



# First Impressions

Worship God, strengthen His people, and reach out  
with the Love of Christ

Volume 16 Issue 6

June 2009



Dear Members of First & Emmanuel Lutheran Church:

With joy in my heart and the conviction that God has called me to His service in your midst, I herewith announce my acceptance of the Call which you have extended to me to serve as associate pastor.

I look forward to installation as your associate pastor. Please uphold me and my family with you prayers and your common commitments as stewards in God's kingdom.

May the Lord who gifts His church prepare us for His work of service that the body of Christ may be built up in faith and knowledge, and may we grow together in such love and truth that we may welcome Him with joy at His coming.

In the service of Christ,

Travis Thomas Lackey, Jr.

Mike Golchert—6/2  
Violet Spencer—6/7  
Buck Halbrooks—6/9  
Ashley Davis—6/12  
Sherry Stiefel—6/18



Jacob Mayhew—6/19  
Aaron Thompson—6/21  
June Weir—6/21  
Cheryl Schuetze—6/22

Mike & Myra Grund – 6/1/1973  
Jill Hoostra & Chuck Pieplow – 6/5/1976  
Graham & Victoria Sisson – 6/6/1992  
David & Pat Ryan – 6/9/1990  
David & Kimberly Hunter – 6/22/2002



Altar Flowers

6/7 – In honor of David & Pat Ryan's 19<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
6/21 – Celebrating June Weir's birthday

Ordination of Tom Lackey

You are cordially invited to the ordination of Travis Thomas Lackey, Jr. and his installation as Associate Pastor for First & Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Sunday, June 7, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.



Going Away Pot Luck for Pastor Nathan

Make plans to join us in celebrating the ministry of Pastor Nathan and Cheryl on their last Sunday here at First & Emmanuel. We will be holding a pot luck lunch after service on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall at First. Please bring a dish to share and a fun story about Pastor or Cheryl.



Change Address

David & Suchi Dasari  
P.O. Box 460146  
Houston, TX 77056



Autumn Frazier – Graduation from Birmingham School of Fine Arts  
Tom Lackey – Certificate of Ministry from Concordia Seminary

# WORSHIP WORKERS



## FIRST & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN

### Children's Church –

- June 7 - Abby Cahill
- June 14 - Kate Cahill
- June 21 - Carol Lackey
- June 28 - Myra Grund

### Readers:

- June 7 - Toby Cahill
- June 14 - Glenn Thompson
- June 21 - Carol Lackey
- June 28 - Sandra Heidecker

**Altar Guild:** Terry Lepp

**Candles:** June Weir

### Communion Assistants:

- June 7 - Wilson Whittington
- June 21 - Wilson Whittington

**Ushers:** Toby Cahill, Mike Twiss, Jim Campbell, Mike Grund

### Worship Assistant:s:

- June 7 - Charlie Hayes
- June 14 - Charlie Hayes
- June 21 - Charlie Hayes
- June 28 - Charlie Hayes

**Nursery:** Meg Callahan

## Sunday Morning Adult Bible Studies

What Does This Mean? - Walk through the fundamentals of our faith with Pastor Nathan.

Harvest - Graham and Victoria Sisson go through the Bible one chapter at a time.

Gideon's Army - In depth study of the Book of Genesis taught by Cheryl Schuetze.

Adult Bible Study - General Bible study taught by Mike Grund.

### Children's & Youth Sunday School Classes:

Pre-School - for kids 2-5 years old who cannot read.

Early Elementary - for kids in 1st - 3rd grade with limited reading skills.

Upper Elementary - for kids in 4th - 5th grade.

Youth Group - for youth in 6th - 12th grade.



Retirement Home: Dorothy Adair

Recovering: Leona Boehme, Edna Grund, Delores Goehler, Flo Fischer; Leo Perry, Judy Drew's brother-in-law, Hildegard Wesson, Annie Harrell, Frank Brown, Dean Mizzell, Braden DeBow, David Mayhew, Buck Halbrooks, & David Cybul

(Krista Wanat's brother)

Pregnancy: Eric & Jodie Kilbourne.

