

THE FIRST WORD

May, 2014

Refreshing Our Faith through the Catechisms by Pastor Reid

In the year 2017 the Lutheran Church worldwide will be celebrating 500 years of Lutheranism as we remember the climactic moment of Martin Luther nailing the 95 Thesis to the church door at Wittenberg, Germany. For many Lutherans we not only celebrate this moment but act as if our significant achievement in church history is the fact that we were defiant to the Roman Catholic Church. The ironic thing is that Luther never had any intention of leaving the Roman Catholic Church nor did he dislike it as a whole. His main goal was to discuss ways that the church could be better at sharing the Gospel to the people who needed to hear the good news of God's grace. However, what Luther found was not only did the church fail at sharing the Gospel properly but parish priest, parents, and those in the church community struggled with the task of properly sharing the faith to the children and others of the community.

As Martin Luther traveled the country side of Germany, he became so disenchanted with the Christian education being taught that he decided to write two teaching aids to help share the faith which are called the Large and Small Catechisms. Martin Luther writes in his preface to the small catechism that *"The deplorable, miser-*

able conditions which I recently observed when visiting the parishes have constrained and pressed me to put this catechism of Christian doctrine into this brief, plain, and simple form. How pitiable, so help me God, were the things I saw: the common man, especially in the villages, knows practically nothing of Christian doctrine, and many of the pastors are almost entirely incompetent and unable to teach. Yet all the people are supposed to be Christians, have been baptized, and receive the Holy Sacrament even though they do not know the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, or the Ten Commandments and live like poor animals of the barnyard and pigpen. What these people have mastered, however, is the fine art of tearing all Christian liberty to shreds." What Luther is getting at is that we as Christians have the ability to not live like caged animals doing things just because we are told to do them, but instead should seek the wisdom in why we do things and thus come to truly cherish our actions in faith. So if we are truly called to be set free by knowledge as Luther states what are we to know you might ask. According to Luther at the very least all Christians should know the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, what the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Sacrament of the Eucharist is and teach their children how to pray on a regular basis. Luther in his catechisms challenges us to not only learn and memorize

the key tenants to the faith but also to the teach them to others especially our children so the faith might be promulgated to others. It is no coincidence that the topics that Luther talks about in his Catechisms are exactly the same things that parents and the worshipping community promise to teach the baptized child as they grow up.

So as we approach the 500th year of Lutheranism, I agree with many of my Lutheran colleagues that there is no greater way to celebrate our Lutheran heritage then getting back to the basics of our faith. If you have not lately thought about what you are saying that you believe in when you recite the Lord's Prayer or the Nicene Creed it might be time to reread the Catechism. If you have children or grandchildren as you spend time with them take some time to share with them the essential parts of the faith with them. Lastly, if you want to discuss how you can grow deeper in your faith or want to find ways in which to enrich your knowledge feel free to speak with me about it. For Luther would desire us to not be focused on the nailing of the 95 Thesis but instead on how to grow ones faith in the Lord.

THURSDAY, MAY 29TH
ASCENSION
OF OUR LORD
SERVICE AT 6:00 PM

Electrical Upgrades

McHenry Electric began work on our electrical upgrades on Wednesday, May 14th. They have already replaced the second floor education building Federal Pacific panel with a new Cutler Hammer panel. By the time you read this we will have replaced the other two Federal Pacific panels as well. Our plan is to install new feeds to the three panels in the sanctuary next. Once the feeds have been installed, the panels will be

retrofitted or modified to accept the grounded system. We have decided to add another circuit breaker panel in the balcony area to feed the chandeliers and other lights from this panel. We plan to start the conduit runs for the chandeliers in approximately 4 weeks.

The loop hearing system for the sanctuary has been installed and is operating well. The library will be done in early June, thus completing this project.

The bell tower roof replacement will be completed by early July weather permitting.

