saving faith. God's will be done.

PASTOR TRAVIS NORTON



Sunday's Message

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

PASTOR TRAVIS NORTON

LUKE 20: 27 – 38

I GREW UP IN UTAH which as many of you know is heavily populated by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. So, religion was always a topic in my growing up years. As I grew in my own faith, especially during confirmation, I started talking with my Mormon friends about the differences between our beliefs. I invited them to my church; they invited me to their church. I set up appointments with their Bishops and missionaries to debate the difference between our beliefs. My parents didn't love it when missionaries showed up at our door, and I had forgotten the appointment leaving them to deal with them.

One of the biggest differences between our faith and the LDS faith is that we believe in the Holy Trinity. We believe that God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three persons in one, an eternal relationship of love. I remember one Mormon missionary arguing with me about this by trying to show how ridiculous the idea of the Trinity is. His strategy was to focus on the prayers of Jesus. He would ask me mocking questions about Jesus. Who was he praying to in the Garden? Who was Jesus talking to on the cross? If the Trinity is true, was Jesus just talking to himself? Of course, he wasn't interested in my answers, he only wanted to make me feel that my belief was silly and therefore wrong. It's exactly the strategy the Sadducees used when they questioned Jesus about the resurrection. I wish I had Jesus' skill that he demonstrates in his conversation with the Sadducees. The Sadducees were a sect of Jews who didn't believe in the resurrection or life after death or heaven or any of that. And they confront Jesus with questions designed to ridicule his teaching that people come back to life after they

die. They zero in on the Bible's instructions about caring for a woman when her husband dies. The law said that the dead man's brother was required to take her in as his wife and care for her. But they take this to the extreme degree imagining she loses seven husbands and then asking Jesus who gets her in the resurrection. You can almost see them chuckling to themselves as they ask the ridiculous question because they don't believe in the resurrection and they think they've shown Jesus why it's a stupid belief. Only a dummy would believe that people come back to life after they die and only an idiot believes in heaven and resurrection.

Our Christians beliefs are often maligned this way by those who can't imagine that there is more to this life than what we see. There are many problems with the Sadducees question, but the biggest one is simply a failure of imagination. They assume that the resurrection and heaven abide by the same rules and traditions as this life. They can't imagine that it would be different, that the power structures of heaven are different, that relationships and status are different. Jesus' answer to their question uncovers their failure and gives us a glimpse of heaven worthy of our exploration. On the face of it His answer might sound like bad news, especially for those of you who really like your husband or wife. He says that in heaven there is no marriage, nobody marries and nobody is given in marriage. Think about that second phrase, nobody is given in marriage. In Jesus' day, and throughout much of history, women were considered property, given to a man in marriage. That's the assumption of the Sadducees that they can't imagine ever changing. In Bible study when we looked at this passage, one

of the women in the group said she would hate to be the woman in the illustration being handed over to seven different men and having her eternity debated in terms of who would own her. It's a good reminder of why it's important to study the scripture from all points of view because, embarrassingly, I hadn't even considered the woman's perspective in this. Jesus says that the rules that oppressed women and made them property don't exist in the life to come. I can imagine some women overhearing this in the temple who were in arranged marriages who didn't have love or companionship but were treated as property, hearing this as welcome good news. Their imaginations would be open to a future where they were free, where they had equality, where they were like angels. Jesus says that in heaven we become like the angels, children of the resurrection who do not die. Jesus answers the Sadducees inviting them to broaden their perspective and defends belief in the resurrection and heaven.

What do you imagine heaven being like? I think of all the questions I get asked about heaven. What age will we be in heaven? People ask, mostly hoping they get to be young again. Will we recognize each other in heaven? What will we do in heaven? A lot of people are concerned that heaven will be boring, like one big church service that never ends. I mean I love church, I've devoted my life to church, but I'm also committed to church service lasting no more than one hour. I would not look forward to a heaven that looks like an endless church service. Pastor Michaela, Lori and I did a podcast episode on heaven and hell. For some reason my nine-year-old girls keep asking to listen to our podcast. We listened to this episode together in the van on the way to our Saturday McDonald's run, and they started asking me questions about heaven. My stock answer about heaven, especially when people worry about being bored, is to remind people that God made this world that we love and enjoy so much. I told my girls that and then asked them what they love about this world and to imagine that in heaven but even better. They gave it some thought, and then blurted out that heaven must be like Disneyland. But not just one Disneyland but like five Disneylands.

