

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

(THE LUTHERAN CHURCH--MISSOURI SYNOD)

We are First a family of God, providing a foundation for all to thrive and grow.

Rev. Christian D. Schultz, Pastor (785)-313-4633 Pastor@firstlutheran-paola.org
DCE Angel Gillespie dce@firstlutheran-paola.org
Mrs. Janet Bucher, Organist
Mrs. Kris Fuchs, Preschool Director sonshinepaola@gmail.com
Office: office@firstlutheran-paola.org



FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT NOV. 28, 2021



WELCOME! In the name of Christ, the Savior of the world, we offer His peace and life. Dear Friends may your journey with our Lord Jesus fill your heart with hope through the promises of His Son. Please sign our attendance register during the offering. Visitors, please sign our guestbook in the narthex, also.

PRAYERS FOR MUSICIANS AND ARTISTS God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven, be with You servants who make art and music for Your people that with joy we on earth may glimpse Your beauty. Bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection that will be ours as we stand before Your unveiled glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (136)

ANNIVERSARY

Rentz, Brook & Kevin Collins November 29



BIRTHDAYS

Merle Kaiser November 28 Brody Latto
Kiera McIntire November 29 Brook Rentz
Richard Emmons November 30

November 28

November 29

DO YOU SHOP FOR GROCERIES? Do you shop for groceries? If so, then you can help LWML reach its goals of raising money for worldwide missions. While you shop, all BEST CHOICE LABELS can be clipped for cash! The Best Choice Label program is an extremely successful program, which helps non-profit organizations raise money. LWML earns \$.03 for each Best Choice UPC symbol redeemed, with a minimum of 1,000 labels required for redemption. Clip your labels and place them inside the LWML collection can in the narthex.

HYMN OF THE DAY: LSB 332 Savior of the Nations, Come (Advent 1C)

St. Ambrose of Milan (340-397), known as the "father of Latin hymnody," understood that good hymns are vital for teaching the Christian faith and confronting false teachings. In particular, he wrote hymns against the ancient heresy, Arianism, which taught that Jesus was not fully and truly God *and* man. The hymn today clearly teaches the right understanding of Jesus' divinity and humanity. He is the Virgin's son, was conceived "Not by human flesh or blood," but "by the Spirit of our God," is "God of God, yet fully man," and so on. Ambrose summarized the Gospel in just a few verses to rightly teach who Jesus is, why we pray to Him, and what He has done for us.

Our Activities for Christ This Week

TODAY	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:15am	Bible Class
	10:30am	Contemporary Worship
WEDNESDAY	5:00pm	Advent Service
	6:00pm	Advent Dinner

THURSDAY 6:00pm Elders Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY 9:00am Divine Service
10:00am Bible Class
10:30am Voters' Meeting

ELDER OF THE MONTH Richie Sinclair

WORSHIP ASSISTANCE NOV. 28TH: Greeters: Mary Kettler, Jody Brown, Norlene Medlin, and Nikki Chilson Ushers: Mark Kettler, Bob Gardner, Matt Chilson, and Quintin Chilson AV Tech: Jonathan Kamprath and Melinda Pitzer

WORSHIP ASSISTANCE DEC. 5TH:

Greeters: Patricia Lyons and Loree Gardner

Ushers: Bob Gardner and Virgil Lyons

Communion Assistants: Dean Lovig, Justin Diehm, and Richie Sinclair

AV Tech: Matthew Jonathan Kamprath

OUR LOVE FOR CHRIST: NOV. 21, 2021

Attendance:	103
Bible Class	30
Offering	\$8480.20
Online Giving	\$50.69
Total Receipts	\$8530.89
Total Needed Weekly	\$5769.23

MEMBERS OF FIRST LUTHERAN,

During our November board meeting, the Elders voted to begin holding single service Sundays. We pray that this serves to bring us closer together during the season of Advent and also to allow for some much-needed rest for those currently volunteering on Sunday mornings.

Beginning December 5th, Sunday services will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will be followed by Bible Study/Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

As changes are being made and routines are being adjusted, we ask that all parishioners continue to pray that God's will be done here at First. Please consider serving on Sunday mornings or on a board, as there is much work yet to be accomplished.

In Christ,
Richie Sinclair

MEMBERS OF FIRST,

At services last Sunday we announced the difficult decision to recommend a reduction in force to the congregation at our voter's meeting on Sunday December 5th. To follow this announcement we also wanted to make sure that we sent out a written communication to anyone that missed last Sunday's services.

The Elders brought forth this recommendation to council early last week for a vote after assessing the proposed budget for 2022. Council then reviewed the proposed budget to seek alternatives to this action. Ultimately, short of selling assets or eating into reserves council was unable to find a viable alternative.

Reduction in Force is a tool that is only used if a church finds themselves falling short in offerings versus the current staff that are employed. In this case it is council's recommendation to the congregation to enact reduction in force for the DCE position.

We are extremely grateful for Angel's contributions to the church and the advancements in ministry we've had during her time here! It should be noted that reduction in force has no reflection on the work that's been done at First.

Ultimately it will be the congregation's decision to vote on the reduction in force at the annual voter's meeting. You'll receive the budget two weeks ahead of the voter's meeting for review and we'll discuss this recommendation more on 12/5. Please reach out if you have any questions ahead of time.

Blessings,
Church Council

FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE: – Advent I – A human being's dignity doesn't come from her age, her appearance, or her abilities. Rather, "the Lord is our righteousness" (Jeremiah 33:16), as He creates, redeems, and calls worth and purpose into every life from fertilization to forever. Even those who have undergone abortions may know His salvation because He remembers not the sins of our youth (Psalm 25:3) for Jesus' sake. Trusting Him, nobody has to feel ashamed about surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis (Psalm 25:3).

ISSUES ETC... EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This weeks teachings include: A Lutheran Response to 21st Century Culture, The Hymn "We Praise You, O God," The Advent Season, Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

CHRISTMASTIDE! A Christmas service with choir, bells, the Sonshine preschool, hymns and readings, will be December 12, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. Choir rehearsals for Christmastide begin tomorrow, Monday, November 8, 2021, in the sanctuary at 6:00

p.m. Randy Fast is the choir director. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board, invite your relatives and friends, and come on out to join in the fun of singing some fun Christmas choral pieces!

WORSHIP TODAY

NOV. 28, 2021

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Candle Lighting

Opening Hymn: # 331

DS. 1, p. 151

Confession Absolution

Introit (*yellow sheet*)

Kyrie, p. 152

Scripture Readings

Jer. 33:14-16

Gradual

1 Thes. 3:9-13

Alleluia: p. 156

Luke 19:28-40

Apostles' Creed, p. 159

Hymn: # 332

Sermon:

Offertory: p. 159

Offering

Prayer, p. 159

P: Let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord, have mercy

Lord's Prayer, p. 169

Blessing, p. 166

Closing Hymn: # 341