# First Lutheran Church

1207 North Broadway Knoxville, TN 37917

T: 865-524-0308 Email: office@firstknoxville.org

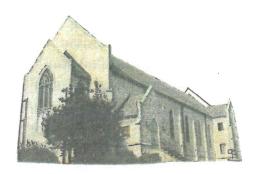
The glory that was revealed in Jesus during His transfiguration points toward His most glorious appearance of all—when He was dying on the cross for our sins and was resurrected. As we prepare to enter the Lenten season, we look toward Good Friday and Easter just as Jesus, atop the Mount of Transfiguration, looked toward His Passion in Jerusalem.

Matthew 17:1–13 Why does the transfiguration happen; what is the significance?

This event took place just before Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Like Jesus' Baptism, this occasion has to do with God revealing and confirming the truth about His Son. Jesus' Baptism marks the beginning of His public ministry, includes the voice of the Father saying, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," and is immediately followed by a very serious trial in the desert. Jesus' transfiguration marks the end of His public ministry, also includes the approving voice of the Father, and is followed by the most serious trial of all, Jesus' suffering and death. Like the voice of the Father, Moses and Elijah are also there to confirm the identity of Jesus and the fact that He is fulfilling all that the Law and the prophets have written (more on this below). I suspect that this reconfirmation of Jesus' divine nature is especially important because the disciples will be sorely tempted to give up hope during Jesus' arrest, trial, suffering, and death.

Matthew 17:1 Why did Jesus only take three disciples with Him?

I know of no place where the Bible provides a direct answer to this question. Paul mentions Peter, James, and John as "pillars" of the Church (Gal 2:9), and the Old Testament is full of examples of layers and subdivisions for the sake of good



# **Upcoming Events**

## March 6

Ash Wednesday Service 6:30

## March 9

Youth BBQ and Bingo 4:00

## Wednesday's During Lent

Soup Dinner Served at 5:30

Midweek Lenten Service 6:30

# Monthly Readings:

Transfiguration Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>: Deuteronomy 34:1-12, Hebrews 3:1-6, Luke 9:28-36

1st Sunday of Lent, March 10th: Deuteronomy 26;1-11, Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent, March 17<sup>th</sup>: Jeremiah 26:8-15, Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent, March 24<sup>th</sup>: Ezekiel 33:7-20, 1 Cor. 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

4th Sunday of Lent, March 31st: Isaiah 12:1-6, 2 Cor. 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 governance (Ex 18:21–25; Nu 31:48; Dt 16:18). The notion of these three apostles being pillars of the Church is curious given the differing life spans of these men. James was executed by Herod relatively soon after Jesus' ascension. Peter was executed in Rome around AD 67. John lived to the end of the first century. So, perhaps Jesus chose these three to bear witness to extraordinary revelation from Jesus, to lead the group of apostles, to serve as pillars of the Church, and to represent the various lives, characteristics, and life spans of all the faithful people who would follow.

Matthew 17:3 Is Moses and Elijah's importance in the Old Testament the reason why they appeared with Jesus?

Yes. God gave the Ten Commandments through Moses (Jn 1:17; 7:19) and Elijah was chief among all the prophets (Mal 4:5; Mt 11:14). Moses and Elijah appear with Jesus because He is about to finish His work of fulfilling all that the Law demands and all that God promised through the prophets. Interestingly, Moses and Elijah appear together again in Rv 11:3–6. Here they are described as olive trees. As olive oil was burned in lamps to make light, so also Moses and Elijah (the Law and Prophets) provided the light of God's Word. They are not mentioned by name but according to significant events in their history (Moses and the plagues, Elijah preventing the rain).

Credit: <u>The Big Book of New Testament Questions and Answers</u> pages 85–86 © 2015 Michael Eschelbach. Published by Concordia Publishing House.

# Weekly Happenings

Sunday:

First Bells: 8:45AM

Bible Class for all ages: 9:15AM

Worship Service: 10:30

Monday:

New Testament Books 6:00PM (Meeting Room)

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays: Quilting 9:30 AM (Meeting Room)

Wednesday:

School Chapel 8:30AM

Lutheran Ringers 5:45PM

Choir: 7:30 PM



# Prayer Requests

Serving Our Country: Brett Anthonijs, Robert Boatman, Isaac Davis, Chad Kaiser, Adam Smith, Jeff Stone, Neil Whitehead, William Smolter

Members: Brion Bissell (needs kidney) Eric Lintz, Margot Bridges (homebound) Carl Testerman (stroke) Gene Franklin, the Varner family, Don & Carolyn Weaver, Karla Hood, Kris Weaver, Mike & Mary Jones Harold & Katherine Whitaker (homebound) Don & Sandy Linde, Mary Ann Wheat, Sharon Mueller, Marilyn Wing (homebound) Douglas Rodenbeck(transition to being homebound) Jim and Rosa Beck

