

# Four Mile Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

903-887-0833 (Church Office)

Email: [fourmilelc@gmail.com](mailto:fourmilelc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.fourmilelutheranchurch.org](http://www.fourmilelutheranchurch.org)

Facebook: Four Mile Lutheran Church



**A Christian community caring, sharing, and helping others.**

**November 2022**

## Happenings

### November 6-All Saints

#### Day

Worship Service 10:45am

Leader: Vicar Ed Fiducia

Assist: Christie Beene

**Holy Communion**

### November 12

**WELCA Bible Study 10 am in  
the Parish Hall**

**Breakfast will be provided**

### November 13

Worship Service 10:45am

Leader: Wayne Nelson

Assist: Steve Knox

**Council Meeting**

**Budgets are due**

### November 20-Christ the King

Worship Service 10:45am

Leader: Vicar Ed Fiducia

Assist: Wayne Nelson

**Holy Communion**

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Potluck

### November 24 Thanksgiving

### November 27-Advent

Worship Service 10:45am

Leader: Vicar Ed Fiducia

Assist: Lisa Knox

### December 1

Worship & Music 1-3pm

Choir Practice 4-5pm



November 6 :

Daylight Saving Time Ends.

Remember to set your clocks  
back (fall) one hour on  
Saturday night!

## Presidents note:

Fellow Congregation members,

*"Der liebe Gott steckt im detail"*, Original German saying meaning "God is in the Detail"

*"Der Teufel steckt im Detail"*, Modified German saying meaning "The Devil is in the detail"

Is your cup half empty? Half Full? Or are you just trying to figure out who took the other half? In sales we are taught that Client perception is reality. What is your perception? All of these idiom's dance around the same thing, your point of view plays a major part in determining your path. So, in essence, choice. What do you see in the details? Do you see challenges or do you see the beauty of the design?

Everywhere we look there are opportunities to get involved and provide a solution to a challenge or problems that need addressing (depending on your POV). Sometimes we choose to point out the challenge or problem and then just sit back to watch and comment. We wouldn't want to get involved you know (except for the gossip part). Or maybe we just "bury our head" cause if we can't see it coming then it can't hurt us, right?

No matter on what we focus, if we look deep enough there exists great detail. Every challenge, opportunity or problem (again, depending on your POV, (wouldn't want to offend anyone or leave someone out)). What sort of Christian are you? Are you a "God is in the detail" type or a "Devil is in the Detail" type? Oh, I forgot two, are you a "Head in the Sand" or "Sit in the Bleachers" type? (Spoiler alert, thinking about all of this is going to involve some detail.)

I know reading this newsletter, if anyone does, can be a struggle. Writing it, likewise, presents me with a challenge (or opportunity) every month and I struggle. So, bless any of you that read it much less dig into the detail. Speaking of details, this month we hold a Called Congregational meeting to review/approve the budget as well as vote on members for Council. If you have interest in serving or feel called, please contact the Nomination Committee. The meeting is scheduled for November 20th. Attendance is important, these meetings require a quorum. I know, that's just another detail.

By the way, the website has been revised. If you have not visited it, please do so at [www.fourmilelutheranchurch.org](http://www.fourmilelutheranchurch.org).

Best regards, *Ted Swinford*



## Online Worship Services

**If you can't attend or you are not ready to return to Four Mile at this time, we are broadcasting all Sunday services.**

**For services you can connect remotely two ways:**

**1.** Vicar Ed Fiducia has kindly set up our live worship services on our Four Mile business **FaceBook** page—it's the page with a picture of our church. Ed is also posting our Sunday bulletin on the page so everyone can follow along. Please "Share" the FaceBook post to your friends so that they can attend our services. If you have any questions or problems getting to our FaceBook page, get with Christie Beene.

**OR**

**2.** You can join the online presentation with the link <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/cmbeene> With this option, you should have visual images, depending on what technology allows.

