

LENT

To a Christian, “spiritual” = “of the Spirit of God”

Those who are spiritual but not religious attack Christian worship as tired or secular and Christian views of sin as repressive. They see spirituality as a personal activity, church hierarchy as evil, and the Christian faith as having a negative outcome on the world. In response, we say that...



Christian Worship Is Spiritual. (February 21)

John 4:23-24 “Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”



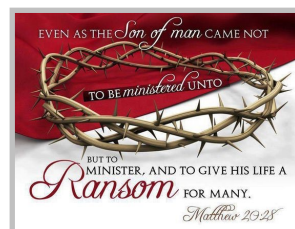
Christian Views of Sin & Salvation Are spiritual. (February 28)

Ephesians 1:13-14 “In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.”



Christian Community Is spiritual. (March 7)

Ephesians 4:2-6 “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”



Pastoral Leadership Is Spiritual. (March 14)

Matthew 20:25-28 “But Jesus called them to him and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’”



Christian Mission Is Spiritual. (March 21)

Matthew 28:19-20 “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”



ASH WEDNESDAY BEGINS THE SEASON OF LENT

February 17,

Imposition of Ashes

Drive-thru 4:00 to 6:00

The Imposition of Ashes will be available at the elevator entrance. Those wishing to receive ashes will enter the parking lot from E. Lincoln Street, drive to the south side of the building, receive their ashes at the elevator entrance and then exit out the elevator drive.

Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is always 46 days before Easter Sunday. Lent is a 40-day season (not counting Sundays) marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, and ultimately celebration. The 40-day period represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him. Lent asks believers to set aside a time each year for similar fasting, marking an intentional season of focus on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.



May your Ash Wednesday be a time of reflection and promise.

Is Ash Wednesday Mentioned in the Bible?

Ash Wednesday is not specifically mentioned in the Bible, however, from Biblical times, sprinkling oneself with ashes has been a mark of sorrow for sin. Several times the Bible mentions people repenting in dust and ashes; for example: Mordecai (Esther 4:1), Job (Job 42:6), and Daniel (Daniel 9:3-4). Repentance in dust and ashes often was accompanied with fasting during Bible times.



**CALLING ALL MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS,
AUNTS, SISTERS, AND GIRLFRIENDS!!**

Don't forget the Snowflake Social coming on Sunday February 14th--that's right! It's on Valentine's Day. Plan to come for the 10 a.m. church service in the parking lot, and we will have the take home craft (by our resident artist Beth Maurer) and a goodie bag to brighten those winter blahs. Thrivent Financial is helping to sponsor this WELCA event, and your only "ticket" is a taxable item which will be donated to the Christian Clearing House Caring Cupboard. Items needed: Toilet paper, Diapers, Deodorant, Feminine products, Laundry Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner, Tooth paste, Tooth brushes, Bar soap, Dish detergent, and Baby wipes.

You may register with the bulletin tear-off, calling the church office, or e-mailing Nina flcFindlay@gmail.com

See you in the parking lot on Valentine's Day after church as we begin to count our blessings



WELCA Calendar of Events for February

Martha Circle is in-service for the month of February

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Feb. 9 | Martha Circle, 9:00 am ; Church Lounge
Hostess: Erika Cunningham ; Leader: Sue DeMoss |
| Feb. 9 | Rachel Circle, 9:30 am; Fellowship Hall
Hostess: Donna Mason; Leader: Carrie Howe |
| Feb. 14 | Snowflake Social – pick up craft after Sunday service |
| Feb. 15 | Hannah Circle, 7:00 pm; Church Lounge
Hostess: Arlene Schriener; Leader: Pam Cochran |

*Because of the fluid situation all dates,
places, and times are subject to change.*



**WELCA invites YOU
to a
Snowflake Social!!!**

WHO: ALL women and girls.

WHEN: *Wednesday,
February 14th*

WHERE: Drive Thru
after worship

ADMISSION: Toilet paper,
Diapers, Deodorant, Feminine
products, Laundry Soap,
Shampoo, Conditioner, Tooth
paste, Tooth brushes, Bar soap,
Dish detergent, and Baby wipes

NAME: _____

NUMBER OF KITS { }

Please place your RSVP in
in the offering plate,



Level 1 - Worship & meetings will be held as scheduled.

Level 2 - Worship will be held - use your discretion;
Meetings—Check with your chairperson to see if your
meeting has been canceled. Please be safe.

Level 3 - All worship and events are canceled.



