



Our Saviour's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

SIGNAL

Mission Statement

"Our Saviour's Lutheran Church welcomes all to the love of Christ through Worshipping, Learning, and Serving."

Welcome Statement

We are a Christian community committed to ministry in Fort Collins and the world. We rejoice in the manner in which diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged our lives and the ministry we share in Christ, and we invite all to participate in Word and Sacrament without discrimination due to race, creed, sexual orientation, or financial status.

Joint Thanksgiving Service at OSLC

Join us at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church for the joint Thanksgiving Service of all the Fort Collins ELCA churches and St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

Tuesday, November 26th, 7p.m., 2000 S. Lemay, Fort Collins, CO
Fellowship and pie will follow.



(We will need extra volunteers to help with this service. Watch for Signup Genius to be updated with more volunteer signups. If you are here for the holiday, consider helping out!)

Join us for the Advent Event **Sunday, December 1st during the Sunday School hour** **(9:45-10:45 am)**



There will be lots of crafts and projects for your family to enjoy during Advent, such as, ornaments, Advent wreaths, and holiday placemats!

We hope to see you there!

** If you have one of the gold wreath rings at home, please bring it along so you can redecorate it with fresh greenery for Advent.

DONATIONS NEEDED:

If you have any real pinecones in your yard, we could use them for the Advent Event. Place them in the box in the fellowship hall. Thank you!





Pastor's Page

As we talk about our witness as a church many point to our welcoming atmosphere as a great strength. I think it can be, but what good will that welcome be if no one new sets foot through that door. It would be foolish to prepare a great dinner feast, and not send out even one invitation. Who would expect each seat to be filled if no one was ever invited? And if you think that the pastor is the great inviter then let me shatter that expectation immediately. To many Pastor Leta and I have less credibility than you in talking about our faith because of our role.

We've asked you before, "Have you invited anyone to worship?" Some of you do a great job with doing just that. It energizes me when I'm introduced to your friends and neighbors who you have invited to worship. I know how hard that is to do. Talking faith at all with friends explores a level of trust and vulnerability that is more difficult in relationship. Others say, "Don't go there, I can't do that," but it is important. As we enter a culture that no longer assumes a faith we cannot afford to be passive in our faith. In another generation it is safe to assume that without an invitation directly from somebody they trust few would consider setting foot in the church at all. The statement "they will come back when they need it," is only true when a person identifies church as a part of their culture. Most of us still live in that now eroding cultural reality.

This month in adult Sunday School and in our preaching you will hear about generosity and giving to God. Money is certainly a part of any conversation about generosity, but I'd have wrestle with how the question of generosity is related to inviting. You could say that our church through you and others has invitations and welcomes stored up that we are not using. We are often complacent saying, "They will come if they need

it." Or we use the excuse, "I don't want to be pushy." These words have truth, but become an excuse to not be generous with one of our greatest gifts. We don't share the gift of the spirit that invites you to participate in the joy of creation in Christ Jesus. We don't welcome in the outsider and our pool. In the culture of the past with a dominant Christian perspective being fed to people in all walks of life we could get away with this passivity. We can be passive no longer.

I would challenge you to become generous in your inviting. We have attempted to create a welcoming environment. We are Christ centered, and have a great welcome statement. We even have a sign that welcomes people. What kind of sign from God are you? It is not easy to change this, but we must if we are to continue to effectively pass on the faith.

Now some say, "that is all fine and good, but I'm an introvert pastor." My response, "Great, then invite other introverts." Invitations to worship are not a gift to be shared by the loudest and most boisterous. In fact many will be turned off by those who enter conversation in such a way. No, God wants your words, your invitation, your generosity to fulfill the mission of the church.

Invite them to worship. Invite them to another activity in relationship to the church. Invite them into conversations of faith. I'm not saying that you are going to be great at this. I am saying that it is vital to the existence of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church that we get good at it.

Pastor Michael
Michael@our-saviours.org

SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Wonderment

It is fascinating how different aspects of our faith come into focus for us from time to time.