That might be their idea of heaven, but it sounds more like hell to me.

We can't know much about heaven, but Jesus does give us clues and glimpses. As he riffs on heaven he focuses on the resurrection. We believe, as we confess in the Apostle's Creed in the resurrection of the body. Whatever heaven is it is a place where we have physical bodies. We will eat and drink and touch and use all of our senses. This goes against the idea that heaven is a disembodied place for the soul. These bodies matter, God made them and when they work as God designed, they are pretty great. When I think of heaven I think of children at play. They run and jump and crawl and roll, their hearts beat fast, they have endless energy. They use their bodies and as they play they seem to lose all sense of time. When parents tell kids at play it's time to go home it doesn't matter how long they've been playing it always ends too soon. I think heaven will be like play, no sense of time, full enjoyment and full use of our God given bodies.

Jesus says that God is the God of the living, and then name drops the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and even Moses. He says that to God all of them are alive. That means their story continues, their relationship with God continues. Think of the promises God made to them and they died without having received the promise. But if they live to God then they see that God is continuing the work to fulfill the promises. Abraham sees God giving children to Isaac and wrestling with Jacob and giving him 12 sons that become the 12 tribes of Israel. All of them see the birth of Jesus, the fulfillment of the promise to save the world through one of their descendants. The story goes on! When we think of heaven and the resurrection, our imagination stalls out. We imagine that the story comes to an end, that there is no more adventure, no more forward movement, nothing that is new. So, we worry that heaven will be boring. But that is what death is, death is an ending when everything stops, when the story is over. But to God death is anathema; it has no place in God. Jesus says God is not the God of the dead but the God of the living. So, in heaven there is life and that means the

story continues. There is movement and adventure and new things to learn and see and do. There is purpose in heaven, meaning and satisfaction and worthy pursuits. It's like when you're reading a really good book and you get to the end and there's a feeling of loss and disappointment because the story is over. But then you discover that the author has written a sequel and the story goes on with new twists and turns. That's the idea of heaven because God raises us up from the dead so that our story with God can continue.

The one consistent thing in Scripture about what heaven is like is that it is centered on the person of God. Whether it's a throne room where God is worshipped by the angels or a banquet where Jesus is the host, heaven is where God is front and center and our relationship with God is fully realized. Here we know in part and see in part, there we will see face to face. In heaven God dries every tear, death is no more, and God lives with us. Revelation talks about a new Jerusalem coming down and heaven is a city we live in. But in the new Jerusalem there is no temple because God is there instead walking with us.

Finally, we will know God as fully as we can, or more accurately, we will be fully in God's presence so we can get to know God more every day. We don't know everything about heaven but the things we do know give us hope and guide us in living this life. In heaven there is justice; all people are free from anything that oppressed or burdened them in this life. In heaven we are resurrected, our bodies renewed to use and enjoy as God intended. In heaven our story continues in our relationships with each other and most importantly our relationship with God. In heaven God is the center, we worship and learn and live with the God who made us and loves us. And because we know these things about heaven, we know how to live toward heaven today. God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. So, let's be heavenly-minded here in this life. Working for justice and peace for all people today knowing that's the reality in heaven. Caring for the physical needs of one another, feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, healing the sick. We continue to collect food especially for those who didn't

receive SNAP benefits this month or didn't receive a paycheck this month because of the shutdown. We do this because we are working toward heaven where God's will is done and everybody is cared for and has what it needs to thrive.

Here on earth, we center our lives on God by worshipping him with our songs and prayers on Sunday and our service to our neighbor every day after. We are heaven-bound because Jesus has died for our sins and the father has claimed us as his own children. We don't just pray that God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven, we work for it. We work to make this place look more and more like the place Jesus described. There is heaven, there is life after this one, there is more to this world that we see now. Let that hope fill your heart, comfort your soul, and guide you in all that you do. Amen.



