



THE FIRST WORD

CELEBRATING THE LIVING WORD
FOR A GROWING CHURCH.

NOVEMBER, 2014

God Working in and Among the Faithful Servants of God by Pastor Ian Reid

I fully understand that I should be saving this article for the annual report, but in a world that seems so void of good news it would be a crime not to write about God working among us now. Over the past months we as a church have highlighted many wonderful events and projects that have taken place at the church. However, it is so easy to get caught up in the details and the highlights that we miss out on the impact they have on individual lives.

This spring when the garden crew asked me what I thought about getting help in the garden from the penal system, I thought "Great! free workers." I never would have guessed or even strived to make it an evangelism tool for Christ, but God had other plans. The other day I was walking around greeting the workers as I try to do each day. One of them pulled me aside and said, "I have never spent so much time in a church and I really have come to like it a lot." This guy had grown up in a small town where the church was a place of judgment and condemnation. What he instead found at First Lutheran were people who looked past his ob-

vious faults and welcomed him to be a part of the community. Who would have guessed that this man's perception of God's church would be redefined by working in a garden alongside other Christians?

At the German Fest I approached a young couple who had two kids playing in the bouncy house. I asked them if they had ever been to First Lutheran before and they said no, so I introduced myself as the Pastor and thanked them for coming to the event. They said that they lived in the neighborhood and had noticed the amazing amount of activity that seems to take place at the church during the week. This led to my sharing with them all of the different groups that meet at the church throughout the week. When I said something about the grief group the woman looked at her husband and said, "Maybe I need to go to that one." Now I would never on my own just randomly invited her to the grief group, but God knew what she needed. Think about how wonderful it is that God is using the activities of our church to help those in the community find support in their lives. mention one story

about a member that came to church last Sunday and was struggling with many issues in her life. I assume she had expected to come to church and leave with the weight of the world on her shoulders. Instead, God let her know that He had heard her cries for help and peace through the words of healing in the blessing bestowed upon her by one of the lay ministers. She told me that the prayer assistant did not only pray for what he knew about but much more. What a blessing it is that God not only knows what we need but He uses others to assist us in our times of trouble.

One of the sad things about the church of today is that we spend so much time on the details of our activities and so little time on how God uses them to impact the world. The early church understood the need to record the marvelous ways that God worked among them because it inspired them in troubled times. Hopefully by sharing these stories of hope in a troubled world you might be inspired to follow God more fully and to trust in Him.

From Your Church Council....

Fall has officially arrived and our third annual German Fest is 'in the books' as 'they' say. It was another great event for our members and the community. The word is that German Fest gets better every year and that is because we continue to add willing volunteers who work hard to create a successful event! I personally believe everyone who helped in any way will tell you they enjoyed being involved. (Don't be left out of the fun next year ... volunteer early!!) Seriously, we sincerely thank each and every one who contributed in any way to the success of this year's event! And we also extend a big 'thank you' to the Kinslers for accepting our invitation to join in the fun and celebration this year.

Right on the heels of German Fest we started taking pictures for the new member directory. If you were unable to make an appointment, and would like to be included in the directory, you may submit a picture of you or your family. Please notify me or the office and we will give you details about submitting your photo. In order to be included, we must have your photo no later than October 27.

A very busy October at our church will culminate on October 26, Reformation Sunday. We will hold our annual meeting on that Sunday, and the Dun Committee has a great 'tail gate' party planned following the meeting. The service will be a combined service at 10 am, with Sunday School at 9 am.

Be sure you have these events on your calendar!

We have a wonderful family of God's people at First Lutheran who love to share in His love and extend it to all. We hope you are – or will – take advantage of every opportunity to share in His love by participating in the many educational classes, activities, outreach programs, etc., in addition to attending Sunday School and Sunday services. Being an active member of the FLC family is rewarding!

Your Council wants you to be informed – and we encourage you to contact any member of Council if you have suggestions, questions, comments or concerns.