Like a well cut diamond there are many facets to faith, and it is exciting to have them rotate in and out of focus. Love - forgiveness - mystery - service, etc. One in particular has been playing in my mind recently - WONDER.

The term “wonderful” is a striking description of our spiritual connectedness to God. Our relationship with God - our faith - is “full of wonder”.

Wonder suggests that we are awestruck by something so far beyond our comprehension that initially we are scarcely able even to respond. We also use the term “wonder” to describe our curiosity about something such as wondering what the weather might be tomorrow. However, it is this sense of AWE that presently resonates within me. The AWE we might feel when we look up into outer space on a dark night and see the millions of stars suspended there. There is no sky, only endless space.

Our minds cannot grasp the reality and enormity of what we see. We are “full of wonder”.

So it is living in God’s immediate presence which is what we do all the time, but often are not aware of it. Certainly even the concept of God is beyond our comprehension although we think and talk about it all the time as if we understand it.

It is the unbelievable experience of BEING AWARE that God’s own Spirit lives within our innermost being that “fills us with wonder”.

Pursuing a spiritual journey opens us to incredible moments when the Holy One reaches into our lives and does awesome things, not only TO us, but WITH us and THROUGH us. Not only are we transformed and blessed, but bits of the world get transformed and blessed through us.

That is “wonderful - wonder filled” and is something worth our commitment and participation.



Pastor Fred Castor, Spiritual Guide

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Welcoming all through worship...

Worship & Music Corner, November 2013

Fall Worship

FLOW – Faithfully Living Out the Word

How are you FLOWing? Throughout the month of November, we are asking that you share all the ways – through actions, activities, minutes, and hours – that you are Faithfully Living Out the Word. We will have a Response to the Word station set up where you can write, draw, or depict your FLOW, and we will add it to our bulletin board in the Narthex hallway. Let's see if we can OVER-FLOW for our neighbors, community, world, and God!

FLOW – November Memory Verse

Our memory verse for the month of November is Galatians 5:22-23

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."



Worship Schedule – November

November 3: ELW 4

Bells & Chancel Choir (8:30)
Bells, Alleluia & Jubilate Choirs (11:00)

November 10: He Is Our Peace & ELW 10

Celebration Band (8:30)
Consensus Brass (11:00)

November 17: Now the Feast and Celebration

Cherub, Alleluia, & Jubilate Choirs (8:30)
Chancel Choir (11:00)

November 24: With One Voice

Windstrings (8:30 & 11:00)

November 26: Community Thanksgiving Service 7:00 PM, hosted by OSLC

November 30: Hanging of the Greens Advent Service and Dinner, 5:30 PM



The Lutheran Chorale invites you to "Welcome Joyous Season" on Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 7:30 pm. We will be performing at the Lakewood Cultural Center, 470 S. Allison Parkway, Lakewood, CO.

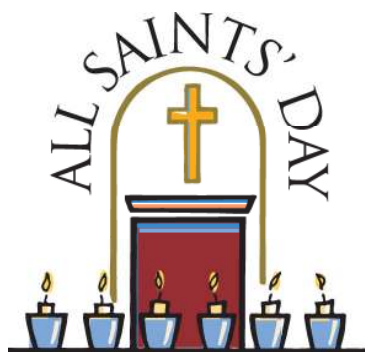
Tickets are available at the Lakewood Cultural Center Box office, or calling the box office at [303-986-7845](tel:303-986-7845) or online. For general information please call [303-986-7876](tel:303-986-7876). Ticket prices are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors/students. Discounts available for large groups of 15 or more.

For more information about the Chorale please contact, Linda Blandin at [303-973-1161](tel:303-973-1161) or our director, David Hodel, [303-557-2822](tel:303-557-2822), or email us at thelutheranchorale@comcast.net

A Conversation with Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber October 19-20, 2013



4th Graders Together in Faith



November 3, 2012



Welcoming all through learning...

Join the  Conversation!

This fall we study the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew is not only the first book in the New Testament, but beginning in Advent, it will be the primary gospel that is read in worship for the coming year. This gospel is important for its distinctive conception of the God who comes to claim and call a people in Jesus the Messiah. It calls us to discipleship and faithful and confident following, shaping us into a new community that is constituted and lives by the forgiveness of God.