NOVEMBER FOOD INGATHERING

Bring non-perishable food to the Gathering Place vestibule. Benefits Care and Share



Thanksgiving

AT FIRST LUTHERAN



November | 27 | 12 p.m.

Join us in the Peel House! Bring a side to share.
Doors open at 11 a.m. and we will eat at noon!

PEEL HOUSE HOLIDAY DECORATING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16 – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | 10 A.M. – 3 P.M.

Would you like to be a part of the magic that happens each year for the holiday in the Peel House? We can certainly use your assistance! Come make the ornaments dangle, the garland fluff, the mantles shine, and the trees light! Volunteers may come anytime between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. and enjoy Christmas cookies, punch, hot cocoa, and Christmas music while decorating trees and creating mantles. Please register using the following link <https://bit.ly/4qFfPN5> or call the church office at 719.632.8836.

DECK THE HALLS!

MAIN BUILDING
NOVEMBER 23 – NOVEMBER 26

DECORATE THE FENCE, STRING LIGHTS ON THE OUTSIDE EVERGREEN TREE - November 23, after the 11 a.m. service, lunch will be served

INSIDE DECORATING, Monday, November 24 – 26, 10 A.M. – 3 P.M.

Don't miss the opportunity to help decorate the main church building for Christmas this year! There is a lot to do, so please feel free to sign up more than just once! Your help is very much appreciated. Register here: <https://bit.ly/4qGHTjh>

SUPPORTING FAMILY PROMISE MOVING FORWARD

Family Promise celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Day House. More than 100 people joined the celebration throughout the day touring the house, eating barbecue, and playing games. Applications for eviction prevention and temporary shelter increase each month. They received hundreds of applications in October. With several agencies in Colorado Springs reducing capacity or programs, the need continues to grow while services are being cut. Family Promise remains committed to keeping families facing situational homelessness together and off the streets.

As you know, we no longer house families here on the First Lutheran Campus. That doesn't mean they don't need our support. FLC is designating our January In-Gathering to support Family Promise of Colorado Springs. We plan to support Family Promise three different ways during the month of January 2026. We will hold an In-Gathering of household items and gift cards (more on that later in December). We will also be providing meals for the families throughout the month of January. Please sign up for your spot NOW! We can take meals to the Day House at 324 N Nevada three (3) days each week; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Delivery can be made anytime between 4:00-6:00 p.m. Meals should feed 12-15 people (3-5 adults and the remaining children). Please sign up to bring a meal in January here: https://www.signupgeenius.com/go/10CoB4AA9A-C28A3FEC52-49949464-meals#/



HOPE EVENT AT ARROW- HEAD CORRECTIONAL CENTER IN CANON CITY THURSDAY | DECEMBER 11

I have been working with Prison Fellowship Ministries throughout the year to learn more about how First Lutheran can support their work. This Christmas we are going to take a bit of First Lutheran to the Arrowhead Correctional Center in Canon City. It is during the holidays that residents find it most difficult to be away from their families, especially their children. Our Contemporary Worship Band; Jeff Zust, who will be preaching; and 10-15 volunteers are going to head down to Canon City on Thursday, December 11, in our church buses. We plan to leave church around 3 p.m. All band equipment will have to go through inspection, and this takes a bit of time. We will have time to set up and then we will be bringing worship to about 100 (level II) incarcerated men from 6-7:30 p.m. If you are interested in this exciting new ministry, please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/4r4zpCT>

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS!

We donated 1754 lbs. of food to Care and Share Food Bank this week! Keep it coming! We will continue to collect non-perishable food until the Government Shutdown Ends!

CHERYL MAHON, DIRECTOR OF LAY MINISTRIES

MOMCO

NOVEMBER 25 | 9:30 A.M.

