



## *SHARING THE LIGHT*

*The mission of First Lutheran Church is to grow together in Christ through Prayer, Worship, and Education and to spread the love of Christ to our community.*

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**June 2020      Publication of    FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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### **From the Pastor's desk**

#### ***Martha/Mary Stress Indicator Challenge***

In these stressful times, it is good to stop and take our pulse regarding the Lord's challenge "to be anxious for nothing" and our life that pushes with us the "tyranny of the urgent". Below listed are the verses Luke 10:38–42. After reading these verses, there will be a spectrum where you will be instructed to place two marks. Enjoy!

<sup>38</sup> Now as went on their way, Jesus entered a village.  
And a woman named Martha welcome him into her house.

<sup>39</sup> And she had a sister called Mary,  
who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching.

<sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted with much serving.

And she went up to him and said,  
"Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone?  
Tell her then to help me."

<sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her,  
"Martha, Martha,  
you are anxious and troubled about many things,

<sup>42</sup> but one thing is necessary.

Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

Now on the next page, follow the instructions and make two marks between 1 to 10.

In the “one to ten” spectrum below, “1” being “ultra-Mary” and “10” being “ultra-Martha”, place an “x” where you believe you are and a “+” where you want to be.

1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----8-----9-----10  
MarthaMary

Anxious and troubled  
About many things.

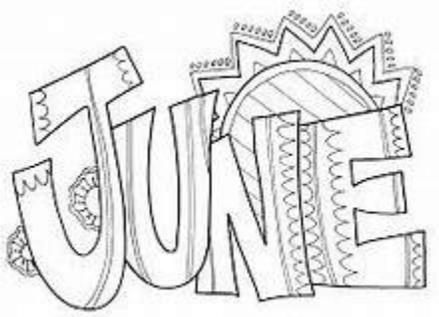
“The good portion.”

Any thoughts and/or prayer requests regarding this exercise:

Blessings!  
Pastor Scott



**First Lutheran Church  
SONshine House Preschool**



Hello Members.

I continue to pray you are well. We are in a bit of a standstill as we wait to open our preschool doors on June 1, 2020. We have the guidance of social services of what changes to make. Our teachers and I are working around the clock to find a creative way to make preschool fun while keeping up with the social distancing guidance.

I pray to have more of an exciting update next month. With the news we once again have students in our school. There is so much fear and uncertainty during this time, I encourage families to get closer to God. He will lift our spirits and help guide our fears.

Looking forward to next month's update.

In His Name,  
Elvia Ibanez  
SONshine house Preschool Director  
[eisonshinehousepreschool@gmail.com](mailto:eisonshinehousepreschool@gmail.com)

## Guidelines for Church Reopening

During this time of closure many of us have been praying and preparing for the church to reopen. Every day seems to bring more openings with guidelines. The Board of Directors has met and after studying the federal, state, and county documents has made the decision to reopen the doors for worship on June 7, 8:30 a.m. with Bible Class at 9:45 a.m. Below are the recommendations they have decided upon, however, as you know the situation is very fluid and who knows what county guidelines will be in place on June 7?

Cleaning crew was in May 27, cleaning preschool, church, parish hall & all rooms.

1. Worshippers are strongly encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing of six feet, except for family units.
2. Front doors will remain open before & after the service.
3. A hand-sanitizing stand will be available outside near the front door.
4. A temperature check will be available before entering the church. The acceptable temperature is below 101.4 degrees.
5. Worshippers should refrain from shaking hands or hugging.
6. Offering plates will be located in the narthex for use upon entering and leaving the church.
7. Worshippers to pick up bulletins in the narthex.
8. The singing of the liturgy & hymns can be done with masks on. There is a concern about the increased likelihood for transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets.
9. Pastor will be the only person touching the pulpit, lectern and altar.
10. Holy Communion will be celebrated on June 7 using the following procedures:
  - Words of Institution spoken by Pastor, no Common Cup
  - Communicates come forward one at a time, social distancing themselves
  - Wafer picked up from a tray of wafers spaced inches apart (Altar Guild to prepare using gloves)
  - Communicants pick up a prepared cup of wine (Altar Guild to prepare using gloves)
11. Prepackaged food items will be available for pickup after the service. No coffee served.
12. Portals of Prayer devotion booklets will be available in sealed plastic bags in the narthex.
13. The adult Bible class will meet in the Fellowship Room at 9:45.
14. Pastor will call all members to let them know we are reopening on June 7.

Thank you for reading the above guidelines. Please call Pastor Scott Ganas (951) 795-8162 or Jo Tschopp (626) 355-9433 if you have questions or concerns.



# June 2020

## Gatherings:

Mission Development Team, Thursday – June 11, 10:00 a.m.

Board of Directors, Tuesday – June 16, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday Prayer Group, 9:00-10:00 a.m. This group is, currently, meeting via phone. Let Jo Tschopp know if you want to participate.



## *June Birthdays*

June 1            Linda Daly

June 17          Jean Hyland

## Not receiving email special announcements and/or prayer requests??

If you are currently not receiving emails and would like to be included please share your email address with Jo Tschopp at [jo@tschopp.org](mailto:jo@tschopp.org) or (626)355-9433.

