



CALL TO WORSHIP

AUGUST 2026

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SONSHINE ARK PRESCHOOL & DAYCARE

WE ARE A D.O.J.O.Y. CONGREGATION

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Have You Missed Me Yet?

"I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me." *Philippians 4:10*

Happy August! As I write this article, it is actually January. (Nothing like planning well ahead!) By God's grace, my sabbatical is hopefully going smoothly, made possible because of preparations in advance.



So... have you missed me yet? 😊 Have you noticed that I'm not around on Sunday mornings? I hope so. While it may feel a bit strange not to see your pastor up front, there's something even more noticeable—and more concerning—when someone else hasn't been in worship for a while. I know that when I realize someone has been absent, a sinking feeling often follows. Questions start to run through my mind: "Are they okay?" "Did I do something inadvertently to offend them?" "Are they having health issues?" "Is there something else going on in their life?"

It's easy for one or two missed Sundays to turn into a month or more, and before long you're wondering how long it's been since you last saw them. Meanwhile, that person may be wondering whether anyone at church even notices—or cares.

Being part of the body of Christ means more than simply showing up together; it means caring for one another as family. If you find yourself wondering about a brother or sister you haven't seen in a while, why not just give them a call or reach out with a text message? That seemingly small action may not take long but it goes a long way.

Having said that, there's no need to reach out to me right now. I'm still on sabbatical. I'll be seeing you before long!

Pastor John

SAUSAGE DINNER PRIZE DRAWING – SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Our Sausage Dinner Prize Drawing Team is extremely excited. We have received a total of 72 individual donations for our prize drawing from our congregation and our community. We have combined donations for a total of 38 impressive prizes totaling a value of \$11,297.00. Prizes range in value from \$75.00 to \$1,500.00. Due to the total value of our prizes, we have set a goal of selling at least \$18,000 in tickets. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. They will sell very easily based on prizes offered.

Our team asks every congregation member to take tickets to sell in addition to purchasing. We all have family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc.... who would be willing to purchase a chance or chances to win these fabulous prizes. Please prayerfully consider who you can sell tickets to and take as many as you think you can sell. Tickets will be available after early and late service in the annex every Sunday beginning July 26.

Prizes range in value from \$75. to \$1,500. To announce our top “5” and “#38”

Prize #1 \$1,500 VISA Gift Card

Prize #2 \$1,000 VISA Gift Card

Prize #3 \$ 750 Gift Certificate to Lighthouse Inn in Rockport

Prize #4 2-Night Stay in Fredericksburg @ Edge of Main

Prize #5 \$500 VISA Gift Card

Prizes #6 through #37 are all worth winning!!!

Prize #38 \$1,000 Special Prize TBA Celebrating our 38th Annual Sausage Dinner



Thanks be to God for your big hearts, generous donations and support by selling tickets for our 38th Annual Sausage Dinner Prize Drawing to be a huge success! God's Blessings to you all!
Teresa, LaVeda, Lisa, Laura, Kim, Loretta & Laurie

THE COUNTRY STORE



The Country Store will be selling baked goods, homemade canned goods, and handcrafted items. It will be in the annex and Eileen Schuette is heading up this year's Country Store and would greatly appreciate donations of homemade items to sell. We can use homemade jellies, jams, candy, breads, canned sauces, knitted or crocheted items, baked goods, potholders, quilts, bird houses, painting, etc. Please give Eileen a call at (956)-358-1708 or Ann Martick at (512) 968-1438 for more information.

RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet next on Thursday, September 3. No meeting in August.



LAWN CREW SCHEDULE AUG 2026



AUG 2	AUG 9	AUG 16	AUG 23	AUG 30
T-4 Brad Pfeil, Leon Johnson, Justin Pfeil, Bodean Pfeil, Ben Munoz, Brian Trees, Roy Thayer	T-1 John Moring, Doug Bielefeld, Ray McHorse, Bill Stolle	T-2 Clay Archer, Charles Ogburn, Charles Koenig, Charlie Glowka	T-3 Danny Curtis, Frankie Dippel, Kari & Ryan Schroeder, Harold Heimer, Curtis Holcombe	T-4 Brad Pfeil, Leon Johnson, Justin Pfeil, Bodean Pfeil, Ben Munoz, Brian Trees, Roy Thayer

UPDATE IN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

After the Feasibility Study in 2023, FLC agreed to hold a 2nd Capital Campaign to be held Jan 1, 2024 through Dec 31, 2026. It was determined that FLC could raise \$1,100,000.00.

