



first lutheran
church

Rest. Heal. Grow. Love. Serve. Belong.

the
torch



Volume 9, Issue 5
September 2016

Musings

Cold Things Cold...

A while back, a fourth grader asked his mom, “What’s a Thermos?” She told him that it’s used to keep cold things cold and hot things hot. He asked if he could have one to take his lunch to school.

On the first day that he took his new thermos to school his teacher asked, “Where did you get the Thermos?”

He answered, “My mom got it for me.”

“What do you do with a Thermos,” the teacher asked.

The boy answered, “I keep cold things cold and hot things hot.”

“What’s in it now?” the teacher inquired.

“A cup of hot chocolate and two Popsicles.”

You know, throughout the Bible, from Exodus to 1st Peter, God calls those who believe in Him as Creator, Sustainer, Lord and Savior. He calls us a peculiar people.

If you look up “peculiar” in the dictionary, you’ll find that it means “odd, strange, or uncommon.”

When you think about it, Christians—according to the standards of this unbelieving world, do some peculiar stuff... kind of like the little boy

with hot chocolate and Popsicles in his Thermos.

Christians do things like treating all people as God’s loved children.

...like loving their neighbors as God loves them.

...like forgiving seventy times seven, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting those who are alone in the world.

We gladly strive to do these things, to live this way, because this is how God treats each of us. The Lord is always there offering His love and guidance to us, always there when we sincerely turn to Him for forgiveness. He always accepts and welcomes us into the safety of His open arms.

It’s why the Bible says, “But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise... through the foolishness of the cross He saved those who believe.”

As you try to live a Christ-like life of service to your fellow human beings, you may hear people say that you are acting odd, strange, uncommon even. With the help of the Holy Spirit, a smile on your face, and the joy of Jesus in your heart, you can tell them, “You’re absolutely right. God’s people are indeed a peculiar people.”

Pastor Mike

Deadline to submit items for the next issue of The Torch: Wednesday — September 28, 2016

Advent By Candlelight



Advent by Candlelight is only three months away! (Where does the time go?) With that said, it's not too early to think about hosting a table this year. If you've hosted a table before, you know the drill: Invite your guests, decorate your table, and prepare a dessert for the guests at your table. If you've never attended Advent by Candlelight here at First Lutheran, it's a fun and rewarding experience for both table hosts/hostesses and guests.

This year's program is titled "Sing We Now of Christmas." We will be looking at the history behind some of our favorite Christmas carols and, of course, singing a bunch of them.

So... **SAVE THIS DATE**

Sing We Now of Christmas

An evening of fellowship, music, and scripture

Friday, December 2, 6:55 pm

FLC Fellowship Hall

We have twelve tables that can be reserved. If you're thinking of hosting a table, be sure to sign up early so you don't miss out. Let's fill the room this year!

See Juanita Eddings (at tutame@att.net or 741-3083) or Barbara Franckowiak (at 673-8894 or barbara@flcyc.org) for more information or to reserve a table.



**FALL arrives
this month!**

EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

Wednesdays at 5:30 pm - Community Dinner (If you would be willing to help cook, please see Pastor Mike or check the sign-up sheet. We can also use people to clean up the dining room and wash dishes.)

Thursday, September 15, 7:00 pm
Ice Cream Social

Saturday, September 17, All Day

Live Oak Festival—Reuben will be there

Thursday, September 22, 6:30 pm

"22" Veterans Support Group with Reuben (in our Patio Room)

***NOTE:** For a full calendar of events, please see Sunday announcements, the online calendar... or contact the church office.*

Serving at FLC

Readers

8:30 am

- Sep 4 Ellen Hackerd
- Sep 11 Karin Vannett
- Sep 18 Diane Grindstaff
- Sep 25 Rose Wood

10:30 am

- Sep 4 Barbara Franckowiak
- Sep 11 Diane Jaeger
- Sep 18 Gail Clutter
- Sep 25 Tim Dorcy

A/V Techs

8:30 am—

- Sep 4 Stephen Ransom
- Sep 11 John Swift
- Sep 18 Dustin Casner
- Sep 25 Dylan Efimoff

10:51 am—Shellody Efimoff

Look Who's Celebrating

Birthdays

- 6 Robert Efimoff
- 6 Shaiann Efimoff
- 8 Harriett Foster
- 8 Keira Putman
- 11 Rosemarie Smith
- 15 Tammie Putman
- 20 Karin Vannett
- 23 Datyell Close
- 24 Jackie Kiesow
- 25 Lisa Standard
- 29 Nancy Huston
- 30 Lorin Grahn
- 30 Romey Ufkes

Anniversaries

- 2 Richard and Nancy Huston
- 5 LeRoy and Nadene Hilbers
- 26 Dylan and Sophia Efimoff



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Our Mission Statement

Bringing the Word of God and Christ's gift of salvation into every life as the hands and feet of Jesus, meeting physical and spiritual needs.

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We Are First Lutheran Church.