



First News

2016

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, PA



From Our Pastor...

LENT

We are ready to begin another season of Lent on Ash Wednesday (February 10th). Lent is a forty day period (excluding Sundays, which are understood as days of resurrection) in which the church intentionally prepares through the spiritual disciplines of worship, study and service to celebrate the new life given through and by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In its earliest history, Lent was reserved as a time to instruct recent converts to the Christian faith in preparation for their baptism at the Easter vigil.

As Lent is observed in today's world, the emphasis is often placed on a deepening awareness of one's faith and piety in relationship to the forgiveness of sin received upon Christ's actions in life and on the cross, and the new life offered to us in the promise of the resurrection. Such an emphasis always calls the believer to return to the ways of the Lord in thought, word and deed.

Lent has been seen as a time for repentance and spiritual growth; a time to cast off that which is contrary to God's will and a time to put on the example of Jesus' selfless and unconditional love. It is a time for confession and a time of unbridled hope. Lent faces us squarely be-

fore the reality of sin as well as the promise of God's forgiveness. It holds the church accountable at the same time it promotes the possibility of new life that can only come from God.

Lent is a moment of encouragement rather than despair because it boldly declares that the world is under the sovereignty of God. It beacons a call for justice and righteousness even in the midst of the devastating consequences of sin. In Lent, the church cries out that Christ is the victor over sin and its effects. Therefore, it need not fall prey to fear and threats from the agents of evil and the perpetrators of false security.

Lent is not a dark cloud hanging over our fears, doubts and uncertainties. Lent lifts the veil cast by human sin and reveals the truth about God in Christ whose love spares sinners and sustains believers. Lent gives pause to the ways believers may reflect upon their future with God.

Lent is all about LOOKING, EXAMINING, NEGOTIATING, and TRUSTING. In Christ, we have the power to see things as they really are. In Christ, we have the ability to test our thoughts, words and deeds in light of God's will fully revealed in Jesus. In Christ, we can journey

through life's curves in faithfulness to God's promised future. And in Christ, we are given the power to follow the way of life eternal.

LOOK at the world and the way it seems to be working.

LOOK at the cross of Jesus and the word of God.

LOOK for hope in the right place, in God's promises.

EXAMINE the effects of sin and brokenness in the world.

EXAMINE the forgiveness and love of Christ Jesus.

EXAMINE your role both as sinner and as forgiven.

NEGOTIATE through the vastness of options and opportunities.

NEGOTIATE your freedom only as you take up your cross.

NEGOTIATE your choices as you love as Jesus loves.

TRUST God's word of grace, mercy and steadfast care.

TRUST the obedient and selfless love of Jesus.

TRUST the power of the Spirit in you.

This Lent: worship regularly, study with other sisters and brothers in Christ, and participate actively in the ministries of the church.

Pr. John Yost

Staff & Council Members

- Rev. John Yost, Interim Pastor
- Diane Scott, Director of Music
- Heather Klose, Parish Administrator
- Tom Taylor, Facilities Manager
- Jeff Mensch, Council President
- Harry Boyer, Vice President
- Jeff Crossland, Council Secretary
- Cher Girton, Treasurer
- Gary Girton, Council
- Polly Hornig, Council
- Liz Loss, Council
- Bill Musser, Council
- Barb Randecker, Council
- Keith Sawyer, Council
- Janet Shoemaker, Council
- Nick Hornig, Council Youth Rep.

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Council Corner-Property Update

- LED Lighting project is complete.
- Security alarm & Lock project is complete except for computer programming in the church office. That will be done after the office purchases a new computer.
- Removed rotted basement window and frame on the west side under the sacristy. Installed new frame and window.
- Plumbers have been notified and will be running a camera through our sewer lines to locate and repair any lines that have collapsed. Latest flooding occurred in early February.
- When the sewer lines are repaired under the social room tile floors, bids will be sought for new flooring. The building committee is recommending interlocking floating wood laminate type material.
- Cordless vacuum cleaner was delivered.
- Serviced multi-purpose room heater units – greased bearing/belt dressing on fan belts.
- Building committee is proposing that a line of credit be established to finance the church exterior repair and sealing .
- Sanctuary carpeting is complete and the balcony stair carpeting is being scheduled.

Mission Fundraiser-Soup/Sandwich Sale

Sunday, March 13th, the last month of the sale! Tickets will be sold for \$10 and you'll get **TWO** soups, a sandwich and sweet treat.

