

# First News

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, PA

## From Our Pastor...

### IF IT'S ABOUT JESUS, IT MUST ALSO BE ABOUT US

Our Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Lent is a 40 day period, excluding in the 40 day count the Sundays of Lent, in which the church is in preparation to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus on Easter Sunday. Historically, Lent was a time in which candidates for baptism were given instruction in the Christian faith, paying particular attention to Biblical readings and teachings and practices of the church, including the sacraments. Throughout the life of the church, the faithful engaged in various Lenten practices that focused on repentance, renewed commitment to the faith and a resourcefulness with a focus on regular worship and service to one another.

Lent is a focused reminder that God the Father has revealed and continues to reveal a path of righteousness, justice, salvation and peace in, through and by Jesus Christ for us and the world in which we inhabit. Lent is about what Jesus has done for us and continues to do, and it's about how we incorporate that belief in the way we live, in our thoughts and actions. Therefore our Lenten practices are to afford particularly close attention to a careful reading of holy scripture as we come to a faithful understanding of the manner in which the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ impacts and influences our lives as well

as enabling and empowering us to follow in his way.

During this season of Lent I want to encourage each and every one of us to get intimately reacquainted with the apostle Paul's majestic rendering of the gospel of Jesus Christ in his Epistle to the Romans, where he writes: "the gospel is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith...for in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith..." (Romans 1:16-17). Additionally, Paul indicates: "But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as an atoning sacrifice by his blood, effective through faith" (Romans 3:21-25).

For each day in Lent I have provided a passage from Paul's Epistle to the Romans for us to ponder and reflect theologically upon as it bears upon our faith and the manner in which we live out our faith. Also, these passages from Romans will be the primary resources used in our Lenten Sunday worship services. As you pon-

der and reflect on these passages, I encourage you to share your thoughts in conversations with others as together we walk in faith.

Feb. 14 (Ash Wednesday – "God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

Feb. 15 – "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly." Romans 5:6

Feb. 16 – "Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God." Romans 5:9

Feb. 17 – "For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life." Romans 5:10

Feb. 18 – "It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification." Romans 4:24-25

Feb. 19 – "For if the many died through the one man's (Adam) trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many." Romans 5:15

Feb. 20 – "For the judgment



### Staff & Council Members

- Rev. John Yost, Pastor
- Diane Scott, Director of Music
- Heather Klose, Church Administrator
- Cher Girtton, Asst. Church Adm.
- Paul Houtz, Sexton
- Harry Boyer, Council President
- Jeff Mensch, Vice President
- Barb Randecker, Secretary
- Cher Girtton, Treasurer
- Deanna Billow, Council
- Gary Girtton, Council
- Libby Loss, Council
- Bill Musser, Council
- Jane Moore, Council
- Jim Schwartz, Council
- Sue Jows, Council
- Logan Mensch, Council



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following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification." Romans 5:16

Feb. 21 – "If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ." Romans 5:17

Feb. 22 – "Just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all." Romans 5:18

Feb. 23 – "For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous." Romans 5:19

Feb. 24 – "Just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise do-

minion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 5:21

Feb. 25 – "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?" Romans 6:3

Feb. 26 – "Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the father, so we too might walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4

Feb. 27 – "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." Romans 6:5

Feb. 28 – "We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin." Romans 6:6-7

--Pastor John



## February Bible Study Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	7:30 p.m.
<u>Christ's United</u>	<u>First Lutheran</u>	<u>Christ's United</u>
February 5	February 6	
February 16 **	February 13	
February 23 **	February 20	February 21 ^^
	February 27	February 28 ^^



## February Birthdays

Jeffrey Hackenburg	02/01	Addison Hess	02/11	Dotty Seebold	02/21
Owen Libhart	02/03	Crystal Bollinger	02/12	Caroline Herman	02/22
Nathan McBryan	02/03	Mary Lib Dunkle	02/12	Madison Reed	02/23
Ethel Musser	02/04	Joely Watson	02/12	Wayne Shively	02/23
Kim Wagner	02/04	Edward Libhart	02/14	Lisa Woodring	02/25
Jamie Bartlett	02/05	Patricia Stees	02/15	Cory Harvey	02/26
James Beckley	02/07	Steve Kreisher	02/16	Gary Bottiger	02/27
Carol Mensch	02/07	Scott Smith	02/18	Cynthia Harvey	02/27
Cher Girton	02/10	Linn Mensch	02/19	Deborah Johnson	02/27
Ashley Uehling	02/10	Kim Sauers	02/21	Collin Krout	02/27

## *Community Meals*

The Community Meal Committee is looking for a few good folks to help serve meals on the first Saturday of each month. We begin preparing the meal at 9:00 and are usually done by 1:30. You can come for an hour or 2, or stay the whole time. We serve between 50 and 60 people each month. This is a great way to help reach out to our community. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Please Contact Libby Loss @966-1606 or Sue Jows @ 966-3644 if you can help. Meal serving time: 11AM-12:30PM.