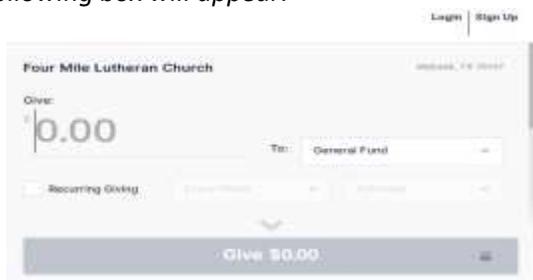
📞 Or if you feel your internet is not fast enough, you can call **17208432668 (new phone number)** and enter the access code **1585132#** when prompted. This only uses your phone line (land line or cell), and you can hear the audio portion of the service.

**Worship booklets will be emailed on Fridays. Please print so that you can follow the service.**

We are seeking to grow in our spiritual life by incorporating technology as we find new ways of being the body of Christ together.

## Important--Church Offerings

*Church offerings can be mailed to: Four Mile, P.O. Box 5004, Mabank, TX 75147 or go to the Four Mile website, [www.fourmilelutheranchurch.org](http://www.fourmilelutheranchurch.org), select "Online Offering" from the menu on the left-side of your screen, the following box will appear:*



*Enter your amount, select if you want a "Recurring Giving", if not recurring, click on the "Give" bar at the bottom of the box. **NOTE:** There will be a 2.3% fee added to your amount to pay for this option.*

*It is very important for us to continue to support our church. **Thank you for your support of our ministry.***

## New Four Mile Website



We have a new website! Check it out. The site is now live at [fourmilelutheranchurch.org](http://fourmilelutheranchurch.org)!

We hope you will find it easy to locate information about Four Mile. Share this new website with your family and friends.

Newsletters, bulletins, announcements, etc. are now included on the website.

If you have any feedback, please contact any council member. We will continue to update the website.

## Council News

Because of our changing congregational abilities, our council positions have had to change also. We have many shared positions for those who cannot give it all, but can be a partner in making it happen.

**Evangelism** is shared by several so each person has a small part, which makes it possible to get it all done - thank you to Ann Metch who is doing an exceptional job reaching out to all with cards, while Facebook and newspaper articles are being done by 3 different people working together to get it all done. **Stewardship and Youth** are also shared positions. Many of the council positions can be shared spots and don't always require going to the monthly meeting if that is an issue. Our ever faithful, **Property Chair**, Steve Knox, is most incredible, but we are at a point where we are either going to need another committed person to help or we will have to make a budget change to hire out some of the work.

Except for Lisa and Heather, all of our present council members have been serving on council for many years - much longer than our constitution actually allows and they want and need to be replaced. In addition to the above-mentioned positions, please consider all the openings: **President, Vice President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Secretary, Worship & Music, Education and Cemetery.** Four Mile has a great need so we are asking you to look deeply and prayerfully consider how you can help our church continue to grow, care and survive.

**Mark 9:35** "And he sat down, and called the twelve, and he said to them, if anyone be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."

To borrow a quote from Vicar Ed! "There's good news" God sent his only son to be the ultimate servant! We all have a chance to serve and follow the example Jesus set for us. Be a part of the change to keep Four Mile positively going and make your voice heard.

Sincerely, *The Present Church Council*

## Annual Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendar to attend our annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, November 20** following the worship service. We will elect the new church council members for 2023 and approve the budget for 2023. Your presence is very important. Hope to see you there.



## Please mark your calendar to attend WELCA Bible Studies to Resume



Our second bible study will be on **Saturday, November 12** in the Parish Hall beginning at **10 am**. Breakfast will be served. Hope you can join us. Mark your calendar to attend.

## Youth News—821 Ministry

Why we work so hard to support 821 Ministry dba Rebecca Project!

A woman with little means, health problems, no children and a handicapped brother 40 miles away. Living in a less than stellar mobile home. But it is shelter.

Two elderly Hispanic men sleeping in a literal ditch day after day. Life has hurt them beyond being able to function in our world.

