



THE FIRST WORD

CELEBRATING THE LIVING WORD
FOR A GROWING CHURCH.

OCTOBER, 2014

What does one confirm at Confirmation? By Pastor Ian Reid

One of the grand traditions of the Lutheran denomination is celebrating when young adults of the church profess their faith through the rite of confirmation. A rite in the Lutheran church is defined as a religious act that one does as part of faith. Usually the act of confirmation is undertaken after the young adult has studied the Lutheran faith for several years and has a desire to profess that faith in the church. It is at this time that the confirmand is officially stating through an affirmation of baptism that they hold fast to the faith into which they were baptized as a child and now are taking on the mantle of a full-fledged member in the community of faith.

We call this act confirmation because the one who stands before the congregation to profess their faith is confirming what had happened several years earlier. We as Lutherans believe in the efficacy of infant baptism and that our gracious heavenly Father of His own accord liberates us from sin, death, and the devil by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ through the act of baptism. It is not our works or our profession of Christ that brings about this new life, but

instead it is the word of God together with the water and faith that brings about this great work. The church assumes that through the Holy Spirit and the promises made by the parents and the congregation to instruct the child in faith that one will ultimately stand up and profess their own faith in Christ Jesus. This moment of profession is what the church has long understood to be the act of confirmation.

However, the act of confirmation in the Lutheran church is not seen as an act that one does as an emotional response to a transformative experience, nor the end of one's faith journey. It is instead the time that a child because of its understanding of faith decides to fully join the community of believers. It is therefore seen as the responsibility of the parents to teach the child the core tenants of the faith which they promised at their child's baptism with assistance from the church.

Martin Luther thought that confirmation was so important that he actually wrote two documents to help us train our children in the faith. The first document is the small catechism which helps parents share the

keys to the faith with their children. Luther's second document is the large catechism which is to be taught by the church to those who wish to prepare to profess their faith before the community of believers. Both of these documents highlight the need to not only accept but also to understand the meaning of the Ten Commandments, the Lord's prayer, the Apostles' Creed and the Bible. Here at First Lutheran, youth in grades 6th – 8th spend three years studying the Large Catechism and scripture together with learning the meaning of being an active member of the church.

Once one has completed three years of study I meet with the confirmand and ask if it is their will to affirm their faith in Christ Jesus and become an active member of the church. Notice I ask them if they wish to be not a member of the church, but an active participant in the body of Christ. This means that confirmation is not something we obtain and then move on to other ventures in life, but instead should lead us to desire to delve deeper into our faith and community life.
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It is my hope that when Katie Farinash confirms her faith this fall or others in the future they will be saying at their confirmation that they desire to live out the life of a follower of Christ. Just as the Holy Spirit and the

community helps one get to the point of confirming their faith, it too desires to play a role in one's life post confirmation as well. My prayer for all is that those who have affirmed their faith in Christ Je-

sus will seek to follow Him more each day and those who have not might seek the blessings that Christ bestows upon His followers.

Prayer Shawls Needed!

Our shawl supply is low but the demand is great. If you

can participate in this ministry please contact the

church office.

Reformation Sunday Combined Service

Sunday, October 26th we will have a combined service that starts at 10:00 a.m. and after the service we will hold our annual congregation meeting.

Following the meeting there will be a Tailgate Party, sponsored by the DUN

committee, in the fellowship hall. Be sure to bring a covered dish to share. We will serve hot dogs and provide the drinks.

You can vote for your favorite college team by putting your love offering in the football helmet of your

choice. Love offering will go to the electrical fund. Team choices are WVU, Marshall, Ohio University, and OSU. There will also be a helmet for "other" teams. Come join the festivities.

All Saints Sunday

On Sunday, November 2nd, we will recognize those who have passed away but still hold a special place in our hearts.

Please sign the book that will be in the Narthex starting Sunday, September 28th. PLEASE PRINT the names! We

will also recognize those from our church family who passed away in 2014 and now reside with the Church Triumphant.

**LARGE MOUTH VASES NEEDED!
DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED**

German Fest Volunteers Needed

If you can volunteer a couple hours for the German Fest there are sign-up sheets posted on the bulletin board or call the church office. We can also use German desserts. If you are able to make a German cake or

provide assistance in the kitchen please contact Betty Smith.

This year's German Fest will be held October 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Plans for the festivities include the German Band,

Scott Fauley who will DJ, great food, historical displays, children's activities, and more. Pastor Jim Kinsler will be our guest pastor this year.

Please help us make this another successful and fun event.

Youth Group at the Lockneys

The Lockneys will host a pumpkin carving in the backyard. Sunday, October

26th, 4:00 pm for the youth group. The address is: 1706 20th Street (right behind the church)

They will serve grilled cheese sandwiches along with drinks and s'mores.

Pet Blessing

Whether your pet is furry, scaly, or feathery, they bless and enrich your life with un-

conditional love.

Bring your pet for a special blessing by Pastor Ian on the

first Sunday in October (5th) at 3:00 pm on the church lawn.