Andrea Brock
Council President

Tail Gate Party

Sunday, Oct. 26th, we will have a tail gate party after the congregational meeting. Bring a covered dish to share. The DUN committee will be serving hot dogs. Drinks and dinnerware will be provided. There will be football trivia

and a few other activities to enjoy. Be sure to wear your favorite college team colors!

We are running a contest between WVU, OSU, OU, Marshall, and "other". You vote by placing dollar bills in the canister for your team of

choice.

All proceeds from the team voting and love offering at the dinner go to the electrical upgrade.

Come enjoy the fellowship at the First Lutheran tail gate party!

All Saints Sunday

During communion we will be reading the names of those who have joined the Church Triumphant. Please

place names of those you wish to have read in the "All Saints" book. Please PRINT! The book is usually in the

Narthex on Sunday. Final day for names to be entered into the book is Oct. 26th.

Prayer Shawl S.O.S!

Our prayer shawl supply is dwindling. Unfortunately, our demand is not. These shawls provide such comfort for someone experiencing health or spiritual issues. Wrapping that shawl around your shoulders and knowing that people are praying for you, reassures that you are not alone.

We have yarn in the office if you would like to make a shawl. There are patterns for both crochet-

ing and knitting. We also have had quilted shawls and shawls made of fleece. You can "youtube" for directions on knitting or crocheting or maybe we could find someone to help you get started. We also have cards to attach to the shawls so the recipient will know from whom the shawl came.

This ministry is such a blessing. Please consider making a shawl.

Prayer Shawl Thank you

Dear Friends, I am writing to thank you for the lovely prayer shawl my friend, Ann Abele, brought to my mother and me. It is the most beautiful one I think I've seen. The colors are so rich and it is so soft and I think of Joseph's robe when I look at it. It was so thoughtful and I know this one was the one especially meant for me.

Sincerely, Mary Peyton and Polly Kelley (mother)

Pumpkin Carving at the Lockney's

On Sunday, Oct. 26th, at 4:00 pm there will be pumpkin carving in the backyard of Mike and Cindy Lockney's. Park in the church parking lot and come through the back gate. We

will already have pumpkins for you to carve.

We will serve grilled cheese sandwiches, hot cider, and hot chocolate. There will be a fire to roast marshmallows and

make s'mores. This is a family event. Please bring your youth and come enjoy the autumn season outdoors. (if rain, we will meet in the church fellowship hall).

LARGE MOUTH VASES NEEDED! DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED

Pittsburgh Trip

On Sunday, November 9th, a group will be traveling to Pittsburgh following the 10:45 church service. We will go to St. Anthony's for a tour of the largest display of Relics in the world.

We will have dinner and then attend the Compline service in the Heinz Chapel.

The cost is \$30 per person. The fee includes a bag lunch, cost of trans-

portation, and admission for the tour. Each person is responsible for the cost of their evening meal. Sign up by dropping a note in the offering plate or calling the church office.

Church Women United of Parkersburg

Church Women United of Parkersburg will meet at South Parkersburg Baptist Church, 1655 Blizzard Drive (next to Parkersburg South High School) on Friday, November 7. Registration at 10:00. Program starts at 10:30. All women in the area are welcome.

Programs are developed by Church Women United International. As part of the

program, members will present the program skit designed to enhance the November theme for **World Community Day: "Through God Our Hands Can Heal"**.

The Rev. Ian Reid, Pastor of First Lutheran Church, is our 'pastor of the day' who will guide us through the scriptures and prayers leading us to the realization of the theme. Katie Sallie, a col-

lege student, will speak on her summer campus ministry experience in Lebanon.

Come and enjoy special music provided by a student tenor attending Parkersburg South High School.

Please bring sandwiches, salads, or desserts to share at the luncheon following the program.

NO DECEMBER MEETING.

Sunday Morning Nursery Subs Needed

The nursery is looking for some subs for Sunday morning to care for the young children of our church. The time

would be 8:20 to 12:00 (or the end of the second service). We may call you on short notice Sunday morning.

