

**PASTOR**

**The Rev. Ian Reid**

(email: [pastorianreid@gmail.com](mailto:pastorianreid@gmail.com))

**CHURCH OFFICE**

AMANDA WHITLATCH  
304-428-6174 (email: [flsec@yahoo.com](mailto:flsec@yahoo.com))  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday;  
Closed Friday

**YOUTH COORDINATOR**

Becca Reid  
304-966-6430 (email: [cup\\_nstu@yahoo.com](mailto:cup_nstu@yahoo.com))

**NURSERY STAFF**

Selena Ankrom and Heather Lough

**WORSHIP TIMES**

Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Church School 9:30 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](http://firstlutheranparkersburg.com)

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

**Doug Woolley**, President, 304-295-9502

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

**Keith Curry**, Secretary, 304-482-0147

**Carol Petersen**, 304-863-6891

**Robyn Rice**, 304-488-6773

**Chris Davis**, 304-210-7931

**Robert Fluharty**, 304-485-3484

**Mary Lewis**, 740-989-2243

**Betty Smith**, 304-863-5569

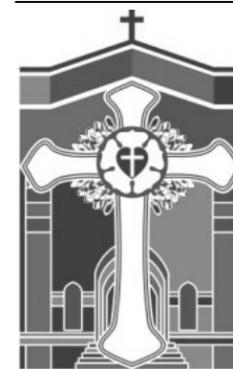
**Tom Curry**, 304-834-4008

**Gerry Kohler**, 304-991-5506

**Brian Nokleby**, 304-375-2260

**Lisa Martin**, Treasurer Appointed, 304-422-8240

**Elizabeth Martin**, Treasurer Appointed,  
304-422-8240



# THE FIRST WORD

CELEBRATING THE LIVING WORD  
FOR A GROWING CHURCH.

OCTOBER 2019

## Together, We Are the Church

Why belong to a church? In the days of our parents and grandparents, answers would be vastly different than many of today's churchgoers. In the past people chose the church they attended because of a previous connection to it: they were baptized into it, their spouse grew up there or a friend brought them to it. The person, at the time, usually was not actively looking for a church body to join, but they somehow became intimately connected to the fellowship of believers.

In today's world, completely different factors play into finding a place to worship. Increased mobility, a growing checklist of what churches need to offer, and lack of patience for slow change, all play into finding a new church to join. This has led existing churches to feel like they must place a major focus on marketing themselves to outsiders and has created the birth of many new churches. Recent surveys suggest that

people looking for a new church to attend are most interested in the worship and programs of the church. One thing that is different than in past generations, is that people looking for a new church today do not value attending the same one as their family like in the past.

Since people are choosing their place of worship you would expect that they would be more invested. Sadly, the answer is that those who attend a church and do not create strong bonds with others are less likely to attend regularly or to stay as a member long term. I think this is because the church was never meant to be something to join but instead a gathering of individuals that God has called to gather together and bring God's kingdom down to earth.

The struggle is that there is no such thing as a "perfect church" because God uses sinners like you and me to populate each congregation. Though I believe every church's

goal is to strive to do God's will, we fall short just as we do on a personal level because of our human imperfections. The key is to remember the grace God give us when we fail to live up to his will for our own lives. We must extend that same grace to others and the church where we feel it falls short and continue to work together to do God's will.

Each one of us who worships in a particular place should ask the question "why did God call me here and for what purpose?" When we understand ourselves as being part of the process and not just a user of a product it makes us see things in a different light and attaches some responsibility to us as well.

Pastor Ian Reid

Non-Profit Org.  
Postage  
PAID  
Parkersburg, WV  
Permit No. 9

First Lutheran Church  
1701 Nineteenth Street  
Parkersburg, WV 26101

## Church Council

### FROM YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT -

Our fall calendar is now in full swing, presenting many different and unique opportunities to worship and fellowship together here at FLC. Do you like German food and live music? Would you like your favorite pet to be blessed? Do you know when Reformation Sunday is, and what is celebrated? If not, then check out the “Upcoming Events” list and also the “Monthly Calendar” found elsewhere in this newsletter, and make plans to participate!