Join the Bible Study conversation on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Journey with other brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ as we are guided by the Holy Spirit and each other in our study of God's word. Please come – all are invited even if your attendance is infrequent or sporadic.

David Barber

From the Library!

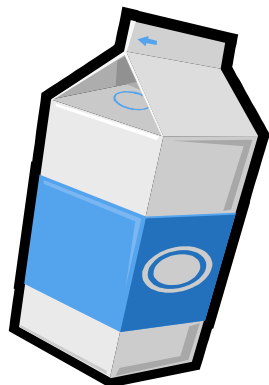
We are working hard on getting an inventory of all our items done by the end of October so we can start creating our list to purchase new items in November. As has happened for the last 3 years, new titles will be ordered in December and ready for you to see in January or February.

Two things are especially important at this point:

PLEASE take a look around your house for any random books that just happen to say "Our Saviour's Lutheran Library" and might have been with

you for a while and could be returned. PLEASE send suggestions of titles that have meant a lot to you in a spiritual way and might be worthwhile on our shelves. Send your suggestions to Amy Holzworth holzworths@msn.com.

Keep those pages turning. ☺



SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLY REQUEST

In November we will be making periscopes! We need 1 quart empty cartons (for example 1 quart milk or juice cartons) for this project. Please donate what you can! We will have a bucket in the fellowship hall starting Sunday!



Preschool News

Our first week in October we learned all about colors. One child said how sad our world would be if everything was black and white...How perceptive for a four year old to say. We made a Red Book, our very own crayon, Brown Bear, Brown Bear book, and did Spin Art with a salad spinner (I knew my spinner would come in handy some day!).

The second week was Fire Safety. We painted with red and yellow paint and marbles to make very interesting fire pictures, we made a fire truck out of different shapes and we learned all about Red, Yellow and Green lights.

The third week was learning all about Fall and thankfully we are having one this year. We made a leaf bookmark, some leaf rubbings, my all time favorite wax paper leaves, although using an iron with 4 year olds around is interesting because a

lot of them do not know what an iron is! We also used our dexterity skills and eye droppers to make beautiful leaves and ended the week with our scarecrows.

The fourth week was Apples and Pumpkins. We tasted apples, made apple prints, made a book all about how pumpkins grow and a made a bag into a pumpkin.

Our last week we celebrated Halloween. We had our all school Halloween party on Monday and went to the Pumpkin Patch on Tuesday and Wednesday. The last two days we painted Gourds that we got at the Pumpkin Patch.

We are getting ready for our 18th year of the craft fair. If you are interested in a table or a booth please contact me and I will set you up. We also will accept Baked goods for the Bake Sale and any items that you would like to donate to the Flea Market. The Craft Fair is on December 7th and it is a great way to start your Christmas shopping.

Preschool Flea Market DECEMBER 7th 9am—3PM

Please begin saving your items for the flea market during the Craft Fair in December which supports our preschool. We did great last year because of all your wonderful donations. (We do not take clothing.) If you can help in setting up or working a shift during the craft fair, please call Karen Wulff @ 407-1247.



December 7, 2013

Watch for more details

Welcoming all through serving...

Outside Our Walls

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE



We will be collecting non-perishable food items for the food bank in November. Please bring your donations to church at any time during the month. Checks are also welcome and should be made out to Our Saviour's with a notation on the "memo" line that the offering is for the Food Bank for Larimer County. This effort is an annual project of the Outside Our Walls committee, and we are always gratified by our congregation's response. What better way to give thanks for our blessings than by helping to make the holidays a little brighter for others in our community. Thank you for your generosity.

Serving Others

The man who went to Heaven and who was able to compare...

A man died and because he had been a good person, he went to Heaven, where Saint Peter greeted him at the door.

Welcome! he said. You can enter Heaven right away, but, because you lived such a good life, you can also go and check out Hell first, if you like.

The man was rather curious and said - well, why not - and he went down all the stairs to reach the door of Hell, which opened before him.

