April Newsletter 2025



Church Staff

Rev. Donald **Pastor** Welmer **Pastor Emeritus** Rev. Gilbert Pingel Administrative Assistant Amy Sandy Director of Choirs **Justin Hipp** Organist/Pianist Anna Hipp Custodian **Denise Topp** President Adam Weidman **BCA Principal David Topp**

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

Teach me your way, O Lord,

and lead me on a level path

because of my enemies.

Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;

for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out violence.

I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!

Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!

(Psalm 27:11-14)

There are times when we as Christians face persecution in some form or fashion. In those times it can be quite unnerving. But David reminds us in Psalm 27 that the Lord is not blind, and he sees and knows all. Our trust is in him who made heaven and earth.

This is First Commandment stuff. God is not slow as some count slowness. "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance." (2 Peter 3:9)

We can trust that in his time he will act according to his will. So, we take courage in our Lord and pay attention to his just decrees. We ask for his forgiveness and receive his absolution. Then we partake in the Sacrament together to receive Christ, that we may be strengthened and preserved in the one true faith.

All of this helps us as we wait for the Lord's coming. We keep

praying that all may come to the knowledge of Christ so that they too may receive eternal life in him.

May this Lenten season be a blessing to you as we remember the journey Christ took to the cross to give us salvation.

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Welmer

Success

I was reading for my Principal 360 class and the topic of success was mentioned and I thought about how we measure success at BCA/Lutheran School. What does success look like? How do we know we have achieved it? These are questions that can be addressed in assessments for academics, but what about character that is rooted in Christ our Lord? "They will know we are Christian by our love" from a children's song sums it up quite well. David Frost stated "Don't aim for success if you want it; just do what you love and believe in, and it will come naturally." and if you believe and love what you are doing, success will follow. Together we will succeed!

Nehemiah prayed this prayer, "O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man." I know that a lot of people pray for

BCA/Lutheran School and those prayers are felt in many ways as our team does what it loves and believes in an awesome God.

God has given us success forever in His son Jesus!

Growing in Love through Jesus,

David Topp

April Birthdays

Noel Bezaire	4/2
Janet Ryan	4/3
Jim Avriett	4/4
Christine Post	4/4
Barbara Wright	4/4
Bill Wright	4/7
Jim Post	4/9
Lucas Barber	4/10
Michael Galik	4/10
Kathy Fisher	4/11
Connie Uffalussy	4/12
Leland Dettloff	4/12
Stratton Guy	4/15

Oscar Kelley	4/15
Vickie Puterbaugh	4/17
Miriam Schlie	4/18
Ingrid Hall	4/20
Robert Hyde	4/21
Shari Kappel	4/22
Madeline Gatlin	4/23
Nancy Morkert	4/24
Jodie Hyde	4/25
Edeltraud Parker	4/26
Paula Tallant	4/28
Eradesa Stroud	4/29

April Anniversaries

Eric & Sandy Turner Rick & Debbie Sparks

36 4/3 50 4/2

Prayer Requests

<u>Members</u>

Ingrid Hall

Judy Nance

Teresa Petty

Family of Members

John Coffelt (Yarman)

Page Dover (Stroud)

Doug Emmer (Emmer)

Sherry Emmer (Emmer)

Kris Hall (Hall)

Ashley Koss (Schlie)

Jim Koss (Schlie)

Kathy Kreiman (Lewis)

Austin Martin (Petty)

Dusty Martin (Petty)

Christian McCall (Schlie)

Valerie McMullen (McMullen)

Lloyd Miller (Uffalussy)

Avery Morkert (Morkert)

James O'Connell (Pacenti)

Melanie Salvaggio

(Bumgardner)

Tim Stroud (Stroud)

Jo & Steve Vail (Vail)

Katie Williams' father

Friends of Members

Jane Amstutz (Streufert)

Marty Dunagan (Slaten)

Gene & Faye Edwards (Tyson)

Ava England (Anderson)

Jon Freese (Gatlin)

Jim Gilliland (Hyde)

Charmaine Goines (Petty)

Barbara Hart (Selcer)

Alta Hook (Schroeder)

