



THE FIRST WORD

CELEBRATING THE LIVING WORD
FOR A GROWING CHURCH.

MAY 2021

Evangelism from Home

On Sunday, May 23, we will be celebrating Pentecost which is a momentous day in part because change happened within the church. Prior to the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples of Jesus, they were for the most part Galilean Jews that had not much formal education or travel experience. The average person in this time period truly was born, lived, and died in their hometown and even traveling to Jerusalem for festivals would have been seen as a major trip.

However, as the winds of the Holy Spirit blew upon the men and women who gathered in Jerusalem on that day and changed their mindset of how to do ministry, it too has come upon us as well. Covid has altered the religious landscape quite dramatically over the past year, and just as the Holy Spirit gave the followers of Christ ability to speak in different languages, God has given us new ways to reach out as well.

The key though is to be able to recognize the gifts that God gives us to reach out and be willing to share the message of hope God gives to the world. When the Holy Spirit gave the disciples the power to speak in different tongues and the ability to

do amazing acts in God's name, it would have been rendered useless if they were not willing to go. God has bestowed upon us a great opportunity to reach out to the Mid-Ohio Valley and beyond from our houses even if only we are willing to share what God is doing within the fellowship of believers at First Lutheran.

Over the past year, we have placed hundreds of hours of video from worship and Bible study sessions on to the First Lutheran Facebook page. This has allowed you along with many others throughout the community and world to come in contact with this church's ministries during this pandemic. The key however is not being content to just place material on to the internet, but instead to use that platform to draw others into the community. Our goal should not be to focus on how many views we can get, but how many new people we can impact through the gifts of the church by welcoming them into the fellowship.

The church's greatest gift is not just giving you an hour long time to worship God on Sunday morning. The church is there to be a place to help people grow in faith, to be a community where

people not only connect with God but with each other, and finally a hospital to care for those struggling in mind, body, and spirit. In this new church age of digital content, our ability to reach out is greater, and yet we must be willing to invite our friends to join in the community.

So, what I am encouraging you to do is, first of all, if you see friends or acquaintances watching our services, reach out to them. Let them know that you noticed they had participated and that you were thankful for them being a part of the experience for that time. Second of all, if you find something that we do helpful to your spiritual life, please share it on your social media account. If it impacted you in a positive way hopefully it might be useful for someone connected to you as well. Finally, do not be afraid to invite people to experience the faith life here at First Lutheran, whether it is in person or online. Many people are looking for the peace that passes all understanding that Christ and His community bring.

Pastor Ian Reid

FROM YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT -

During this past month, Pastor Ian and I received letters of resignation from two of our council members, Ryan Lowers and Jim Hamric. Both cited personal circumstances, and each said they spent much time in prayerful consideration before making their individual decisions. We will definitely miss both Ryan's and Jim's contributions and insights, and wish to thank each for their dedicated service to their church. Per Chapter 12.01 of our constitution, council can continue normal operation with 10 members while they seek to fill these two positions. If you are a local congregation member and have been looking for new ways to serve your church, now may be the perfect time to join council! Please contact Pastor Ian, Paul Freeman, or myself.

Council continues to work on their new committee structure, with charter development well underway. As our church building continues to reopen and our activities are restarting, the need for additional volunteers has been felt. If you are asked to volunteer or just want to help out, please pray about giving some of your time and talents to your church. Council continues to review the current COVID data, which (as of this writing) shows Wood County has remained in "green" status (the lowest category of spread). We will continue to follow CDC and WV State guidelines for masks and social distancing while inside our facilities, but we are also continuing to safely restart as many in-person group activities as possible. It's really great to see our fellow parishioners in-person again; please consider joining us in person as you are able.

Your council and the Finance Committee continue to review a rapidly increasing list of major repairs and projects around the church. We have just received word that one of our two Sanctuary air conditioning units is completely shot and needs immediate replacement, while the other unit is in bad shape and may not last through the summer. We already have the Sanctuary steps replacement project underway, although it is only partially funded. And we have the HVAC electrical project approved and planned, which is also only partially funded.

Here is a brief summary of several projects and their estimated costs:

Steps Phase 1 = \$9,887 (funded)

Steps Phase 2 = \$9,718

Steps Phase 3 = \$8,904

Steps Phase 4 = \$6,144

Steps Change Order #1 = 4,196

Fellowship Hall floor repair = \$1,000

Sanctuary lighting repair = \$5,000

HVAC Electrical = \$20,000

Replace dead Sanctuary A/C = \$37,000

Replace dying Sanctuary A/C = \$36,000

We will be planning a special Congregation meeting in the near future to approve funding these projects and will be kicking off a fundraising campaign to raise the money needed. In the meantime, if you feel called to contribute to these projects, you can send in your

offering now earmarked for "Capital Projects" (old envelopes may still have a space for "electrical upgrade" which is now the Capital Projects fund). When giving for these projects, however, please do not forget about your regular General Fund contributions.