Behind the door, he saw many people sitting around tables with delicious food! But they were all very sad, and suffering, because instead of hands they had long knives and forks as arm extensions and they did not manage to put any of this great food in their mouths.

The man went back up to Heaven and said to Saint Peter: Wow, am I glad that I can go to Heaven. That is really some punishment.

Welcome to Heaven, Saint Peter said, as he let the man in.

What did he see there? He saw many people sitting around tables with delicious food, just like in Hell!

And just like in Hell, they also had these long fork and knife extensions on their arms! But in Heaven, the people weren't crying or cursing, because they were sticking the food in each other's mouths! "Try this", they laughed. "And this!", and they had lots of fun in the process.

Faith Family Hospitality



With the concern of where they might sleep each night removed, families in the FFH program are able to focus on getting other things sorted which have been put off because merely surviving left little time or energy for anything else.

In the last couple of weeks one of our families was successful in finding work and another was able to replace a vehicle that was guzzling gas and going to be too costly to repair. Another family who has been experiencing sickness was able to use the Day Center to rest up and recuperate.

Each of these little steps brings them one step closer to creating stability and becoming more self-sufficient.

The Day Center is open to families in the program and those families waiting for a place in the program. The Mennonite Hall on Oak Street has generously offered their spaces for the Day Center and future plans include installing showers and laundry facilities. If you would like to volunteer time at the Day Center, please contact Lee or Jodi.

As for the vision at OSLC, Jodi, Lee, and Suzie Smith have been planning for our next Host Week, December 22-29th. As of today, we have 4 rooms booked at the University Best Western on College for December 24th and 25th. The families can take their overnight bags and swim suits for 2 nights of sound sleep and no wake up calls. These rooms were made possible by the generosity of OSLC members.

You can also contribute your time during our host week on the days before and after Christmas. We will have the Signup Genius ready for use very soon. We also would like to encourage you to consider how you could make this holiday special for the families. We are open to ideas and suggestions.

A Special Request:

The Coordinators for Faith Family Hospitality have agreed that we need a list of individuals or families who are willing to be on a list of volunteers who are willing and able to help other Host Churches when they have difficulty finding volunteers. If you would agree to put your name on the list, you have the right to decline if asked to help. Please let Jodi or Lee know if we can add your name to the list of names collected from all the Host and Partner Churches.

Food Drive for the Larimer County Food Bank

Because of your continued generosity, the recent Food Drive for the Larimer County Food Bank was a huge success. Since the middle of August OSLC has donated 308 pounds of food. In addition, we also donated breakfast and lunch items to help during our week hosting the FFH families and will continue to do this for their future visits.

As some of you may have notice, the grocery cart is once again being brought forward by the ushers along with the offering at each service. It is important that we acknowledge this significant donation every week. Thank you again for your continued support of the Larimer County Food Bank.



It

Worship, learning & serving in groups...

CHRISTMAS TEA AND BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL WOMEN OF ALL AGES



Sisters In Spirit

Please join us November 30 at 9:30 am for a light tea, Bible study, and time together to be centered together as we enter Advent. All are welcome. RSVPs are helpful and can be sent to Pastor Leta (leta@our-saviours.org or 484-3133) or sign up on the Kiosk in the narthex.



2013 Confirmation Class

Front Row (l to r): Pastor Michael, Conrad Selig, Courtney Olsen, Katie Haugen, James Howell, Pastor Leta

Back Row (l to r): Matthew Khouri, Fred Hays, Halley Miklos, William Paulson, Aidan Dykstal



OSLC Book Club:

All are welcome to join us to discuss a book each month. We meet on Monday evenings from 7-8:30 pm. Contact Diana Hutchinson for more information.