Thanks & Praise: Healthy birth of Cheryl Schuetze's niece, Evangeline Belle DeFluiter

Illness: Dot Claunch's sister-in-law Sherry, Laurie Stroud's friends Kim Lukich and Lynne (brain tumor), Vicar Tom's friend Donna, Kelly Shiflett, Judy Drew's brother-in-law, Steve Norby (brain tumor), and Michael Flick (5 year old with lung cancer).

Mourning: Family of Diana Donahoo Rice, daughter of Corrine Donahoo; Family of Dr. James Darth.

Missionaries: Meg Tumbleson (China), Bible Faith Lutheran Seminary (India)

Members who have lost their jobs.



**JUNE 2009**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3-1 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10-15 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	1 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Church Counsel Meeting @ First	2 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Yahweh Sisters/Women's Bible Study	3 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Family Dinner 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM Family Activities	4 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men/entiah Small Group 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	5 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	6 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Thrivent/Habitat for Humanity 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Barnabas Small Group
7 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10-15 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Ordination & Installation of Tom Lackey 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	8 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Church Counsel Meeting @ First	9 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Yahweh Sisters/Women's Bible Study	10 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Family Dinner 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM Family Activities	11 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men/entiah Small Group 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	12 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men/entiah Small Group 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	13 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Thrivent/Habitat for Humanity 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Barnabas Small Group
14 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10-15 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Going Away P of Luck for Pastor Habban	15 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Church Counsel Meeting @ First	16 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Yahweh Sisters/Women's Bible Study	17 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Family Dinner 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM Family Activities	18 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men/entiah Small Group 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	19 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	20 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Thrivent/Habitat for Humanity 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Barnabas Small Group
21 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10-15 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	22 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Church Counsel Meeting @ First	23 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Yahweh Sisters/Women's Bible Study	24 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Family Dinner 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM Family Activities	25 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men/entiah Small Group 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	26 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men/entiah Small Group 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	27 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Deacons Meeting
28 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10-15 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	29 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Church Counsel Meeting @ First	30 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Yahweh Sisters/Women's Bible Study	1 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Family Dinner 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM Family Activities	2 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Men/entiah Small Group 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	3 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous @-First 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	4 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Thrivent/Habitat for Humanity 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Barnabas Small Group

**Be involved in God's mission for our world. Missionaries are right now working around the world to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to people who have never heard. They need your prayer and support.**

**This month we focus on *the Dominican Republic*.**

**Take time to pray each week:**

**May 31 – June 6** for missionaries Rev. Ted and Rebecca Krey, who serve throughout the Dominican Republic. Ted's years of experience as a theological educator and church planter in Venezuela are a blessing to the Dominican mission as they seek to train future pastors, deacons, deaconesses, and lay leaders, and plant the first Dominican Lutheran congregations.

**June 7-13** for missionary Danelle Putnam, whose work focuses on outreach to children with developmental disabilities and training Dominican Sunday school teachers to work with children at the various mission sites. Pray also as Danelle works with women in the church and as she helps in the formation of the deaconess program.

**June 14-20** for missionaries Rev. Walter and Ana Ries, from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Brazil, the partner church of the LCMS in Brazil. Walter focuses on theological education for laypeople and future pastors, so that more leaders will be trained to lead the emerging Dominican Lutheran church body.

**June 21-27** for the two vicars who are studying for full-time pastoral ministry and serving in their communities, Willy Gaspar and Joseph de la Cruz. Ask the Lord to bless their hands-on experience during their vicarage and to continue to grant them peace and assurance that He has called them to serve as shepherds. Pray also for Ricardo Santos, who is just beginning his pastoral studies.



