



First News



First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, PA

2018

From Our Pastor...

REMEMBER, RECONNECT AND REVITALIZE

During the month of October, we as the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish, that is, the congregations of Christ's United Lutheran Church and First Evangelical Lutheran Church, will have the *opportunity* and the *blessing* to worship God together at the Elias building, a place of historical connections to the Lutheran witness in Mifflinburg and western Union County. As such, it will be a time to remember our roots, reconnect with one another as sisters and brothers in Christ, and to engage in ways to revitalize our faith, ministry, and mission as we move forward bearing witness to the *Good News of Jesus Christ*. We will meet each Sunday at 10 AM in praise and celebration of the shared lives and faithful purpose we have together in the hands of a gracious, loving God who, in Christ Jesus, has a future filled with promise for us. To top it off: there will be food!

The overall theme comes from EPHESIANS 4:1-16, where the Apostle Paul describes the role and purpose of Christian ministry and mission under the Lordship of God in Christ Jesus. That is, the church is called to be what

God intends it to be and not necessarily what we experience it to be or what we want it to be.

The focus and theme for each Sunday is as follows:

October 7th: ROOTS AND REMEMBRANCE. Readings from scripture: EPHESIANS 1:15-2:21 and Romans 6:3-11.

October 14th: RECONCILIATIONS AND RECIPROCATIONS. Readings from scripture: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-6:10 and ROMANS 5:6-11.

October 21st: REDEMPTION AND RENEWAL. Readings from scripture: 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-12:13 and ROMANS 8:18-30.

October 28th: REFORMATION AND REVITALIZATION. Readings from scripture: ROMANS 3:21-26 and ROMANS 12:1-21.

I encourage you to preview each of the readings in preparation for worship and fellowship as the Apostle Paul relates what God has done and continues to do in and through the living presence of Christ Jesus and the gracious gift of

the church. I understand that our plans for Sunday may disrupt your normal Sunday routines. I pray: be open to the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit as you come to discern your participation in these worship opportunities and times of fellowship with the living presence of Jesus and with your sisters and brothers in Christ.

The issue of parking has been raised, for there are a limited amount of spaces at Elias. We will have a team of drivers who will be able to transport you directly to the doors of Elias from parking spots in the neighborhood of First and the public lots adjacent on Market Street. Just let us know!

God has blessed us abundantly. May we be alert and ready to what God still has in store for us, as the future continues to be filled with God's promises.

*Blessings,
Pr. John*

Staff & Council Members

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

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Newsletters

Starting January 2019, newsletters will no longer be mailed out each month. In an effort to try and reduce expenses, newsletters will be emailed or placed in your church mailboxes. If you choose to have your newsletter emailed to you, please provide the office with your current email address. Thank you.

Harvest Home at First Lutheran, Sunday, Nov. 18th

Please bring "in dated" food items through the week of Nov. 11th.

They can be placed on the front pew in the Sanctuary, no later than Fri. noon.

The food will be donated to the Kiwanis Christmas Food Baskets. Thank you.

Devotionals

Devotional books will now be placed in the hallway outside of the sanctuary. There will also be a place to make donations on the table to help defray the cost of the devotionals.

Calling All Bakers...



On November 3rd, we will be serving a traditional Thanksgiving dinner at Community Meal. For dessert we would like to serve pumpkin pie. If you would be willing to bake a pie or two, please sign your name on the sheet on the bulletin board or call Libby Loss at 570-966-1606. The church will be open from 1:00PM to 3:00PM on Friday, November 2nd, if you would like to drop off your pie. Please put it in the refrigerator in the kitchen. Otherwise, you can bring it to the kitchen on Saturday morning, November 3rd, between 9:00AM and 10:30AM. Thank you so much!