Non Members: Jonathan Campbell (Diane Baum's co-worker's brother) fighting infection after an appendectomy to remove his ruptured appendix, Steven Dew (Carolyn Weaver's friend), Bill Flynn (Sharon Mueller's brother), whose cancer has returned Ken Hamilton (father of Anna Marie Hamilton, UT student from Alabama) Judy Hamrick (Shirley Watson's neighbor) with a tumor that is growing, JoAnn Harbaugh (Kathleen Holliday's mother) Cheryl Hooks (Diane Baum's friend) undergoing months of chemotherapy after removal of part of her colon and intestines due to cancer , Helen Linderfelt (Lynda Graves' friend) Joyce Lipscomb (Rick Elmore's friend) Annette Lotivio (Marc Blais's friend) with pancreatic cancer, Joanne Mattingly, Joan Mincey (Shirley Watson's friend) with stage 4 COPD and breast cancer Karen Nall Travis Parrott (the Wolford's son-in-law) needing a kidney transplant Tom Roberts (Sara's grandfather) with Alzheimer's Daniel Rule (the Slifkas' friend) suffering from RSD, Kristy Shirk (Lynda Graves' friend) with cancer of the sinuses Barbara Thornton (Janice Kaiser's relative) Sam and Alex Weaver, Katherine Sween (a friend of Susan Spicer) with severe back pain

## In Other News

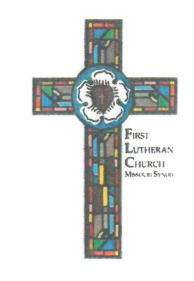
**Stewardship**: Everything we have and everything we are is a gift of God's providential care. We understand that we're not islands unto ourselves. We could not exist without those who have gone before us and those who walk alongside us. God has given us forefathers in family, country, and faith. We are recipients of what God worked through them. We know God provides for our well-being through these means.

He gives us farmers and ranchers so we can eat. But more than that, God created and gave us all the things those farmers and

ranchers cultivate. He gave us the corn, the beans, the wheat, the cows for milking, the steers for grilling. He gave each of those things for our nourishment and sustenance. Without God creating and instilling in those things their taste, their nutritional value, etc., we would not exist.

But there's more. He gives us gainful employment through our employers and provides for the necessities of life through the labor of our hands:

"Then Moses said to the people of Israel, 'See, the Lord has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, to devise artistic designs, to work in gold and silver and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, for work in every skilled craft. And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan.' " (Exodus 35:30–34)



# **Board Happenings**

Stewardship Meeting: 3/5 7:00PM

School Board Meeting: 3/12 6:00PM

Elders Meeting: 3/12 7:00PM

Trustee Workday: 3/16 9:00AM

LEGS: 3/26 6:30PM. Ladies will meet at Balter Beer Works

Planning Council Meeting: 3/26 6:30 PM

And one step back from that, He has created and given us hands, and attached to hands are arms with strength. He created us with minds to make those arms and hands move and accomplish the work set before us. And with that mind, He has given us reason and senses.

And it is for this, all of this, that we give thanks. And that is what stewardship is all about — giving thanks for God's provision for us. So give thanks to God for His inexpressible gifts — for everything we have and everything we are. Do this not only in word but also in deed.

**LEGS:** East Tennessee Zone LWML Christian Life Workshop

Saturday, April 6, 2019, 8:30 to 2:00

First Lutheran Church, Knoxville, TN

East Tennessee Zone Lutheran Women's Missionary League Christian Life Workshop

All ladies are invited to attend the LWML Christian Life Workshop to be held Saturday, April 6, 2019 at First Lutheran Church in Knoxville, Tennessee. All ladies are welcome – membership in the LWML is not required. The day will begin with registration and coffee at 8:30 am. The program will begin at 9:00. We are privileged to have the Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola, Mid-South District LCMS President, as our speaker. President Paavola will present Each 1 Reach1 which is designed to teach us how to share our faith in everyday situations. In addition, we will have an ingathering of items for Alzheimer's Tennessee. Needed items are adult diapers, baby wipes, blankets, non-skid socks, and cans of Boost or Ensure.

Lunch will be provided by the ladies of First Lutheran (a free will offering will be accepted). The program should be completed by 2:00 pm. Childcare will be available but we must know the number of children by the RSVP date of March 31. Please join us for a relaxing day of fun, fellowship and learning! If you are interested, please contact your local LWML president, Angela Lukens, before March 31.

**55 Alive:** On Thursday, March 14th, Stacy Dunn, the Knoxville County executive director of TN Right to Life will be our guest speaker. Her husband, Bill Dunn is the TN state rep. Stacy will bring us upto-date as to the rights of the unborn. Everyone is invited with a delectable luncheon being served at 12:00 noon @ \$7.00 / person.