An elderly woman who can barely walk trying to take care of her bedridden, dying son.

This is what our clients look like.

We cook them food. Love on them and pray for them. It's not much. It's the tip of the iceberg of poverty our county faces unaware.

Elderly food stamps max out at \$15 per month.

We need your help.

Thank you, and God Bless You. ❤️ ❤️ ❤️

We found a precious client on the floor today. She had been there all night.

I have no words for God's grace in this situation. She immediately ate her meal as we safely tucked her back on the sofa.

We will make sure she is okay and loved.

We can do this because YOU gave, you prayed, you volunteered your time to love on someone. T

Thank you.

God Bless 821M, The Rebecca Project.



## Upcoming October Youth, WELCA and Four Mile Projects

**Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes** - We will be filling 100 Shoeboxes this year. Would you like to fill your own boxes? If you would, we will have empty boxes for you and lists of suggested acceptable items. Would you like to join us on a fun box filling day and/or provide items? We will be scheduling a box filling time in October and we have lists of items if you'd like to add to what the youth are providing. In the meantime, we are collecting items in the youth room.

**God's Blessings** is already looking for unopened toys for children they will be helping this Christmas. They will have specific items needed closer to Christmas. We have a collection box, with items already donated, in the youth room if you have any new toys or clothes you would like to drop off.

Let me know if you have any questions or need more info. *Verree Dannen and Heather Vinson*

## Stewardship News

Good Day, Blessed Ones!

Thank you all for sharing and caring and giving during our Stewardship month! Special thanks to Steve Knox, David Fontenot, Maudine Ruebman and Verree Dannen for their inspirational temple talks. Our congregation is so blessed and such a blessing to others, we cannot say enough how thankful we are for Gods Work Our Hands living and thriving in our little congregation.

Prayers of gratitude for all of you, who so generously give of your time, talents and finances to support the Lord's mission in action at Four Mile Lutheran Church.

In Him, *Barbara Holan & Lisa Knox*

## Oldfield College Education Grant 2023

The Oldfield Grant is a college grant provided by the heirs of Charlie and Bee Oldfield.

This grant is managed by the Memorial Committee of Four Mile Lutheran Church. Charlie and Bee were members of Four Mile Lutheran Church and involved in the life and functions of that congregation.

We are very grateful to the Oldfield's for gifting this Grant money to Four Mile Lutheran Church.

The 2023 Oldfield Grant Application is now ready. Completion and submission date is April 15, 2023.

Request for the application, return filled out to:

[barbarametch@gmail.com](mailto:barbarametch@gmail.com)

Thanks, *Barbara Metch Holan*

## Council Minutes

Council minutes are included in this newsletter. You will find them after the church calendar—pages 6-7.

## Flower Chart for 2022



The new 2022 flower chart is ready for persons to sign-up to provide flowers for our Sunday worship services. The chart is located in the narthex. If you would like to provide flowers for a particular day and are unable to sign the chart, please contact Maudine Ruebman and she will sign you up. Thank you.

**Deadline for articles for the December Newsletter is Saturday, November 26**

## Happy Birthday!!!!

*When you see the following persons, wish them a happy birthday*

- Nov 1: Alexis (Lexis) Winkelvoss
- Nov 2: Diane Ellington
- Nov 8: Jeanette Delk  
Cindy Manning
- Nov 9: Matthew Runte
- Nov 12: Lisa Knox
- Nov 14: Terry Humphreys



## Anniversaries in November

*Congratulations to the following members*

- Nov 3: James & Sally Nail
- Nov 11: Ken & Mary Andrews
- Nov 28: Ty & Kacey Winkelvoss
- Nov 29: Jeff & Kathy Norman
- Nov 30: Mark & Cindy Manning



## Worship Assistants for November

- Nov 6: Christie Beene
- Nov 13: Steve Knox
- Nov 20: Wayne Nelson
- Nov 27: Lisa Knox