Council wishes to thank Pastor Ian, his talented wife Becca, and each of our church staff and volunteers for working hard to provide meaningful in-person Lent, Holy week, and Easter services. A lot of behind-the-scenes effort was needed this year due to pandemic restrictions. We hope you were able to participate in some of our church's activities and services.

By the time you read this, we will have returned to two in-person Sunday morning services. It is certainly great to see many people finally able to return to in-person worship again. Please continue monitoring your periodic One-Call emails and phone messages to keep updated on our church activities as we enter the summer months.

Your Church Council is always open to hearing any questions, comments, ideas, or concerns from the congregation. Please feel free to contact myself, Pastor Ian, or any Council member.

Yours in Christ,

Doug Woolley

A note from your Treasurer -

2021 Financial Information:

	<u>March 2021</u>	<u>2021 YTD</u>
Total Income	\$25,670	\$68,930
Total Expense:	(\$24,731)	(\$77,308)
Gain or Loss for Month/Year:	\$939	(\$8,378)

NOTE: Donations to the G.I.F.T. Fund (General Improvement Fund) are used for improvements to the church facility.



Did you know you can give to the church by linking up your Kroger reward card with Community Rewards? Then Kroger will give us a portion of your spending!
Use code **HJ264** to find First Lutheran Church!



If you use Amazon, consider using amazon smile! With amazon smile, a portion of what you spend will be giving back to the church. With no extra charge to you! Just use:
www.amazon.com/smile
Then go to 'Your AmazonSmile' and search for First Lutheran Church

Supporting First Lutheran Church's Mission With Online Giving

As easy as

1-2-3!

With GivePlus Mobile you can express your generosity easily from your phone.

GIVE+



1. Download the app
2. Find First Lutheran Church by typing our Zip Code 26101
3. Choose the amount and how often you would like to give to the church.

**Any questions?
Contact Paul Freeman.
304-488-1841**

Nursery Reopening!!

First Lutheran's nursery will be reopening on May 2nd when both services start back. It will be open from 8:15 am until the 2nd service concludes. Children over 2 are asked to wear masks and sanitize hands when entering/exiting the nursery.

May Youth & Family Events

ALL EVENTS ARE AT THE CHURCH FROM 4-5 pm:

May 2- May Day activities: we'll be springing into a new month- join us to have some flowery fun!

May 9- Mothers Day gift: Citrus print tea towels. We'll do a few mom-inspired activities, as well as making a cool towel that will brighten up your kitchen!

May 16- First Aid Kits: we'll package up some supplies to distribute to families through the food pantry.

May 23- Sundays from Heaven: we're bringing back the classic ice cream event! Wear clothes that can get messy! This takes place in the alley behind the church.

May 30 (final youth meeting for the year)- Water play day: be ready to get wet and get others wet!

First Aid Kit Donations:

There is a link to an Amazon Wishlist on our Facebook page. Please check it out to purchase donations for our youth to make first aid kits for their families and the food pantry!

Vacation Bible School is coming!!!

VBS is July 5-9 in the evenings- hopefully outside! More info will come in June. If you would like to help, please contact Lori Butler or Becca Reid!

Graduation season is coming soon!

Be sure to give the name of your graduate (High School or College) to Lori Butler for recognition! You can email her at mlbutler@k12.wv.us.

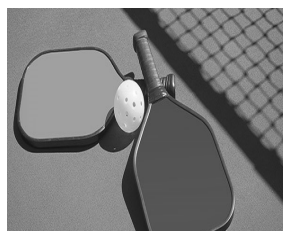
We will be recognizing them on May 16th.



Do you like Pickleball?

The men's gathering group purchased a Pickleball net! Come join in for co-ed Pickleball in the parking lot at 10:30 am on Tuesdays!

Contact Pastor Ian for any questions!



THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone for the prayers and cards for Denver. We greatly appreciate it!

Susie & Denver McNemar



Ascension Day Dinner & Worship

Thursday May 13th at Fort Boreman

Dinner 6pm & Worship 7pm

Boxed Dinners can be purchased by pre-order with Das Rookhaus.
Please fill out the form below and return to the office.