Do you normally cook or go out for lunch on Sunday? Forget about it on these days! Go home, keep warm and savor lunch and the warm feeling of helping our youth draw closer to Jesus this summer!

With your \$10 donation you can simply go to the "Lunch to Go Service Station" in the Multi-Purpose Room

after the worship service and select your choice of soups. They will be placed in containers with a sandwich and dessert for you to take home.

Tickets are available in the church office or from our youth. Questions?, See/Call Kim Sawyer at 570-713-4577.

Willing to donate a large crockpot of homemade soup? Let Kim know and we will thank you with a complimentary ticket!



Congregational Meeting

Sunday, February 28th

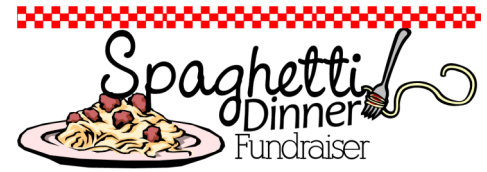
A special congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 28th immediately following worship to discuss Facility Issues.

Areas of discussion include the need for brick sealing and various other projects occurring throughout the church.

complete alphabetical order; please note, after this date your mailbox may move.

There are annual reports and tax statements that have not been picked up. Any not taken by February 28th will be thrown away.

Please call the office with any questions.



Chapman Family Fundraiser

Spaghetti Supper
Saturday, February 27, 2016
4-6:00 PM
Four Bells Church

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.

March's meal will be held on the 5th.

Baptismal Napkins

The group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7PM in the library. For more information, please contact Gwen Hull @ 524-0289.

Upcoming meetings are Wednesdays, March 2nd and April 6th.

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

As of January 31, 2016

Income YTD: \$15,142.00
Budgeted Income YTD: \$20,197.00
(Under Budget YTD: (\$ 5,055.00)

Expenses YTD: \$14,059.15
Budgeted Expenses YTD: \$20,197.00
(Under Budget YTD: (\$ 6,137.85)

General Fund Balance

January 1, 2016: \$20,433.09
 Income YTD: +\$15,142.00
 Expenses YTD: -\$14,059.15
 January 31, 2016 \$21,515.94

Juniata Choir Coming to First Lutheran...

On **Tuesday, March 8, 2016** the Juniata Choir will be performing at First Lutheran!

Host families are needed for approximately 48 members of the choir. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, please see either Pr. John or Mark Alexander.

Mailbox Clean Up!!!!

Sunday, February 28th...




...is the deadline to clean out your mailbox.

Anything left in the mailboxes after this date will be thrown away.

Mailboxes will be reassigned in

MARCH 2016

First Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	2 8AM: Lenten Breakfast-4 Bells Church 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 6PM: Lenten Dinner-FLC 6:30PM: Contemporary Choir 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 7PM: Council-MPR 7PM: Baptismal Napkins-Library 7:15-8PM: Chancel	3 1PM: WELCA-MPR 6-7:30 PM: Scouts 7:30PM: Men's Ministry-MPR	4 11AM: Silver Sneakers	5 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Twisted Bull 9AM-9PM: Youth Retreat-MPR 11AM-1PM: Community Meal
6 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC	7 9AM-2PM: Community Missions Group-MPR 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 4:30-8PM: YMCA Art Classes 6-7:30 PM: Scouts 7PM: Bible Study-MPR	8 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	9 8AM: Lenten Breakfast-4 Bells Church 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 6PM: Lenten Dinner-Trinity Luth.-Cowan 6:30PM: Contemporary Choir 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 7:15-8PM: Chancel	10 6-7:30 PM: Scouts	11 11AM: Silver Sneakers 6-8PM: YMCA Best Friend Doll Party-DS	12 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Old Turnpike
13 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:30AM: Worship/HC Scout Sunday Soup/Sandwich Sale-MPR 11:45AM-2PM: Confirmation Class-DS 6-8PM: Youth Dinner/Devo's @ Sawyer's	14 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 4:30-8PM: YMCA Art Classes 6-7:30 PM: Scouts 7PM: Bible Study-MPR	15 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	16 8AM: Lenten Breakfast-4 Bells Church 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 6PM: Lenten Dinner-4 Bells Church 6:30PM: Contemporary Choir 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 7:15-8PM: Chancel Choir	17 6-7:30 PM: Scouts 7:30PM: Men's Ministry-MPR	18 11AM: Silver Sneakers 6-8PM: YMCA Lego Builders Club-MPR	19 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Twisted Bull
20 9:15AM: Easter Egg Hunt 10:30AM: Worship/HC 1PM: Youth MACY movie-"Miracles From Heaven"	21 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 4:30-8PM: YMCA Art Classes 6-7:30 PM: Scouts	22 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	23 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 6-6:30PM: Cherub Choir 6:30PM: Contemporary Choir 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 7:15-8PM: Chancel Choir	24 6-7:30 PM: Scouts 6PM: Maundy Thursday Service/Dinner-4 Bells Church 	25 11AM: Silver Sneakers 7PM: Good Friday Service 	26 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Old Turnpike
27 7:30AM: Easter Dawn Service-4 Bells Church 10:00AM: Easter Worship-First Lutheran 	28 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 4:30-8PM: YMCA Art Classes 6-7:30 PM: Scouts	29 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 6:45-8PM: Bible Study-MPR	30 10/11AM: Silver Sneakers 6-6:30PM: Cherub Choir 6:30PM: Contemporary Choir 6:30-8 PM: Scouts 6-7PM: Girl Scout Doll Party-MPR 7:15-8PM: Chancel	31 6-7:30 PM: Scouts		