October Birthdays

Sarah Alexander	10/01	Ava McBryan	10/17
Shayne Reed	10/02	Doris Moll	10/19
Arlene Behrent	10/03	Polly Hornig	10/20
Jennifer Galer	10/03	Colten Page	10/22
Parker Scott	10/04	Carol Kreisher	10/23
Alexis Sawyer	10/05	Christian Boyer	10/24
Judy Shirk	10/08	Gloria Mincemoyer	10/24
Quinton Bartlett	10/09	Linda Dale	10/25
Joan Herman	10/09	Gregory Swenson	10/25
Emil Stenger Jr.	10/10	Cathy Brungard	10/26
Michael Wagner	10/10	Lois Elliott	10/27
Don Seebold II	10/11	Shut-Ins:	
Samantha Orren	10/12	Jan Beckley	10/17
Victoria Harvey	10/14	425 Market Street, Mifflinburg, PA 17844	
Paige Uehling	10/14		
Barb Reed	10/16		
Mary Wehr	10/16		

Thanking Our Veterans

Letter from Doug Walter:

"Once again we are including a benefit with our Veterans Day Program in Mifflinburg. The VA Nursing Home, in Hollidaysburg, has become our permanent place to help. The wonderful thing is that 100% of what is donated, whether be clothing, gift cards or money, is utilized by the residents.

As in previous years we are collecting "NEW" pocket t-shirts, sweat tops and sweat pants sizes small to 5x. In addition, we will also accept gift cards from both Weis Markets, Giant and Walmart. All 3 stores are represented in the Hollidaysburg area and can be utilized there. Any donations can be dropped off at our November 3rd Veteran's Day ceremony, in Mifflinburg, or by contacting me. Checks can be made out to: Hollidaysburg Veterans Home. This is a tax deductible donation and their tax number is 23-6002830.

They already do their part to ensure our freedoms and the least we can do is say thank-you by brightening their lives. We are trying our best to make this a true community event and to not only honor our heroes, but do something tangible to help them."

Doug Walter
916 Washington Avenue
Lewisburg, PA 17837
Cell: 570-713-8919
E-mail: mazeppa@ptd.net



Selling Weis and Wenger's Gift Cards are a great way to raise funds towards your mission trip. For every Weis card you sell, you earn 5% toward your trip account.

For every Wenger's card you sell you earn 10%. Ask family and friends if they would like to purchase cards. Get an order together along with their money. Bring the order and money into the church office, Monday 9AM-2PM, Thursday from 9AM-2PM or on Sunday mornings at church, and purchase the cards. Or, you can purchase a bunch of cards and then sell them. Either way it is a great way to raise the funds that are needed for your trip!

**Please let your families know that in order for you to get the credit for selling the gift cards, you must be the purchaser.*

Youth & Young Adults

- **October 7th** – Dinner & Devos @ Sawyers @ 6:00 PM
– Who wants to lead? Can do with a friend
- **October 28th** – No Tricks Just Treats Event – 6:00 PM Church Parking Lot – Need adult drivers!
- **November 4th** – Meet @ Methodist Church lot at 12 Noon to TAG HOMES and then Pizza and Devos @ Larry's Pizza after the tagging is done! Please bring friends!
- **November 11th** – Meet at Methodist Church parking lot at 12 Noon to divide into teams and collect food and then sort in the church gym – Please bring friends!
- **November 18th** – College Boxes due back to church for mailing = Kim Sawyer
- **December 2nd** – BREAKFAST Devotions @ Carriage Corner at 9:00 AM
- **December – 13th, 14th, 15th** – Christkindl Stand and Nativity needs lots of volunteers

Adult Sunday School Schedule

- October 7 -- NO CLASS
- October 14 -- NO CLASS
- October 21 -- NO CLASS
- October 28 -- NO CLASS
- November 4 -- Lesson 7 Parable Series with Ann
- November 11 -- Lesson 8 Parable Series with Ann
- November 18 -- Final Lesson (9) of Parable series with Ann
- November 25 -- New video series
Goliath Must Fall: Winning the Battle Against Your Giants by Louie Giglio with Bill and Ann
- December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 continue with series



Choir Rehearsals

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Chancel Choir

Rehearsals are Wednesdays, from 7:15-8:00pm. (No Chancel Choir October 3, 10, 17 & 24.) Chancel Choir is open to High School age to adult. All are welcomed to join! No previous experience needed. The Chancel Choir sings once, maybe twice a month and rehearses most Wednesday nights.

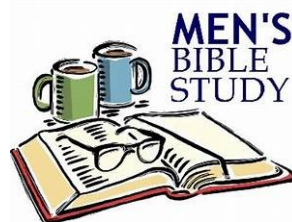
Cherub Choir

Rehearsals are Wednesdays, from 6-6:20pm. They sing the last Sunday of each month.

