

First Impressions

First Lutheran Church

October 2022

Rev. Sean Esterline

Pastor

Phone 812-431-1923 or 517-543-4360 ext. 222

sesterline@msn.com

Mark Gawura

Specific Ministries Pastor for Care Ministry

Phone 517-667-6853

mgawura@gmail.com

Daniel Longden

Specific Ministry Pastor for

Youth & Family Ministry

Phone 517-543-4360 ext. 229

daniellongden@gmail.com

Rebekah Simmons

Preschool/Daycare Director

517-543-3828

flpddirector@gmail.com

First Lutheran Church

550 E. Shepherd St., Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone 517-543-4360

Email: flcchurchoffice@gmail.com

web: firstlutherancharlotte.org

Amy Garnsay, Office Manager

517-543-4360 ext. 221

flcchurchoffice@gmail.com

Worship Times

Sundays 8:30 & 11:15 a.m.

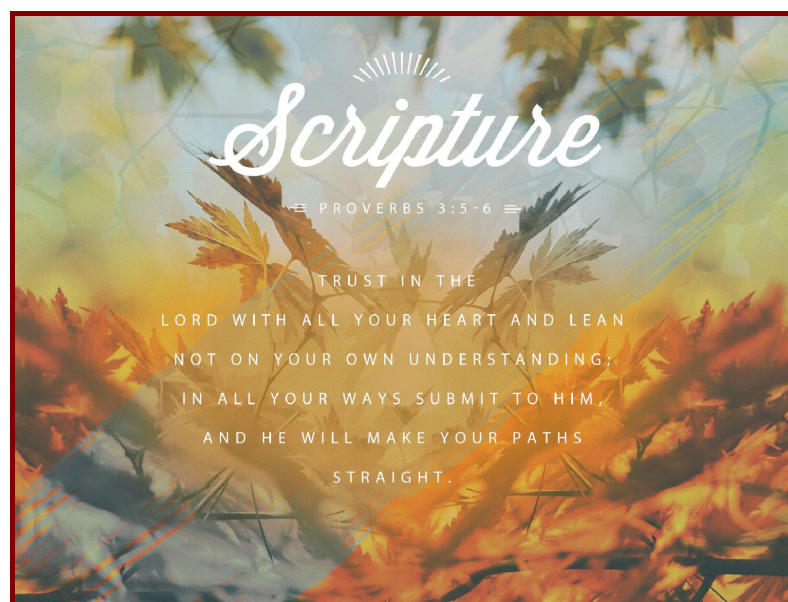
Contemporary Worship 2nd & 4th Sundays @

11:15 a.m. with live worship team

Communion 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

Mid-week Worship

Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. during Advent & Lent



“That which we have seen
and heard concerning the Word
of Life, we proclaim to you.”



FLC Statistics for SEPT. 2022

Confirmed Membership.....	251
Baptized Membership.....	317
Child Baptisms	(0)
Adult Baptisms	(0)
Jr. Confirmands	(0)
New Confirmed Members	(0)
New Baptized Members	(0)
Transfers Out (Confirmed)	(0)
Transfers Out (Baptized)	(0)
Releases (Confirmed)	(0)
Releases (Baptized)	(0)
Deaths.....	(0)
Weddings	(0)



Ruth Aben.....	Oct 1
Barb Dodge.....	Oct 2
Karen Bursley.....	Oct 3
Ian Livingston.....	Oct 5
Janet Hamilton	Oct 7
Sophia Murray	Oct 7
Butch Martens.....	Oct 8
Tanner Gingrich	Oct 9
Stephanie Keiffer	Oct 10
Cory Whitaker	Oct 11
Solomon LaGuire	Oct 12
Mark Wells.....	Oct 12
Carol Hamilton	Oct 13
Traci Backus.....	Oct 15
Kim Doig	Oct 15
Angela (Brendlinger) Hester	Oct 19
Michelle Goff.....	Oct 20
Cameron Greene.....	Oct 20
Tina Lietzke	Oct 22
Isabel Hackney	Oct 23
Amelia Alger	Oct 24
Jennifer Sadler	Oct 26
Brayden Wing.....	Oct 26
Grace Longden.....	Oct 27
Kay Reppuhn	Oct 28
Nicholas Schalk	Oct 28
Herman Arends.....	Oct 29
Liz Eggert.....	Oct 29
Charley Green	Oct 29
Dillon Jorgensen	Oct 29
Nolan Spotts.....	Oct 31

OCTOBER Anniversaries

Tom & Carolyn Little	Oct 11
Aaron & Adrienne Van Langevelde	Oct 16



Office Deadlines:

- Bulletin announcements are due no later than Thursdays at 8:30 a.m.
- Newsletter articles and information are due no later than the 15th day of the month.

