

February Newsletter 2025



Church
Staff

Pastor

Pastor Emeritus

Administrative Assistant

Director of Choirs

Organist/Pianist

Custodian

President

BCA Principal

Rev. Donald
Welmer

Rev. Gilbert Pingel

Amy Sandy

Justin Hipp

Anna Hipp

Denise Topp

Adam Weidman

David Topp

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have given me relief when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

*How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? Selah
But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him.*

*Be angry, and do not sin;
ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah
Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.*

*There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?
Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!"*

*You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.*

*In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.*

(Psalm 4)

This Psalm from David reminds us to trust in the Lord above all things (1st Commandment). David was the great King of Israel, but he knew that all good things come from God, and not from man. This is a psalm reminding us that only in Christ are we truly secure and safe.

In the political waves of our society, it can be exciting or fearful when a certain person is chosen to the office of President of the United States. Sometimes people can become divided in our country. However, this Psalm provides us with the right understanding of who is truly our master and provider.

In the prayers of the church, we always pray for our local and national politicians freely. Asking our Father in heaven to give them sound wisdom to make and execute just laws. As Christians we do not want an immoral chaotic system of government. We ask the Prince of Peace,

Christ, to let his peace be extended to our great nation and beyond our own borders.

“But Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” (Matthew 19:26)

We do not put our trust in man. Our trust is in the Lord of hosts. Jesus Christ knows all and is in all. He always works things out for those that love him.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Welmer

How does love grow?

John, in his letter to believers makes the connection between God’s Spirit and our spirit, God’s love and our love, His actions and our actions, and the “confidence” about our future with Him. In 1 John 4:1-21 Saint Augustine put it this way “Since love grows within you, so beauty grows. For love is the beauty of the soul.” If our soul is focused on God and what he did for us, our actions and words will reflect Jesus’ love and devotion to serve Him. This connection is clearly stated in verses 11-13 “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.” How does love grow? It grows as we practice loving others, beginning with Jesus, then our spouses, children, friends, acquaintances and even our enemies.

At BCA we start with an attitude of applying God’s love through us so

that our mission of making disciples, encouraging lifelong learning, valuing each other, and living out a nurturing community comes to life. So our Mission Statement in action can be recognized when we pray for others to be blessed, look for the good in others, encourage and celebrate with them. However, when we fail we run to the cross of grace and confess, repent, receive forgiveness, and move forward.

The BCA family thanks you for loving us in your prayer life, in your words and in your actions.

Growing in Love through Jesus,
David Topp

February Birthdays

Elizabeth Post	2/2
Alicia Vines	2/2
Zane Sherrill	2/4
Bonnie Vinson	2/6
Teresa Petty	2/8
Kevin Beck	2/9
Kathleen Pacenti	2/13
Colin Hipp	2/14
Eric Seiberlich	2/14

Sarah Stroud	2/16
Justin Hipp	2/19
James Norman	2/20
Joyce Enloe	2/21
Paul Schlie	2/21
Joan Ashton	2/25
Noel Parell	2/27
Kevin Schoneck	2/27
Michael Kulisek	2/28

February Anniversaries

Gary & Paula Tallant	43	2/11
Matt & Marie Townley	35	2/17
Paul & Edeltraud Parker	60	2/26

Prayer Requests

Members

Joan Ashton
Kathy Dolloff
Marian Fretwell
Ingrid Hall
Carolyn Kempson
Ida Jane Larson
Walter Meyer
Nancy Morkert
Peggy Moselage
Paul Parker
Teresa Petty
Pastor Pingel
Stan Puterbaugh
David Ratchford
Pat Stroud

Family of Members

Bonnie Blair (Nance)
Robbie & Sue Barnes (Hyde)
Rick Brown (Curtis)

Lloyd Miller (Uffalussy)
Avery Morkert (Morkert)
James O'Connell (Pacenti)
Tim Stroud (Stroud)
Jo Vail (Vail)
Nicholas Wibben (Welmer)

Friends of Members

Jane Amstutz (Streufert)
Kayla Carrol (Griffith)
Rick Carlson (Cox)
Bailey Deweansbe (Harris)
Marty Dunagan (Slaten)
Gene & Faye Edwards (Tyson)
Ava England (Anderson)
Jon Freese (Gatlin)
Charmaine Goines (Petty)
Barbara Hart (Selcer)
Alta Hook (Schroeder)
Kleinpeter Family (Welmer)
Stella Kuhn (McMullen)