Melvina Fauley Memorial Service

On Sunday, October 12, 2014, there will be a memorial service for Mel Fauley. There will be a

luncheon followed by a celebration of her life at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary. The church family is invited

to attend. Mel volunteered as a receptionist in the church office and is greatly missed.

Pittsburgh Trip to the Heinz Chapel

On Sunday, November 9, 2014, we are planning a trip to Pittsburgh to attend services at the Heinz Chapel. The Compline Choir will be singing. We also plan to visit St. Anthony's Chap-

el to see the relics and then do the Incline. If we take a bus the cost will be about \$50 per person plus the cost of dinner. We will leave after the 10:45 service. Please contact the

church office if you are interested. We need to know by October 12th how many people are interested in going. Drop a note in the offering plate or call the church office.

OH, NO!! Cindy Lockney Retiring

"As of Dec. 30, 2014, I will be retiring from the church office. Please know that it has been a blessing to serve as church secretary for my church family. I felt I needed to give council adequate time to search for a replacement and to allow for train-

ing. A committee from council has been formed to begin this process. I want to thank everyone for their support."

Cindy Lockney

I was so sad when I read this article to put into the

newsletter. Cindy has been great to work with and a perfect example of the strength of our church. Cindy I will miss working with you!!!

*Diane McDonald
Church Newsletter Design*

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.

Beyond the Basics

Beyond the Basics Sunday school class is starting a new series in adult Sunday School. "Same Kind of Differ-

ent As Me!" It is a study about three different people whose lives come together in a way that can

only be explained as "God ordained."...it is a true story. If you want a book let Bill and Maribeth Vincent know.

CHURCH PHOTOGRAPHY SESSIONS FOR THE DIRECTORY

October 14-16th.

Call the church office if you need to confirm your time before your appointment.

Continued History of FLC

Mrs. Wilhelmina Meerwein

(An insert in the Church Bulletin, August 27, 1939 - David E. Kinsler, Pastor)
--from the Archives

We have on display today a portrait of the founder of our Sunday School and the chief organizer of our church, Mrs. Wilhelmina Meerwein. The portrait was given by Miss Pauline Kramer of New York City, formerly of Parkersburg. Miss Kramer has long felt that there should be a memorial for Mrs. Meerwein in addition to the church window which her children have given in memory of their father and mother; that, because of her beautiful character and the inspiration that she gave to all those with whom she was associated in the work of her church, there would be some more personal type of memorial in her honor.

Mrs. Meerwein's husband, the Rev. Otto Meerwein, had come to Parkersburg to establish Lutheran churches in this section of West Virginia, but had barely begun the work when ill health came upon him. During his long illness and for a time after his death in 1891, no Lutheran services of any kind were held in Parkersburg. Then Rev.

Meerwein's faithful wife determined to take up the work and began gathering together the few Lutherans of the town.

It was on May 29, 1892, that Mrs. Meerwein started the Sunday school in her home on Murdoch Avenue. At this first meeting, fourteen members were present: Mrs. Meerwein and her children, Mr. Fritz Kramer, and a Mr. Burk with his children, who had come here from Baltimore. The Sunday school continued to meet in the Meerwein home for over a year until its growth made larger quarters necessary. Mrs. Meerwein also arranged church services which, too, were at first held in her home. Thus was laid the foundation of the church that we have today.

The years that followed held much of trial and tribulation for the members of this small group and sometimes it seemed that the little church could never survive. But the leader of the group, Mrs. Meerwein, would not give up. Her brave spirit so inspired the others, that together, in spite of hardship and struggle, they went ahead to carry on the work that they had undertaken.

Miss Kramer, the donor of the portrait, is a daughter of Mr. Fritz Kramer mentioned above, who was one of the

first members of the church and one of its prime workers. She was herself a member of several of the early organizations - the Sunday school, the Young People's Society, the Women's Organization and also the first choir of the church. In this way, as a young girl, she came to know Mrs. Meerwein well, to admire her splendid personality and to appreciate her immense influence for good. In commemoration of this, she has had the painting made by an artist of New York City and has sent it to Mrs. Meerwein's daughters to be displayed in suitable fashion.

The painting is at present in the Bykota room, (Be Ye Kind One To Another room-Library in the Educational Building) where it will remain for some time. All those who remember Mrs. Meerwein and all who are interested in the work that she began here in Parkersburg are invited to go to the Bykota room after the service this morning or at any other convenient time to see the portrait. As we look at it, let us thank God who has always given us able leaders in the work of the church and let us pray He will continue to bless us as we go on into the future.

October Youth Events

Oct. 3rd –5th—Camping at North Bend; Cost is \$20 per youth. Lots of fun and adventure! Leave Friday night and return Sunday morning.
No Youth Sunday evening.

Oct. 12th—October Fest
 Continuing the festivities through the weekend.

Oct. 19th— 'Pop' in for youth. See what popcorn has to with a Bible story.

Oct. 26th—FAMILY EVENT
 Pumpkin carving at the Lockneys. See article on page 2. Begins at 4 pm.
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

Thank You!

