



# 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 2025

Publication of First Lutheran Church, Temple City, CA

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## Diversity in Unity at Pentecost

The miracle at Pentecost includes the Holy Spirit causing the Apostles to speak in unlearned languages and people from all over the known world to believe and be baptized. This miracle did not reverse the curse of Babel by restoring a single language to humanity. Rather, the Holy Spirit made this curse, a cause for division and confusion, into a blessing. By this act, all human languages were endorsed by God as fit to carry His Word and sing His praise.



We see this blessing of diversity in unity in St. John's vision. John says that he saw "a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'" (Rev. 7:9-10).

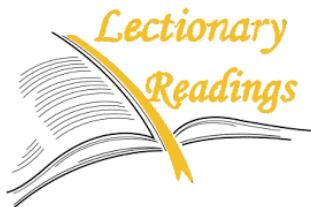
Not only were all these people adorned with similar white robes and carrying palm branches, but they represented every nation, all tribes and people. The saints in heaven aren't Stepford wives or clones that are interchangeable. They are, and remain, visibly unique individuals.

So also, John heard them crying out in a loud voice. He heard them crying out together: "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." It might be possible that they all cried this out in Hebrew or some other single language, but John has already described this great multitude as including "all ... languages."

If I am reading this right, it means that the saints perfected, the saints in heaven, keep their mother tongues. Filled with the Spirit and at one with the Father in the Son, their languages work together, in harmony, without confusion or discord, without drowning out one another.

The coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost is the culmination of Easter. It is the beginning of the new age. The Church Militant has lived ever since in the last days. Pentecost shows something of heaven and matches John's vision. Christian worship and evangelism around the world in vernacular tongues also continue to bear witness to the Pentecost miracle.

*By Rev. David H. Petersen, pastor, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Ft. Wayne, IN – from The Lutheran Witness*



These are the Lectionaries for June, for the Seventh Sunday of Easter through the Third Sunday after Pentecost.

	<b>Old Testament</b>	<b>Psalms</b>	<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
<b>June 1</b>	Acts 1:12–26	Psalm 133	Rev. 22:1–6, 12–20	John 17:20–26
Seventh Sunday of Easter				
<b>June 8</b>	Gen. 11:1–9	Psalm 143	Acts 2:1–21	John 14:23–31
The Day of Pentecost				
<b>June 15</b>	Prov. 8:1–4, 22–31	Psalm 8	Acts 2:14a, 22 36	John 8:48–59
The Holy Trinity				
<b>June 22</b>	Isaiah 65:1–9	Psalm 3	Gal. 3:23–4:7	Luke 8:26–39
Second Sunday after Pentecost				
<b>June 29</b>	1 Kings 19:9b-21	Psalm 16	Gal. 5:1, 13–25	Luke 9:51–62
Third Sunday after Pentecost				

## ***Worship Times & Leaders***

Sunday, June 1, 8:30 a.m., Rev. Frank Matthews

Sunday, June 8, 8:30 a.m., Rev. Frank Matthews

Sunday, June 15, 8:30 a.m., Rev. Frank Matthews

Sunday, June 22 8:30 a.m. Vicar Les Schaefer

Sunday, June 29, 8:30 a.m. Rev. Gregory Otte

**Sunday School Time** Every Sunday, 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

**Ushers:** Craig Boehne, Dave Lassanske, and Don Lammerts

**Readers:** June 1 and 15: Richard Swanson  
June 8 and 22: Christine Geltz  
June 29: Jo Tschopp

**Greeters:** June 1: Connie Kean June 22: Sharon Corey  
June 8: Diane Oberlander June 29: Norma Boehne  
June 15: Sharon Corey



6/1 Linda Daly  
6/11 Peter Dille  
6/14 Elizabeth Yu (Church Staff)  
6/23 Diane Oberlander



6/23 Elizabeth and Kian-Ti Yu  
(Church Staff)

***If you are unable to attend worship, you may:***

- Listen to the Lutheran Hour sermon at any time you choose – Just go to [lhm.org/guide](http://lhm.org/guide).
- View Worship Anew at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays on DirectTV, Channel 377 from our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana. Or you can view it any time at <https://worshipanew.org/by-type/watch?>
- **Access and/or review First Lutheran sermons online by going to: <https://firstlutherantc.org/Media>.**



# JUNE

## Gatherings

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon  
Mission Development Team Meeting  
Load the Van to Friends in Deed  
Red Cross Blood Drive  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
Volunteers at Friends in Deed in Pasadena  
Annual Voters Meeting

June 4, Wednesday, at noon  
June 5, Thursday, at 9:30 a.m.  
June 6, Friday, at 8:30 a.m.  
June 14, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
June 15, Sunday, at 11:00 a.m.  
June 21, Saturday, at 8:00 a.m.  
**June 29, Sunday at 11:00 a.m.**

### Latest from Mission Development Team

Recently this dedicated team met and strategized how to engage our neighbors and community. They talked about possibilities for the summer and fall months.

