



CALL TO WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 2026

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SONSHINE ARK PRESCHOOL & DAYCARE

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

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Welcome Aboard!

“God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.”

1 Peter 3:20



Have you ever looked up at the ceiling of our worship space? It resembles the underside of a ship—and that may very well be intentional. The church term for the main worship area is *nave*, a word that comes from the Latin *navis*, meaning “ship.” Why would that be?

Think of the story of Noah and the ark. It was a place of refuge and safety. Through it, the Lord preserved Noah and his family as they were carried over the chaotic waters of the earth, until He brought them safely to dry land.

In a similar way, the Church is like a ship. It is a gathering of people who have been tossed about by the uncertainties and dangers of life. Here, they find refuge. Here, they are reminded that they are not alone, and that they belong to the One who saves.

Autumn is a season when we often see people “coming aboard.” New faces appear from all kinds of backgrounds and experiences. When someone enters our worship space for the first time, we are witnessing something meaningful: a person seeking refuge, a place to belong, a word of hope. When a family joins our community, they are, in a sense, stepping onto the ship. Life outside may be busy—even overwhelming—but here, they are received with care.

So when you notice someone new at First Lutheran, let your first thought be simple and sincere:

“Welcome aboard. You are safe here.”

SAUSAGE DINNER HELPERS



Sign up lists are posted in the Annex. Please sign up early - as soon as you know when you will be available and where you would like to volunteer. Things always go more smoothly when we are well prepared and organized! Thanks for making our 38th Sausage Dinner the best one yet!

SAUSAGE DINNER PRIZE DRAWING – SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

5 chances to win \$75 up to \$1,500 for only \$20.

What a great deal! The enthusiasm is building as we approach our 38th Annual Sausage Dinner which is a month away.



We are giving away \$11,500 in prizes. We are almost halfway to reaching our goal of selling \$18,000 worth of tickets. In order to reach our goal, we ask everyone's participation and support. In addition to purchasing tickets for yourself, take some to sell. Just like you, your relatives, friends, neighbors, co-workers and business acquaintances want to be in on the action to win one or more of our fabulous prizes. Tickets are easy to sell; people are eager and enthusiastic to buy.

The prize drawing will be held at 12 noon on Sunday, September 20. Think about who you know who will buy tickets. Please pick up your Prize Drawing tickets now to be part of the excitement!

Tickets are available every Sunday after each service in the annex. We thank you again for taking as many tickets as you can sell and supporting our 38th Annual Sausage Dinner Prize Drawing. God Bless You! *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. 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.

DAILY WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

If you have not signed up for the Daily Words of Encouragement, you may do so by letting the office know. These links via text are scheduled daily at either 6 am or 12 noon Mondays through Saturdays.



LAWN CREW SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 2026



6 – Labor Day	13	20 – Sausage Dinner	27
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 and Ryan Schroeder, Harold Heimer, Curtis Holcombe	T-4 Brad Pfeil, Leon Johnson, Justin Pfeil, Bodean Pfeil, Ben Munoz, Brian Trees, Roy and Luke Thayer

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.

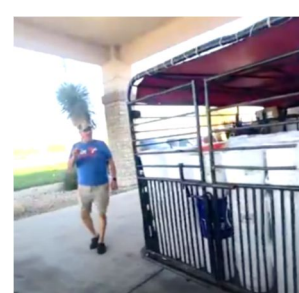


NALC DISASTER RESPONSE COLLECTION



Thanks be to God and blessings all around. We were able to collect and fill 18 flood buckets! We were then able to deliver those 18 buckets **PLUS** an additional 300 buckets from the Rosenberg warehouse along with health kits, tools, 24 handmade quilts, and our prayers to the folks in Batesville and Crystal City. A second

delivery was made to include 9 health kits, 24 backpacks with school supplies, 21 more handmade tie quilts and 33 bibles.



A BIG THANK YOU!!

A very BIG thank you goes out to Pastor Paul Austin, Pastor Becky Thane, and our very own Jon Sunday for pinch-preaching the Message for us over the last 3 months. We all GREATLY appreciate the time you spent with us in sharing the Message!



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.

OUR CHOIR!

Our local choir had a performance at the end of July. They treated us to a couple of patriotic tunes. If anyone else would like to join in, please let the office know. We would love to hear from you!



CONFIRMATION FOR GRADES 7-8



Confirmation Classes with 7-8th grade youth have resumed. We will meet on Sundays between 9:15-10:15am and on Wednesdays between 6-7pm (with occasional exceptions).

RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet next on Wednesday, September 2, in the annex from 1-3 pm. We will be selecting a new Bible Study.



2026 NALC ONLINE CONVOCATION

On Friday evening, August 7, delegates from across the North American Lutheran Church gathered online for the 2026 Online Convocation. Two hundred six clergy delegates and 210 lay delegates registered, joined by a couple hundred additional visitors viewing online.