## Flowers for November

- Nov 6: Christie Beene in memory of Dad's birthday
- Nov 13: Steve Knox for Lisa's birthday
- Nov 20: Jeannette Delk
- Nov 27: ADVENT



Please keep Todd Walker's family in your prayers

## Please pray for the following persons:

### Prayer List

#### Members

Ken Andrews	Steve Knox
Sara & Lee Brau	Sally & Jim Nail
Larry Castleberry	Shirley Parker
Becky Cleveland	Phelps Family
Merit & Verree Dannen	Jack & Maudine Ruebman
Judy Ellis	Betty Trednick
Barbara Metch Holan	Bob & Kenda Watson
Gary Holan	Bill York
Debra Huffman	
Luanne & Terry Humphreys	



#### Family & Friends

Micah Thane, Lynda & Jim Chiles' granddaughter  
 Pastor Jamie, daughter of Pastor Gnana Segaran  
 Christian, Betty Trednick's nephew  
 DJ Rolfsmeier, Lisa Knox mom  
 Phyllis, Ted's mother  
 Nancy Hiser  
 Mark Knox  
 Andy Ruebman  
 Joyce Hideman  
 Stuart Hulseay  
 Dana & Heather Brau  
 Pray for our nation  
 Pray for our Military forces

#### CHURCH COUNCIL FOR 2022

President:	Ted Swinford
Vice-President:	Barbara Metch
Treasurer:	Christie Beene
Financial Secretary:	Peggy Swinford
Secretary:	Lisa Knox
Evangelism:	Council Staff
Property:	Steve Knox
Stewardship:	Lisa Knox/Verree Dannen
Worship/Music:	Maudine Ruebman
Youth:	Heather Vinson/Verree Dannen
Education:	
Cemetery:	Peggy Swinford

# November 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 * Alexis (Lexis) Winkelvoss	2 *Diane Ellington	3 ** James & Sally Nail	4	5 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS- MOVE CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR
6 <b>All Saints Day</b> Worship Service 10:45 am <b>Holy Communion</b> Leader: Vicar Ed Fiducia Assist: Christie Beene 	7	8 *Jeanette Delk *Cindy Manning	9 * Matthew Runte	10	11 ** Ken & Mary Andrews	12 <b>WELCA Bible Study</b> 10 am  *Lisa Knox
13 Worship Service 10:45 am Leader: Wayne Nelson Assist: Steve Knox <b>Council Meeting</b> <b>Budgets Due</b>	14 * Terry Humphreys	15	16	17	18	19
20 <b>Christ the King</b> Worship Service 10:45 am <b>Holy Communion</b> Leader: Vicar Ed Fiducia Assist: Wayne Nelson <b>Congregational Meeting</b> <b>Potluck</b> 	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving 	25	26
27 <b>Advent</b> Worship Service 10:45 am Leader: Vicar Ed Fiducia Assist: Lisa Knox	28 ** Ty & Kacey Winkelvoss	29 ** Jeff & Kathy Norman	30 ** Mark & Cindy Manning	Dec 1 Worship/Music 1-3pm Choir 4-5pm		

\*Birthday      \*\*Anniversary

**Minutes of the Church Council Meeting  
Four Mile Lutheran Church  
October 9, 2022**

President, Ted Swinford, called the meeting of the Four Mile Lutheran Church Council to order on October 9, 2022, at 11:54 p.m. Ted Swinford opened the meeting and led us in a prayer for guidance in our decision-making processes.

The following member's quorum was present: Ted and Peggy Swinford, Steve and Lisa Knox, Christie Beene, Verree Dannen, Barbara Holan and Maudine Ruebman (via telephone).

