



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.

July 2020 Publication of **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

The Armor that God gives us

The Bible exhorts us to take up the whole armor of God that we may be able to withstand in the evil day.

It seems to me that we are living in particular evil days.

So we take up our armor and stand firm. To stand firm in the battle is very difficult because it is safer to attack or retreat. Yet, God gives us the courage to stand firm with the armor He gives us.

An inventory of God's armor for us

Belt of Truth Everything is held in place and supplies are secured with the truth that Jesus is Lord and God's plan will succeed because of His Son's complete victory.

Breastplate of Righteousness: My heart and my stomach, the source of love and decision-making is protected by Jesus' forgiveness and His love for us. Nothing will ever separate us from God's love.

Shoes with the gospel of Peace: We run to a world in crisis with the Words that Jesus is Lord and all can be forgiven. Believe and be baptized "for the forgiveness of sins."

Shield of Faith: The world is moving into a time with a lot of flaming darts of the evil one. The one who is in us is bigger than all the powers against us. If we are attacked, we are still, and know that God is for us.

Helmet of Salvation: We are able to rejoice in the Lord always, watching and praying at all times. Jesus is Lord, and may He help us keep our mind on Him.

The Sword of the Spirit: The Law cuts deep and reveals our helplessness. The other edge of the sword is the Gospel and speaks to our heart of complete forgiveness in Jesus alone.

If people come close to us as we stand firm in these troubling times, we have this law and gospel to offer them as it has been given to us.

The section of Ephesian speaks of a particular activity praying at all times, keeping alert making supplication for all the Saints.

God bless you with the peace that comes from knowing that you are protected now and forever.

God bless you,
Pastor Scott



First Lutheran Church SONshine House Preschool



Sonshine House Preschool Report

The preschool opened its doors again on June 1, 2020. We brought all 6 teachers back to work and are using the government's Paycheck Protection Program during this time to pay our staff. To reopen the school, we have to comply with all the new regulations that social services and child care licensing has asked us to do. We are asking our teachers to wear masks at all times when they are around the students. We are also checking temperatures outside the gate. Currently, we only have two students (twins) in our nursery class.

Teachers are working on full year curriculum planning, and improving the aesthetics of our classrooms. The teachers and I have painted cabinets, bathroom stools, repaired toys and cleaned walls. We are reorganizing our school to get it ready for enrollment in the Fall. As a director, I have enjoyed working with the teachers to improve our school. I have felt a shift in their passion for our school. They walk in proud every morning to a class they are dedicating their love too. This opportunity to better our school and invest in our teachers has been the silver lining to this pandemic.

I want to touch base on another way the teachers are strengthening their skills. The teachers were given a challenge at last month's (May) faculty meeting. I would be sending out links to free teaching webinars throughout the month. Each webinar completed was a name entry in our fish bowl. Winner would win a Starbucks gift card. At the end of the webinars I called the teachers and they had to share what webinar was their favorite and what they had learned. Erika was the winner as she watched a whopping 12 webinars.

We only have two students in our physical program. We are still continuing our distant learning program. Teachers started meeting with their students on Zoom in April. The classes are held five days a week for one and a half hour each day. Parents, then, pay a small fee to participate in these classes. Currently, we have the same 13 families continuing on Zoom. We shall continue to conduct the Zoom classes for the entire summer. We had a mobile graduation that was held on Friday – June 28, 2020. I have started doing virtual tours for prospective families. We will, also, add another session to our Zoom classes this month. It seems that our parents are interest in having more online classes.

In His Name,
Elvia Ibanez
SONshine house Preschool Director
eisonshinehousepreschool@gmail.com



July 2020

Gatherings:

Round Table, Friday – July 10, 10:00 a.m.

Board of Directors, Tuesday – July 21, 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.

Tuesday Bible Study: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Room.



July Birthdays

July 9

Sheri Pica

July 15

Vicki Trepanier

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 or (626)355-9433.

Pastoral Care: Pastor Scott Ganas (951) 795-8162

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

Burn the Mortgage!

In less than four years our mortgage loan will be paid off by making the scheduled monthly payments, BUT thanks to generous donations it will be paid off even sooner. During June, \$1600 was applied to the principle in addition to our required monthly payment of \$5,056. Thanks to all who have made contributions and special acknowledgement to those who have committed to making monthly gifts.