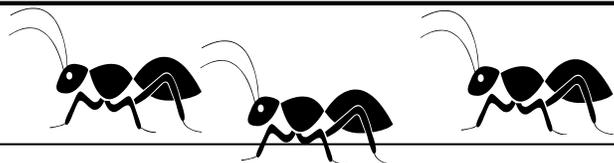
As you can see we have been very busy and I would like to thank everyone for their contributions. We have raised \$39,933 as of May 16th. Let's continue to donate so we do not have to borrow any more than necessary.

Dale VanDeVelde
Council VP



ASCENSION SERVICE
MAY 29TH 6:00 PM
 THERE WILL BE ROOT BEER FLOATS
 FOLLOWING PASTOR'S CLASS AT 6:30 PM

Annual Picnic



On Sunday, June 1st, the DUN committee will hold the annual church picnic at the City Park. It will follow the 10:45 am service in

Shelters 1A and 1B. (Next to the log cabin). The DUN committee will supply hotdogs, condiments, drinks, and paper prod-

ucts. Please bring a covered dish to share and come join in the fun. There will be games and lots of fellowship!

Check Out the New Website
FIRSTLUTHERANPARKERSBURG.COM

Backpack Ministry

Our backpack ministry still has about four weeks left for the school year to provide single serving food items to students. At this time we are providing food

for about 45 students.

This ministry can always use the monetary support but you can also pick up single serving items while shopping. Single serve

macaroni and cheese, Vienna sausage, tuna, cereal, and single serve spaghetti are all items that fit nicely into a backpack.

Luther Golf League at Woodridge Golf Course



The league meets on Monday evenings at 5:30 pm. Following nine holes of golf there is usually a dinner in the clubhouse. The cost is \$5 and everyone enjoys hearing stories about how everyone else did. At this time we have about 30 people in the league. Sometimes someone brings a friend (or visiting children) to join us and play a round on league night. Guests are always wel-

come.

We do have some friendly competitions that Margie Hamric created for us. Each person throws \$2 into the collection. If you are the winner of one of the competitions then you receive a free league game.

There will be no scheduled league on Memorial Day, May 26th. If you have a four-

some that wants to play then you may do so.

The other event that is being planned will be the end of season dinner. We hope to have a buffet at the Woodridge Clubhouse on September 28th. This will also be a restaurant rovers event. Details should be available in the August First Word.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The ministry continues to provide comfort to those in their time of need. At this time we have presented 12 shawls to church family and friends in 2014. If someone needs a shawl, they are located in the closet in the prayer chapel. Please be sure to sign the clipboard so we are aware of the recipient

and who may be in need of one.

Anne Boso has prepared note cards that will now be attached to each shawl. The note offers words of comfort to the one who receives it. Those making shawls please stop by the church office to pick up the note and be sure to save

one of the sleeves from the yarn used. Anne suggests we attach it to the back of the note so the recipient of the shawl will have the cleaning instructions. This is a wonderful suggestion.

A special "thank you" to all those who make the shawls. Each shawl offers comfort and is a blessing.

D.U.N. Committee Update

Our most recent meeting was Wednesday, May 7th. We discussed our last three events which included: hosting the baked potato, soup, and salad bar for the March 12th Lenten dinner; Restaurant Rovers at the Big Band Brunch; summer golf league kick off hosted by Jim and Margie Hamric. The Lent dinner went well but there was a lot of chopping involved to prepare the huge variety of toppings for the potatoes and salad. The Big Band Brunch had to be rescheduled from March 2nd to April 6th due to inclement weather. We did celebrate Pas-

tor's birthday with a fruit tray and candles (he gave up cake during Lent). The Hamrics graciously opened their home on April 28th to have a buffet style dinner and discuss the start of the summer golf season.

We are looking forward to hosting the annual church picnic on Sunday, June 1st. It will be held at the City Park in shelters 1A & 1B. The DUN committee will grill hotdogs, bring the drinks (iced tea, water, and lemonade), and the paper products. Please bring a covered dish to share. There will be games and time to visit.

On Wednesday, August 13th, we will take a cruise on the Valley Gem in Marietta, OH. Our sister church, Christ Lutheran, will join us. Once again bring a covered dish and the DUN committee will bring drinks and paper products. We are asking for an offering with a minimum of \$5.00. Directions will be provided in the August First Word.