# Upcoming Events



Ash Wednesday is February 14, which means it's time to start thinking about making Easter eggs again at Christ's Lutheran. This year we are planning on making eggs for seven (7) Mondays beginning the Monday before Lent. We will be making them on February 12, February 19, February 26, March 5, March 12, March 19 and March 26 provided we have enough help.

Providing there is enough help, eggs will be mixed and shaped starting at 9:00 am each Monday morning and coating and packaging will begin each Monday evening at 6:00 pm. Please sign up so that we know if we have enough help to make eggs that week. The more help we have, the quicker we will get done. Mark your calendars NOW and please plan to come out and help make these popular treats.

Lots of help will be needed both at 9:00 a.m. when the eggs are mixed and shaped and at 6:00 p.m. when they are coated and packaged. Please plan to come out and help make these popular confectioneries. Order forms will soon be available on the bulletin board in the hallway outside of the sanctuary, in the office, or at Christ's United for anyone willing to take orders from relatives, friends or co-workers. . **PLEASE NOTE: Orders not in the church kitchen by NOON on Sunday will be filled last (if quantity permits). If you have any questions talk to Bev Catherman.**



A potpie supper is planned for **March 3 at Christ's United.** Serving will begin at **3:30pm.** Tickets will only be sold at the door.

Adults - \$9.00

Children (6 – 12) - \$5.00

Children under 5 – No Charge

Take Out Meals - \$9.00

Quarts of Potpie - \$8.00

# Parish Help Needed

**Parishioners Helping Parishioners:** What can we do to help our older parishioners who need help around their house or property? This group has been looking for people to help start up the process. For more information on how you can help plan or offer help, contact Dianne Shuck.

**Social:** This group has been charged to plan activities for adults, children or families of the parish. They have started to meet and are looking for additional ideas and people. For more information, contact Barry Spangler.

**Bible School:** This group will be planning for a Bible School for the parish and community. Help and ideas are greatly needed. If you are interested, please contact Gary Gorton and Harry Boyer (both of FELC).



*Camp Mount Luther*

**355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844**

**Telephone (570) 922-1587 Fax (570) 922-1118**

**E-mail: [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org)**

Now is the time to think about being part of the Camp Mount Luther's summer programs in the coming year. The brochure for Summer 2018 has just been published to the camp's website ([www.campmountluther.org](http://www.campmountluther.org)) in the summer camp section.

This year's summer camp season will begin on June 17 and run until August 16. There are programs for all ages from preschool to senior high, and for adults and families.

- GROW in the Snow: February 9-10, 2018
- Mount Luther Sunday: February 11, 2018
- Camp Mount Luther Spring Open House: Sunday, April 22, 2018, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Spring Workday: Saturday, May 12, 8:00a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 13th Annual Bishop's Open Golf Classic: Monday, May 14, 11:00 a.m. - Registration starts; 11:30 a.m. – lunch; 12:30p.m. – Golfing Shotgun Start Susquehanna Valley Country Club, Routes 11 & 15, Hummel's Wharf
- Join a Camel Crew



## Parish Happenings

**February 13th:** Shrove Tuesday supper will be held at Christ's United from 4:30PM-6:30PM. The menu will be pancakes and sausage.

**February 14th:** Ash Wednesday- Imposition of ashes from 7:00AM-9:00AM at Christ's United.

**February 14th:** Ash Wednesday Service is being held at Christ's United, at 7:00PM.

**February 17th: Date Night:** Will take place from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Christ's United. The plans are to show one movie for the adults and hold either a separate movie or activities for the youngsters. Refreshments (not a meal) will be served

**February 18th:** Soup, Sandwich & Sweet Fundraiser being held at First Lutheran starting at 11:45AM. At least 12 different homemade soups available – select 2 and all will be bagged up for you to take home and enjoy during the cold winter days! Thanks so much for supporting our youth as they prepare to serve this summer at another Workcamp!

**February 23rd-24th:** 30-Hour Famine at Dreisbach Church starting at 6:00PM. The youth's plan is to start fasting after lunch on Friday, then gather at Dreisbach Friday night at around 6ish and stay overnight there...then finish up Saturday evening at 7pm with worship and a meal.

**March 18th:** Soup, Sandwich & Sweet Fundraiser being held at First Lutheran starting at 11:45AM. At least 12 different homemade soups available – select 2 and all will be bagged up for you to take home and enjoy during the cold winter days! Thanks so much for supporting our youth as they prepare to serve this summer at another Workcamp!