I just want to say thank-you to all who helped with Kid's Club this summer. I would list names, but I'm sure that I will forget somebody. It was a huge success.

Lori Butler

Thanks to all who came to Rally Day. Sunday school will always be important to me and has a special place in my heart. You all make it possible!

Lori Butler

I wish to thank everyone who sent cards and for those who said prayers on my behalf after I had eye surgery. Continue to keep my eyes in prayer as I will have another eye surgery.

Janet Prather

GENERAL FUND

JULY INCOME	\$18,150
JULY EXPENSES	\$24,900
JAN-JULY INCOME	\$169,093
JAN-JULY EXPENSES	\$183,178
BUDGETED EXPENSES FOR JAN-JULY	\$199,950

ELECTRICAL UPGRADE CONTRIBUTIONS\$61,579

Cameras are being Installed

You may have noticed cameras installed throughout our Church. Some may wonder the purpose. The answer has several parts.

Our Church Council is concerned about our failure to follow our ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY AND PROCEDURE Adopted by Church Council: September 28, 2003 and Revised: February 22, 2004. Our policy states:

- To further promote an atmosphere of safety in all areas of ministry, it will be our standard to have **two** adults (who have regularly attended First Lutheran Church for six months and been through training) to be present in all situations involving children and youth activities and educational programs of First Lutheran Church.
- We make a significant effort to ensure two people are present for all activities; however, there are times we cannot find a qualified person as the second in a room. We discussed installing cameras in all rooms with our insurance company to act as a second person which they approved.
- After the silver items were stolen we looked into security systems but did not locate anything we suitable to our needs.
- On Sept 13th one of our members discovered a lady in our church. The person had gained access through the side door by the parsonage which must have been ajar. She was directed to Pastor, he talked to her and she left.

The Q-See video only (no sound) systems will monitor activities that occur so corrective actions can be taken.



The cameras have been installed throughout our Church and education building. They have excellent color as well as black and white where the area is dark. Some of you have questioned what we will do when a wedding party is dressing. The answer is a black bag will be placed over the appropriate cameras to eliminate any recording.

Dale VanDeVelde VP

Lay Readers for Sunday Worship

Date	8:30 service	10:45 Service
Sept 28	Barbara McDowell	Julie Davis
Oct 5	Sandy Davies	Tim Archer
Oct 12	Sue Lamp	Ashley Wiltsey
Oct 19	Jerry Harman	Cheryl Hasbargen
Oct 26	(combined service at 10:00 a.m.)Bob Friend	

Communion Bearers for Sunday Worship

Date	10:45 service
Sept 28	Marcia VanDeVelde and Ashley Wiltsey
Oct 5	Chip and Barbara Rodgers
Oct 12	Brian and Penny Green
Oct 19	Don and Judy Ery
Oct 26	Don and Marie Stanley (combined service at 10:00 a.m.)

Door Greeters for 10:45 Sunday Worship*

Date	
Sept 28	Jayne Gillespie and Lindel Lantz
Oct 5	Cindy and Michelle Fouse
Oct 12	Ann and Dan Cooper
Oct 19	Karen and Lewis Creel
Oct 26	Lindel Lantz and Jane Nancarrow (combined service at 10:00 a.m.)

Door Greeters for 8:30 Sunday Worship*

Stan Null, Don Fosselman, Lawrence and Lyndall Hasbargen

Altar Guild Servers*

8:30 a.m. Jo Ellen Louden
 10:45 a.m. Judy Ery
 6:30 p.m. Barbara McDowell
 Paraments—Marcia VanDeVelde

OCTOBER, 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
<p>5</p> <p>Workshop 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Pet Blessing 3:00 Youth 5 pm Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Praise Team At Church 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Woman's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Pastor's Class 10:00 am. Church Council 6:00 pm Bereavement 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir 7:30</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Pastor's Class 6:00 pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>German Fest Set up</p>	<p>11</p> <p>German Fest 11:00-4:00 Hymn Sing 4:00 Holden Evening Prayer Service 4:30pm</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Praise Team at Worthington 2:00 p.m. Melvina Fauley Memorial Service 2:00 Youth 5 pm Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Praise Team Eagle Pointe 7:00 pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Woman's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 p.m. Picture Directory Sessions 2-9 pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Pastor's Class 10:00 am. DUN Meeting 6:30 pm Bereavement 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir 7:30 Picture Directory Sessions 2-9 pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Pastor's Class 6:00 pm Picture Directory Sessions 2-9 pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Evening at the Winery on Jesterville Road</p>	<p>18</p> <p>First Word Articles Due</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 Youth 5 pm Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Praise Team At Church @ 7pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Woman's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Final Pastor's Class 10:00 am. Council Meeting 6:00 pm Bereavement 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir 7:30</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Final Pastor's Class 6:00 pm</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 Combined Worship 10:00 Congregational Meeting Tailgate party!!! Pumpkin carving at Lockneys for youth 4:00 Invitation to Prayer 5:00 Evening Service 6:30</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Praise Team At Church @ 7 pm</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Woman's Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Al-Anon 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Senior Choir 7:30</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	



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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