Have you taken your next step in your faith walk by joining a new study group or participating in one of the many fall events here at church? It’s not too late!! Our Sunday School teachers and group leaders always welcome new guests, and I promise you will be richly blessed and enriched for your efforts.

Your church Finance Committee has been very busy finalizing next year’s proposed budget, which will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting immediately following the combined 10:00

am service on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Please plan now to attend this very important meeting. I especially want to thank Finance Committee member Andrea Brock who has personally spent many hours leading this effort. Every line of our General Fund budget (which pays for the daily operation of our church) has been examined with an eye toward reducing unnecessary planned expenses. As a result, budget cuts have been made where appropriate. The goal is to craft a balanced budget for next year that will recognize and account for our reduction in monthly General Fund offering receipts compared with previous years’. Your Church Council is now in the process of carefully reviewing this draft budget which will be finalized for presentation at the Annual Meeting. Please continue to pray for God’s guidance as we discern how to be good stewards of His gifts.

As each of you pray about your continued personal contributions of time, talents, and financial support to your church, please keep in mind the following information about our budget. Monetary contributions to our Specially-designated Funds (such as Memorial Fund, GIFT Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Organ

Fund, Back-pack Ministry, Endowment Fund, etc.) cannot be used for our normal monthly expenses such as administration, salaries, building maintenance, bulletins, Christian Education expenses, Community/ Outreach Programs, etc., which all are funded out of the General Fund. Our General Fund expenses are what is budgeted each year, and our General Fund offering (received from each of you) is the only way to pay for these expenses. Please continue to give regularly (as you are able) to our General Fund offering.

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

Yours in Christ,  
Doug Woolley

# OCTOBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 am Minister Alliance 11:30 am Al-Anon 6:00 pm Woman's Bible Study 6:30 pm	2 Pastor's Class 10:00 am Alzheimer's 1:00 pm Bereavement 6:30 pm Hand Bells Practice 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	3 *National Take Your Bible To School Day*	4	5 Garden Work Day 9am - 11am
6 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Youth Group 5 pm Evening Service 6:30 pm	7	8 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 am Al-Anon 6:00 pm Woman's Bible Study 6:30 pm	9 Finance Meeting 6:30 pm Hand Bells Practice 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	10 Katie's Ladies 6 - 8 pm	11	12 Garden Work Day 9am - 11am
13 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Praise Team at Worthington 2 pm Pet Blessing 5 pm Youth Group 5 pm Evening Service 6:30 pm	14 *Staff Meeting 10:30 am* Praise Team at Eagle Pointe 7 pm	15 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 am Al-Anon 6:00 pm Woman's Bible Study 6:30 pm	16 Pastor's Class 10:00 am Council Meeting 6 - 8 pm Bereavement 6:30 pm Hand Bells Practice 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	17	18	19 *First Word Articles Due*  German Fest 11am - 3pm
20 Worship 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 am Youth Group 5 pm Evening Service 6:30 pm	21	22 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 am Al-Anon 6:00 pm Woman's Bible Study 6:30 pm	23 Pastor's Class 10:00 am Hand Bells Practice 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	24	25	26 Garden Work Day 9am - 11am  Lillian Homer's 100th Birthday Party 2p - 4p
27 *Reformation Sunday* Combined Service 10am Annual Congregation Meeting after service Trunk or Treat with the Youth 5pm Evening Service 6:30 pm	28	29 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:30 am Al-Anon 6:00 pm Woman's Bible Study 6:30 pm	30 Pastor's Class 10:00 am Hand Bells Practice 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	31   *Halloween*		

### LUTHER GOLF LEAGUE

The end of September officially closed the 2019 season for our Luther Golf League. In spite of several 90+ degree Mondays, many golfers played all summer.