If you are able to do this please contact Lori Butler at 304-481-4765 or call the church office.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

November 23rd at 6:30

Electrical Upgrade Status

I'm proud to inform you that phase 1 (circuit breaker box upgrades and new power feeds to all panels with grounds) has been completed. I'm also pleased to tell you that our donations to date are \$65,161.85 and expenses at this time are \$20,522.38. This leaves us with \$44,639.47 in our bank account. We just received

the Phase 1 invoice for \$41,667.07; this allows us to pay McHenry Electric for their work thus far without borrowing any funds. Our loan has been extended for an additional six months, or more, if needed to complete our project. This is very exciting news and I wish to thank everyone for their generous donations.

The next phase of our project will be to upgrade the cloth back circuits in various areas of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. This work can be performed prior to Christmas without impacting our services. If all goes to plan we will be working on the chandeliers in January or February of next year.

Dale VanDeVelde VP

Faith Filled Women's Bible Study

It's all about me: what I think, feel, say, do, need and want. The world revolves around ME!

As we enter into our next study Max Lucado will teach us to leave those lies

behind and to set our sights on a different goal. In IT'S NOT ABOUT ME Max will show us that we were not made to live this way; instead, that every person's priority should become a

divine pursuit, not a performance. This study is targeted to begin on October 28 at 6:30 in the church library.

Joyfully in Christ, Marcia

REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 26th

Sunday School (NO Children's Sunday School) 9:00 a.m.

Combined Service 10:00 a.m.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Tail Gate Party in Fellowship Hall

PIANO RECITAL

Students of Jan Smith
November 2nd
1:30 and 3:30

CONFIRMATION

November 16th

Katie Farinash

Daughter of Dr. Lloyd Farinash
& Dr. Kelly Fluharty
Granddaughter of Robert & Pat Fluharty

Cookeez Cookie Sale

Dust off your cookie recipes and get ready to cook. The church is sponsoring a Cookeez Sale on Saturday, December 13, 2014, from

10am-1pm. Volunteers are needed! Cookies are needed (3-4 dozen)! Cookies are needed at church by Decem-

ber 12, 2014. Questions? Call Linda Dally (304)966-4821. Monies go to the electrical upgrade fund.

November Youth Group Activities

2nd Pudding Pictionary

23rd NO YOUTH

9th NO YOUTH

30th Advent Workshop

16th Scavenger Hunt

Whoever serves Me must follow Me, and where I am, there also will My servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves Me.

John 12:26

Snow Removal

The company that has handled our snow removal for many years will no longer

provide the church with service. If you know of anyone who is dependable and

available for snow removal please contact the church office.

D.U.N. MEETING
 January 7th at 6:30 p.m.
 Please join us as we plan activities of fellowship for our church family.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
NOV. 2ND
 Don't forget to set those clocks back before you go to bed!

Thank You!

*Thank You All,
 I would like to thank my church for the prayers, phone calls, and the beautiful cards.
 God Bless,
 Sue Corbitt*

GENERAL FUND

| | |
|--|------------------|
| SEPTEMBER INCOME | \$20,582 |
| SEPTEMBER EXPENSES | \$22,736 |
| JAN-SEPTEMBER INCOME | \$218,168 |
| JAN-SEPTEMBER EXPENSES | \$227,466 |
| BUDGETED EXPENSES FOR JAN-SEPTEMBER | \$255,458 |

Lay Readers for Sunday Worship

| Date | 8:30 service | 10:45 Service |
|-------------|---------------------|--|
| Oct 26 | | Bob Friend (combined Service at 10:00 a.m.) |
| Nov 2 | Jim Hamric | Miriam Jackson |
| Nov 9 | Alec Smith | Marcia VanDeVelde |
| Nov 16 | Alicha Farley | Jim Smith |
| Nov 23 | Lori Butler | Karen Creel |
| Nov 30 | Wendy Fosselman | Bill Kohler |