Dec. 2nd	Flight behavior by Barbara Kingsolver
Jan 20th	Brain on Fire by Susanah Cahalan

Small Groups

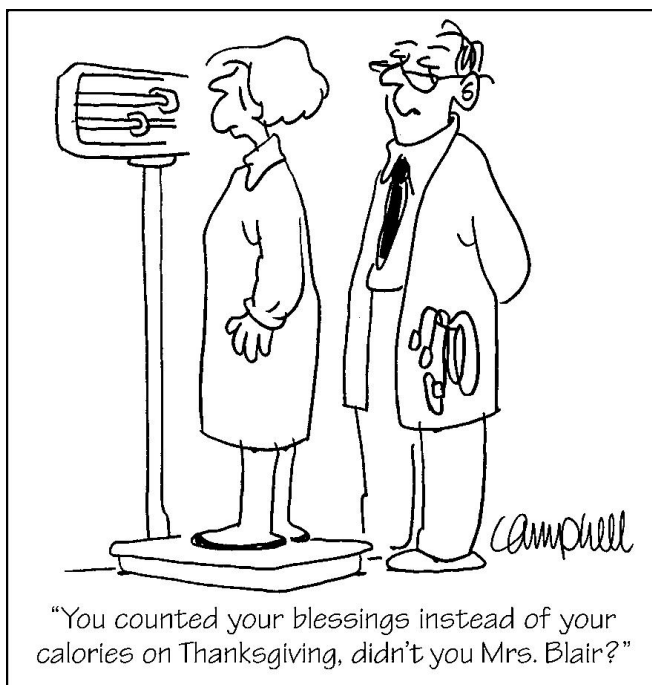
BIBLE STUDY SERIES-Tuesdays, 7PM-8:30PM or Thursdays 9:30-11:00AM

LEAH CIRCLE— Leah Circle will meet on **Thursday, November 21 at 6:45 p.m.** at the home of Barb Slattenow.

QUILTING GROUP - 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 1:00 pm

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP Thursdays, 6:45am @ Village Inn.

FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT- welcomes all to bring their scrapbooking or other craft projects for the evening. Fruits of the Spirit will be meeting to work on your individual scrapbooking, stamping, or other craft projects. **Join us for fellowship and fun on Friday, November 1st from 6 pm-12 midnight at Kristin Reese's house, 3415 Long Creek Dr. Please RSVP to 213-8413 or reesemk2000@comcast.net.**



Happy Thanksgiving
November 28, 2013

Stewardship of our resources...



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We want to provide advanced notice that there will be a very short special congregational meeting at 9:45 after first service on 17 Nov. 2013 in the sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to vote for and elect new church council members so that they can be in place as we begin the new church year in Jan. 2014.

This very short meeting is solely for voting and electing new council members and does not replace the normal annual meeting scheduled for Jan. 2014. We urge you to attend.

Welcome to Our Saviour's!

New members entered into membership at OSLC on October 27th:

CHRIS & SAM WALKER: While Colorado was our vacation destination once a year at least, it became our home six years ago. Chris retired from teaching English at a community college, and Sam, a retired attorney, currently drives part-time for Parkwood. Our two sons and daughter and their spouses still live in the Davenport, Iowa area with our six teen-aged grandchildren, so that is now our vacation destination. Besides hiking and tent camping, Sam and I love our church life, reading, and music. This fall we joined WindsStrings (Chris on oboe, Sam on violin), which we very much enjoy. Chris is also a Stephen Minister and attends the Thursday Bible study. We are happy to join Our Saviours and share in the joy and energy of this church.

SHELDON & JOANNA SKOVGAARD: with Ethan (4), Dane (1 ½), and Lillian (3 months). Moved from Tennessee. Sheldon is a student at CSU. Joanna is a full-time mom.

NEAL & LINDA GEHRING: Neal has a career in office supply and equipment and still repairs typewriters. Linda worked with Neal in office supply store for 11 years. Worked with Larimer County Motor Vehicle for 24 years.

GERRY GJERDE & MARY MILLER are transplants from eastern Iowa. Now retired from many years of service in ELCA Lutheran churches. They moved to Fort Collins in June 2012. Hiking and biking are among their daily pleasures. Married for 10 years, their blended family brings together a son in Decorah, IA; a daughter in Fort Collins; a daughter in Boulder; and three grandchildren. Mary & Gerry share a commitment to matters of peace and justice hospitality and stewardship.