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month and you do not see your name listed here, please let the church office know so we can update our records. Thank you.

Church office: 517-543-4360 ext. 221

EMERGENCIES!

If you have a pastoral emergency such as a hospitalization, death in the family, or are in need of urgent Christian counsel, please call Pastor Sean Esterline (812) 431-1923 OR Specific Ministry Pastor for Youth and Family Ministry, Daniel Longden at (248) 802-2392.

First Lutheran Phone Number is 517-543-4360:

Church Office (Amy) - extension 221

Pastor Esterline - extension 222

Pastor Daniel Longden - extension 229

Kitchen - extension 224

**If you call the church and do not get an answer, please leave a message.*

*Please do not leave **emergency** messages on these extensions as we may not access them in a timely manner.*

Reformation Revelations!

The reformer, Martin Luther, was a powerful, influential man whose personal quest for peace with God launched widespread change in the church and laid a new foundation for society. As a young monk, Luther searched the Scriptures to ease his anxieties about sin and salvation. He became convinced that the Roman Catholic Church had lost sight of its central themes. Luther challenged the church by posting his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Church, and act that guaranteed attention. Rome responded quickly, demanding Luther to retract his remarks and eventually declaring him an outlaw.

Despite its best efforts, the hierarchy of the church could not suppress Martin Luther. These dramatic events of his life sparked discontent that had been smoldering for centuries. Luther's writings were widely read and accepted as the Renaissance ended and the Reformation began. His words continue to influence the church today as Christians rely on the truth of God's Word. And yet, today, we may question whether what Martin Luther did so many centuries ago has any relevance. The answer is a resounding "YES!"

Millions and millions of people throughout the past few centuries have been able to depend on the Word of God alone for their support and strength, their comfort and peace. Instead of depending on their own strength (which is feeble at best) and their own goodness (which constantly fails), Martin Luther encourages faithful Christians to depend on the promise and the power of God for their salvation. This message, taken from God's Word alone, has been and will continue to be the heart of Christian (especially Lutheran!) theology and doctrine: Apart from Christ, there is no salvation, and in Christ there is no fear of death.

The last Sunday of this month is the celebration of the Reformation, when we remember the day that sparked a revival in the Christian church, a return to the Word of God, and a renewal of faith in Christ alone. This month, please consider donating your time, treasure, and talents to the support of the spread of the Gospel through the various Lutheran Church Missouri Synod auxiliary groups and organizations.

Besides our own video streaming service that we produce here at First Lutheran there are many other devotional options available to you. For example, The Lutheran Hour can be heard on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:30 a.m. on WLCM 1390 AM. Lutheran Ministries Media "Worship Anew" can be seen on the TCT-TV channel (available on both Comcast and WOW) beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Sundays as well. Thrivent and the Lutheran Church Extension Fund are great resources for building a financial future for yourself and First Lutheran Church. And organizations like Lutheran Child and Family Services or the Lutheran Women's Missionary League can always use prayers and donations to accomplish the great tasks that God has given them

During this time of Reformation and Revelation, may God keep your hearts and minds focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

-Pastor Esterline

FLC COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13, 7:00 p.m.

FLC ELDERS MEETING

The next Board of Elders' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 6:30 p.m.

FLC ELISABETH GUILD

The Elisabeth Guild Annual Auction will be held on Saturday, October 8, 1:30 p.m. Please bring your used treasures, baked goods, etc. to place into the auction. Please bring your wallet and come prepared to bid on items. All money raised will go towards the Elisabeth Guild's mission projects for the year. For more information please call Marj 517-543-1615.

WORSHIP *with us*

Weekly Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Traditional worship with communion

on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays at both 8:30 & 11:15 a.m.