Christmas Choir

It's not too early to be thinking about singing with the **Christmas Choir** (10pm service)! Rehearsals are Wed Dec 12, & 19, and Sunday 23rd 7:15-8:30pm. Please consider joining! A small commitment of 3 rehearsals may be more manageable with your busy schedule. The more people who join, the fuller the choir will sound! You will also be guaranteed a reserved seat for the service!

See Diane Scott if you have any questions!



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY Our Men's Ministry group will continue to meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:30 pm, all meetings in the church's multi-purpose room. We have begun this session with a 5-part DVD series entitled "Effective Stewardship". Explaining to us all the different aspects of Stewardship in our lives through which we serve God. This includes "Using our God Given Talents and Skills"; "Our responsibilities to nature and our environment"; "Our responsibilities to care for and love our neighbors"; "God's call for us to strengthen our church and families"; and finally "How to be good stewards with our finances". This is an interesting series, very thought provoking. Please join us, we'd love to have you.

God Bless, Bill Musser



Anyone willing to use their Thrivent Action Team opportunity for the upcoming Food Drive tags and/or Apple Dumpling Supplies and/or Christkindl Supplies and/or the No Tricks/No Treats service Project and/or the College Exam Care package postage.....please see Kim Sawyer ASAP. Simple and easy \$250 seed money for the project that will lower the youth group expenses and allow the youth/young adults to do more.

September 5, 2018

Meeting called to order at 1902 by Harry Boyer.

Present: Harry Boyer, Linda Skinner, Jim Schwartz, Cher Girton, Heather Klose, Jeff Mensch, Deanna Billow, Pr. John Yost, Gary Girton, Sue Jows, Jane Moore, Libby Loss, Barb Randecker and guests Gloria Mincemoyer and Jim Adams.

Absent: Bill Musser and Logan Mensch

Pr. John opened with a discussion of where we are and how did we get here, why we do what we do; in consideration of the upcoming year. Four important questions we need to ask: 1. Why do people choose to worship here on a regular basis, occasionally or not at all? 2. Why do people choose to participate in some aspects of ministry and not others? And to add to that - Why are some people supportive of some ministries and critical of others? 3. What is our vision of what we see the church as and how sometimes do we become possessive about that? 4. When people don't align with a particular way of thinking and have a different opinion, how do we approach that? These questions will help us prepare for the ministry in the upcoming year. These topics led to a lengthy discussion on finances and giving.

Jim Adams was here on behalf of the Scouts. They are requesting additional keys and/or lockboxes. It was decided to have doors open from 1745 to 1845 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Secretary's Report: August minutes were submitted and approved as read with a correction – Libby Loss was absent for August meeting.

Treasurer's Report: August reports submitted and approved subject to audit.

Pastor's report: Pr. John did not add anything further than the above discussion.

Communication: Harry read over a request from the veterans for items for those in a VA center. Something will be put in the newsletter. Jeff reported that the law suit has been settled for \$197,500.

Executive: None

Gifts & Endowments – None

Worship & Music – No report

Property – Jim Schwartz reported that the trees in the alley are down. Cabinet has been fixed. Silvertip has forgotten about us and we should receive a report within a week. Property and others met with the painter. There are many things that were overlooked. Things will be fixed and finished. There are a few storm windows that are broken.

Christian Education –Sunday School Rally Day is the September 16th.

Fellowship & Recreation – no report

Service & Outreach – no report

Finance – Finance issues were discussed during pastor's discussion.

Youth – Kim's newsletter went out. Council hasn't received financial information regarding Youth account. Finance is requesting at least quarterly reports. Jeff Mensch discussed that the international trip was never approved by council. Before any trips are planned they need to be approved and sanctioned by council. Another issue that Pr. John rose was that there are non-members attending and not sure if our insurance will cover any incidents. We will check with Sholley Agency next week. Jeff Mensch made a motion that any mission or work-camp trip be approved by council before they are planned and booked; seconded by Jim Schwartz. There was discussion on what the insurance would cover. Further motions would follow depending on the outcome of the insurance information. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Support – no report

Parish Council: Council met August 23rd. The congregations will meet together at the Elias Church the entire month of October. Council is asked to encourage members to attend these worship services. Special events are being planned for each Sunday to include some form food and fellowship following each worship.