\$ 461,898.48	Money designated for 2nd Campaign before Campaign started
\$ 230,994.86	Money raised in 2024
\$ 211,122.41	Money raised in 2025
<u>\$ 37,088.30</u>	Money raised from Dec-June 2026
\$ 941,104.05	Total money raised for 2nd Campaign
\$ 1,100,000.00	Goal for 2nd Campaign
<u>\$ 941,104.05</u>	Money raised for 2nd Campaign
\$ 158,895.95	Money needed to reach goal by Dec 31, 2026



I believe we can reach this goal by the end of the year. In the 4th quarter of 2024 and 2025, significant donations were made. Thanks for being committed to this campaign! This is doable!
Any questions, call Patty Moczygemba. 210-240-8422

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE



It's been a while since we began using the Instant Church Directory online/phone app. Our families have undergone a lot of changes. Let's get it updated so we all can have a current directory (with photos).



Using the Church Communication Card, please provide any updates (cell phone numbers, email addresses, mailing/physical address) if anything has changed. An updated photo can also be taken (don't be shy!) between the services, or one can be emailed to office@dojoy.org at your convenience. Please see Dan for any assistance with the phone app or online access.

NALC DISASTER RESPONSE COLLECTION



Thanks be to God and blessings all around. We have almost completed 8 buckets with enough supplies to begin filling another 15 buckets. Currently we are needing: Pine Sol or similar (17 more), Leather gloves (14 pair), Cotton gloves (9 pair), handheld scrub brushes (6 more), bleach ½ gallon or tubes of bleach tablets (12 more), and at least another 11 buckets and lids. This will bring our total number of buckets to 23.

These supplies include: 1 jug bleach (1/2 gal. or equivalent) or 1 tube of bleach tablets, 2 large trash bags (Contractor 3 mil), 1 roll paper towels, 2 rags, Comet or scouring cleanser, PineSol or liquid cleaner, handheld Scrub brush, gloves (1 pair each) of size L or XL preferred [rubber (reuseable, i.e. Playtex, dishwashing type), leather, and cotton.] Once those are filled, we will be asking for more buckets with lids and more supplies to fill those buckets. **We are also still collecting Bibles, Bible stories, Bible Studies, etc.** Thank you for your support.



Note: They no longer accept store gift cards directly. They do accept online donations at: <https://thenalc.org/en-us/our-work/equipping-disciples/disaster-response/>.

DOJOY WEBSITE



Our website, www.dojoy.org, has been updated with corrected links to the latest **Monthly Newsletter**, **FLC Weekly**, **Calendar**, and **Worship Leader Schedule**. The Sermons page has been updated to direct you to the YouTube channel with the condensed version of the services. They include the Prayer of the Day, the scripture readings, the Children's Message, the Gospel reading, and the Message.

COMMUNION SUNDAY SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST

Sunday, August 2 (by FLCW)
Sunday, August 9 (Rally Day)
Sunday, August 16
Sunday, August 23
Sunday, August 30

Service of the Word
Service of Holy Eucharist ([Backpack Blessings](#))
Service of the Word ([SS Teacher/Staff installation](#))
Service of Holy Eucharist
Service of the Word

Holy communion will return to the normal schedule in September.



USAGE OF CHURCH DEBIT CARD

Based on recommendations from our FLC Audit Committee, our church council has implemented the following procedures for anyone using the church debit card.

Congregation members must check the debit card out from Dan Martick in the church office on Monday – Thursday. He will provide you with the debit card, a debit card usage form to fill out, and a tax-exempt form, if needed. The debit card, form and receipt are all to be returned to Dan in a timely manner of you using the card. This procedure will enable us to keep more efficient records, make Curtis' job as bookkeeper easier and protect us from fraud and misuse of the debit card.