Friends in Deed

Please consider continuing to bring food and grocery items to the church for the Friends in Deed Food Pantry. Currently the Pantry is distributing the donations in their parking lot. Because of the virus situation patrons are no longer allowed inside the little store that allowed people to pick their items. Clients now receive a prepared bag or box. The economic hardships caused by the virus have especially affected the elderly and poor. The need is great, please toss a few items into your cart each time you shop and bring them to the church.



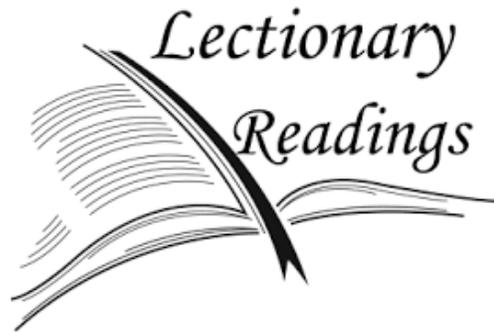
Bible Study



Long ago, before Jesus was born as a baby, God was working among his people. He was effective through the army of Israel and the kings. This Bible study group is seeing how God was training up David and very involved in the formation of the Kingdom of Israel. Today God is still in the business of training up people to live a godly life and lead others. Join us every Tuesday from 11:00-12 Noon in the Fellowship Room. Contact Oscar Tschopp for further information: (626)-355-9433

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>Psalms</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
July 5	Zechariah 9:9 –12	Psalms 145: –15	Romans 7:14–25a	Matthew 11:25–30
July 12	Isaiah 55:10–13	Psalms 65	Romans 8:12–17	Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23
July 19	Isaiah 44:6–8	Psalms 119:57–64	Romans 8:18–27	Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43
July 26	Deuteronomy 7:6–9	Psalms 125	Romans 8:28–39	Matthew 13:44–52



Borchard Prayer Letter

Papua New Guinea

June 2020

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you for your prayers! When I wrote my last prayer letter I thought that Mandita would be able to continue to work on the translation in Papua New Guinea. Then on March 23 I heard that the translation center where he works was going to close for some time because of the coronavirus. Not only would he not be able to continue working, but he would also not be able to communicate with me via email. It all happened so suddenly! And it happened just when we were trying to get electricity to his house so that he and Margret would be able to work from home.



Mandita and Margret

Around that same time Margret had been planning to travel to the hospital in the town of Goroka for the birth of her baby because she had been told that the baby was not in a good position for birth. Thankfully the baby turned and got into a good birth position, but because communication was cut off I did not hear when the baby was born. Recently I received a letter that Mandita gave to a friend who then scanned it into his computer and emailed to me. In this letter Mandita indicated that his family is doing well. But, he didn't say anything specifically about the baby and Margret. So I do not yet know when the baby was born, and if it is a girl or a boy.

In the letter Mandita also told me that they were able to get electricity to his house. I was so glad to hear that good news! Now Margret can work on the translation in between taking care of the baby, and Mandita has been able to work on the translation as well.

I have heard that the translation center is starting to allow people who live outside of the center to return to work on the center. This means that Mandita and Margret will be able to return to the Ipili translation office after taking training about how to work safely in the time of this virus. It may be best for them to continue to work at home, but it will be good when they are able to go to the office because then they can use a computer to send their translation work to me, and receive the work that I have been doing. We will also be able to resume communicating via email.

The translation center has been able to resume work because the PNG government is allowing things to open up to some extent. They have had only eight confirmed cases of the virus and it doesn't seem that a lot of people are getting sick.

In his letter Mandita said that he wanted to go to the Ipili area to work on building the house/office there. Because of the virus I have some concerns about him going, but whether to go is his decision to make. ***Please ask the Lord to protect the people of Papua New Guinea from this virus. If it spreads in the country it will endanger many people.***

During this time I have been working on the advisor check of Exodus chapters 22-28. Part of these chapters describe the plans the Lord gave to Moses for the tabernacle, so I spent some time doing an internet study of the tabernacle, and all of the items connected with it. I found it interesting that the Lord gave such detailed instructions, and that he wanted the tabernacle and all its parts to be made exactly according to the pattern that he showed to Moses. I was especially impressed by the beauty of the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies.

Your Partner in Bible Translation,
Janet

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

July, 2020

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Website: <https://firstlutherantc.org>

Rev. Scott Ganas, Pastor
Elvia Ibanez, Preschool Director

8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
Holy Communion every 1st & 3rd Sundays only
9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY
Every Sunday