Our next meeting is planned for August 6th at 6:30 pm. We hope to see everyone come with some new ideas. All members of our church family are welcome.

First Lutheran Food Pantry

Our pantry is a member of the Wood County Food Co-Op. We cover the neighborhoods surrounding our church with food support when needed. The Co-Op program does work in conjunction with United Way. We always have a few items listed on the back of the Sunday bulletins if someone wants to make a donation to the pantry.

Our pantry is also a member of the Mountaineer Food Bank, located in Gassaway, WV. This non-profit organization houses USDA food and surplus food through Second Harvest. We try to utilize this organization once a month to supplement our pantry. Our backpack ministry is also able to use this service.

There is a minimal cost for food selected from Sec-

ond Harvest. The Mountaineer Food Bank delivers once a month to Wood County. The next delivery date is June 19th. We can always use help loading and unloading the commodities we receive.

If anyone feels called to assist with the pantry, contact the church office. Pat Harman and Angie Smith co-chair the food pantry.

Malaria Campaign

First Lutheran Church raised \$960 for the ELCA Malaria Campaign. We were able to double the amount by sending it to the ELCA the last week of April. ELCA had donors willing to match funds with donations collected. Pastor Ian attended a work

shop where he was skillfully trained to make mosquitoes. Linda Dally and Lillian Horner zoomed in to the rescue and constructed another 70 mosquitoes. The nets are full and now it is time to rid the nets of these deadly pests. For \$10 you may purchase a mosquito.

These funds will also go to the Malaria Campaign. A visitor in our church purchased one to take to her church for show and tell. Mark "other" on the offering envelope and write that it is for the Malaria Campaign. Be sure to remove a mosquito for every \$10 contribution you make.

Funeral Pre-Plan Session

When we think of pre-planning for a funeral we think of what we want our family to do or what the funeral home needs. Many times the funeral service is held at the church or Pastor

is asked to lead the service at the funeral home.

Pastor would like to talk about what he needs when preparing the funeral service including family information.

He will offer a morning session, June 11th at 10:00 am and Thursday, June 12th at 6:30 pm.

The pre-planned information will be on file in the church. It can always be updated.

Rejoice!

Emma Levin- Neilsen

&

Thomas Kist

May 24, 2014



Celebrate!

Samantha Nokleby

&

James Kukulka

May 24, 2014

Sunday School News

The last day of Sunday school for the children's class, Senior High and Confirmation will be June 8th. We will not have classes during the summer and will start up again on Rally Day.

KID'S CLUB

'CATCH THE BUZZ'

- We will begin on July 2nd

and run through August 6th.

- August 6th will be a 'water' fun night.
- We will begin at 5:30 and end at 7:30.
- Dinner will be provided each night.
- Bring your friends and come join the fun.
- Ages 5 through 5th grade...if you have young-

er children please see me and we will make it work.

If you are interested in helping let me know and I will find a spot for you...we will have crafts, games and storytelling along with music.

Thanks,
Lori

German Fest Meeting

The German Fest meeting will be held Tuesday, June 10th at 6:00 pm

We will meet at the NET for a planning session. The Ger-

man Fest is scheduled for October 11th, 11 am-4 pm.

We are looking for new ideas for this upcoming event to celebrate the Ger-

man heritage that started First Lutheran Church in the Mid-Ohio Valley. Please plan to attend.

Blessing of the Backpacks

The "Blessing of the Backpacks" will be held during church Sunday morning on August 3rd or 17th. (watch

for the publishing of the final date).

Students, bring your backpack to church on Sunday.

There will be a special blessing for students and teachers as the new school year begins.

GET LOOPED MEETING

JUNE 8TH 9:30—10:30 IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION ABOUT THE NEW HEARING SYSTEM

CRUISING ON THE VALLEY GEM STERNWHEELER

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13TH

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Be ready to board by 5:45.

The DUN committee will provide paper products and drinks. Join in the fellowship with our sister church, Christ Lutheran.