If it is inconvenient for you to go to the office and check out the card, you can provide Dan with what you need, and he can order for you.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.
FLC Church Council

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR MEMBERS AND REGULAR WORSHIPERS

Pastor John and Ellen Conrad- Safe travels, peace, and restoration.
Olivia Macek and Family – Prayers for complete healing and wholeness.
Marcia Drane- Prayers for Comfort and Peace.
Ginny Glowka- Prayers for healing and recovery from a medical procedure.
Sherry Lerich- Prayers for healing after fall & surgery for a broken hip.
Sandra Jandt- Prayers for comfort and healing, cancer treatment.
Susan Thompson- Cancer treatment, comfort & healing, good test results.
Bonnie Caisse- Prayers for comfort & complete healing.
Vernon Blocker- Prayers for comfort & complete healing.
Natalie Adams- Prayers for continued healing and wholeness.
Voncille Bielefeld- Prayers for comfort & complete healing.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN NURSING HOMES OR LIVING ALONE

Jeanette Archer
Florence Baumann
Sylvia Gadd

Marcella Hartmann
Sherry Lerich

RAINFOREST FALLS VBS 2026



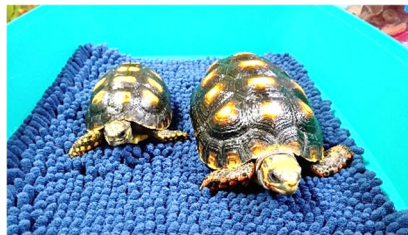
Monday, June 29, through Wednesday, July 1, Rainforest Falls VBS was an exciting few days of fun, fellowship and the Word. We had approximately 130 in attendance each day, young and old all experiencing God's wonderful love for each of us! Our days began with the kids attending Rainforest Rally and Jungle Jive, which was our daily opening and closing, that included music, dancing, and special activities demonstrated by our emcees, Carol Rutledge and April Hall. They then progressed on to our stations of **Waterfall Word** (Bible adventures), **Gorilla Gallery** (arts and crafts), **Canopy Cafe** (snack time), and **Monkey Mayhem** (outdoor game time).



The Sonshine Ark kiddos attended Rainforest Rally and Jungle Jive, the daily openings and closings each day. Additionally, Shelbi Moehrig led Waterfall Word, the daily Bible adventures, for them down at SSA. They were provided snacks and crafts to be completed within their daily schedules, down in their classrooms.



This year we had a surprise for the kids! We had a traveling petting zoo called "Once in a Wild" that came on Wednesday during the games station. They brought a variety of rainforest types of animals that the kids learned about and then got to touch and pet them!



In addition, **we raised \$729.31** for Stomping Grounds Adult Day Services, which was our designated community outreach project. In addition, we collected numerous gardening supplies and gift cards for them! Ms. Schwartz was able to attend our parents' program/closing, bringing with her 11 of her clients to accept the donations!



Overall, it was a great and exciting week for our kids! You know, I shared with the parents at our parent program the old saying “It takes a village to raise a child.... **But it takes a church family to help our families raise their children in God’s word!**” Thank you for everything that each of you, our church family members, donated to help make this happen for our kids! Thank you too for the many prayers and kind words of encouragement sent our way! We’re looking forward to next year’s VBS! Nina, Teresa, and Carol.



HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL - RALLY DAY AND BACKPACK BLESSING DAY!



at both services!

Is it really time to head back to school? What better way to prepare than a fun morning together with your church family! Join in on the fun and activities for **Rally Day, Sunday, August 9, 2026, 9:15am in the annex.** Don’t forget to bring your backpacks, gym bags, golf bags, or whatever bag you carry to be blessed to start your year off with Jesus

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

Dear Lord, we thank You for the gift of a new school year and for the opportunity to learn and grow. We pray Your blessing and protection over our children, teachers, and school staff. As they step into the classroom, please grant them wisdom to understand, patience to navigate challenges, and courage to do their best. Surround them with good friends and guard their hearts and minds from fear and anxiety. Help them to be kind to others, just as You are kind to us. Bless their going and their coming and fill their days with joy and the peace that surpasses all understanding. In Your holy name, we pray. **AMEN**