MomCo meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays in the Peel House Lounge, next to the coffee bar.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE MINISTRY – ELVES

CHRISTMAS PARTY | DECEMBER 7

Angel Tree Ministry for Prison Fellowship is starting its fourth year of serving the children of the incarcerated. First Lutheran has tripled the number of children that it serves (50 to 150). As part of that growth, we need lots of Elves! The Christmas Party is Sunday, December 7 and we need Elves to purchase or bake cookies, prepare and check gifts for distribution, prepare candy/fruit bags, decorate tables, and greet the Angel Tree Families on Sunday. Come join us and make a difference! <https://bit.ly/47oALPE>

WAYFARERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20 | 11:30 A.M.

Wayfarers, a support group for women of all ages who have experienced the loss of a husband, will meet at Sandy's Restaurant, 6940 Space Village Avenue, Colorado Springs. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Shari Brian at 719.684.3464.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING

NOVEMBER 30 | SUNDAY

GATHERING PLACE

Come and make an advent wreath during all coffee hours. All materials will be provided.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR OUTREACH PARTNERS

You can pick up a gift tag from one of the Gold Christmas Trees at the Welcome Center Desk. We are supporting Lutheran Family Services, Mosaic, Family Promise, and Prison Fellowship Ministries by purchasing Christmas gifts and/or gift cards for the children they serve. Be sure to record which tag(s) you took with the Welcome Center Host so that we can contact you if necessary.

IMAGINE: THE WAY WE KNOW

GUIDED SPIRITUAL MEDITATION

"Jesus said ... 'I am the way...' " – John 14:6

Join us for a weekly 30–45-minute guided Scripture meditation, where we will craft a quiet place to anticipate and encounter the arrival of Jesus, The Way, into our world. If you've never experienced entering into the Bible to encounter Jesus through guided meditation, come and see how Jesus can meet you there.

In the Worship Center Tuesday evenings, December 2, 9, and 16, at 6 p.m., and Wednesday mornings, December 3, 10, and 17, at 11:30 a.m.

COVER PHOTO

Greek travelers in Corinth

Posted on Facebook by Pastor Michaela

Middle School

PIZZA & GAME NIGHT

November 16th | 6 - 8:30 p.m. | Gathering Place



Bring a Friend



HELP WITH OUR SPECIAL CLEAN AND
SAFE PROJECT WINTER GIFT BAGS FOR
THE UNSHELTERED

Please donate the following items for our gift bags: hand warmers, non-perishable snacks, warm socks, and small denomination gift cards to McDonalds, etc. starting this Sunday, November 9. Please bring gift cards to the Welcome Center.

NOVEMBER OWLS

HISTORY OF COLORADO SPRINGS “WALKING”
TOUR BY MARY LOUISE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20
POTLUCK | PEEL HOUSE | 11 A.M.
PRESENTATION | 12 - 1 P.M.

Join the excitement as your personal tour guide weaves fascinating tales of the movers and shakers of Colorado Springs as you “walk” through the city streets gaining local insights, learning little known facts and gathering tantalizing tidbits about the historic men and women of days gone by. You will hear the unique and exciting stories that make Colorado Springs such a fascinating city. Our guide, Mary Louise, will also share information about actual walking tours in Colorado Springs and share some holiday turn of the century traditions and Colorado holiday customs. Please register by using the following link <https://bit.ly/47pyWlp> or by calling First Lutheran at 719.632.8836. Register by Monday, November 17.

DECEMBER OWLS

THE BROADMOOR HOTEL GINGERBREAD
DISPLAY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16 | 11 A.M.

Please join us for an annual tour of The Broadmoor Gingerbread display. Come with us to see what the chefs will create out of 900 lbs of powdered sugar, 475 lbs of flour, 1801 eggs, and more!! The surprise display never disappoints!! We will then walk to Cafe Julie's for lunch, fellowship and shopping! Please register by using the following link <https://bit.ly/3LnC6yL> or by calling First Lutheran at 719.632.8836. Register by Monday, December 15.