Business:

Christkindl Requests: Libby Loss met with Matt Wagner in August. He was not aware that we only received \$150 last year. All events remain the same as years past. No movie at the cinema. Libby made motion to approve requests received; seconded by Jeff Mensch and passed unanimously.

Apple Dumpling Proceeds: Sue Jows made a motion that after a 10% tithe off top of proceeds and \$50 to fire company ladie's auxiliary (which allow us to use their walk-in frig), the balance of proceeds would be donated 40% to Youth Fund, 50% to General Fund and 10% to an individual benefactor(s) to be determined. Discussion was had as to the distribution %'s. Jeff Mensch seconded motion; passed with one no vote.

Veteran's Day Bells: Jeff Mensch reported that they are trying to organize all churches that have bells ring them on Veteran's Day at a set time. More information is needed regarding day and time and will follow up.

2019 Budget: (discussed previously)

Nominating Committee: Jeff Mensch and Harry Boyer's terms expire in December and they are not eligible to re-up. Gary Girton and Bill Musser's terms also expire in December and they are eligible to re-up. Logan Mensch is also done as the Youth rep.

Office Availability: Comments have been made that the office is not available when one of the staff is off on their scheduled day and people can't get Weis/Wenger's cards. Linda Skinner made a motion to sell cards only Monday's and Thursday's from 10AM – 12 Noon and on Sundays; seconded by Jane Moore and passed unanimously.

Preschool: She only has two students enrolled this year. Harry Boyer will talk to her.

Meeting closed with prayer by Harry Boyer and adjourned @2109.



Respectfully submitted,

Heather L Klose

Recording Secretary

OCTOBER 2018

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, PA

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10:30AM: Bible Study	3 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7PM: Council	4 1PM: WELCA-DS 7:30PM Men's Ministry MP Room Apple Dumplings	5 Apple Dumplings	6 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Carriage Corner 11AM-12:30PM: Community Meal
7 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:00AM: Worship/HC-Elias Center	8 	9 10:30AM: Bible Study	10 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal	11 Apple Dumplings	12 Apple Dumplings	13 8AM: Men's Breakfast—Old Turnpike
14 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:00AM: Worship/HC-Elias Center	15	16 10:30AM: Bible Study 	17 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal	18 7:30PM Men's Ministry MP Room Apple Dumplings	19 Apple Dumplings	20 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Ard's
21 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:00AM: Worship/HC-Elias Center	22	23 10:30AM: Bible Study	24 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal	25 Apple Dumplings	26 Apple Dumplings	27 8AM: Men's Breakfast-Carriage Corner
28 9:15AM: Sunday School 10:00AM: Worship/HC-Elias Center	29	30 10:30AM: Bible Study	31 6PM-6:20PM Cherub Choir Rehearsal 7:15PM-8PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal <i>TRICK OR TREAT</i>			

OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

Chief Usher: Jim Schwartz

Altar/Communion: Deb Johnson & Jane Moore

Offering Envelopes: Nancy Snook & Trena Zeller

OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS:

Since all worship services are being held at the Elias Center jointly with Christ's United, volunteers will not be scheduled for October with the exception of Altar and Offering Envelopes.



First Finances

Currently, the General Fund has a negative balance. The majority of the expenses were daily operating and were consistent with budget projections. Spending has been frugal and mindful of the current situation.

If you have any questions and/or would like more information regarding the church finances, please contact a member of the finance committee or church office. We encourage regular giving so that our operating expenses can be met and ministry opportunities fulfilled.

Monthly Financial Needs: \$16,617

Monthly Offering: \$14,729

Difference: -\$1,888

faith and
finances

What's Happening at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish...

October Services: Joint Parish Worship at the Elias Church all the Sundays of October—The Parish Social Committee is reminding each church's members that there will be fellowship time after each of the 10:00 a.m. Sunday worship services at Elias church during the month of October.

October 7: An ice cream social will be held after worship. We plan to serve apple dumplings as well. The committee is looking for members willing to make homemade ice cream for all to share. Contact Janice Wagner (570-966-9600) or Jim Schwartz (570-966-3940) if you are interested in supplying the ice cream.