Stella Kuhn (McMullen)

Naomi (Randall)

Ollie Reeves (Simmons)

Les Seibert (Anderson)

Greg Sitton (Selcer)

Joyce Skiles (J Freer)

The Squires Family

The Squires Family

Amy Turner, Lilly and Tabitha

(Turner)

LONG-TERM: Joan Ashton, Marian Fretwell, Carolyn Kempson, Ida Jane Larson, Walter Meyer, Peggy Moselage, Paul Parker, Pastor Pingel, Stan Puterbaugh,

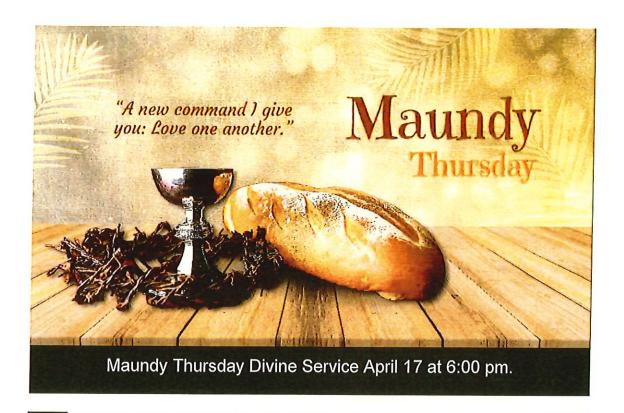
David Ratchford, Pat Stroud, Robbie & Sue Barnes (Hyde), Bonnie Blair (Nance) Thomas Caines (Lowe), Bethany Dillard (Johnson)



WORKDAY AT THE CHURCH

Saturday, March 1 & April 5 beginning at 9 a.m. Lunch Included!





But He was wounded for our transgressions;
He was bruised for our iniquities,
the chastisement of our peace was upon Him,
and with His stripes we are healed.



This year in lieu of purchasing lilies by sign up, we are asking you to bring in the lily or lilies of your choosing which you have purchased on your own. You may bring the purchased lily or lilies to church on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday and place them downstairs in the fellowship hall on a table. The Altar Guild team will come in Saturday morning before Easter and use what you have supplied to decorate our church for Easter morning. After the second Easter service, those who purchased lilies may take them home. The Altar Guild will keep them watered for one additional week if you are a first service person who does not wish to come back to pick up your lily or lilies.

Egg Hunt at 10:00 on Easter Sunday

Children through 6th grade
are invited to join in the fun.
Please help by donating plastic eggs,
individually wrapped candy, small toys,
change, stickers, etc. All donations must
be in by Palm Sunday.
Volunteers are also needed to hide eggs
Easter morning at 9:45.

To volunteer or for more info please call or text Sheli Baker, 423-580-9922.





"He will cover you...under His wings you will find refuge" -Psalm 91:4 (ESV)

Get ready for a heartwarming and inspiring day at the

LWML Spring Christian Life Workshop at First Lutheran Church in Cleveland, TN!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 26th, 2025, and join us bright and early at 9:30 am for registration and a delightful cup of coffee. Our workshop kicks off at 10 am, and we can't wait to embrace the theme "Wrapped in Hope!"—abeautiful reminder from Psalm 91:4 that assures us of God's protective embrace.

We are thrilled to welcome the wonderful Linda Venturino from Project Linus as our speaker!

To learn more about Project Linus: https://www.projectlinus.org/

WHAT ELSE ARE WE GOING TO DO AT THE WORKSHOP??

Together, we will create 100 cozy single-layer fleece blankets, spreading warmth and love throughout our community. Don't worry; instruction sheets will be provided to guide us along the way! Each of our five LWML groups is excitedly purchasing fleece to craft 20 blankets each, demonstrating our commitment to mission and service.

So, gather your friends, bring your creativity, and let's come together in fellowship and faith-driven fun! We can't wait to see you there!



BCA

BCA Dates to Remember for April

Friday, April 18 – Closed for Good Friday

Monday, April 21 - Closed for Easter Monday



Amazing Masterpieces from BCA's Annual Arts Night!