DECEMBER OWLS

CHEROKEE RANCH AND CASTLE CHRISTMAS
TOUR
6113 N. DANIEL'S PARK ROAD, SEDALIA, CO
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 | 8:15 A.M.
GUIDED TOUR | 10 A.M. | COST, \$22

The OWLS have visited this location before but never at the holidays with all the beautiful holiday decorations. Located in the heart of Douglas County, in Sedalia, Cherokee Castle is a rare example of a 15th Century Scottish castle. Built over 100 years ago, this historic castle houses a collection of world-class art, antiques and rare books. Cherokee Ranch embodies our western heritage while serving as headquarters for the Santa Gertrudis breed of cattle, first introduced to Colorado by Mildred Montague Genevieve “Tweet” Kimball, who purchased the property in 1954. Deadline to register is Tuesday, November 18. Reservations are nonrefundable. There is a limit of 30 guests so register quickly! Lunch is on your own at the Factory Shops area. Please register using the following link <https://bit.ly/3WD53cC> or by calling First Lutheran at 719.632.8836

DECEMBER OWLS – NEW

TRADITIONAL GERMAN CHRISTKINDLMARKET
IN OLD COLORADO CITY BANCROFT PARK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 22 | 3:15 – 6:30 P.M.

We would like to start a new annual tradition by attending the inaugural opening of the first authentic German Christkindlmarket to come to Old Colorado City. There are only four other authentic markets in the United States. The Old Colorado City Christkindlmarket will bring the magic of a traditional German Christmas market to Colorado Springs. With charming wooden huts, a heated tent with a stage for nightly entertainment, twinkling lights, and a joyous atmosphere, the market will draw visitors from near and far to celebrate the season.

<https://www.occchristkindlmarket.com>. Start your collection of Gluhwein cups now! Deadline to register: Monday, December 15, 2025. Register by using the following link <https://bit.ly/3JGaiVM> or by calling FLC at 719.632.8836.

THE EMMAUS WAY

“Spiritual discipline involves following the Lord, in the sense of becoming who he says we are, making true what is true, that is, claiming our connected relationship with God and one another and living it out....”

– Henri Nouwen

As we begin the turn from 2025 to 2026, I thought it might be good to briefly touch again on discipline and a Rule of Life. A Rule helps us walk closely with the Lord on our life’s journey, growing in knowing who he says we already are. Have you spent much time thinking about who God says you are? If not, maybe now is a good time to start. What we believe about who we really are matters, because how we see and love ourselves directly affects how we see and love our neighbors.

This past Sunday we began the Contemporary Service with the song, *Who You Say I Am*. The lyrics include:

“I was lost but he brought me
in, oh his love for me...Free
at last, he has ransomed
me; his grace runs deep...I
am chosen, not forsaken;
I am who you say I am...
In the Father’s house
there’s a place for me...
Who the Son sets free, oh is
free indeed. I’m a child of
God, yes I am.”

Do you think of yourself as chosen by God, found by God, brought into God’s family, free, loved? If not, will you take a moment now to close your eyes and imagine God seeking you, finding you, choosing you, freeing you, bringing you into God’s house? Pastor Travis talked in a recent sermon about how God delights in you. Can you picture God’s delight in you as he calls you his child?

Believe it or not, doing this qualifies as a spiritual discipline. Why? One reason is because it’s not the kind of thing that most of us do naturally in our spiritual lives; the doing of it takes a conscious choice. And why would we make such a choice? Because it helps us in “making true what is true,” as Henri says above. And it is in growing in making it true that we become more deeply connected to God and one another and are enabled to live those relationships out in love.

In Christ we are chosen, not forsaken. We are recipients of astonishing grace. We are free. We have a home in God. We are loved. We are children of God, yes we are. Let’s walk together in making true in this world what God says is already true, living out our relationship with God and others in love.



LORI DUNCAN, MINISTER OF SPIRITUAL CARE

ADVENT TEA – TABLE HOSTESS

THERE ARE NO STRANGERS AT CHRISTMAS
SATURDAY | DECEMBER 6
10 A.M. – NOON | PEEL HOUSE

We are looking for 14 Table Hostesses to help decorate a table and host seven attendees at this year's Advent Tea. First Lutheran's Advent theme for the season is *The Way We Know* with our Advent Tea theme, *There Are No Strangers at Christmas*. This takes us on a familiar path celebrating our Christmas traditions and keeping in mind Jesus is the way we know where home is and how to get there. Strangers from afar came to celebrate the birth of Jesus...and all were welcome. Our hope this year is for others to be encouraged and welcomed as we focus on the way we know together.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING A TABLE HOSTESS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

Decorate a 60" round table with a centerpiece, dishes, silverware, and tablecloth if you have them; otherwise, borrow them from the Peel House.