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Chief Usher: Nick Hornig

Announcements: Sally Rothermel

Communion: Sheryl Fetter

Offering Envelopes:

Nancy Snook & Trena Zeller

Acolytes:

6: Victoria Harvey & Collin Krout

13: Jaydn & Sally Rothermel

20: Logan & Paige Bartlett

Good Friday: Denise & Emily Seebold

27: Barb Randecker & Quinton Bartlett

Laity Readers:

6: Earl Michael

13: Don Seebold II

20: Tom Orren

Good Friday: Shirley Heasley

27: Barb Randecker

Children's Church:

6: Barb Randecker

13: Sally Rothermel

20: Mandy Rothermel

27: Kim Sawyer

Ushers:

6: Earl Michael, Jeff Mensch,

Max Zeller, Dave Weaver

13: Jim & Karen Adams

Mike & Ann Beckley

20: Dewey & Barb Reed

Craig & Sally Rothermel

Good Friday: Harry Boyer, Liz Loss

Cindy Harvey, Tom Orren


27: Crossland Family

Altar: 6: Mandy & Sally Rothermel

13: Gwen Hull & Sue Smith

20: Jane Moore & June Ocker

27: Karen Boyer & Mary Alice Deihl



Dinners begin at 6PM at the host church Starting Wednesday, February 17th & continuing through March 16th.

February 17th
St. John's United Church of Christ

February 24th
Mifflinburg United Methodist

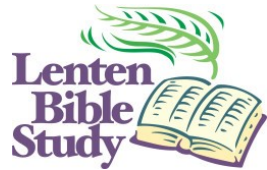
March 2nd
First Lutheran

March 9th
Trinity Lutheran-Cowan

March 16th
Christ's United Lutheran-Four Bells

There is no charge for the meal but a freewill donation/offering is accepted.

First Lutheran Lenten Dinner
Ham & Green Beans
Wednesday, March 2nd
A sign-up sheet for donations and help needs will be posted on the bulletin board in the coming weeks.



Pr. John Yost will be leading a Lenten Bible Study on Monday evenings at 7PM through Lent. If you are unable to attend Monday nights, there will also be a class on Tuesday mornings at 10:30AM at Four Bells Church.

The study will include the book of Job. If you have any questions, please contact Pr. John.



Breakfast @ Four Bells Church the following Wednesdays @ 8AM:
February 17th—Pr. Krell
February 24th—Pr. Reamer
March 2nd—Ted Justice
March 9th—Pr. Liz Taylor
March 16th—Johnnie Blake




Holy Week 2016

Maundy Thursday:
March 24th, 6:00PM @ 4 Bells Church
Dinner & Worship together in the Social Hall

Good Friday:
March 25th, 7:00PM @ First Lutheran
The Stations of the Cross

Easter Dawn:
March 27th, 6:30AM @ 4 Bells Church

Easter Morning:
March 27th, 10:00AM @ First Lutheran



FAMILY LENTEN JOURNEY
A Lenten bible study for the whole family and all ages. We will learn about Christ's journey to the cross through bible study, hands-on activities and crafts. This bible study is for children, parents and grandparents to all participate together. Study will start February 14th and go through the Lenten Season. We will meet Sundays at 3:00 p.m. in the MPR. For more information or to sign up see Liz Loss or Crystal Bollinger - Sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board.