*<sup>16</sup>I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.*  
- Romans 1:16

The Bible tells us that "[God] wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." (I Tim. 2:4) How can all men be saved unless they hear the gospel – the good news of Jesus Christ? "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? ... Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." (Rom 10:14,17) The gospel is the power of God for salvation and we are the speakers of that Word. How can our friends or neighbors come to a knowledge of the truth and salvation if we do not speak the gospel to them? This month, make a special effort to speak of the good news of Jesus Christ to the people God has placed in your life. God has the power, you have the words.

JOIN OUR MISSION TRIP TO INDIA



This fall our church will sponsor our first mission's trip! We will tentatively be traveling to Guntar, India from November 12<sup>th</sup> thru November 22<sup>nd</sup>. While we are there we will be the guest of Bible Faith Lutheran Church. Our mission team will visit many of the 45 churches, the school, the seminary and the orphanage over the week that we are there. We will be taking them Sunday School material and books along with craft supplies. We will also be sharing our faith and the reason we care about those over 10,000

miles away from our home. Come with us and see first hand the people in India's needs and how God can use us to help with this ministry that He has given us a special connection to. If you feel God leading you to join this team please speak with Dee Mayhew or Cheryl Schuetze.

Thanks to Bob Collier from the Choir

Thanks for another great year  
and for all your hard work!

- F&E choir and bell choir



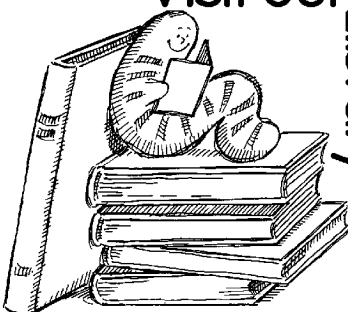
National Youth Gathering Fundraising Volunteers

The Youth Ministry is in need of several volunteers to organize various fundraising events for our youth to be able to attend the National Youth Gathering next year in New Orleans. We have lots of fundraising ideas but we're short on manpower. If interested in getting involved please contact Becky Troullier or Mike Grund.



Visit our

Library



Hey kids, join the Summer Reading Program June 1 at the First Library. You will receive a sign-up prize, a book bag, a logbook for recording books read, a certificate when you finish the program July 1, and a surprise for completing the program! The theme this summer is "Be Creative @ Your Library."

"Be Creative" and drop by June 1 to sign up!



**SEEK FIRST....**

*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.  
– Matthew 6:33*

I have been the pastor here for almost five years now. It has been my privilege and honor to walk with you in both the best and worst of times. Through it all I hoped to remind you of God standing there right beside us, in our joys and celebrations, our sorrows and fears. That you would know that Jesus who died for you is still with you and always will be.

So as I am departing, I want to leave you with this one last thought: Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness. The ministry of the church must never be about a particular program, person or plan. The ministry of the church is about seeking Christ and His kingdom whether on heaven or earth. The only question is how to do that best.

After five years, I certainly have a long list of should've done's and would've done's, especially as regards how to best seek His kingdom and righteousness. To those from whom I need it I can only ask forgiveness, and to those who have offended, know it has already been forgiven.

Whatever your feelings on my departure, I pray you remember that our ministry was never really about me. And even as I commit the Word of His Grace to you, I would remind you that it's not about you individually either. But rather, the ministry of First and Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Birmingham Alabama is about loving God with all your heart, and your soul, and your strength; and loving your neighbor as yourself.

I do not know what the future holds for us my friends. But I pray wherever it leads me, leads you, leads us, that we will walk together in the light of His love and grace. That through fair mountainsides and dark valleys, we will be carried along by God's grace and motivated by the love He has for all of us in Jesus Christ our lord and Savior. And now repeat after me:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for loving me. And please help us all to remember, that no matter where we are, or what we are doing, we are united in Your love, and are called by Your grace. Amen.

Your Brother, Friend, Shepherd,

*Pastor Nathan*



## **First Lutheran Church**

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for Children & Adults  
10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship Service  
Communion Service 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

## **Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

Sunday Morning Worship Service &  
Sunday School for Children & Adults  
Combined at First

## **First & Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

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Birmingham, AL 35205-2497

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Bob Collier, Director of Music

Cheryl Schuetze, Secretary

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