The season started with a covered dish organizational dinner meeting held in the banquet hall of Worthington Golf Course clubhouse. The first Monday of play was May 6th. Skill games were played each Monday to determine the best of the best! A presentation of trophies and social time was planned after the last Monday of play, September 30th.

Earning the title of Skill Champions were: Best Putter - Delores Steege, Best Short Game - Chris Davis, Long Driver (Female) - Jan Kiger, Long Driver (Male) - Eugene Crook, Most Birdies - Matt Davis, and Most Chip - Ins - Delores Steege.

Special recognition was awarded to Kevin McDonald for Most Improved Player, Big Shot Award to Mike Struble, and Most Faithful Player to Andrea Brock!

#### ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION:

Plan now to attend our Annual Fall Congregation Meeting on Sunday Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> immediately following the Combined Reformation Service.

- Presentation of 2020 Budget
- Elect new Council Members
- Vote on organ improvements

Your attendance is very important!

#### NORTH END TAVERN LUNCHEON

Let's have lunch on **Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**, at the NET! Church services are combined and the congregational meeting follows. Then let's head to the NET for food and fellowship! If planning to attend drop a note in the offering plate or leave a message with the church office. Please let us know by Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> if you will join us.

#### TRUNK OR TREAT 2019 October 27 5-6 pm

We placed an order for a sunny afternoon, so get your ideas swirling!! Members are invited to decorate their cars with a fall theme, something silly, something funny, something OUT OF THIS WORLD! Whatever you can imagine, we want to see it.

Children will come around to each stop and gather treats to fill their candy bags- so plan on 50 kids.

Watch the parking lot for ideas before church during the month of October. (In case of rain, we will move inside to the fellowship hall.)

#### UPCOMING:

Cookeez Sale is coming on December 14, 2019 from 10-12 in the church library!

### Lay Readers for Sunday Worship

Date	8:30 service	Combined	10:45 Service
October 6	Tim Archer		Miriam Jackson
October 13	Sandy Davies		Chris Davis
October 20	Jim Hamric		David Fosselman
October 27		Pat Heslep	

### Communion Bearers for Sunday Worship

Date	10:45 Service
October 6	Courtney and Abby Ferrell
October 13	Carole Carter and Barb McDowell
October 20	Louis and Karen Creel
October 27	Mike and Ann Struble

### Door Greeters 10:45 and 8:30 (contact church office to volunteer)

10:45 Service	
October 6	Ashley Carter
October 13	Brian & Penny Green
October 20	Carol Petersen
October 27	Sharon Buzzard
8:30 Service	
Lawrence and Lyndall Hasbargen, Donnie Fosselman and Stan Null	

### Altar Guild Servers

8:30 AM	Mary Beth Jeffers
10:45 AM	Judy Ery
6:30 PM	Barbara McDowell
Paraments—Natalie James Tumlin	

### Cantors

October 6	Tim Rice
October 13	Scott Fauley
October 20	Doug Farr
October 27	Susan Smith

### Communion Assistants

October: Julie Davis, Chris Davis, and Carol Petersen

## YOUTH & FAMILY TIME

### Sundays- 5-6 pm in fellowship hall

**October 6:** NO YOUTH (Will meet the next day)

**October 7:** 4-5 pm @ Classic Plastics - Play all you want!! (Beside Dunham's in the mall) Pinball, PacMan, TMNT, Shoot 'em up games, Tetris- everything a kid (and grown up) needs! We'll supply the quarters, you show up and play! Bring a friend! There is also ping pong, connect four, and blocks to play with in the mall just outside the store so you can play those for free!

**October 13:** 2-4 pm @ Butcher Family Farm, 38 Peach Tree Lane, Washington, WV We will spend the afternoon playing and checking out the displays and fall scenes at this cool farm! We will paint pumpkins which is \$3 per person. If you would like a ride or to follow someone, meet at the church at 1:30 pm.