Basketball season has come to a close, and the students said good-bye with a super fun adult vs. student game. A BIG thanks to all who coached and supported the kids throught the season!



Ash Wednesday - A special part of today's National Lutheran Schools Week chapel included "The Imposition of the Ashes", led by Pastor Cox of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church and Principal Topp.
Students came to the altar to have ashes in the sign of the cross applied to their forehead, reminding us that "we are dust and to dust, we shall return".



Students are also taught that this is the 40+ day start of the Lenten season, leading up the most significant day on the Christian calendar, Easter. Pastor Cox did an amazing job with his message about Jesus' suffering and sacrifice so that we can all have eternal life with Him one day! We wish everyone a blessed Lenten season!

April Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		9-2 Food Pantry 6:00 Adult Education Class	2 5:00 Lenten Meal 6:00 Lenten Service	3 11:00 Evangelism	4	5 9:00 Church Workday with Lunch
6 5th Sunday in Lent 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service Pastor Out	7	8 9-2 Food Pantry 6:00 Social Ministry 6:00 Elders 7:30 Christian Ed	5:00 Lenten Meal 6:00 Lenten Service	10 10:00 LWML 6:30 Church Council	11	12 9am-3pm Camp Workday with Lunch
13 Palm Sunday LWML Mite Box 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	6:00 BCA Board 6:00 Parish Fellowship	9-2 Food Pantry 10:00 Quilters	16	17 Mannely Thursday 6:00 Divine Service Bring Lilies to church	18 Good Friday 6:00 Chief Service Bring Lilies to church	19
20 Easter: The Resurrection of Our Lord New Member Sunday 8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Breakfast 10:00 Egg Hunt 11:00 Divine Service	21 Newsletter & Calendar Deadline	9-2 Food Pantry	23 1:30 Bible Study	24	25	26 6:30 Wrapped in Hope at First Lutheran, Cleveland, TN
27 2nd Sunday of Easter Food Pantry Offering 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	28	9-2 Food Pantry Pastor	30 1:30 Bible Study	АР	RIL 2025	

April Sunday Worship Assistants

April 6 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp

Assistants Jeff Anderson

Frank Streufert

Ushers Tony Seiberlich

Kurt Piepenbrink

Altar Guild Connie Uffalussy

April 6 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp

Live Stream Jordan Halabrin

Assistants Freer Team

Ushers Yarman Team

Altar Guild Sandy Turner

Acolyte Shiloh Miller

Nursery Chelsea S. Miller

April 13

Organist Anna Hipp

Assistants Jeff Anderson

Frank Streufert

Ushers Chris Douglas

David Topp

Altar Guild Patty Chewning

April 13 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp

Live Stream Eric Turner

Assistants Freer Team

Ushers Yarman Team

Altar Guild Carla Brooks

Acolyte Eradesa Stroud

Nursery Ashley Shamblin

Holy Thursday, April 17 7:00 PM

Organist Anna Hipp

Live Stream Adam Weidman

Jordan Halabrin

Assistants Freer Team

Ushers Yarman Team

Altar Team Sandy Turner

Good Friday April 18 7:00 PM

Organist Anna Hipp

Live Stream Adam Weidman

Jordan Halabrin

Ushers Yarman Team

Easter Sunday April 20 8:30

Easter Sunday April 20 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp

Steve Kempson

Jim Post

Ushers

Assistants

Ralph Meissner

Kurt Piepenbrink

Altar Guild

Ralph Meissner

Organist

Anna Hipp

Live Stream

Adam Weidman

Assistants

Freer Team

Ushers

Yarman Team

Altar Team

Sandy Turner

Acolyte

Audrey Hipp

Nursery

Jasley Montgomery

April 27 8:30

Organist

Anna Hipp

Assistants

Jim Post

Steve Kempson

Ushers

Tony Seiberlich

David Topp

Altar Team Connie Uffalussy

April 27 11:00

Organist

Anna Hipp

Live Stream

Charlie Simmons

Assistants

Freer Team

Ushers

Yarman Team

Altar Team

Jodie Hyde

Acolyte

Jackson Barber

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.