

# The First News

December 28, 2011

“Our purpose at First Lutheran is to unite in hearing the good news of Jesus through worship, fellowship, and service in order to encourage spiritual growth, personal witness, and a concern for others.”

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Paola, KS 66071 913-294-3476 Website – [www.firstlutheran-paola.org](http://www.firstlutheran-paola.org)  
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Don Siders, Deacon

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Lutheran Hour Worship Radio Stations and Times: Sunday morning @ 8:00am on 710AM and on 1320AM @ 8:30am, or listen online anytime @ [www.lutheranhour.com](http://www.lutheranhour.com). Woman to Woman can be heard on either KCMO 710 or KGGN 890, for more information go to [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org).

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### Attendance for the Month of December:

December 4: 166  
December 11: 148  
December 18: 204  
December 24: 162  
December 25: 90

Avg. Attendance YTD: 163

Home	\$18,264.43
TIM	\$85.00
Missions	\$50.00
Birthday	\$78.00
Petersen's	\$1,060.75
Scholarship	\$10.00
Building for the Future	\$3,199.00
Average Weekly YTD	\$4,426.44
Needed Weekly	\$5,463.62

### BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Amount received to date: \$493,431.11

### FIRST NEWS" DEADLINE FOR February:

All articles for the "First News" are due by Monday, January 23, 2012 at 5:00pm. The newsletter will be mailed out on Wednesday, January 25.

### GUESTS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER:

**December 4:** Kathy & Alea Russell; Kyle Seegal; Elizabeth Dupont; Makenzie Getz; Renee Weddington; Kaiya Ory  
**December 11:** Pastor Ron & Ruth Ann Flentgen; Michelle Weaver; Athen Nano; Mackenzie Getz; Elizabeth DuPont  
**December 18:** James, Bethany, Amy & Linda Heimann; Cary Prothe; Gannon Miller; Scott & Baylee Teagarden & son; Rolland & Norma Remmert; Justin Kelley; Bill & Michele Weaver  
**December 24:** CD & Shirley Holtzen; Jeremy Harris; Ed & Lorna Blackburn; Brogan McWilliams; Greg & Becky Fuchs & family; Brian & Lichelle Fuchs & family; Mike, Brandi & Jacen Ohlmeier; Rose Simons  
**December 25:** Kathleen Butel

### GUEST PASTOR/DEACON SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY:

January 1: Deacon Don Siders and Elder's  
January 8: Pastor Tom Krause  
January 15: Pastor Jerry Peck  
January 22: Pastor Ron Flentgen  
January 29: Pastor Ron Flentgen

CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 2.

## NEW YEAR'S SERVICES

At the December Board of Elder's meeting they decided to cancel services for New Year's Eve. The New Year's Day Service will be a blended service at 10:00am with Family Education Hour at 9:00am (instead of 9:15). There will not be communion at the New Year's Day service but will be served on both January 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Also, the New Year's Day Service will be led by Don Siders, Bob Gardner, and Andy Brown. There will not be a sermon, since we do not have a pastor. It will be a service of scripture, devotions and hymns.

## MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE

Mary-Martha Circle will meet on Monday, January 2 at 1:00pm. Lois Moore will have both the devotions and the topic for the month. The hostess is Glenda Moore. Please bring your Winter Quarterly and Bible to the meeting. Tacking Comforts will be on Monday, January 9 @ 1:00pm.

## RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will meet on Monday, January 2 at 7:00pm. Kris Fuchs is hostess and topic leader. Please bring your Winter Women's Quarterly and a Bible.

## VOTER'S MEETING

The annual Voter's Meeting was held on Sunday, December 11. Items voted on were:

