

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir 7PM: Council	3 1PM: WELCA-MPR 7:30PM Men's Ministry MP Room	4	5 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Old Turnpike 11AM- 12:30PM: Community Meal
6 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC-	7	8 10:30AM: Bible Study	9 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir	10	11	12 8AM: Men's Breakfast— Ard's Noon-5PM: Klose/Dorman -MPR
13 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC-	14	15 10:30AM: Bible Study	16 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir	17 7:30PM Men's Ministry MP Room	18	19 8AM: Men's Breakfast- Carriage Corner
20 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC-	21	22 10:30AM: Bible Study	23 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir	24	25	26 8AM: Men's Breakfast- Old Turnpike
27 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC-	28	29 10:30AM: Bible Study	30 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir	31		



First News

January 2019

From Our Pastor...

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 404 Market St, Mifflinburg, PA

THE CHURCH JESUS WANTS FOR US: “COME AND SEE”

Early in Jesus’ ministry as recorded in the Gospel of John, two disciples approached Jesus and asked him, “Where are you staying?” Jesus’ simple reply was, “come and see.” (John 1:38-39) As we recall our mission and ministry in the name of Jesus from the past and anticipate the year ahead, we may be particularly focused on the ways in which we, as a people of faith, have discerned and will discern the appearance of Jesus in our time and place. It is always helpful to recall Jesus’ appearances to the disciples as recorded in the New Testament and to remember the ways in which Jesus promised to be with the people of faith following his resurrection. When we read about the Gospels, we are met with stories of disciples who were able to see and touch the physical presence of Jesus, who were able to literally follow in his footsteps. These disciples were able to listen to Jesus’ words as they were delivered from his mouth and they were able to directly ask him questions. They could inquire about Jesus’ location

and plans.

In our world today, we also believe and trust that Jesus is truly present to and for us as we carry forth our ministries in his name. But the appearance of Jesus today takes on a different form than what we recall from the Gospel narratives. Whereas those disciples were able to follow Jesus by watching his physical movements, we are compelled to follow his presence in a manner much different. In our time and place, people of faith are also asking about the location and plans of Jesus. But it would be both incongruous and in credulous for us as a church today to simply invite others to follow the Jesus who literally walked among his disciples in and around Galilee some 2000 years ago.

So when we and others are seeking ways to stay in touch with Jesus today, how will we know whether or not we are on the proper path? What kind of church does the risen Jesus want for us today? When we ourselves are asked by others regarding Jesus’ whereabouts and we invite them to “come and see,” where and how will we lead them to Jesus. Will we

be able to rightfully lead them to our congregations’ and parish’s ministries and activities whereby they will be able to clearly discern Jesus’ presence? Are we ourselves certain and sure about Jesus’ presence in our worship experiences, through the sacraments of baptism and the Lord’s Supper, in our study and reflections upon his words recorded in Holy Scripture, as we gather together in His name and as we serve others in the way of love and mercy? How well are we able to “see” Jesus in the faces and the needs of the “least of these?” And how well are we able to guide others to “see” Jesus through our examples of faith and hope and forgiveness?

Are we the church Jesus wants to “see” in and through us— a church of commitment, compassion, and cooperation? Is Jesus able to “see” our passion for the Gospel, our willingness to serve and love unconditionally, without expectation of reward? Is Jesus able to “see” our practices of mercy and forgiveness?

When we and others participate in the ministries and activities of our congrega-

- Staff Members**
- Rev. John Yost, Pastor
 - Diane Scott, Director of Music
 - Heather Klose, Church Administrator
 - Cher Girtton, Asst. Church Administrator
 - Hank Dorman, Sexton

- Council Members**
- Harry Boyer, Council President
 - Jeff Mensch, Vice President
 - Barb Randecker, Secretary
 - Cher Girtton, Treasurer
 - Deanna Billow, Council
 - Gary Girtton, Council
 - Libby Loss, Council
 - Jane Moore, Council
 - Jim Schwartz, Council
 - Sue Jows, Council
 - Linda Skinner, Council
 - Sherri Neece, Council
 - Carol Klose, Council
 - Logan Bartlett, Council

Phone: 570-966-0266
Email: firstlu@dejazzd.com

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(Continued from pg. 1)

tions and parish, will we be able to definitely be able to locate the presence of Jesus in what is said and done? Do we want others to notice us or be able to surely “see” Jesus through us? Do our ministries of worship, education and service draw attention to ourselves or do they lead any and all to clearly “see” Jesus?