Thomas Caines (Lowe)
John Coffelt (Yarman)
Page Dover (Stroud)
Doug Emmer (Emmer)
Sherry Emmer (Emmer)
Bethany Dillard (Johnson)
Freddie Fryar (Harris)
Chris Hall (Hall)
Joan Kastendick (Morkert)
Kathy Kreiman (Lewis)
Austin Martin (Petty)
Dusty Martin (Petty)
Valerie McMullen (McMullen)

Bern Langley (Bumgardner)
Morgan Family (Nance)
Ollie Reeves (Simmons)
Les Seibert (Anderson)
Greg Sitton (Selcer)
Kathy Smith (Bumgardner)
Pastor Ralph & Sue Wetzel
Kay Wise (Nance)
Amy Zeleny, Lilly and Tabitha
(Turner)



February 2nd is
L.H.M. Sunday

LUTHERAN HOUR
MINISTRIES
www.lhm.org



Giving Bean Fundraiser for The Higher Things Youth Gathering

The mission of Higher Things is to make the Gifts of Christ Jesus known to youth and young adults. Six of our youth will attend this smaller attendance version of the National Lutheran Youth Gathering at Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska on July 8-11, 2025. The youth hope you will help to fund their trip via your purchase of coffee via The Giving Bean Fundraiser.

Besides coffee, you can order tea and snacks.

All orders and payment must be dropped off at the church office in an envelope labeled Youth Group Fund by noon on Thursday, February 13. Please make checks out to First Lutheran Church and write "Coffee Youth Group Fund" in the memo line.

Your order will be delivered to First Lutheran by February 28th. You can also click on the link below to see the available offerings.

[Local Buyers Click Here](#)

[Non-Local Buyers Click Here](#)



Six of our youth will be attending the Higher Things Conference in Seward, NE this summer. In an effort to raise funds to cover their costs, they will be making Superbowl subs for purchase!

Find them on Sunday January 26th or Sunday February 2nd to place your orders. Your sub, drink, and chips will be \$10, and any additional donations are welcome. Thank you in advance for supporting our youth!

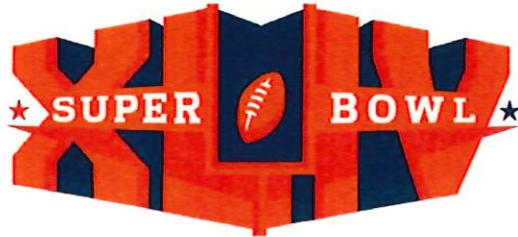
Subs will be available for pickup February 9th after early service, Bible class, or late service.



WORKDAY AT THE CHURCH

**Saturday, February 8
beginning at 9 a.m.**

SPARE TIME
ULTIMATE GAMEDAY



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH
STARTING PROMPTLY AT 6PM

FREE FOR MEMBERS

\$10 FOR NON-MEMBERS

Deadline to sign up is February 2

Includes:

Shoes

1 Pitcher of Soda &

16" Pizza per Lane

For New Members and as a refresher
course for Current Members . . .

ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS

Tuesdays at 6:00
beginning February 18

If you haven't already done so,
please let the office know you would like to attend.

QUILTING!

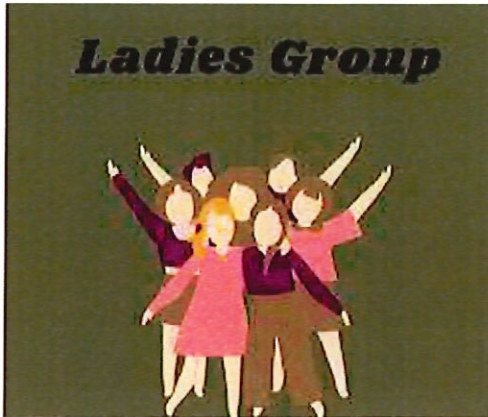
In my
dream
world,
fabric is
free and
quilting
makes you
thin!



Our quilters meet the 3rd
Tuesday of each month at
10:00 a.m., downstairs
off the Fellowship Hall.

Why not join them
and see what quilting
does for you?

(If you can tie a knot,
you can quilt!)



Ladies Fellowship will meet on Thursday, February 20 at 6:00 *at a new location:* Wood Oven Kitchen 5716 Ringgold Road.