- Church Board Members: The following is the list of Board members for 2012: President – **Terry Drugg**; Vice-President – **Mel Brown**; Secretary – Debbie Keele; Financial Secretary – Leona Rentz; Elders: **Dean Lovig, Bob Gardner, Andy Brown, Roger Prothe, Curtis Long**; Trustees: **Don Siders, Pat Tagler, Dallas Armbruster, Shirley Walker, Gene Schaaf**; Evangelism: Helen Webster, Glenda Moore, Lois Moore, **Iris Simons, Kris Fuchs, Karla Lohaus-Fast**; Stewardship: Mark Fuchs, Jean Kaiser, Phil Ward, **Sandy Lake, Betty Hewitt, Wilma Browning**; Pre-School Board of Education: Jennifer Brown, **Alexis Shaw, Anita Ward, Linda Osborn, Melinda Pitzer, Brigitte McIntire**; Family Ministry: Sandi Armbruster, Ashley Rush, Marjorie Smith, Helen Tagler, Jennifer Siders, **Sandy Arens** (*names in bold print were either re-elected or elected for the first time*)
- The Budget for 2012 was approved. The 2012 Proposed Budget for each committee is as follows: Elders- \$153,953.00; Mission & Evangelism - \$26,700.00; Stewardship - \$8,995.00; Trustees - \$100,922.28; Family Ministry – \$38,997.00. Total proposed budget for 2012 is \$329,567.28.
- Resolution for Mary Ginkel's housing: **Resolved:** That, First Lutheran Church of Paola, Kansas as a standing resolution to remain in force and effect until such a time as amended and/or revoked, hereby authorizes and establishes a housing allowance for Mary Ginkel serving as the Director of Christian Education in the amount of \$5,000 for the year of 2012. The housing allowance will be paid from January 1, 2012 thru December 31, 2012.
- The Endowment Association presented their annual report. To date, the First Lutheran Church Endowment association has contributed \$71,713.81 to the work of First Lutheran Church and various other missions of the Church. The distribution of 2011 earned income from assets invested is as follows: First Lutheran - \$1,458.88, Endowment Scholarship Fund - \$1,094.16, LWML - \$364.72, Trustees - \$364.72, Family Ministry - \$364.72. Total distribution for 2011 is \$3,647.20.
- The First Lutheran Endowment Board of Directors was also voted on and the following are the names of the members: Gregg Lewis – President; Phillip Ward – Vice-President; Norlene Medlin – Secretary; Jean Kaiser – Treasurer; Curtis Long, Kathy Minden and Kathy Lovig.
- Fourtyseven members attended the Voter's Meeting and all items up for vote passed.

## CALL COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

The Call Committee met on Monday, December 5. The District office in Topeka is currently working on a new list that we should hopefully receive soon. At the latest meeting the Call Committee reworked the questions asked during the phone interviews and the in-person interviews.

## LWML

The January LWML meeting is scheduled for January 12 @ 7:00pm in the church basement. The Hostesses for the month are Helen Tagler & Mable Sinclair. The topic of the month is a book review by Margaret Hayes. The Mission of the Month will be the PACA Food Pantry. Please bring nonperishable food items.

## PACA FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The following food items are needed to help supplement the food pantry needs: instant coffee, jelly, syrup, pancake mix, canned fruit and vegetables, boxed potatoes, saltine crackers, 1# dried beans and rice, pasta and sauce, and cereal. You may either take your donations to My Father's House, 1004 N. Pearl or drop them off here at the church.

**SONSHINE PRESCHOOL UPDATE**

In December our focus was on the reason for the season – Jesus! Because of Jesus’ birth, death, and resurrection, we can live in heaven with him one day! What an awesome gift we have been given. December was a very busy month with the Christmas Program and Christmas parties. We hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and were able to spend time with family and friends. January is almost here and preschool will resume on January 4.

**REMINDER TO ALL CHURCH BOARDS**

All of the church boards need to meet before the first council meeting on Thursday, January 19. You will need to select your chairman for the 2012 year. This person needs to be able to attend most, if not all, of the monthly council meetings, and will also be a member of the Call Committee.

**AUTOMATIC GIVING**

If you have an automatic giving account and need to make a change for 2012, or would like to begin one, please see Sandy in the office for a new form. All Changes will be effective on February 1. Also, for those who give to Building for the Future, please let Sandy know if you want to change your giving amount.

**LUMA RECIPIENT**

We are truly and richly blessed as we enter this new chapter in LUMA ministry! In addition to the blessing of Re. Dr. Groh, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation chose LUMA as a recipient of a matching funds grant:

*“...in recognition of the significant impact being made via your outreach service programs. This grant is also in recognition of the fine efforts made to respond to the current economic conditions and still find a way to continue to provide important services.”*

This is extra ordinary opportunity for us. We are among 80 other Lutheran organizations and congregations selected to receive funding. For each dollar donated between November 1, 2011 and January 31, 2012, the foundation will supplement dollar for dollar up to \$10,000.00.

If you would like to donate to LUMA please make a check out to LUMA and drop it in the offering plate before January 22 or send directly to LUMA at: 3232 Metropolitan Kansas City, KS 66106-2802.