**March 18th:** Youth will stay after Soup, Sandwich & Sweet Fundraiser and fill eggs for "Egging" on the 25th. Possibly movie in the evening.

**March 25th:** Palm Sunday service to be held at First Lutheran at 10:30PM.

**March 25th:** Annual Easter Egg Hunt at First Lutheran at 9:00AM.

**March 25th:** Dinner and Devos at Kim and Kieth Sawyer's Home followed by "Egging" Homes.

**March 29th:** Maundy Thursday Service to be held at, Christ's United, at 6:00PM.

**April 1st:** Easter Sunday Early Morning Service to be held at Christ's United at 6:30AM. Easter Sunday Late Morning Service to be held at First Lutheran at 10:30AM.

**April 15th:** Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to be held at First Lutheran.

**\*\*More detailed information regarding these events are in the monthly newsletter. Copies are available at the back of the church as well as any order forms. Please see the bulletin board in the main hallway for sign-up sheets.**





## LENTEN BREAKFASTS AND SUPPERS

All Are Welcome!

### LENTEN BREAKFASTS

Christ's United Lutheran Church at  
8:00 a.m.

#### February 21

Speaker – TBA

Menu – Creamed Dried Beef & Potatoes

#### March 14

Speaker – TBA

Menu – Scrapple, Ham & Eggs



### LENTEN SUPPERS

All meals are served at the host church at  
6:00 p.m.

#### February 21

Host Church – St. John's UC C

Speaker – Pastor Ted Justice

Menu – Beef & Noodles

#### February 28

Host Church – Trinity Lutheran, Cowan

Speaker – Pastor John Yost

Menu – Soup & Sandwiches

#### March 7

Host Church – First Lutheran

Speaker – Pastor John Yost

Menu – Ham, Green Beans & Potatoes

#### March 14

Host Church – Mifflinburg Methodist

Speaker – Pastor Shirley Cornell

Menu –

#### March 21

Host Church – Christ's United


Speaker – Pastor John Yost

Menu – Spaghetti

*All meals are inter-denominational and offer a time of community fellowship. Financial donations are accepted at each meal for expenses and to fund the Ministerium's ministry.*

# FEBRUARY 2018

*First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, PA*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1			1 1PM: WELCA 7:30PM: Men's Ministry-MPR	2 	3 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Old Turnpike 11AM-12:30PM: Communi-
4 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC-	5	6 10:30AM: Bible Study 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	7 6-6:20PM: Cherub Choir 7:15-8PM: Chancel Choir 7PM: Council	8	9	10 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Ard's
11 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC -	12	13 10:30AM: Bible Study 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	14 Ash Wednesday 7PM: <b>Worship-Christ's Unit-ed</b>	15 7:30PM: Men's Ministry-MPR	16 3:30PM: Youth Winter Jam—State College	17 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Carriage Corner
18 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC-Soup/Sandwich/Sweet Sale after Worship—MPR	19	20 10:30AM: Bible Study 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	21 6PM: Lenten Dinner— 6-6:20PM: Cherub Choir 7:15-8PM: Chancel Choir	22	23 30 Hour Famine-Dreisbach, through Saturday	24 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Old Turnpike
25 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC-	26	27 10:30AM: Bible Study 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	28 6PM: Lenten Dinner— 6-6:20PM: Cherub Choir 7:15-8PM: Chancel Choir			

## February VOLUNTEERS

Chief Usher: Deanna Billow

## Acolytes:

- 4: Chief Usher
- 11: Emily Seebold
- 18: Chief Usher
- 25: Quinton Bartlett

Announcements: Andy Long

## Lay Readers:

- 4: Karen Boyer
- 11: Don Seebold, II
- 18: Andy Long
- 25: Earl Michael

Altar/Communion: Lori Bailey & Kim

Sawyer

## Children's Church:

- 4: Nicole Gessner
- 11: Liz Loss
- 18: Jane Moore
- 25: Barb Randecker

Offering Envelopes: Nancy Snook &

Trena Zeller

## Ushers:

- 4: Jim & Karen Adams, Mike & Ann Beckley
- 11: Jeff Hackenburg, Jim Schwartz
- 18: Tom & Sam Oren
- 25: Don Seebold, Linda Skinner
- Troy Smith, Kim Wagner
- Harvey & Brenda Ilgen
- Dave Weaver, Max Zeller

**January 3, 2018**

**Meeting called to order at 1903 by Pr. John.**

**Present:** Cher Girton, Gary Girton, Pr. John Yost, Harry Boyer, Jane Moore, Jim Schwartz, Heather Klose, Libby Loss, Sue Jows, Linda Skinner and Barb Randecker

**Absent:** Logan Mensch, Bill Musser, Deanna Billow and Jeff Mensch

**Pr. John opened with devotions, understanding discipleship.**

**Secretary's Report:** December minutes were submitted and approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** December reports submitted and approved as read subject to audit.