Traditional non-communion worship at 8:30 a.m. on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Contemporary Worship with Live Band at 11:15 a.m. on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

👉 👉 👉 **PLEASE NOTE:** 👉 👉 👉

BEGINNING NOVEMBER 6, 2022

there will Communion every Sunday, and every service at FLC ❤️

STREAMING AND ONLINE WORSHIP

If you are immune compromised and cannot attend in-person worship, or if you are unable to attend for another reason, please join us for worship online by going to

<https://www.facebook.com/flcharlotte/live>

All worship services will be livestreamed.

The worship services will be available for viewing after the livestream has ended.



MINISTRY APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Please join us on Sunday, October 2, for a cake and punch celebration at 9:45 a.m. to celebrate our wonderful Ministry Staff and all of our Ministry Volunteers.



CHARLOTTE CROP WALK FOR HUNGER

Sunday, October 2, 1:30 p.m.,

Bennett Park, Charlotte

Please consider helping those in need in our community and around the world.

Questions? Please contact Judy Trausch 517-543-8881.

USHERS

We are in need of men, women, and teenagers
to serve as Ushers at Worship Services and special events.
If you are interested, please contact Mark Wells 269-274-6352. Thank you.



LWML SUNDAY

Please help support our ladies and the LWML (Lutheran Women Missionary League)
Sunday, October 9, both services.



ELECTRONIC GIVING AVAILABLE

First Lutheran has an electronic giving option called Kindrid.

To utilize this option simply go to our website at www.firstlutherancharlotte.org
look for the kindrid smart giving logo and click on it or go to the drop down menu
on our website (three lines together at the top) and then click on "give."

Thank you for your continued support to First Lutheran and your church family.



GIDEON SUNDAY

Representatives from Gideons International will be here on Sunday, October 16,
to give a 10 minute presentation at the end of each service.

A special collection to benefit the Gideons and their mission will be taken.



REFORMATION AND CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

First Lutheran JR. Confirmation
will take place on Reformation Day -
Sunday, October 30, both services.

A punch and cake reception in honor of our confirmands
will be held at 9:45 a.m. in the FLC Fellowship Hall.



ALTAR GUILD

We are in need of ladies to serve on the First Lutheran Altar Guild.
If you are interested, please contact Wendy Jorgensen 517-420-7062. Thank you.



FLC COMMUNITY DINNER

Our next Community Dinner will be held on
Monday, October 17, 6:00 p.m.

This dinner is free to anyone in our community or congregation regardless
of need. Helpers are needed please. Questions?
Please contact George Hatter at 517-213-1939.



HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY IN GREAT NEED OF HELP!

Donations to Helping Hands Food Pantry are at an all time low. The food pantry is one of the main sources of help for struggling families for food and personal care items in our area. Donations from stores have all but ceased since the stores are unable to get enough supplies for themselves and no longer have a surplus to share. Donations from other agencies and USDA products have decreased by 50% or more.

Please consider donating to Helping Hands Food Bank to help struggling families. You may drop donations directly to the food bank at 621 Jefferson St., Charlotte. or you may leave donations in the collection box located in the FLC narthex. Donations need to be in-date and unopened. Donations of non-perishable food items and personal care items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, diapers, and cleaning supplies, are needed.

You may also send a monetary donation to:
Helping Hands Food Pantry - 621 Jefferson St., Charlotte, MI 48813.
For questions please call the food bank at 517-543-8737.

Thank you.



COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour is held every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the FLC Fellowship Hall.

Hosts and Hostesses are needed to serve coffee and refreshments every Sunday.

The church provides coffee, other beverages. Volunteers make and serve the coffee/beverages.

The volunteers provide and serve the snacks (cookies, bagels, fruit, etc.)

Please wear gloves and observe good sanitation while serving at Coffee Hour.

Please be sure to clean up following Coffee Hour and turn the coffee pot off.

Thank you to all who serve ♥



USE OF TABLES AND CHAIRS

First Lutheran loans tables and chairs to members of First Lutheran.

Only tables and chairs located in the FLC garage are available for use off-site by members.

Tables and chairs from inside the church building are not available for use outside of the church.

To use tables and chairs please sign up through the church office. Please do not take tables and chairs without a reservation as someone else may already have them reserved.