The Team will continue to maintain the “Cross in Your Pocket” basket by replenishing the supply. One member gave crosses to his grandchildren. Pat Grabowski sent the pocket crosses to her brother and sister-in-law living in Montana. We hope you will remember that Jesus Christ is the Lord of your life and that crosses would be distributed far and wide.

### Be a Hero – Give Blood on June 14!



Every year on June 14, countries around the world celebrate **World Blood Donor Day**, a day dedicated to expressing gratitude to voluntary, unpaid blood donors for their life-saving contributions. The date honors the birthdate of Dr. Karl Landsteiner, whose research identified the main blood groups.



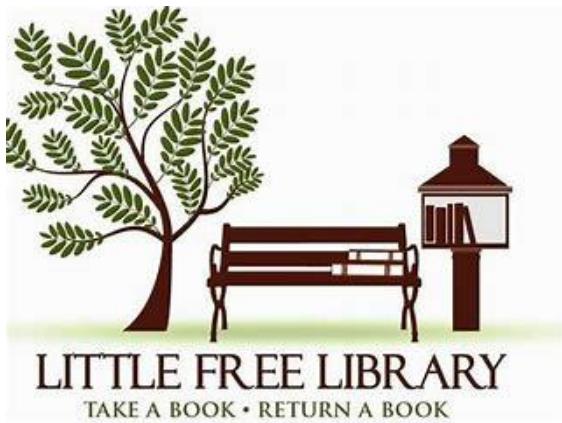
On behalf of the Mission Development Team, Peter Dille has made arrangements for a Red Cross Community Blood Drive on Saturday, June 14, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. honoring both World Blood Drive Day and Father's Day. The team will invite our neighbors by distributing 280 flyers to homes in the immediate area on June 6.

Please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: flcandschooltc to schedule a donation appointment for June 14. Let Peter know if you would like to help to host this important event in the Parish Hall.



## Monthly Soup & Sandwich Luncheons

You won't want to miss the June 4<sup>th</sup> Soup & Sandwich Luncheon. The Los Angeles County Fire Department, Temple City Station, will hopefully be available at that time to tell us about ways to protect our homes, use of household fire extinguishers, and general fire safety. It is always a treat to meet our community workers and show them our appreciation. Of course, their red vehicles are always awesome. Anyone ever climbed on one or seen them demonstrate their powerful hoses?



## Community Prayer Box Update

There are so many needs, so many hurts, in our neighborhood, community, state, and country. Please pray that many people would acknowledge God and find His peace, comfort and mercy. **Psalm 48:14** *This is God, our God forever and ever. He will show us the way until death.*

## New Selections in Our Little Free Library

*From Jo Tschopp:* If you want to see some large, awesome photos of Beijing grab the donated coffee table size book from our Little Free Library. Some Christian romance novels are also in the library. Rachel Whitcher continues to purchase books for our children's shelf. There is a collection of "beginning to read" Bible stories and picture books. Even adults might like reading the simpler version of the lives of Bible heroes such as Daniel. If you have books to donate, please put them in the Little Library, or give them to the ushers or Jo Tschopp.

## Friends in Deed Food Pantry

Even with the higher cost of groceries, our members and friends continue to buy items for people experiencing food insecurity. The Friends in Deed Food Pantry believes "We all deserve...enough to eat." Please consider donating a few items monthly in the collection box at the back of the church. In June, the weather is getting warmer, so cold cereals, puddings, gelatin mixes, canned tuna, peanut butter and other proteins are good choices. Fruit juices and instant dry milk are highly treasured. The Pantry continues to help those who have suffered the consequences of the recent fires.

## **Don't Miss the Annual FLCTC Voters Meeting: Sunday, June 29**

Be sure to attend the Annual Voters Meeting on Sunday, June 29 (mistakenly reported as June 26 in the last newsletter) in the Fellowship Room at 11:00 a.m. Attendees will get an update on the budget, properties, and Mission Development and elect officers for the new fiscal year. They will also enjoy a delicious lunch. The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following Board of Directors candidates for voters' approval at the June 29th meeting: Judith Gunther, President; Norma Boehne, Vice President; Vicki Trepanier, Secretary; Kathy Janetzke, Treasurer; Members at Large: Sharon Corey, Pat Grabowski, and Diane Oberlander.

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## **Called to Glory: Pastor Dennis Schlecht**



We received word that Pastor Dennis Schlecht entered heaven on July 18, 2024. He served here at First Lutheran Temple City from 1983 to 1986.