**Pastor's report:** Pr. John reported that a lot of good things happening in the church and we need to keep going and being disciples. One hope for this year is to create some connections that have not been there in the past, both in and away from church.

**Communication:** Council Installation will be on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. A thank you was received from Kiwanis for the food donations. Kim Sawyer sent a thank you for the congregation's support that allowed the kids to go to the Passion Conference.

**Executive:** None

**Gifts & Endowments –** None

**Worship & Music –** No Report

**Property –** Jim Schwartz reported the window in the vestibule will be fixed. The kitchen frig has been repaired. Alarm system went off again for burglary alarm; false alarm. Coal stoker is fired and working. WELCA paid for the two new stoves in the kitchen. Complaint received about recycling bin and where it's located. Bin will be moved to basement level. Sexton is doing an excellent job and motivated. Condition of the frig in the social hall was discussed after the last repair. A new unit would cost approximately \$5000. Rishel Meats has closed the store and selling two similar units. Property will arrange to look at these units and then discuss how to proceed further. Harry reported that Richards have agreed to accept our initial offer allowing them to use the parsonage and receive a donation. Jeff Mensch will follow up with all the legalities relating to the usage of the parsonage.

**Christian Education –**Harry reported that Men's group will start up again January 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Fellowship & Recreation –** no report

**Service & Outreach –** no report

**Finance –** no report

**Youth –** Kim Sawyer submitted a written report on December's activities and finances.

**Staff Support –** no report

**Parish Council:** Gary Girton reported that they met on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Plans for the first quarter were discussed. Ash Wednesday service will be held at Four Bells @ 7PM, Palm Sunday will be at First @ 10:30AM, Maundy Thursday service @ Four Bells @ 6PM, Good Friday @ First @ 7PM, Easter Dawn @ Four Bells @ 6:30AM, Easter service @ First @ 10:30AM.

**Business:**

**Council Vacancy:** Linda Skinner has agreed to fill in for the vacancy created by Tanna Stanger's resignation. Jim Schwartz made motion for Linda to serve a one year term; seconded by Barb Randecker and passed unanimously.

**Select Security:** Cher reported that we cannot cancel our theft portion of the security system as we are in a five-year contract. We can, however change the status of call-outs and sign a waiver allowing us not to be contacted for non-emergency items.

**Election of Officers:** Gary Girton motioned to have Harry Boyer remain president; seconded by Jane Moore; no other nominations; motion passed unanimously. Jim Schwartz motioned to have Jeff Mensch remain as vice president; seconded by Gary Girton; passed unanimously. Jane Moore motioned to have Heather Klose remain as recording secretary; Gary Girton seconded and passed unanimously. Jim Schwartz nominated Barb Randecker for secretary; seconded by Gary Girton and passed unanimously.

**Committee Reports:** Due at office by AM of Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Committee Members:** Due at office by AM of Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>; encouraging committee chairs to get new members and schedule meetings.

**Bibles:** People that have paid for their bibles would like to have their checks cashed; money will be put in the safe.

**Christkindl:** Libby Loss helped monitor for Christkindl and there was a lot of confusion. Recommends having a committee next year. Pr. John asked for more information to be discussed at March meeting.

**Housekeeper:** Tammie Sheesley resigned effective December 30<sup>th</sup> due to a health issue in her family. Cher did receive a call of interest from someone.

**Annual Meeting Date:** Motion by Linda Skinner to have annual meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship with a luncheon to follow; worship will be held in the basement; seconded by Sue Jows and passed unanimously.

Meeting closed with prayer by Harry Boyer and adjourned @ 2104.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Klose,

Recording secretary

# First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, PA

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MIFFLINBURG, PA 17844  
570-966-0266  
E-Mail: [firstlu@dejazzd.com](mailto:firstlu@dejazzd.com)  
Office Hours: MON-THURS, 9:00-2:00

Address Service Requested



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

First Lutheran will continue with  
one worship service beginning  
at 10:30 AM.

Sunday School begins at  
9:15AM.



The First Evangelical Lutheran  
website is up and running!!

Please visit [FELCMifflinburg.org](http://FELCMifflinburg.org)  
and see what's happening.

Submit any comments and or an-  
nouncements you'd like to be posted  
to the church office.

*When you are aware of situations requiring pastoral care,  
such as births, deaths, hospital admission, serious illness, etc.,  
please notify Pastor John Yost at: 570-837-9232 (cell/text)  
or e-mail, [pastorjohn@4bellschurch.com](mailto:pastorjohn@4bellschurch.com)*