God calls upon us as the church to help others find their way to Jesus through our faithful witness. We preach, we teach, we care, we share, we serve, we love not in order to get Jesus to notice

us but that we may help us and others to notice and trust the way of Jesus. We act as the church not for the sake of our own reward but for Him who alone is the way of truth and life.

Let us continue to invite and welcome others to “come and see” Jesus in our midst, but may always be careful not to get in the way or obscure a clear view of Him who comes to us in the way of love and hope. It is not the church who saves; and neither does salvation come by clinging to doctrines or activities. Jesus alone can give life that is ever-

lasting. Therefore may we as the church be a faithful guide to Jesus’ presence in word, deed, and togetherness.

Blessings,
Pr. John



Newsletter Reminder

If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail please contact the church office with your current e-mail address.

Also, please have all information you would like in the newsletter submitted to the church office by the 15th of each month. This gives time to assemble the newsletter and get it out in the mailboxes by the last Sunday of each month. This way you will have the volunteer information before the beginning of the next month. Thank you!



Sherri Neece	01/02	Brenda Sweet	01/22	Shut-Ins:	
Deanna Billow	01/04	Winston Boyer	01/24	Hertha Wehr	01/22
Mary Alice Deihl	01/07	Aaron Hackenburg	01/25	189 East Tressler Blvd	
Brett Harvey	01/07	Paige Bartlett	01/26	Room 401	
Melissa Lynch	01/07	Taylor Montesinos	01/26	Lewisburg, PA 17837	
Logan Taylor	01/14	Shelly Orren	01/27		
Carol Graham	01/15	Sara Donmoyer	01/30		
Shirley Heasley	01/15	Mark Alexander	01/31		
Amy Orren	01/15				
Kathryn Alexander	01/19				
Gwen Hull	01/19				
Andrea Long	01/19				
Donna Bitner	01/21				



Please keep in prayer:

John Snook	In Our Military:
Ethel Musser	Thaddeus Miller
Dr. Musser	Zachary Miller
Jan Beckley	Brandon Curry



Chief Usher:	Sue Jows	Announcements:	Liz Loss
Altar/Communions:	Mandy Rothermel & Sally Rothermel		
Offering Envelopes:	Mike Beckley & Ann Beckley		
January 6th:	Lay Reader	BarbRandecker	
	Acolyte	Head Usher	
	Children’s Church	Jamie Bartlett	
	Ushers	Craig & Sally Rothermel	
		Harvey & Brenda Ilgen	
January 13th:	Lay Reader	Sally Rothermel	
	Acolyte	Emily Seebold	
	Children’s Church	Liz Loss	
	Ushers	Tom Orren, Jeannie Sawyer	
		Kim Sawyer, Don Seebold II	
January 20th:	Lay Reader	Don Seebold II	
	Acolyte	Head Usher	
	Children’s Church	Jane Moore	
	Ushers	Eric & Gwen Hull	
		Carol Klose, Kim Wagner	
January 27th:	Lay Reader	Troy Smith	
	Acolyte	Quinton Bartlett	
	Children’s Church	Sally Rothermel	
	Ushers	Harry Boyer, Jeff Hackenburg	
		Cindy Harvey, Shirley Heasley	

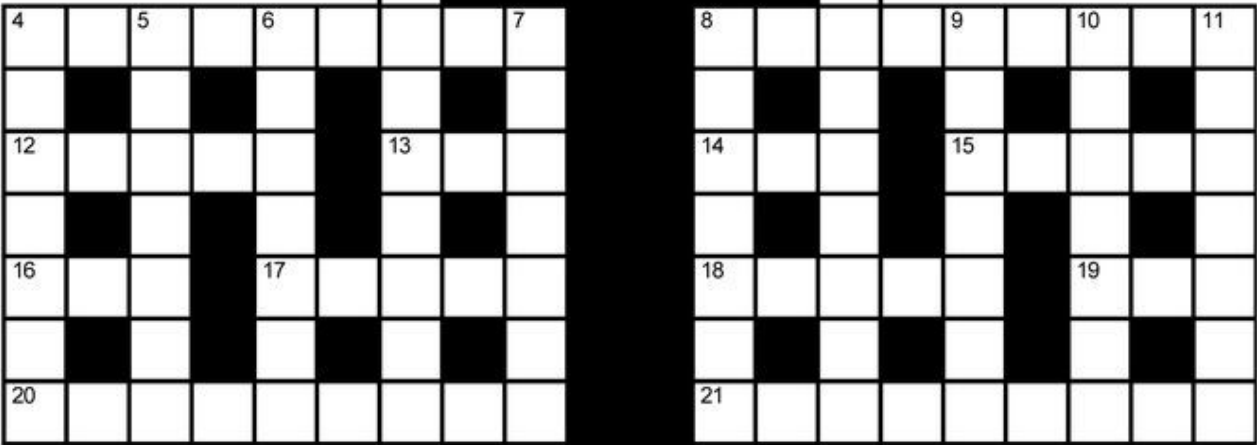
Bible Crossword X

Across

- 1 Donkey (3)
- 2 Jesus' Father (3)
- 4 One of the twelve (9)