May the blessing of God’s Holy Spirit be with you in Christ’s salvation,  
Pastor Tom Krause

**PACA BELL RINGERS**

Thank you to everyone who signed up to ring the Salvation Army Bells at Wal-Mart in December. The following church members did a wonderful job in the cold: Elmer Flake, JoAnn Russell, Mary Ginkel, Mildred Burk, LaVeta Brown, Lois & Ted Moore, Dee & Barrett Young, Don & Hazel Henry, Melinda Pitzer, Alvin Brunckhardt, Loree & Bob Gardner, Helen Tagler, and the Armbruster family. If you have never taken the opportunity to ring the bells this is a special opportunity to do so. Again, thanks to all those who volunteered.

PACA Representatives – Jody Brown and Mary Lou Debrick

**WINTER WEATHER ALERT**

With winter weather on our doorstep remember to be safe. If the roads are not safe to travel on please stay home. We do not want to see someone in an accident trying to come to church. If we need to cancel church or other events please watch Fox 4 or KCTV 5 for cancellations. If you are still not sure you can call either Dean Lovig @ 294-2083, Mary @ 731-7123, or Sandy @ 731-2847 or the church office @ 294-3476. Please use your good judgment before attempting to travel.

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Thank you so much for supporting SonShine Pre-School. With your contribution, we were able to raise over \$3,000.00 at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual SonShine Pre-School Art Expo and Auction. 100% of the proceeds will go directly back into our pre-school and will benefit all students. Thank you for your generosity.

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2011:**

<b>BALANCE:</b> .....	\$18,825.78
Offerings.....	\$16,975.87
Other income.....	\$881.00
Total Income.....	\$17,856.87
Expenses .....	\$13,842.82

(This includes all utilities, salaries, LCMS commitment withholdings, office supplies, etc.)

**Ending balance**.....\$22,840.13

Average Sunday offering .....\$4,243.97

Needed each Sunday for General Budget.....\$5,463.62

**LOAN PAYMENTS FROM RENTAL PROPERTIES:**.....\$1,256.58

**BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE ACCOUNT**

**Balance**.....\$6,890.25

Pledges & donations.....\$6,434.00

Loan Payment & Principal paid out.....\$4,453.61

**Balance** .....\$8,870.64

**SONSHINE PRE-SCHOOL**

Beginning Balance .....\$6,774.38

Donations & Tuition.....\$2,317.00

Expenses.....\$2,541.20

**Balance**.....\$6,550.18

**SONSHINE ACTIVITY ACCOUNT:**

**Balance**.....\$2,851.67

**SONSHINE ENDOWMENT**

**Balance**.....\$852.17

Notary Expenses.....\$80.90

**Ending Balance**.....\$771.27

**SONSHINE TUITION ASSISTANCE ACCOUNT**.....\$1,123.00

**SONSHINE BOOSTER CLUB ACCOUNT** .....\$1,220.05

Income & Expenses.....\$2,252.60

**Ending Balance**.....\$3,472.65

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT**

Congratulations to Shawn & Tresha Miller on the birth of their son, Gunnar, who was born on Saturday, December 17. He has three older brothers: Logan, Garrett & Gavin Miller. Paternal grandparents are Orval & Karen Miller.

**CONDOLENCES**

Condolences to Paul & Kelli Noll on the passing of Paul's sister Patricia. Patricia passed away on Sunday, December 18.

Condolences to Wilma Browning and family, her brother Norman Prothe passed away on Monday, December 26 in Delaware.

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to all who supported the youth through our Christmas goodie Sale. \$482.00 was given to the Youth Mission Fund which they used this year to adopt a family from the community Angel Tree! Thank you to all! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMNS?**

Dentist's Hymn..... Crown Him with Many Crowns

Weatherman's Hymn..... There Shall Be Showers of Blessings

Contractor's Hymn..... The Church's One Foundation

The Tailor's Hymn..... Holy, Holy, Holy

The Golfer's Hymn..... There's a Green Hill Far Away

The Politician's Hymn..... Standing on the Promises!

Optometrist's Hymn..... Open My Eyes That I Might See

The IRS Agent's Hymn..... I Surrender All

The Gossip's Hymn..... Pass It On

The Electrician's Hymn..... Send The Light

The Shopper's Hymn..... Sweet Bye and Bye  
The Realtor's Hymn..... I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop  
The Massage Therapists Hymn..... He Touched Me  
The Doctor's Hymn..... The Great Physician

**AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:**

55 mph ..... God Will Take Care of You  
75 mph ..... Nearer My God To Thee  
85 mph ..... This World Is Not My Home  
95 mph ..... Lord, I'm Coming Home  
100 mph ..... Precious Memories  
Give me a sense of humor Lord, give me the grace to see a joke, to get some  
humor out of life, and pass it on to other folks.