Pre-order form for Ascension Day dinner:

1/2 Sandwich option: \$6

Whole Sandwich option: \$8

Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich option: \$5

All options also come with chips, a cookie and a drink

1/2 Sandwich options:

Whole Sandwich options:

_____ Ham & Cheese with potato salad

_____ Ham & Cheese with potato salad

_____ Ham & cheese with macaroni salad

_____ Ham & cheese with macaroni salad

_____ Turkey & cheese with potato salad

_____ Turkey & cheese with potato salad

_____ Turkey & cheese with macaroni salad

_____ Turkey & cheese with macaroni salad

1/2 Sandwich total: _____ x \$6 = \$_____

Whole Sandwich total: _____ x \$8 = \$_____

Peanut Butter & Jelly total: _____ x \$5 = \$_____

TOTAL FOR ALL: \$_____

Choose a drink per order: RC Cola _____ Dr. Pepper _____ Diet Dr. Pepper _____

Root Beer _____ Water _____

Name: _____

Community Garden May 2021

As the weather slowly heats up, so does activity in the community garden. The March workday was very productive and successful, the result of a beautiful day and a good group of volunteers. Between the MOPS group on Friday and the work group on Saturday, we were able to plant peas, onions, and lettuce, some of which are beginning to grow. As luck would have it, we had some 20 degree nights following the planting, so we may need to replace some of the seeds. We are beginning to fight the weed battle, so lots of mulching will need to be done in the next few weeks. In the past we have had success with grass clippings, leaves, and wood chips. More mulch means fewer weeds!

We will be planting again at workdays this month and next. We still need to get carrots and broccoli growing and will be planting tomatoes in May. We also will have extra tomato plants once we have used what we need, so let us know if you'd like some plants for your home garden. Thanks to Rural King's donation of seeds, we have plenty of extra vegetable and flower seeds for anyone interested. Work in the garden goes much faster and is more fun when it is shared, so we invite all to come on workdays to help out!

Scheduled garden workdays:

May: 8th, 22nd, both 10-12

For the time being, additional workdays and times will be announced to all those interested using email, text, or phone. If you are one of those who wants to help or just wants to know what's going on, please send us your contact info using your favorite means of communication. Emails can go to the church office (flcsec@yahoo.com) or to Mike Lockney (mlockney@outlook.com). If you'd rather get a text or a call, send your contact number to Pastor Reid or to Mike Lockney at 304-615-3981. We'll let you know when work is planned. There will also be occasional planning meetings, for now using Zoom. All are welcome to be part of this "growing" experience!

Mike Lockney



Food Pantry News:

Our client numbers remain low at this time, so if you have any thoughts of wanting to volunteer, this would be a great time for orientation and meeting the other volunteers during the slow days. Come to the pantry on Tuesday or Wednesday from 9:30-11:30am .

Also, we passed our yearly USDA inspection on Tuesday, April 20th. They were very pleased with our church pantry.

As always, thank you all for the support.

In Christ,
Susie McNemar

Food Truck Day
May 27th
Volunteers always welcome!

**LUTHER GOLF LEAGUE BEGINS
WORTHINGTON GOLF COURSE**

MONDAY, MAY 3RD 5:00 PM

COST - \$14

Any questions?

Andrea Brock (304-481-1283)

Cindy Lockney (304-615-3231)

Lori Butler (304-481-4765)

Hope to see everyone on Monday, May 3rd !

REMINDER:

Starting May 2nd:

* We will have two services again! One at 8:30 am following the contemporary style and the other at 10:45 am for the traditional service.

* The Holy Grounds Cafè will be up and running between services. HOWEVER, it will only be outside, weather permitting!

Choir Information From Shandra Ice

If you are looking for a great excuse to leave your house and see some great people, why not give choir a try? We end our choral season on Sunday, May 30, so this would be a great time to jump in and experience what choir has to offer on a short-term basis. The ability to read music is not necessary, and we have room for all voice parts! Choir is currently meeting at a new time, 6:30 every Wednesday, and briefly on Sunday before the service.

Beginning in June, if you would like to lend your voice, we are going back to our cantor schedule for the 10:45 service. This is the "Leader" part for the Kyrie and Hymn of Praise in the LBW. Another opportunity to celebrate your God-given talents is to present an offertory over the summer months. This will begin the first Sunday in June and will continue until choir starts back in the fall. Please let Shandra Ice know if you are interested in either opportunity!



May 2021 10:45 am Hymns and Scriptures

In effort to ensure that everyone has the information for the services on Sundays, the Hymns for the 10:45 am service and the Scripture verses for both services, it will now be printed in the First Word! Please note there may be changes at any time.