Pastor Schlecht was born December 22, 1936, to the Rev. O. E. and Martha (nee Orlove) Schlecht. He was baptized in 1937 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Tilden, NE by his father who was pastor there, and confirmed in 1950 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wisner, NE where his father then served. He married Anita Kruger on August 15, 1959 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Winfield, KS with his father and Anita's father, the Rev. Prof. Obert Kruger, officiating.

After finishing high school in Wisner and preparatory studies for the ministry at St. John's College in Winfield, KS, he enrolled at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO and served as vicar at Lutheran Church of the Covenant in Maple Heights, OH. He graduated in May 1961 with a Master of Divinity degree and was assigned to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Garner, IA.

Pastor Schlecht then was called to begin a new congregation in Schaumburg, IL, and served as chaplain at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL. During his time on the faculty of Concordia Seminary in Springfield, IL, he received his Master of Sacred Theology in 1973. Following this, he moved to California and served congregations in Modesto, Temple City (our First Lutheran congregation), and Sacramento over the next 24 years. He then moved back to Illinois and served on the staff of St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton, and in retirement, assisted at Faith Lutheran Church in Westchester.

Among his published works were devotionals for children and sermons for compilations for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. He served as a Navy Reserve chaplain for ten years and was offered active duty but declined due to family considerations. He maintained a lifelong interest in and study of biblical and liturgical theology, writing for the Synod's Commission on Worship.

He is survived by his wife, Anita, and their four children. He also leaves ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The funeral service was held at Zion Lutheran Church in Naperville, Illinois on August 11, 2024, Memorials may be directed to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri.

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## Learn to Paint Your Pet's Portrait! Saturday, July 26

Since last year's workshop was so fun and productive, we're bringing back Instructor Sally Weiss for another session of furry friend portrait painting! Check out the photos below of the class and their pet portraits, some by people who had never painted before!



We'll paint with acrylics on a 9" X 12" canvas. Please bring a printed copy of the animal photo you'd like to paint. We'll transfer the image to the canvas, so make sure the image is the actual size you want to paint. Sally recommends a close-up photo of your pet, rather than a whole body shot. This lets you concentrate on the face and the eyes. If you can, print one image in color and the other in black and white.

Register now for this fun Adult Paint Your Pet Class and invite your friends. Saturday, July 26, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. No experience needed! \$25 per person including materials and refreshments - Pay at the door (cash, Zelle). Class size limit: 20 people. Register by July 19 to [cgeitzer@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:cgeitzer@firstlutherantc.org).

**...and while you're here:**

## Celebrate National Ice Cream Day with our Ice Cream Social: Saturday, July 26



Bring the kids along!

You can all enjoy delicious ice cream, and the kids can have fun with games and crafts while you paint. Everybody can sample the frozen goodies and be creative from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.!



## Sharing the Light

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First Lutheran Church of Temple City

## Save the Date! October 11, 2025

This year we're celebrating First Lutheran Church's 80 years of ministry here in Southern California through our campus ministries and around the world through our missionaries.

Make plans to join us on Saturday, October 11 at 5:00 p.m. for a Christian music songfest and concert with guest choirs and musicians, followed by a sumptuous 1940's themed dinner in the Parish Hall. Tell your family, friends, and church and school alumni. We'll start taking reservations soon—Watch for your special Save the Date invitation!



## First Lutheran Church, School, Preschool and Choir Alumni: Let Us Hear from You!

Got family, work, travel or other news to share? Want to meet up with old FLC friends or send your greetings? Will you be visiting in the San Gabriel Valley area soon? We'd be very pleased to stay in touch and share your news here in the newsletter. Just send your alumni news and photos to Christine Geltz at [cgeltz@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:cgeltz@firstlutherantc.org)

## Not Receiving Email Special Announcements and/or Prayer Requests?

**Email Newsletter:** If you would like to receive the newsletter and prayer requests by email, please share your email address with Christine Geltz, Newsletter Editor, at [cgeltz@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:cgeltz@firstlutherantc.org). You may also send her news and story ideas at that address.

**Printed Newsletter:** If you prefer to have a newsletter hard copy mailed to you, please call (626) 287-0968 and leave a message for Elizabeth Yu, the Church Administrator.

**Pastoral Care:** Please contact Board of Directors Chairman Judy Gunther at: (626) 833-5613.



**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
9123 Broadway  
Temple City, CA 91780

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL**

***June 2025***

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Office Phone: (626) 287-0968**

**E-Mail: [admin@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:admin@firstlutherantc.org)  
Website: <https://firstlutherantc.org>**

**8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP  
Holy Communion every first & third Sunday  
9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL / BIBLE STUDY  
Every Sunday**