Men's Fellowship will meet on Thursday, February 20 at 6:30 at Rib & Loin on Brainerd Road.

Guests are welcome for both groups.

BCA



BCA's pre-k4 and kindergarten students had so much fun at the "Winter Fun" event.

They enjoyed pizza, cookies and a cool snowflake craft alongside their teachers

and parents! Thank you to BCA faculty and staff members, Ms. Sara, Ms. Elizabeth, Ms. Mattie, Ms. JoAnn, Ms. Webb and Ms. Jamie for making this a special evening!



Faith Family Day!

Each month, the kindergarten - 8th grade students gather in their assigned Faith Family groups to work on an exercise for the month. For the new year, they talked about ways to make improvements in their schoolwork, or in relationships with their family and friends as well as ways to make kindness an integral part of their New Year's goals.

Belvoir Christian Academy Kindergarten Open House

Feb. 6 4 - 7 p.m.

Meet our amazing teachers,
explore our classrooms, and
discover the exciting curriculum that
will make your child's kindergarten
year unforgettable!

What you'll learn...

- Online Enrollment Steps
- Curriculum
- Dresscode
- School Schedule
- Extended Care
- Summer Camp
- BCA's Financial Aid Opportunities
- TN State Tuition Voucher Program (ESA)



BCALIONS.org

Contact Admissions!
admissions@bcacademy.net
TEXT 423-443-6270



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 <i>The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord</i> Pledge Sunday; Lutheran Hour Ministry 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	3	4 9-2 Food Pantry	5 1:30 Bible Study	6 11:00 Evangelism	7	8 9:00 Church workday
9 <i>The Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> LWML Mite Box 8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Voters Meeting 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service 6:00 Super Bowl at Spare Time	10 6:00 BCA Board Private group in Fellowship Hall	11 9-2 Food Pantry 6:00 Social Ministry 6:00 Elders 7:30 Christian Ed	12 1:30 Bible Study	13 10:00 LWML 6:30 Church Council	14	15
16 <i>Septuagesima</i> 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	17 Newsletter & Calendar Deadline	18 9-2 Food Pantry 10:00 Quilters 6:00 Adult Instruction Class	19 1:30 Bible Study	20 6:00 Ladies' Fellowship at Wood Oven Kitchen, Ringgold Rd. 6:30 Men's Fellowship at Rib & Loin, Brainerd	21	22
23 <i>Sexagesima</i> Food Pantry Offering 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	24	25 9-2 Food Pantry 6:00 Adult Instruction Class	26 1:30 Bible Study	27 <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">FEBRUARY 2025</div>	28	

February Sunday Worship Assistants

February 2 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
Assistants Jeff Anderson
Frank Streufert
Ushers Tony Seiberlich
Kurt Piepenbrink
Altar Guild Janet & Ted

February 2 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
Live Stream Charlie Simmons
Assistants Townley Team
Ushers Freer Team
Altar Guild Jordan Halabrin
Acolyte Audrey Hipp
Nursery Chelsea S. Miller

February 9 8:30

Organist Rachel Schlie
Assistants Frank Streufert
Jeff Anderson
Ushers Ralph Meissner
David Topp
Altar Guild Janet & Ted Ryan

February 9 11:00

Organist Rachel Schlie
Live Stream Jordan Halabrin
Assistants Freer Team
Ushers Townley Team
Altar Guild Carla Brooks
Acolyte Jackson Barber
Nursery Ashley Shamblin

February 16 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
Assistants Steve Kempson
Jim Post
Ushers Tony Seiberlich
Kurt Piepenbrink
Altar Guild Ted & Janet Ryan

February 16 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
Live Stream Eric Turner
Assistants Townley Team
Ushers Freer Team
Altar Team Jodie Hyde
Acolyte Colin Hipp
Nursery Jasley Montgomery

February 23 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
Assistants Jim Post
Steve Kempson
Ushers Ralph Meissner
David Topp
Altar Team Ted & Janet Ryan

February 23 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
Live Stream Adam Weidman
Assistants Townley Team
Ushers Freer Team
Altar Team Gay Tallant
Acolyte Shiloh Stroud
Nursery Chelsea S. Miller



Copyright © 2025 First Lutheran Church, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

First Lutheran Church
2800 McCallie Ave
Chattanooga, TN 37404

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