**October 20:** Fall service project - each child is invited to bring a brownie mix that will be placed in the baskets given out by the food pantry. We will check out the pantry to see what we are blessed to share with those who come for assistance. Children will get to place any additional items they bring on the shelves!

**October 27:** 5-6 pm Trunk or Treat: Come in costume and meet church members who decorate their car "trunks" with holiday themes! Invite a friend or neighbor! (See more info on pg. 8)

### Katie's Ladies:

Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm in the church library

#### Katharina von Bora Woman of the Reformation

*The life and legacy of Katie Luther*

This presentation will allow attendees to explore the life of Katie Luther, formidable woman in her own right, former nun, and wife of Martin Luther, Father of the Protestant Reformation. Through group discussion and the video *The Morning Star of Wittenberg*, participants will have the opportunity to glean a deeper understanding into the real life challenges and vital ministry contribution of Katie Luther during this historic period of Church history. Further, participants will explore specific ways the legacy of this 16<sup>th</sup> Century German wife, mother, woman of faith, and yes, the brewer of beer, can serve as inspiration and motivation for her 21<sup>st</sup> Century American sisters.

Leading this presentation will be The Reverend Jacqueline Campbell, retired Lutheran pastor residing in Fairmont, West Virginia.



(Image of Katie Luther)



**Saturday, October 19, 2019**

11 am – 3 pm

## Join in the fun!

**FOOD, MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT**

**FOR ALL AGES!**

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Live German Band                                     | Kid and Adult Crafts                 |
| Live DJ  | Inflatables for Kids                 |
| Wonderful German Food<br>(food service ends at 3:30) | First Lutheran Origins History Booth |
| Sanctuary Tours                                      | Photo Station                        |
| Organ Presentation 1-1:30                            | Famous PRETZEL<br>will be there too! |

PLUS: TV on the lawn for WVU football fans!

And there will be a fire pit if weather dictates!

**Mark your calendars!  
Want to be a volunteer?**

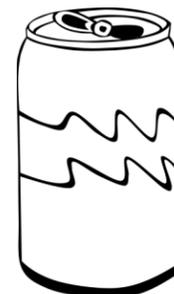


### German Fest – Donations Requested

The German Fest Committee is asking for donations of canned soda and bottled water for the October 19 event.

If you are interested in donating cans of Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Coke or Diet Coke, please drop them off in the office by Wednesday, October 16

Thank you very much!



### Upcoming Events



**October 10th**

“Katie’s Ladies” at Church – 6-8 pm

**October 13th - Pet Blessing**  
5 pm on the Church lawn

**October 18th - 9am**  
Join the Germanfest kitchen crew to chop onions & peppers and cube potatoes

**October 19th – 8<sup>th</sup> Annual German Fest!**  
11 am – 3 pm – under the tent on the Church lawn, good food, folks & fun!!

**October 26th - Birthday Celebration**  
Lillian Horner’s 100th birthday party.  
2 pm - 4 pm in the fellowship hall

**October 27 – Reformation Sunday**  
Combined Service 10 am

**CONGREGATION MEETING**  
following service – important for all members to attend!

Everyone invited to go to the NET following meeting to enjoy fellowship and lunch.

**October 27 – Annual “Trunk or Treat”**  
5 pm in the Church parking lot

**PASTOR’S CLASSES**  
Wednesdays at 10 am

**GARDEN WORK DAYS**  
Soon coming to a close ...  
Saturdays – 9-11 am

Mike says MUCH help still needed – please come if you can assist.

**POST THIS MONTHLY ACTIVITIES  
REMINDER ON YOUR FRIDGE**

### Bereavement Meeting

Bereavement meetings are held at First Lutheran Church at 6:30 pm on the first and third Wednesday of each month.



### Alzheimer’s Support Group

Alzheimer's Support Group meets first Wednesday of each month at 1pm at the First Lutheran Church. For more



information contact Joe Lantz MSW/LCSW at 304 422-9293.