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## News from First Lutheran School

This Month, First Lutheran School would like to welcome a guest writer, Abby Sanderson. Abby is an 8th grader and member at First Lutheran Church. – Ms. Jessie Irwin

## What it means to be a FLS student

Geocaching is a worldwide scavenger hunt. You enter the coordinates of a given location, and you have to go and find the cache. Once you find a container, you can sign a log or pick out a small item in the box, but you must leave something else behind for the next person. Being a student is like geocaching. Students are expected to try new things, and each path is a journey through life. If something is easy for one person, it may not be for others. If you ever feel like you've mastered something, there's always room for improvement. Others could be just as smart, but it may take them longer to grasp the concept. Once you find out what you're good at, you can challenge yourself even more.

First Lutheran wants to challenge you to do your very best. Students must put effort into their work in order to learn and get good grades. If effort is not given, then the grade will reflect their work. Teachers try their best to support each student and help them with their work. It's the student's decision on whether they take up the opportunity or not. Good grades don't come out of sitting there and doing nothing the whole day. They come from studying, effort, and determination. If an opportunity drifts your way, then you should grab it instead of letting it float away. Every student is smart, but some decide to put more effort into their work. Hard work results in great results.

Most people think that the more questions someone asks, the smarter they are, but that's not always the case. Instead of asking questions about every tiny thing, it's better to dig and try to find the answer yourself instead of asking right away. It's okay to ask questions, as long as they are well thought out. Students become better at analyzing different concepts when they are able to search for some answers.

First Lutheran is not like any other school. We surround ourselves with positive energy as we go throughout our days. We have teachers who support each and everyone one of their students, and they try their best every day to help us improve. In

#### School Calendar

- 5: ECE Closing at 5:30
- 8: No Uniday: Hat Day
- 10: K-2<sup>nd</sup> sing at FLS
- 15: Awards Assembly 2:00
- 18-22: Spring Break (SS and ECE Open 18-20 Only)
- 26: Spring Pictures and Kindergarten Cap and Gown
- 28: No Uniday: Sports Day
- 29: 7th Grade Assembly

## Birthdays:

- 1: Kris Weaver
- 2: Lily Varner
- 6: Michelle Breeden
- 7: John Hofman
- 10: John Schulz Jr; David Varner
- 12: Shelbie Bender; Carolyn Weaver
- 14: Lin Hollaway III, Zoe Price
- 18: Kelsey Denton; Sharon Lee
- 19: Beth Crockett
- 20 Christian Eimmerman
- 21: Doug Rodenbeck
- 22: Ann Marie Bissell; Bobbie Dunn
- 23: Matt Kasier
- 27: Marion Samuel
- 28: Jean Chambers
- 30: John Milligan
- 31: Jon Eimmerman Anniversaties:
- 2: Rick & Michelle Breeden; Benny and Marion Samuel
- 25: Roger and Melanie Bartholomay

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Science, were not just learning about chemistry, but also about things that will help us when we grow up and become adults. In English, we're not just reading, but we're learning about all the wonderful authors who pour their heart and soul into their books. In Math, we're not just learning how to multiply and divide; we're learning how to problem solve. In Enrichment, we learn social skills that will benefit us for our future. In History, we're remembering all the people who impacted our great nation. In art, we're learning about the beauties of life. First Lutheran isn't just a school. It's a family.

# Deadline for April Newsletter is Friday, March 22nd

Sundays: 9:15AM Bible Study for all Ages. 10:30AM Worship Service

Rev. Larry Rockemann, Vacancy Pastor, Rev. John Schulz, Pastor Emeritus, Jessie Irwin, Principal

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30 9:00 Mission Serve	29	29	8:30 School Chapel 8:30 School Chapel 5:45 Luth. Ring. Rehearsal 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship Service 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	26 6:30 Planning Council	25 9:30 Quilting 6:00 New Testament Books	24 8:45 FirstBells Rehearsal 9:00 Fellowship 9:15 SS & Bible Classes 10:30 Worship Service
	NO SCHOOL / NO ECE	NO SCHOOL / NO ECE	SPRING BREAKNO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	
23	22 DEADLINE FOR APR. NEWSLETTER	21	20 5:45 Luth. Ring. Rehearsal 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship Service 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	19	18 6:00 New Testament Books	8:45 First Bells Rehearsal 9:15 SS & Bible Classes 10:30 Worship Service
16 9:00 Workday	15	14 12:00 55 Alive	School Chapel 8:30 School Chapel 8:30 5:45 Luth. Ring. Rehearsal 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship Service 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	12 6:00 Day School Board 7:00 Board of Elders	1` 9:30 Quilting 6:00 New Testament Books	10 14 SUNDAY IN LENT 8:45 First Bells Rehearsal 9:00 Fellowship 9:15 SS & Bible Classes 10:30 Worship: K-2nd Chair
9 4:00 BBQ and Bingo	00	7	6 ASH WEDNESDAY 8:30 School Chapel 5:30 Soup Dinner 5:45 Luth. Ring. Rehearsal 6:30 Worship Service 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	5 7:00 Board of Stewardship	4 6:00 New Testament Books	3 TRANSFIGURATION 8:45 First Bells Rehearsal 9:00 Fellowship 9:15 SS & Bible Classes 10:30 Worship Service
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