Pastoral Care:        Pastor Scott Ganas (951) 795-8162 or  
Board of Directors Chairman, Jo Tschopp (626) 355-9433.

Electronic Newsletter: Let Jo Tschopp know your email address if you would prefer to receive your monthly newsletter via email. [jo@tschopp.org](mailto:jo@tschopp.org)

## **Burn the Mortgage!**

Very generous members contributed a total of **\$8,879** during May to help us pay down the principal of our mortgage. We are very excited, our balance now is \$213,894, and soon it will be below \$200,000. Thanks to all the members who are contributing to this fund. Some members gave gifts from their Stimulus Checks; other members have designated a specific monthly amount above their regular faith offerings to this effort. Since October of 2018, the Board of Directors has focused on designating any extra rental income or offerings to pay down the principal. A total of \$24,690 has been sent towards the principal to retire the mortgage. We praise God!

## **Friends in Deed**

One of the unique aspects of the Friends in Deed Food Pantry was the ability of the clients to choose food items in a small room set up like a store with shelves and display areas for produce. Because of the virus situation the distribution has changed, but the need for food has greatly increased as families are faced with job loss and furloughs. Presently food items are placed into a bag or box and given to the recipients in the parking lot rather than letting the needy choose from shelves. Please help by choosing some items to donate as you shop. Even with empty shelf space at the grocery stores we have more choices than those with limited funds. Please remember to buy a few items to donate the next time you shop.



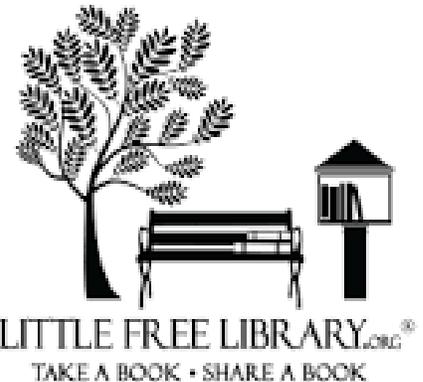
## **Saturday Prayer Group**

This prayer group has, through the years, seen many answers to prayer as they continue to bring their supplications to God. Currently, they are meeting by phone for an hour each Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Let Jo Tschopp know if you would like to join us as we pray together for the congregation, the neighborhood, our nation and the world.

**Jeremiah 33:3** *'Call to Me, and I will answer you. And I will show you great and wonderful things which you do not know.'*

## **Little Free Library**

Our Little Free Library is being used during this virus time and is currently in need of some good adult fiction books. Some of the local public libraries are presently closed yet many people now have more time to read. Search your shelves at home and pass on some of your favorites that would be appropriate for our church library. You can give your choices to Jo Tschopp. The Little Library is a good neighbor project that has been ongoing for about two years.



## **Mission Development Team**

This group of mission minded people will be meeting on June 11 at 10:00 a.m. eager to get back together to reschedule and plan activities to reach out to the community. They continue to gather information for the database of former students, staff, and members. If you have contact information, please pass it to Jo Tschopp. (626) 355-9433, [jo@tschopp.org](mailto:jo@tschopp.org). All are welcome to join us as we seek to serve God, our church, and our community

## Bible Study

The Tuesday Morning Bible Class will be restarting on June 9 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The group will be reading and studying I Samuel 16. God told Samuel to go on a dangerous mission to Bethlehem. Samuel was to anoint a new king to replace King Saul. But how was Samuel to know whom to anoint? God had an amazing way of letting Samuel know who was to be the next King of Israel. God's ways with us are also amazing as He guides and directs our lives. Join us. For further information, call Oscar Tschopp at: (626) 355-9433.



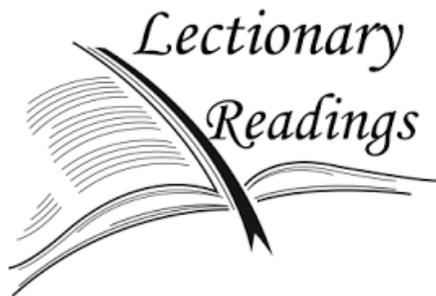
## Voters' Meeting

Our twice-yearly Voters' Meeting will be held June 28 at 11:00 a.m. The agenda will include election of officers to a one-year term, reports from pastor, our treasurer, the preschool, and other committee reports. A light luncheon will be served at 11:00 a.m. as we work through the agenda. To become a member of the voters, you need to be a member of First Lutheran, attend a Voters' Meeting, and ask to be received as a voter. The new voting member can, then, vote at the next meeting. Everyone is invited to the meetings.



## Major Leaguers

This group of lively seniors will be reconvening in August. Look for news about the guest speaker.



## Reading the Lectionaries

Here are the lectionaries for June as they travel to various books of the Old Testament, Psalms, Epistles, and the Gospel

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading / Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
June 7	Genesis 1:1 – 2:4	Psalm 8	Acts 2:14a, 22–38	Matthew 28:16–20
June 14	Exodus 19:2–8	Psalm 100	Romans 5:6–15	Matthew 9:35–10:20
June 21	Jeremiah 20:7–13	Psalm 91:1–16	Romans 6:12–23	Matthew 10:5a, 21–33
June 28	Jeremiah 28:5–9	Psalm 119:153–160	Romans 7:1–13	Matthew 10:34–42