Decorate your table Friday, December 5, from 2 – 8 p.m.

Arrive Saturday, December 6, by 9:30 a.m. to prepare for guests.

Host seven other guests at your table, then clear your table at the end of event.

This link is for TABLE HOSTESSES only. Please use the following link to register as a Table Hostess: <https://bit.ly/4hLQygo> or call the church at 719.632.8836. Once you sign up, more information will be in your confirmation email.

ADVENT TEA

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Calling all cookie bakers and tea sandwich makers!! The Advent Tea will be a lovely event to kick off the Advent season, and we can use your assistance to help make it a success. Please sign up to bring 2-3 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies for the tea, or make 2-3 dozen of your favorite tea sandwiches for others to enjoy. Please bring cookies anytime during the week (but by Friday noon) to the Peel House kitchen with the label "Advent Tea" on the container. Please bring labeled tea sandwiches Friday between 2-5 p.m. or at 8 a.m. Saturday morning. If you are not a baker or a maker, we could also use your assistance Friday afternoon from 2 -5 p.m. to set up cookie trays and wash and cut fruit and/or Saturday morning at 8 a.m. for last minute preparations for the event. Please use the following link: <https://bit.ly/4815nXZ> to register or call the church office at 719.632.8836.

ADVENT TEA – GUEST ATTENDANCE

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 6 | 10 A.M. – NOON-
PEEL HOUSE | COOKIE EXCHANGE

Thank you for your interest in being a guest at the Advent Tea. First Lutheran's Advent theme for the season is *The Way We Know*, with our Advent Tea theme, *There Are No Strangers at Christmas*. This takes us on a familiar path celebrating our Christmas traditions and keeping in mind Jesus is the way we know where home is and how to get there. Strangers from afar came to celebrate the birth of Jesus...and all were welcome. Our hope this year is for others to be encouraged and welcomed as we focus on the way we know together. We also encourage you to participate in our cookie exchange. Please bring 2-3 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies or Christmas candies. Containers will be provided to take home. Please use the following link <https://bit.ly/4nMCipz> to register as a guest or call the church at 719.632.8836. This link will not allow multiple sign-ups, so each guest must sign up individually. Space is limited to 98 and seating fills up quickly!

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

You may purchase a poinsettia plant for \$12.00 to honor or memorialize a loved one. All poinsettias will be used to decorate the chancel area for the Christmas Eve services. You can take your plant home after the last Christmas eve service. You may register here: <https://bit.ly/3CJzP7d>

ST. NICHOLAS BREAKFAST

DECEMBER 6 | 9 – 10:30 A.M.
GATHERING PLACE

Come enjoy this festival celebration of Saint Nicholas, the saint that started our Santa spirit. We will have a full breakfast available for families, some story time with St. Nicholas, and then we'll close with some holiday – themed crafts. This event is focused on elementary age and younger, but children of every age are welcome.

DINING OUT WITH FIRST LUTHERAN

SELECT TUESDAYS | 5:30 P.M.
VARIOUS RESTAURANTS

All are welcome to join this group, which meets at local restaurants on two Tuesdays of each month to enjoy various cuisines and fellowship. Reservations will be made two weeks in advance, so be sure to sign up early. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/41Rh4ff>.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

December 2	Ai Sushi 3215 Cinema Point
December 16	La Bella Vita Italiano 4475 Northpark Drive
January 13	Saltgrass Steakhouse 1405 Jamboree Drive
January 27	Carabbas Italian Grill 7120 Campus Drive



FRIENDSGIVING
November 19 at 5:30 p.m.
in the Gathering Place

Bring a dish to share—or try out a new Thanksgiving recipe you’ve been wanting to test before the big day! We’ll enjoy a meal together, then head upstairs for WNL worship at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome for food, fellowship, and gratitude.

In the Life of the Church ...