Covid 19 Color Policy

YELLOW & ORANGE

- In-person worship following established safety guidelines*
- One service recorded and posted on Monday
- Church office is open but gatherings limited by distancing requirements
- Weddings & funerals in our building if they follow our safety practices

RED

- In-person worship is suspended and replaced with parking lot worship
- A service is recorded during the week and posted on the weekend
- Church office is open but no gatherings in church over 10 people
- Weddings & funerals in our building for immediate family only

PURPLE

- Parking lot worship continues as long as state/local guidelines allow travel
- A service is recorded during the week and posted on the weekend
- Church office is closed and no gatherings allowed in church
- Only staff allowed in the building, where they are available by phone or email.

Effective December 1, 2020



Blood Mobile

*Want to make a donation
without spending any money?*

The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be at First on
February 18th, from 12-5pm.

February is Heart month so be kind to your heart and to
those who may need help by donating to the Red Cross
Blood Mobile on Thursday, Feb. 18,

12 -5 pm here at the church in fellowship hall. Walk-ins are fine but it is best to
make an appointment at RedCrossBlood.org or by calling the Red Cross
directly.

Many drives have been cancelled due to the pandemic so your help will be
appreciated. If you are unable to donate, tell your friends. Masks are required
and an ID. Please call Carolyn Bryant, 419-422-0015 if you have questions.



How Do We Care For Each Other?

By Communication! Please let the church office or a
pastor know about a change in your life, such as a
hospitalization, being confined to a home, even temporarily,
the death of a loved one, etc.

If you notice the absence of a brother or sister from
worship, leave a note on the back of your yellow "Footprints" or call the church
office or pastor. Our pastors are prepared to support you in times of change and
adjustment.

Serving Our Congregation:

Senior Pastor: Bob Cochran (419-788-0803) flcpastor@hotmail.com
Assisting Minister: Chris Dittmar (419-425-5453) cdit668995@aol.com
Administrative Assistant: Nina Dukes (419-422-2638) flcfindlay@gmail.com
Building Manager: Wayne Dukes (419-306-3358 *emergency only*)
FLCBuildingManager@gmail.com
Assistant Building Manager: Sam Ried
Organist: Miriam Gibson
Sr. Choir Director: Jane Eakin
Brass Choir Director: Diane Adler
Kids Kingdom Directors: Sally Rice, Heather Nielsen
Financial Secretary: Daryl Rotman
Treasurer: Tom Basinger

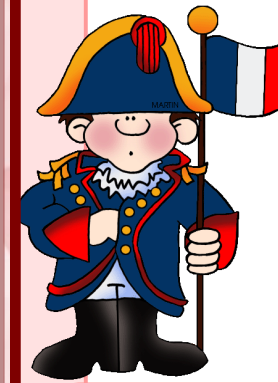
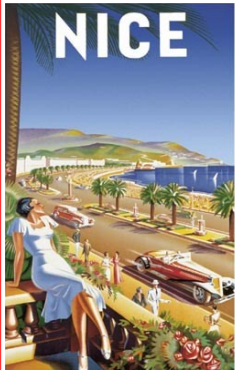
*We are here
for you* 

Tout le Monde à Bord! the STEWARD SHIP



Welcome to Nice, France

The deep blue waters of the Cote d'Azur are the dramatic backdrop for elegant
Nice [named by the Greeks after the goddess Nike]. Breathe in the fresh
Mediterranean air as you stroll the famous Promenade des Anglais, be charmed
by the quaint streets of Old Town, or get a panoramic view of the whole city from
atop Castle Hill. Indulge in classic Provençal dishes and wines in one of the city's
intimate cafes or bustling brasseries. And don't pass up the chance to experience
the French Riviera's glitz and glamor by taking day trips to Saint Tropez and
Monaco. The city of Nice is located on the French Riviera in Provence-Alpes-Côte
d'Azur. Blessed by a sunny, temperate climate, Nice attracts visitors from around
the world [some 4 million annually]. Among its many attractions are its
beautiful beaches, lovely seaside promenade, interesting museums of Marc
Chagall and Henri Matisse, famous city landmarks and other tourist attractions.
Nice is indeed very nice!



*Over the years I have noticed how much Lutheran people want to be nice. Nice is
good. Nice is warm and sweet. But sometimes we have to than be more than nice. If
we are a church in mission, rather than just a nice group of Christians who gather to
reune once a week, maybe there are better ways to describe us than nice...how about
smart, innovative, passionate, ardent or, can we say, persistent? Think of more... I know
that we try to be nice to avoid conflict and sometimes if we speak up, disagree, or seem
too passionate about something, we are afraid we will not be regarded as a nice person.
But Jesus never said, "Be nice!" he said, "Go!" "Love your neighbors [and your
enemies]!" He said, "Follow me!" Sometimes we may ruffle feathers, upset the apple
cart and encourage difficult changes. We can do these things even if we aren't always
nice. We can be generous, kind and loving. Sometimes being a good steward doesn't just
involve money but requires our words and deeds as well, for the sake of others. Nice
[France] is very nice. Christians are to be faithful, generous and kind. Not just nice!
- Pastor Chris*