Down

- 1 One of God's messengers (5,2,3,4)
- 3 1940s archaeological find (4,3,7)



- 8 Didn't believe in resurrection (9)
- 12 One of David's warriors (5)
- 13 First word of the Lord's Prayer (3)
- 14 New Testament name for Noah (3)
- 15 Wish harm upon (5)
- 16 Hole in the ground (3)
- 17 Adversary (5)
- 18 Saviour (5)
- 19 First woman (3)
- 20 Mother of John the Baptist (9)
- 21 Family of priests (9)
- 22 Third son of Jacob (4)
- 23 Hates (8)
- 26 Assurances (8)
- 30 Endured pain (8)
- 31 Return from the dead (4)
- 32 Intercessor (8)
- 35 Decorating (8)
- 39 Old Testament book of the Bible (4)
- 40 The prince of Rosh, Mesech and Tubal (3)
- 42 A wise insect (3)
- 44 Dwelling place of kings (6)
- 45 Make bigger (8)

- 4 Tread down (7)
- 5 Father of Jonah (7)
- 6 Very salty water bordering Israel (4,3)
- 7 Defensive structures (11)
- 8 Refuges (11)
- 9 Dirty (7)
- 10 Devout (7)
- 11 Pieces of money (7)
- 24 Used to listen (3)
- 25 Used to see (3)
- 26 Positions (5)
- 27 Made available (7)
- 28 Snake (7)
- 29 Destroyed along with Gomorrah (5)
- 33 Finish (3)
- 34 Possess (3)
- 35 King of the Amalekites (4)
- 36 Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
- 37 Almost sacrificed by Abraham (5)
- 38 Present (4)
- 41 Unfasten (4)
- 43 Fish traps (4)

Heartfelt Thanks



Dear Church Family & Friends,
Thank you for your endless support throughout the past year and continuing through the journey we are traveling at this time. Endless prayers, meals at our doorstep, visits, hugs, cards, lights that appear throughout the darkest days, donations towards the expense of the travel and treatments and loss of wages...the list is endless. Please know that we hold each and every act of kindness close in our hearts.

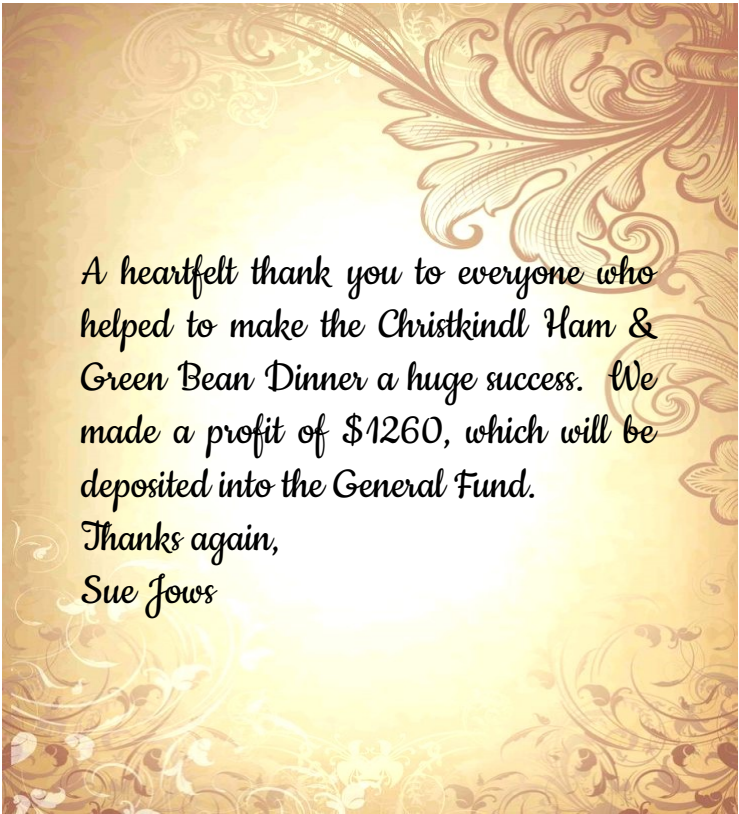
Nicole & Aria



Greetings to all at First Lutheran,
We have been blessed by multiple contacts from friends and members. Thank you for your notes, visits, calls and snacks. We are eternally grateful for your interest.