DREW & CATHERINE FOX: Drew & Catherine got married in December, 2012. Drew is a student at Front Range Community College. Catherine is a technical writer at a software company in Fort Collins. They enjoy camping, visiting Natural parks, travelling, game nights with friends, and walking their two weird little dogs.

SHARON & JEREMY MARBURGER

MIKE & KELLIE MCCURDY, Lillian & Ethan



Jeff A Losh, FIC

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Put your heart into retirement

Retirement is full of choices. And you have the opportunity to make a decision now that can change your life!

You have talents, skills and life experience that can be invaluable to your congregation, nonprofit organizations and people in need. Why not follow your heart to make a difference in any way you choose?

Follow your values

These and other websites can help you match your interests to organizations or causes that reflect your values:

- Volunteermatch.org
- Networkforgood.org
- Lwr.org (Lutheran World Relief)

Thriventbuilds.com

Laugh often. Love deeply. Live generously.

Whether you've been volunteering for years or haven't had a chance to get involved, sometimes it takes a little guidance to take the next step. Your local Thrivent Financial representative can show you how to take advantage of unique programs that help strengthen communities, like Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity. You can help build homes with partner families in need of simple, affordable housing in your own community, in another state or around the world.

For more than 100 years, Thrivent Financial has been helping people be wise with money and live generously. To find out more about volunteer opportunities offered by Thrivent Financial, contact Jeff Losh, Financial Consultant, at (970) 744-4629 or jeff.losh@thrivent.com today, or visit Thrivent.com.





FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP

November 3 Wulff Family
November 10 Don & Nancy Williams in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary
November 17
November 24

Flower procedure—You may use flowers from your garden or a florist. Please place the flowers in the Sanctuary prior to Saturday evening service (5:30 pm). They can be picked up after the Sunday service. The Flower Chart is posted on the wall in the Narthex.



The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.
James 5:16

Dorothy Pederson (Matt's mother)

God bless our praying.

Let's celebrate!

It's Pastor Beth Purdum's 25th year of ordination!

To help us make this a joyful & warm fiesta, we invite you to
St. Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112
November 10, 2013
10:15 am Worship
Community meal to follow

Congratulatory notes can be sent to:

Ginny Fisher
10832 Towne Park Dr NE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

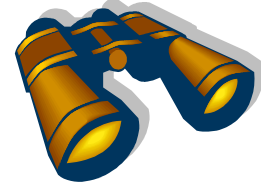
Pastor Beth Purdum was an associate Pastor at Our Saviour's from 1990-1995. Her picture is hanging in the hallway "hall of fame". Congratulations, Beth!

GOD SIGHTINGS!

These are just a few of the leaves posted on the Tree of Life Summer Bulletin Board

“Where do you see the spirit of God working in the world?”

- Dear God, I hope my puppy will not bark too much.
- Hospice workers
- All those from OSLC who volunteer each week at Homeless Gear
- Sparkles
- Strangers who showed me that I matter
- A family that loves and cares for me
- Friends who help each other
- Staff, family & friends of Mosaic who serve those with intellectual disabilities
- The smile of a child
- Someone who just sits and waits while a friend or loved one is having surgery
- Members of the Mission in San Bernadino
- Children, grandchildren and the community of faith
- FFH
- People who support you when a pet dies
- Family, friends, and coworkers
- Friends who just listen to your troubles
- A child's excitement at receiving communion
- Those who help sick people
- The firefighters who fight fires
- The people who help the animals who become homeless through wildfires
- Those who help the poor
- CCC directors & staff who help kids make music
- The youth who came to share Spordazo
- The families who housed the youth who visited from Nebraska
- Those who helped the person who fainted
- A child's explanation of God
- God is everywhere, even among those we consider broken or lost.
- People moving garage sale items for two hours
- Math
- Healers, nurses, doctors, therapists, EMTs, counselors, first responders
- The Colorado mountains which give continued spiritual healing
- The person who helped me in my hot garage cleaning, sorting, and purging for six hours when nobody else will lend a hand



November 3, 2013

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
2000 S. Lemay Ave.
Ft. Collins, CO 80525

Enter into the Life of Christ's Church

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

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