### Liberty Street Garden Workday

Saturdays  
9 am - 11 am

Weather Permitting  
Bring some gloves.



### Food Pantry News:

I want to thank you for answering our call for breakfast foods for our clients. I love hearing the surprise in the pantry volunteer’s voices that say, “Did you see what we got today?” “How do people know we only had one box left on the shelf?” “ Where did these goodies come from?” We are so blessed to have such a caring congregation that supports this mission on hunger in our community. I hate to report that the government has once again lowered the amount of money for SNAP benefits. We are seeing letters of people only receiving eight or twelve dollars per month to purchase food. They turn to us to help them feed their families. We have gotten permission to give families extra USDA foods per month, and we are giving extra beans, rice, and canned meats. The USDA recommended that we allow clients to come twice a month. We do not have the volunteer staff to accommodate their recommendations; so, we are giving extra USDA foods on their monthly visits.

I attended the Wood County Food Co-op meeting in September. We are not the only pantry seeing an increase in clients seeking food assistance. Some pantries are thinking of cutting hours and days of service due to lack of volunteers and being overwhelmed with clients. Applications are monitored by the United Way to maintain a master list of visits to local food pantries. Misuse is almost zero.

We will begin taking Christmas basket applications on October 1. Our applications are only for our clients. We are planning on preparing sixty baskets. If you would like to sponsor a family, the cost will be \$10.00 per family . Any donation amount would be appreciated. You can make donations now and mark your check or offering envelope for food pantry/Christmas basket.

Our food needs for next month will be spaghetti sauce or macaroni and cheese or instant mashed potatoes. We will take any food or toiletry you offer this ministry.

Shandra Ice can still use your newspaper coupons to purchase much needed toiletries. Just bring them to the church office or slide them under the choir room door.

In Christ, Susie McNemar

### From Shandra Ice

Choir is back in session! If you enjoy singing and would like to join us, choir rehearsals are every Wednesday at 7:30 pm. No prior experience or the ability to read music is necessary.

If you are interested in serving as a cantor at the 10:45 service, please let Shandra Ice know, and she will get you on the schedule.



*A note from your Treasurer -*

2019 Financial Information:

	August 2019	2019 YTD
Total Income	\$22,581	\$189,642
Total Expense:	(\$24,344)	(\$221,239)
Gain or Loss for Month/Year:	(\$1,763)	(\$31,597)

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!

**Supporting First Lutheran Church's Mission With Online Giving**

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**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**

**JUST A NOTE:**

Praise be to God that we were able to assist Bernie and Hazel Poole! Pastor, Don Ery, Regis Jones, and Chip Rodgers went to their house and built a ramp so that they were able to get in and out without steps. They are beyond thankful as they haven't left their house in a while because of the step.



**FLC Community Garden, September 23, 2019**

If the calendar and weather weren't telling us that growing season is fading for the community garden, a glance in that direction is confirmation. The last of the bean plants have been removed and the tomato plants are browning from the ground up. Of course, work remains, as the garden must be prepared for winter and spring. The many weeds that have worked hard to stake their claim will be back in the spring, so there is cutting and mulching and tilling to get done. This summer has been difficult for the garden and gardeners. Although there was financial support from the church and from Thrivent, workers were in limited supply. With the events of the spring and summer at the Lockney house, time to commit to gardening was in short supply, so my presence was not what it should have been. Thanks especially to valiant efforts by Jarad Ice, Don Ery, Ann and Mike Struble, Regis Jones and a few others we were able to get a reasonable harvest, but it was a steady struggle to stay ahead of uninvited wildlife. Please offer your thanks to those individuals who worked hard to provide produce this summer to the food pantry, several shut-ins, and church attendees on Sunday mornings. There will be a final major work day on September 28 to start garden cleanup, and all hands are welcome, as are suggestions for the future of the community garden. Please watch for a meeting time later this fall to discuss plans for next year.

Mike Lockney