This gathering marked the end of an era: the 2026 Online Convocation was our final scheduled online Convocation. Consistent with the decision of the 2020 Convocation to meet in person every other year, this year's business brought our election cycles and budgeting processes into alignment. We will adopt two-year budgets and only hold elections biennially at our in-person mission convocations.



Congratulations to our re-elected members of the NALS Board of Regents! We're grateful that the Rev. Dr. Eric Waters, the Rev. Dr. Paul Krueger, and the Rev. James Lehmann will continue their faithful service to the North American Lutheran Seminary. Thank you for your ongoing leadership and dedication to forming the next generation of pastors and deacons. We look forward to all that lies ahead, and we keep you in our prayers!

SS TEACHERS INSTALLED

On Sunday, August 16, our new 2026 Sunday School Teachers and staff were officially installed to lead our youth for the next year. Let's give them all our full support and prayers!!



Name	Position	Name	Position
OPEN	Supt	Judy Rhew	1st – 2nd Teacher
Tiffany Kosub	Assist. Supt	Lisa Baumann	3rd – 4th Teacher
Bridget Helmke	Recording Secretary	Amber Trees	5th - 6th Teacher
Megan Posey	Financial Secretary	Pastor John/Ellen	Confirmation
OPEN	Treasurer	Melissa Mangum	High School
Cindy Duppsadt	Nursery	Patty Moczygamba	Adult Class Rep.
Janis Schroeder	Pre-K/Kinder Teacher		

ACOLYTE TRAINING



Are you tall enough to light the candles? If you answered yes, then becoming an acolyte might be something to consider! Anyone from around 9 years of age and older can become an acolyte, with some training. Two training sessions will be offered: **Sunday, September 6**, and **Sunday, September 13, at 9:30 am** in the Sanctuary. Come to one or both if you are interested in serving as an acolyte. If you have questions or concerns, text or call Carol Rutledge, 830-391-5819.



LET'S GO NUTS!



One of the biggest events in Floresville, our annual Floresville Peanut Festival, is quickly approaching. We, at FLC, are privileged to have Peanut Festival royalty. Our very own, **Nicole Pfeil**, is Queen Tuneap Elect LXXXII (82nd). She will be crowned Queen of the Court of Confectionary Creations at the coronation on Thursday night by the past queen, **Kambri Angle**. **Brylee Krause** will be honored as Nicole's special guest. They will all be riding in the parade on

Saturday, October 10. In addition, there will be numerous FLC youth in the parade as representatives of the band, cheerleaders, volleyball, dance teams, football, FFA, etc....

We are blessed with several opportunities to give back and bless our community during the parade:

1. First Lutheran Church will be hosting the hospitality center on Saturday, October 10th. We are seeking a team of 3-4 people to help. We open the annex and welcome visitors to use our restrooms and provide coffee, water and light refreshments. Sign-up sheets for donations of refreshments, toilet paper, napkins, etc.... will be posted. Contact Laurie Curtis if you are interested in helping or have questions.
2. At the end of the parade route, we will be handing out 1,200 bottles of cold water that includes a scripture to parade participants and spectators. Stay tuned for more details to follow.



Mark your calendars and join us in one of these opportunities to serve, either helping out at the hospitality center or parade water handout.

9/11 WREATH LAYING AND PRAYER SERVICE

Honoring Lives. Healing Hearts. Renewing Hope.
Friday, September 11, 2026 at 9:15 am at Connally Medical Center,
under the flagpole. 499 10th Street, Floresville.



Marcia Drane- Prayers for comfort and Peace.
Olivia Macek and Family - Prayers for complete healing and wholeness.
Curtis Holcombe- Prayers for comfort and complete healing.
Sherry Lerich- Prayers for healing after fall and surgery. Broken hip.
Sandra Jandt- Prayers for comfort and healing, cancer treatment.
Susan Thompson- Cancer treatment, Prayers for comfort and healing.
Bonnie Caisse- Prayers for comfort and complete healing.
Vernon Blocker- Prayers for comfort and complete healing.
Natalie Adams- Prayers for continued healing and wholeness.



Florence Baumann
Sylvia Gadd

Marcella Hartmann
Sherry Lerich

On Sunday, August 23, Pastor John and Ellen were welcomed home by his flock! There was a pot-luck brunch and a lost sheep finding expedition. All the lost sheep were found and returned!

A big thank you to everyone who attended and brought food for our “Welcome Home to Your Flock” celebration for Pastor John and Ellen. Extra special thanks to all who helped set-up and clean-up! It was a great day!



RALLY DAY WAS A BIG HIT AND A BIG SUCCESS!!



On Sunday, August 9, the church was full of smiling faces from youth to OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans) for Blessing of the Backpacks, teachers, and students; Family Sunday School; and Rally Day activities. Children received a treat bag with a bag of crackers, chocolate hugs and kisses,

and a key chain Jesus to start the school year. Teachers received a “fresh” start with Jesus with their car freshies, and Sunday School had fun guessing what’s inside boxes,

stuffing the bus with prayers, plant walk, corn hole, snow cones, and a pencil pinata. Thank you, Lord, for a great day and please continue to walk with us on our school journey.