Please be sure to bring tables and chairs back promptly at the end of your reservation. Thank you.



BIBLE STUDIES AT FIRST LUTHERAN

Please join us for Bible Study . . .

† Sunday Morning Bible Studies for Adults and Teens - 10:00 a.m.

† Men's Monday Morning Bible Study - 7:00 a.m., Eaton Place Restaurant, Charlotte

† Ladies Thursday Morning Bible Study - 9:30 a.m., FLC Library

† JR Confirmation Classes - 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays



✿ ALTAR FLOWERS ✿

Please consider signing up to provide flowers to beautify our Sunday altar.
Cost is currently \$20 per bouquet.. Please make checks payable to FLC Elisabeth Guild
and place in Shirley Lea's mailbox.
You may take your flowers home with you following the 2nd worship service.

A sign-up sheet is located in the office hallway.

When you sign up you may state a reason for your flowers
(this will appear in the Sunday announcements) such as celebrating a birthday or anniversary, in loving
memory of someone, in thanksgiving for blessings, etc.
Thank you for helping make our altar beautiful.



USE OF FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH BUILDING

The First Lutheran Church fellowship hall, kitchen, and Pastor Olson Memorial Room, are available for use by members and outside groups for their private events, meetings, etc. To make a reservation please contact the church office 517-543-4360 ext. 221. Please do not make plans to use the facilities without making a reservation through the church office as someone may already have the space reserved.

A member of FLC must be present for the duration of any event/meeting held at First by an outside group. FLC is not available for for-profit events (Tupperware, Candlelight, craft sale, etc.). A deposit of \$150 is required for any use of the FLC facilities other than for non-profit or church events. A list of facility use rules and a cleaning check list can be obtained through the church office. Be sure to clean and secure the building after your event. Thank you.

HOW YOU CAN HELP THOSE IN NEED

Here is a list of ways you can help those in need in our community and congregation:

- ☞ **FLC Esther Fund.** This fund helps provide emergency housing to the homeless in our community. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please write "Esther Fund" and the amount you wish to contribute on your offering envelope.
- ☞ **FLC Good Samaritan Fund.** This fund helps members of First Lutheran who have a financial need. If you are a member struggling with a financial need, please contact the church office to apply for help. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please write "Good Samaritan Fund" and the amount you wish to contribute on your offering envelope.
- ☞ **Helping Hands Food Bank.** You may make donations at FLC or directly to the food bank: 621 Jefferson St., Charlotte. For questions please call the food bank at 517-543-8737.
- ☞ **Pregnancy Center for Eaton County.** The pregnancy center helps women in need and encourages those considering abortion to choose life instead. We are collecting donations of diapers (size newborn thru size four), wipes, sleepers (size newborn thru one year), receiving blankets, and maternity clothes (of all sizes). The center is also in need of monetary donations. Please send monetary donations directly to Pregnancy Center of Eaton County, PO Box 480, Charlotte, MI 48813. Volunteers are needed to help clean and organize at the pregnancy center (337 State St., Charlotte), and help greet clients, Thursdays from Noon - 3pm. Questions? Please contact Gina at 517-543-7077.
- ☞ **SIREN Eaton Shelter.**
Please make donations directly to the shelter:
520 Robinson St., Charlotte, MI. For questions please call the shelter at 517-543-0748.



WHAT WE BELIEVE

Scripture Alone

We believe that the Holy Scriptures in their entirety are the inspired and infallible Word of God and that they alone are the only source and norm of faith and life for the Christian. We believe that the Bible is complete and requires no additions from any other source and that it clearly reveals God's plan of salvation for mankind.

Faith Alone

We believe that man was originally created holy by God but later rebelled against God and is now, by his nature, spiritually dead and blind. Only when man is brought to faith by the Holy Spirit working through the Word of God is it possible for man to be saved. Faith is God's work - not man's work - and comes only by hearing the Word of God. Man is justified before God by faith alone and not by good deeds.

Grace Alone

We believe that we are saved by grace alone and that man cannot earn his way into God's favor. Grace is the undeserved love of God who sent His Son Jesus into the world to take our place under God's law and to suffer and die to pay the penalty for our sins. Whoever trusts in that redemptive act of Jesus Christ will not perish but have everlasting life.