May 2: 5th Sunday of Easter

Processional	Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won!	LBW 133	First Reading	Acts 8:26-40
Offering	TBD	Choir	Psalm Reading	Psalm 22:25-31
Communion	Now the Green Blade Rises	LBW 148	Second Reading	1 John 4:7-21
Recessional	Give to Our God Immortal Praise!	LBW 520	Gospel Reading	John 15:1-8

May 9: 6th Sunday of Easter

Processional	When In Our Music God Is Glorified	LBW 555	First Reading	Acts 10:44-48
Offering	TBD	Choir	Psalm Reading	Psalm 98
Communion	Jesus Loves Me	Insert	Second Reading	1 John 5:1-6
Recessional	Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee	LBW 551	Gospel Reading	John 15:9-17

May 16: 7th Sunday of Easter

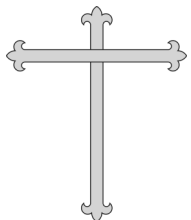
Processional	Alleluia! Sing to Jesus	LBW 158	First Reading	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Offering	TBD	Choir	Psalm Reading	Psalm 1
Communion	Carolyn on the piano	Carolyn	Second Reading	1 John 5:9-13
Recessional	Son of God, Eternal Savior	LBW 364	Gospel Reading	John 17:6-19

May 23: Day of Pentecost

Processional	O Holy Spirit, Enter In	LBW 459	First Reading	Acts 2:1-21
Offering	TBD	Choir	Psalm Reading	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Communion	Come Down, O Love Divine	LBW 508	Second Reading	Romans 8:22-27
	Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove	LBW 475		
Recessional	Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling	LBW 523	Gospel Reading	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 30: Holy Trinity

Processional	Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Almighty!	LBW 165	First Reading	Isaiah 6:1-8
Offering	TBD	Choir	Psalm Reading	Psalm 29
Communion	Holy God, We Praise Your Name	LBW 535	Second Reading	Romans 8:12-17
Recessional	Come, Thou Almighty King	LBW 522	Gospel Reading	John 3:1-17



We are currently recruiting acolytes, crucifers, and lay readers! If you are interested and willing to do any of them, please contact Amanda by calling the office number (304.428.6174) or email (flcsec@yahoo.com).

If you are not sure how to acolyte or crucifer, we will train you!



Upcoming Events



MAY

Our Church is currently open for in-person Sunday school and worship in the Sanctuary. And our building is gradually opening to meetings. Watch/listen for 'ONE CALL' updates. Strict rules will continue to apply to everyone who enters our Church building. Until further notice --everyone will wear a face mask and social distance when in the facility, and sit in assigned seats when Sanctuary is open.

Sundays – beginning in May 2:

- 8:30 am – Early Church in Sanctuary**
- 9:30 am – Sunday School in person
(children in person and on LIVE,
and adult classes in person)**
- 10:45 am –worship in Sanctuary with
communion, and on Facebook LIVE**

**NOTE: Nursery will be open for both services
CAFÉ – on the lawn between services
(weather permitting)**

**YOUTH GROUP: Please refer to details
in this issue for May events**

Tuesdays:

- Men's Gathering in Fellowship Hall 9-10 am
(BYO breakfast)**
- Co-ed Pickleball in Parking Lot – 10:30 am**
- Women's Bible Study – 6:30 pm**

Wednesdays:

Pastor's Bible Study on LIVE – time will vary

**LUTHER GOLF LEAGUE – starts May 3 at 5 pm
Worthington Golf Course – all golfers welcome!!**

- May 13 – Thursday – Special Ascension Service
at Fort Boreman Park – details to come**
- May 16 - We will be recognizing our graduates at
the 10:45 am service.**

GARDEN WORKERS WANTED – Call Mike Lockney

FUTURE DATES TO NOTE: (details to come)
July 4 – Sunday – Congregation Picnic
July 5 – 9 Vacation Bible School

WEEKLY FOOD PANTRY: – 9:30 – 11:30 AM
Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Please stay safe and well!

NOTE:

Sunday bulletins are emailed with the OneCall Now system. There are three styles now, since the hymnals are now back in the pews. One bulletin attachment says “IN PERSON”, one says “AT HOME” and the other will be for the 8:30 service. The “AT HOME” has the liturgy for you to follow. The “IN PERSON” bulletin is if you come to church. You can print one or some will be provided. The 8:30 bulletin will be for the 8:30 am service.

If you need Pastoral care, please contact Pastor Ian on his cell phone or call the church office at (304) 428-6174.