Men's Ministry

Christianity Study

The first & third Thursday of each month, the men of First Lutheran will meet at 7:30PM in the multi-purpose room.

Pr. John will lead February and March meetings with a study of the history of the early church.

Breakfast

Saturday mornings at 8AM the men will meet for breakfast at an area restaurant.

YOUTH EVENTS

"Miracles From Heaven" movie
Sunday, March 20th, 1PM

Dinner/Devo's
8th Grade and up
Sundays, 6-8PM @ Sawyer's home
February date: 28th
March date: 13th



Sawyer @ 713-4577
First Mid-Winter Retreat
Saturday, March 5th, 9AM-9PM
Save the date!
Meet in the Multi-purpose room.
Speaker, Praise Music, Food
Creative Projects, Games, etc.



Sunday, March 20th, 9AM

Soup/Sandwich Sales
Please keep selling tickets
for the months of February & March
If you need tickets, please contact Kim

MISSION EVENTS

JINGLES FOR JUBILEE Haiti Fundraiser

Every Sunday until the Haiti Mission Trip, the children will collect change (jingling into tin buckers) during the children's sermon for the school that will be served in Jubilee! Please bring your loose change to worship on Sunday mornings!



THIS YEAR'S MISSION TRIP/WORKCAMP ATTENDEES:

Haiti Mission Trip:

Kim Sawyer, Candi Taylor, Barb Randecker, Cindy Harvey, Andy Harter, Alexa Hackenburg, Anna Harter, Denise Seebold, Calista Girton, Dylan Harvey, Mav Stenger, Zach Taylor, Daniel Crossland, Cora Reed and Tanna Stenger

2016 Workcamp:

Elliana Girton, Calista Girton, Victoria Harvey, Ben Hornig, Collin Krout, Dylan Harvey, Nich Hornig, Cora Reed, Denise Seebold, Grace Seebold, Perri Hull, Grace Alexander and Sarah Alexander

When purchasing Weis/Wengers cards please be sure to let the seller know who you'd like to sponsor!



March Birthdays

Barb Randecker	3rd	Gail Erdley	14th	Shut-Ins:
Hattie Page	5th	Bruce Graham	17th	Helen Iddings-March 29th
Janet Reed	6th	Deb Harvey	17th	Riverwoods, Room 509
Carol Hollister	7th	Krystal Blue	17th	3201 River Road
Spencer Wagner	7th	Maverick Stenger	19th	Lewisburg, PA 17837
Tom Shirk	8th	Mike Lynch	20th	Joni Hall-March 29th
Fred Dale	8th	Connor Hicks	23rd	206 Westfield Terrace
Halley Watson	10th	Kortney McBryan	25th	Apt. C
William Miller	11th	Jennie Servinsky	26th	Middleburg, PA 17842
Emily Seebold	12th	Brooke Harvey	26th	
Jaydon Girton	12th	Dale Spotts	28th	
Dennis Reed	13th	Cathleen Stenglein	29th	
Earl Michael	14th	Russ Sawyer	30th	

Security System Update/New Locking Procedures....

The new security system installation is now complete. This includes automatic fire alarms, building locking and burglary alarms.

The building now unlocks automatically everyday at 8:00AM and locks every night at 10:00PM.

The security system engages every night at 11:00PM and unarms everyday at 7:00AM.

Please note, if you have a key that unlocks an outside door, that key will no longer work on the outside doors (it still works on the interior doors). If you need access to the building during a designated locked period, please contact a staff member to make arrangements for unlocking.

Members who have been issued a key job: you are only permitted to unlock the building during times when the alarm system is not engaged (one hour prior and one hour after the posted "unlocked" times). Any other times will result in activating the alarm system. If access is needed during an "armed" period, please contact a staff member to make arrangements for unlocking.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, PA

404 MARKET STREET
MIFFLINBURG, PA 17844
570-966-0266
E-Mail: firstlu@dejazzd.com
Office Hours: TUES-THURS, 9:00-2:00

Address Service Requested



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

First Lutheran Sunday Worship
Service beginning at 10:30 AM

Sunday School will begin at
9:15AM



The First Evangelical Lutheran web-
site is up and running!!

Please visit 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) or
pastorjohn@4bellschurch.com*