Birthdays

- November 17** Livie McGrew
Jake Yellico
Josh Yellico
- November 18** Peter De Jong
Cory Gibson
Jon Parobek
- November 19** Gini Dugan
Lauren Wooten
- November 20** Tom Crick
Raeanna Padilla
Pam Reeves
Dianne Wilkerson
- November 21** Mark Roth
- November 22** Bruce Carlson
Doreen Hulka
- November 23** Ken Wood

Anniversaries

- November 19**
Herman and Gun Livingston 65 years
- November 21**
Dave and Laurie Uddenberg 33 years



Prayer Requests

Lannette Abbey
Barry Agnes
Noemie Anderson
Wanda Anderson
Fred Bachmeier
Janice Baldwin
Elmer Bauman
Tana Beall
Joan Boehm
Bill & Barbara Brown
Clare Campbell
Karl & Pam Cartwright
Tanya Charbonneau
John & Debbie Chlebus
Nell Clowder
Rinda Dunson
The Rose Eggum Family
Alan Flinn
Donna Flores
Edna Fross
Corinne Gibson
Nola Gosch
Private Steven Harris
Ginger Hipszky
Jake Hodnett
Bill & Doreen Hulka
Irene
Alan Jacobsen
Matthew James
Josh Jones
Shirley Jones
Ann Junk
Jonas Kagarise
Tami Kephart,
Kyong Kelley
Gaye Lynn Kielcheski
Cindy Koger
Jesse Lawrence & Family
Timothy Lillich
Dayne Lindquist

Patricia Lopez
Susan Lundmark
Malia
Jim Matthews
Nick McKibben & Family
Hugh McNeely
Brandon Miller & Family
Gwyn Miller
Hannah Miller
Marilyn Miller
Larry & Lucille Moe
Paul Moe
Wilma Nicolaisen
Sam Norton
The Samantha Norton Family
Owen & Family
Pebbles
Patsy Pedersen
Jack & Judy Peterson
Ralph Peterson
Darlene Radke
Jeff Rapp
Chug Sides
Matthew Stark
Gwen Stein
Becky Sternal
Barbara Swan
Michael Taylor
Aaron & Cindi Thorson
Colleen Turner
Bob VanDuyn & Karen
Henderson-VanDuyn
Jay Voth
Christine Welch
Whitney
Greg & Carolyn Young

Please keep these members – and family and friends – of First Lutheran in your prayers this week. If you are requesting to have a name added to the prayer list, please consult with that person prior to making your request. Prayer requests may be submitted by using a Connection Card (in church) or by emailing **teri@flccs.net**.

In Remembrance of **George Hansen**

Chris, Jared, Eric and Matt Hanson's father; Susan, Amanda, Roxanne, and Jessica's father-in-law; grandfather of two; whose memorial service will be at a later date at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Yorktown Heights, New York.

Date of death: October 25, 2025

Worship and Study

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

SUNDAYS IN THE SANCTUARY
8, 9:30, AND 11 A.M.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

SUNDAYS IN THE WORSHIP CENTER
10:15 A.M.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHT

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORSHIP CENTER
DINNER 5:15 P.M. | SERVICE 6:30 P.M.

ONLINE WORSHIP

STREAMED LIVE AT 9:30 A.M.

Tune in on First Lutheran's YouTube channel,
on the church website, or in the church app.

QUARTERLY ADULT EDUCATION

Weekly Adult Seminar is now finished. We will continue with quarterly Adult Education classes. The Lunch and Learn Footsteps of Paul class is part of Adult Education. Check here in the Ekklesia in January and April for our winter and spring options, respectively.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

LUTHER HALL | 10 A.M.

Led by the preaching pastor for the week.

GENERATION TO REVELATION

FIRST LUTHERAN'S NEW PODCAST!

Find our podcast on YouTube, on the church website, or anywhere you get your podcasts.

PASTORAL TEAM

The Rev. Travis Norton, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Carrie Baylis, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Michaela Eskew, Associate Pastor

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES

Malachi 4: 1–2a;

2 Thessalonians 3: 6–13

Luke 21: 5–19

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COLORADO 80907
719.632.8836

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