The church office is still not open normal business hours; however, Amanda still has access to the email and phone Monday - Thursday from 9am - 3pm. If you need assistance for anything, please call the church office (304)428-6174 or email the church at flcsec@yahoo.com and she will be able to answer.. The voicemail is monitored as well, so you can also leave a message and she will reply as soon as possible.

Alzheimer's Support Group has started meeting again the first Wednesday of each month at 1pm. For more information contact Joe Lantz MSW/LCSW at 304 422-9293.

MAY 2021

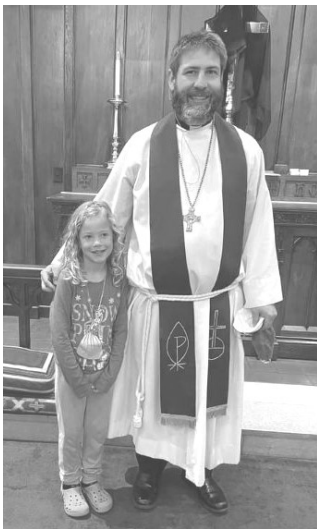
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>2</p> <p>Worship Service 8:30am In person & Facebook LIVE Sunday School 9am Worship Service 10:45am In person & Facebook LIVE</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Luther Golf League 5pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Men's Gathering 9am Food Pantry 9:30am - 11:30am Pickleball Fun 10 am In the church parking lot Woman's Bible Study 6:30pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Food Pantry 9:30am - 11:30am Alzheimer's Group 1pm</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Worship Service 8:30am In person & Facebook LIVE Sunday School 9am Worship Service 10:45am In person & Facebook LIVE</p> <p>*MOTHER'S DAY*</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Staff Meeting 11am Luther Golf League 5pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Men's Gathering 9am Food Pantry 9:30am - 11:30am Pickleball Fun 10 am In the church parking lot Woman's Bible Study 6:30pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Food Pantry 9:30am - 11:30am</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Ascension Day service 7pm At Fort Boreman Park</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Worship Service 8:30am In person & Facebook LIVE Sunday School 9am Worship Service 10:45am In person & Facebook LIVE *Recognition of graduates*</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Luther Golf League 5pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Men's Gathering 9am Food Pantry 9:30am - 11:30am Pickleball Fun 10 am In the church parking lot Woman's Bible Study 6:30pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Food Pantry 9:30am - 11:30am Council Meeting 6pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>First Word Articles DUE</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Worship Service 8:30am In person & Facebook LIVE Sunday School 9am Worship Service 10:45am In person & Facebook LIVE</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Luther Golf League 5pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Men's Gathering 9am Food Pantry 9:30am - 11:30am Pickleball Fun 10 am In the church parking lot Woman's Bible Study 6:30pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Food Pantry 9:30am - 11:30am</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Food Truck Day</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Worship Service 8:30am In person & Facebook LIVE Sunday School 9am Worship Service 10:45am In person & Facebook LIVE</p>	<p>31</p> <p>*Memorial Day*</p>					



Baptism of Johnathon Wade



Baptism of Miller Meadows



First Communion for:

Left: Brooklyn Ruble

Right: Hannah Davis,
Maddie Keller, Caleb
Reid, and Johnathon
Wade



Garden Blessing on April 18th
during Sunday School





First Lutheran Church

PASTOR

The Rev. Ian Reid

(email: pastorianreid@gmail.com)

CHURCH OFFICE

AMANDA WHITLATCH

304-428-6174 (email: flcsec@yahoo.com)

Open by appointment Monday through Thursday;
Closed Friday

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Becca Reid

304-966-6430 (email: cup_nstu@yahoo.com)

NURSERY STAFF

Our nursery is currently closed

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday Morning Worship, in Sanctuary when possible - 10:00 am

- First visit? Please call ahead to reserve your seat
- Masks and social distancing required

HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATED:

During Sunday Morning Worship in Sanctuary when possible

Drive-through by Rear Alley overhang entrance -

- Sundays 11 am - 1 pm

WEBSITE: firstlutheranparkersburg.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

Doug Woolley, President, 304-295-9502

Paul Freeman, Vice-President, 304-488-1841

Jared Ice, Secretary, 304-771-7177

Tom Curry, 304-834-4008

Lisa Hutzler, 304-295.5040

Gerry Kohler, 304-991-5506

Mary Lewis, 740-989-2243

Brian Nokleby, 304-375-2260

Carol Petersen, 304-863-6891

Robyn Rice, 304-488-6773

Lisa Martin, Treasurer Appointed, 304-422-8240

Elizabeth Martin, Treasurer Appointed,
304-422-8240

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Lutheran Church
1701 Nineteenth Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101