Communion Bearers for Sunday Worship

| Date | 10:45 service |
|-------------|--|
| Oct 26 | Don and Marie Stanley (Combined service at 10:00 a.m.) |
| Nov 2 | Betsy Ehret and Barbara McDowell |
| Nov 9 | Lewis and Karen Creel |
| Nov 16 | Roger and Julie Davis |
| Nov 23 | Carole Carter and Marcia VanDeVelde |
| Nov 30 | Dave and Carol Petersen |

Door Greeters for 10:45 Sunday Worship

| Date | |
|-------------|--|
| Oct 26 | Lindel Lantz and Jane Nancarrow (Combined service at 10:00 a.m.) |
| Nov 2 | Mary Parrish and Jean Riggs |
| Nov 9 | Norma Phillips and Phil Cross |
| Nov 16 | Ruth Johnson and Helen Echard |
| Nov 23 | Brian and Penny Green |
| Nov 30 | Lewis and Karen Creel |

Door Greeters for 8:30 Sunday Worship

Stan Null, Don Fosselman, Lawrence and Lyndall Hasbargen

Altar Guild Servers

8:30 a.m. Alicha Farley
 10:45 a.m. Vivian Burton
 6:30 p.m. Barbara McDowell
 Paraments—Marcia VanDeVelde

NOVEMBER, 2014

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 <i>Daylight Savings Time ends</i> Sunday School 9:30 All Saints Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Piano Recital 1:30 & 3:30 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Youth 5:00 Evening Service 6:30 | 3 Praise Team At Church 7:00 p.m. | 4 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Woman's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 | 5 Hand Bells 6:30 p.m. Bereavement 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir 7:30 | 6 | 7 Church Women United at South Parkersburg Baptist Church 10:00 | 8 |
| 9 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Pittsburgh Trip 12:30 Praise Team at Worthington 2:00 p.m. Invitation to Prayer 5:00 NO YOUTH Evening Service 6:30 | 10 Praise Team Eagle Pointe 7:00 pm | 11 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Woman's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 p.m. | 12 Council Meeting 6:00 pm Hand Bells 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 | 13 | 14 | 15 First Word Articles Due December & January |
| 16 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Confirmation of Katie Farinash Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Youth 5:00 Evening Service 6:30 | 17 Praise Team At Church @ 7pm | 18 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Woman's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 p.m. | 19 Hand Bells 6:30 pm Bereavement 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir 7:30 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 NO YOUTH Thanksgiving Service 6:30 | 24 Praise Team At Church @ 7 pm | 25 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Woman's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 p.m. | 26 NO Hand Bells NO Senior Choir | 27 T Thanksgiving Day. Church Office Closed | 28 Church Office Closed | 29 |
| 30 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Youth 5:00 Evening Service 6:30 First Sunday in Advent | | | | | | |



First Lutheran Church

PASTOR

The Rev. Ian Reid

(email: pastorianreid@gmail.com)

CHURCH SECRETARY/CHURCH OFFICE

Cindy Lockney

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

CARE & COMMUNITY COORDINATOR

Barbara McDowell

304-483-1010 (email: bam3042@yahoo.com)

OFFICE HOURS

9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Sunday Church School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

Invitation to Prayer Sunday Evenings 5:00 p.m.

Evening Worship Service 6:30 p.m.

HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATED:

All Sunday Services

WEBSITE: firstlutheranparkersburg.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

President, **Andrea Brock**, 304-485-5162

Vice-President, **Dale VanDeVelde**, 304-834-1560

Secretary, **Julie Davis**, 304-863-0084

Youth Representative, **Mackenzie Rice**

Lori Butler, 304-863-5156

Barb Carpenter, 304-295-9527

Dan Cooper, 304-485-4031

Chris Davis, 304-210-7631

Robert Fluharty, 304-485-3484

Robert Friend, 304-422-2950

Bill Kohler, 304-483-7810

Carol Petersen, 304-863-6891

Angie Smith, 304-422-5935

Gary Welch, 304-863-8084

Treasurer Appointed, **Kent Hasbargen**, 304-863-3056

Permit No. 9

Parkersburg, WV

PAID

Postage

Non-Profit Org.

1701 Nineteenth Street
Parkersburg, WV 26161



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Lutheran Church