Love Offering- Minimum \$5

GENERAL FUND

APRIL INCOME	\$26,103
APRIL EXPENSES	\$26,994
JAN-APRIL INCOME	\$96,357
JAN-APRIL EXPENSES	\$106,752

ELECTRICAL UPGRADE DRIVE

A total of \$39,933 has been donated as of May 17th and this is a great start! As we discussed, the project will cost up to \$250,000 and every dollar donated till September 6th we will not have to borrow. "Thermometer Charts" have been added to the hallway in the educational building and the narthex. Please watch these thermometers and help make them rise!

Lay Readers for Sunday Worship

Date	8:30 service	10:45 Service
June 1	Wendy Fosselman	Julie Davis
June 8	Don Fosselman	Judy Ery
June 15	Lawrence Hasbargen	Betty Smith
June 22	Sandy Davies	Miriam Jackson
June 29	Lori Butler	Angie Smith
July 6	Sue Lamp	Tim Archer
July 13	Barbara McDowell	Ashley Wiltsey
July 20	Jerry Harman	Bill Kohler
July 27	Bob Friend	Marcia VanDeVelde

Communion Bearers for Sunday Worship

Date	10:45 service
June 1	Dave and Carol Petersen
June 8	Gerry Kohler and Mary Parrish
June 15	Jim and Miriam Jackson
June 22	Warren and Carole Carter
June 29	Don and Marie Stanley
July 6	Chip and Barbara Rodgers
July 13	Brian and Penny Green
July 20	Lewis and Karen Creel
July 27	Don and Marie Stanley

Door Greeters for Sunday Worship

Date	
June 1	Mary Parrish and Jean Riggs
June 8	Jayne Gillespie and Tina Schott
June 15	Dave and Rose Poellot
June 22	Kevin and Diane McDonald
June 29	Jim and Miriam Jackson
July 6	Lewis and Karen Creel
July 13	Lewis and Karen Creel
July 20	Jim and Miriam Jackson
July 27	Brian and Penny Green

Altar Guild Servers in June/July

June	July
Aicha Farley at 8:30	Jo Ellen Loudon at 8:30
Vivian Burton at 10:45	Judy Ery at 10:45
Barbara McDowell at 6:30	Barbara McDowell at 6:30

JUNE, 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Church Picnic at City Park Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Golf League 5:30 Praise Team At Church 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Pastor's Class 10:00 am. Hand Bells 6:00 p.m. Bereavement 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir 7:30</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Looped Discussion in fellowship hall 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Golf League 5:30 Praise Team At Eagle Pointe 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. German Fest mtg. 6:00 pm At the NET Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Funeral Pre-Plan Class with Pastor 10:00 am Senior Choir 7:30</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Funeral Pre-Plan Class with Pastor 6:30 pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Youth Leave for Church Camp Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Golf League 5:30 Praise Team At Church 7:00 pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Youth Return from Church Camp</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Golf League 5:30 Praise Team At Church @ 7pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Golf League 5:30 Praise Team At Church @ 7 pm</p>					

JULY, 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<p>1</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00</p> <p>Al-Anon 7:00</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Kids Club 5:30 Bereavement 7:00 p.m.</p>	3	4	5
<p>6</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Golf League 5:30</p> <p>NO Praise Team</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00</p> <p>Al-Anon 7:00</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Kids Club 5:30</p>	10	11	12
<p>13</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30 Praise Team at Worthington 2:00 p.m.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Golf League 5:30</p> <p>Praise Team Eagle Pointe 7:00 pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00</p> <p>Al-Anon 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Bereavement 7:00 p.m. Kids Club 5:30</p>	17	18	19
<p>20</p> <p>Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p> <p>Youth leave for NYC mission trip</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Golf League 5:30</p> <p>Praise Team At Church @ 7pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00</p> <p>Al-Anon 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Kids Club 5:30</p>	24	<p>25</p> <p>Youth return from NYC mission trip</p>	<p>26</p> <p>First Word Articles Due</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Golf League 5:30</p> <p>Praise Team At Church @ 7 pm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:00</p> <p>Al-Anon 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Kids Club 5:30</p>	31		



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

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