**Congratulation Congregation and Friends: We raised 1859 lbs. of food for Manna from our God's Work Our Hands September!!!**

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** No report.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lisa submitted the September 2022 council minutes electronically in advance of the meeting. Steve Knox made a motion to accept the September 2022 minutes. Christie Beene seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by acclamation.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Christie submitted her September 2022 report electronically in advance. We balance with the bank. Verree Dannen made a motion to accept the September 2022 report. Steve Knox seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by acclamation.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Peggy Swinford submitted her September 2022 report electronically in advance. Barbara Holan made a motion to accept the September 2022 Financial Secretary's report for audit. Ted Swinford seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by acclamation.

**CALENDAR REVIEW:** Council reviewed and updated the calendar.

**CEMETERY:** Peggy Swinford had nothing to report.

**EVANGELISM:** Website updates completed and preparing to go live soon. Software for the new website will be Word Press.

**PROPERTY:** Steve reported he found the leak in the concrete between the Sunday School room and the Parrish Hall. He will begin search for a contractor to fix the leak, which requires digging and watching for the electrical conduit as well as letting it dry and then repairing the concrete. Thanks to all the helpers with the normal property maintenance, Christie and Steven Beene, and Ted and Peggy Swinford. Much appreciation to everyone for their giving. Steve left a message on Nancy Montgomery's phone and received a text response that she is suffering from the after-effects of covid. She will resume cleaning as able as soon as possible. Courtyard plants will need to be replaced with fall/winter plants or left empty until Spring.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Our October Kick-Off Cook-out came in under budget at \$182.98 and was a great success. Temple Talks continue through the month. Bless our speakers and thank you all for your acts of Stewardship.

**WORSHIP AND MUSIC:** Maudine reported meeting last month. The Worship and Music Committee met on the last Thursday of the month to plan the worship and music for the month of October. We met on the last Thursday to plan the music for November. Those present were Jeannette Delk, Kathryn Manning, Becky Cleveland, Mary

Andrews and Maudine Ruebman. Kelly and Catherine Lindsey's provided beautiful worship music for us this Sunday service.

**YOUTH:** The Youth have continuing to help feed the elderly, disabled and homeless through the 821 Ministry. The youth are coming together on October 18<sup>th</sup> with their food drive items for manna. They are planning for a busy October:

**Halloween** – The Four Mile youth have a table in front of the Mabank library on Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup> beginning at 6 PM. We will be passing out Four Mile information, as well as goodies and crosses. Thank you, Lisa, for graciously working on the Four Mile info and thanks to Christie for hunting down the banner. Anyone wanting to donate goodies or join us for an evening of fun is welcome.

**Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes** – We will be filling 100 Shoeboxes this year. Would you like to fill your own boxes? If you would, we will have empty boxes for you and lists of suggested acceptable items. Would you like to join us on a fun box filling day and/or provide items? We will be scheduling a box filling time in October, and we have lists of items if you want to add to what the youth are providing. In the meantime, we are collecting items in the youth room.

**Lutheran World Relief School Supply Backpacks** – We will also be scheduling a day in October to fill the WELCA and Youth backpacks with our supplies. All welcome to join the filling of the backpacks.

**God's Blessings** is already looking for unopened toys for children they will be helping this Christmas. They will have specific items needed closer to Christmas. We have a collection box, with items already donated, in the youth room if you have any new toys or clothes you would like to drop off.

Also looking forward to hopefully participating in the canton Christmas parade on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Barb and Gary Holan have offered their truck and trailer and she thinks we have a wooden church and pews to use on the trailer. Up for discussing and researching what we have.

**EDUCATION:** No report.

## **DISCUSSION:**

- Upcoming events.
- 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee plans underway.
- Call Committee – in hiatus until candidates are available. Working with Pastor Totzke on future plans for supply.
- Budget due in November for 2023; will include the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary expenses.
- Council Minutes to be shared in the FMLC Newsletter.
- We were reminded that Benevolence monies of \$600 is available for giving from 2022 Budget.
- Updates to FMLC Brochure underway. Please text Lisa Knox updated pictures for sharing.
- Discussed October being Pastor Appreciation month.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 12:55 p.m., with no further business to conduct, Verree moved to adjourn, Lisa seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Knox