Our hope is to be able to return and worship with you, but until that time, thank you for your thoughtfulness. Our prayers are with you.

Sincerely, Bill and Ethel Musser



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped to make the Christkindl Ham & Green Bean Dinner a huge success. We made a profit of \$1260, which will be deposited into the General Fund.
Thanks again,
Sue Jows



A special thank you to all of you who baked cookies for the December Community Meal. The families were very grateful and I am sure they enjoyed them.

Also a big thank you to the hall monitors who worked during Christkindl. We had a lot of visitors and performers who came through our Church and without your help it would not have run so smoothly.

Also a big thank you to Hank for all the set up and clean up work he did before, during, and after the Market.

-Libby Loss

Youth Group Scoop

January

Fundraisers

Annual Homemade Soups+Sandwich+Sweet Sale
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
@ 11:45 AM on
January 13th/February 10th/March 10th
in Multi-Purpose Room



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 in PUERTO RICO and attend Harvey Cedars Bible Camp!

Cherub Choir

Rehearsal Dates:
Wednesday, January 9th from 6:00pm-6:20pm
Wednesday, January 16th from 6:00pm-6:20pm
Wednesday, January 23rd from 6:00pm-6:20pm
Wednesday, January 30th from 6:00pm-6:20pm

Service Dates:
Sunday, January 27th at 10:30am

Group Happenings

MACY

Dinner and Devos

January Dinner and Devos will be held at the Sawyer's house at 6pm on Sunday, January 13th. Brian and Jillian Fee will be sharing the devotions that evening.

Mini MACY

January

The newly formed "Mini MACY", a youth group for Mifflinburg Area Christian Youth ages 5-years to 12-years, will hold a January get together and Valentine's activity at Christ's United (4-Bells), on January 27th, starting at 3PM. They will meet in the large gym area next to the kitchen and will be providing pizza, snacks and drinks. RSVP's are preferred to order supplies, but not necessary. Please contact Maddie Casilla 570-939-2730 or Ruben Casilla 570-939-2744.

February

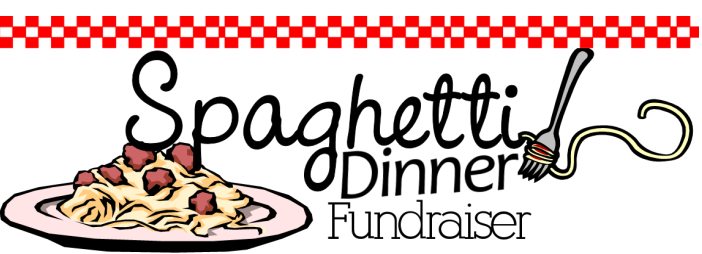
The February gathering will be held on February 17th, in the same location, starting at 3PM. We will be delivering valentines, that we made in January's gathering, to the residents at Rolling Hills Manor, in Millmont, and then we will be returning to the 4-Bells church for ice cream sundaes and games.



Parish Bowling Event

The Parish Social Committee is planning a Family Bowling Day for, Sunday, January 27th. If you are interested in attending please contact Barb Randecker.

Save The Date



The 3rd Annual Spaghetti Dinner, hosted by our youth, is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 5pm-7pm. Mark your calendars to save the date and join us for a delicious meal served by our youth. Ticket information to follow in upcoming newsletters.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting for First Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 20th, immediately following the 10:30am worship service. A meal will be served and all are asked to bring a covered dish to share.

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School Class picks up again, January 6th, with Louie Giglio series. See you then!! -Ann

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study will continue to meet on the first and third Thursday nights of the month at 7:30pm in the multi-purpose room. Come and join us. We would love to have you. -Bill

2019 Ministry Committee Chairs

- Worship & Music:.....Barb Randecker
- Property:.....Jim Schwartz
- Christian Education:.....Gary Girtton & Sherri Neece
- Fellowship & Recreation:.....Sue Jows & Libby Loss
- Service, Outreach & Stewardship:.....Deanna Billow
- Finance:.....Jane Moore
- Youth:.....Logan Bartlett & Gary Girtton
- Staff Support:.....Carol Klose & Linda Skinner