October 7th: Dinner & Devos @ Sawyers @ 6:00 PM – Who wants to lead? Can do with a friend

October 14: A beef and vegetable soup cooked over an open fire will be served after worship and you can help out. Right before the church service, bring any canned vegetable. The cooks will use all the donated canned vegetables and finish cooking the beef soup so it's ready to eat right after the service. To give the cooks an idea of what people are bringing, a sign-up sheet will be posted at each church. Please fill that list up.

October 21: Baked pumpkin desserts will be on the after service menu. Anyone willing to bake any pumpkin based dessert or goods are asked to volunteer and sign-up. We are also hoping to serve apple cider as well. If you wish to donate some, please sign-up as well so we have an idea of what is coming.

October 28: German and Pennsylvania Dutch heritage foods are planned for Reformation Sunday. We hope to have schnitz un knepp (dried apples and ham), German sausages and sauerkraut ready to go after worship.

October 7: Youth Dinner & Devos at the Sawyer's at 6PM. Alexa Hackenburg will have the devotions for the evening.

October 28th: No Tricks Just Treats Event – 6:00 PM Church Parking Lot – Need adult drivers!

November 4th: Meet @ Methodist Church lot at 12 Noon to TAG HOMES and then Pizza and Devos @ Larry's Pizza after the tagging is done! Please bring friends!

December: It's not too early to be thinking about singing with the Christmas Choir (10pm service)! Rehearsals are Wed Dec 12, &19, and Sunday 23rd 7:15-8:30pm. Please consider joining! A small commitment of 3 rehearsals may be more manageable with your busy schedule. The more people who join, the fuller the choir will sound! You will also be guaranteed a reserved seat for the service! See Diane Scott if you have any questions.

It's Apple Dumpling Time!!!

Volunteers are needed every Thursday from 5: p.m. (or earlier) until 11 p.m. and Friday from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. If you can assist in rolling rough, please bring your own rolling pin. If you are paring apples, you may want to bring your favorite knife. All other items for this project will be available in the kitchen.

Dumplings are again being sold in pans of two for \$6.00. You will find the 2018 Apple Dumpling Order Form enclosed in this newsletter. Please use this form when taking orders. Extra forms can be found in the bulletins each week, in the back of the church and in the church office.

ALL ORDERS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN 12:00 PM ON THE TUESDAY BEFORE THE PICK-UP DATE. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AS THIS HAS CAUSED PROBLEMS IN THE PAST. ANY ORDERS RECEIVED AFTER 12:00 PM TUESDAY WILL GO WITH THE ORDERS FOR THE NEXT WEEK.

Thank you all!!!! We are looking forward to another successful Apple Dumpling sale!!!!



5th Annual Advent by Candlelight

Sunday, December 2nd

Doors open at 6:00 PM & Event starts at 6:30 PM

We look forward to this wonderful opportunity to relax, meet new friends, enjoy a delicious dessert, and meditate with our sisters in Christ as we focus our hearts on the true meaning of Christmas, the celebration of Jesus' birth. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending this event.

I am looking for Table HOSTESSES for the evening. A hostess will be responsible for decorating a table for 8 and providing a dessert (or two). Tables can be as elegant or as simple as you wish, but should incorporate candles. If you would be interested in being a Table Hostess please contact Libby Loss at 570-966-1606 or Liz Loss at llosscota@gmail.com.

Apple Dumpling Fundraiser



Member Name

Order Date (Circle One)

October 5 12 19 26

Member Phone

Homemade Apple Dumplings—Available in 2/pan for \$6.00

QTY ORDR'D

TOTAL \$

NAME

TOTALS

Orders are due by the Tuesday 12:00PM prior to the order date.

Orders received after the deadline will be put on for the next order date.

ALL REGULAR ORDERS MAY BE PICKED FRIDAY FROM 12-5 P.M. IN THE BASEMENT

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, PA

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

Address Service Requested



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

First Lutheran Sunday Worship
Service beginning at 10:30 AM



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.



Don't
Forget!

ALL October Worship Services
will be held at the Elias Church at
10:00 AM., with refreshments
following the service.

*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*