Just up the road [in Geneva, Switzerland] is the headquarters of the **Lutheran World
Federation**. The LWF is a global communion of national and regional Lutheran
denominations headquartered in the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva. The federation was
founded in the Swedish city of Lund in the aftermath of the Second World War in 1947 to
coordinate the activities of the many differing Lutheran churches. Since 1984, the member
churches are in pulpit and altar fellowship, with common doctrine as the basis of
membership and mission activity. The LWF now has 145 member church bodies [the ELCA
is a member, *the only Lutheran body in the U.S.*] in 99 countries representing over 77
million Lutherans. The LWF acts on behalf of its member churches in areas of common
interest such as ecumenical and interfaith relations, theology, humanitarian
assistance, human rights, communication, and the various aspects of mission and
development work. 119 of the 145 member churches (80%) ordain women as ministers.



Nice, France

Library News

Oh my, here we are again, one month into 2021. So how is your New Year progressing? We have seen, once again, the deaths of some we know. Yet, hope appears in that the vaccine is now available. "When will it be my turn?" Is the next question. I suspect Paul and I will receive ours in Florida...the jury, however, is still out as Florida is still setting up its protocol for distribution.

I continue to read voraciously. Just finished Gary Paulsen's The Winter Room. It was one of his more unusual novels for young adults - it surrounds a relative who was a legend to his younger relatives until the young man in the story no longer believes his stories. The ending reminded me of Shane and I will say no more.

I read The Death of the Heart by Elizabeth Bowen, a very sad story surrounding a young 16-year-old orphan who just wants to feel that she belongs. Unfortunately, she will always be trusting others and getting hurt.

I also read Deacon King Kong by McBride, recommended by Oprah Winfrey and one of Barack Obama's favorite reads. Actually, it was chosen by a member of my book club. The other three members raved about it as it showed the connection between poverty and crime, and was a portrayal of a community protecting its own. I didn't like the story as it reminded me of the sadness of teaching at Taft High School in Cincinnati, a school sandwiched between the tenement housing and District One Police. That year was quite an experience.

American Dirt was an excellent read in that it portrays the world in Mexico run by cartels, and the danger of trying to get out of Mexico. Some controversy about the book but I will let you be the judge.

And finally, for the church book club, I read and we discussed Still Life by Penny. What a mystery. A quirky group of people in a quirky little village with a really interesting murder

mystery.

By the way, I have two e-readers yet available if you care to join us at book club, the first Tuesday of every month.

And now I shift gears...in these troubled, chaotic times, if your mind fills with worry, a suggestion is to take a moment to become mindful of your breathing. Continue inhaling and exhaling at a comfortable pace until you can move on.

How do we focus on the best-case scenario when the news is filled with depressing and fear-based stories? Well, we have a duty as citizens to care about our country and our world. We need to care. We need to create the change we want to see. Pray on the situation, the problems of our cities, our country's concerns, and the relationships between our citizens.

Our sphere of influence is worldwide because of the internet, but our strongest impact begins with our immediate surroundings. As you drive to the grocery store, pray. As you enter the store, imagine everyone treating each other with kindness; when you walk in the door, that will be the energy you find.

Imagine the best case scenario as you drive. Pray. Just maybe people will use their turn signals and allow others to merge. Send your prayers, and imagine the best case scenario; perhaps that situation will be delivered to you.

God bless and keep reading. Kathy Brooks (kathleenbrooks15@gmail.com)

"Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

John 14:27.



Endowments

First Lutheran appreciates all those who continue to support the current Restricted accounts and other funds within the Endowment guidelines to ease the financial needs of our church both physical and spiritual into the future. Any size gift is beneficial to these needs.

The Endowment committee has distributed the funds for all Restricted accounts for 2020. The following funds were given to the appropriate committees:

•Schlee Fund for Special Maintenance	\$647.89
•McCracken Fund for Candles, Worship and Music	\$124.59
•Bradley Fund for Current Benevolence	\$58.14
•Yammine Fund for Youth Activities	\$725.04



Endowment Scholarships

Scholarship applications are now available on the bulletin board and in the church office, and on the church website (www.1stLutheranChurch.org under "Forms") for two scholarships from the Endowment Fund.

The Endowment General Scholarship is available for voting members and their dependents attending a Christian Theological Seminary, a Lutheran affiliated college or university regardless of major, or any Christian college or university if majoring in areas of Christian ministry.

The Jeffrey Allan DeMoss Scholarship was established for members of First Lutheran Church by Paul and Sue DeMoss in memory of their son, Jeff. This scholarship will be awarded to a student who is an active member of First Lutheran between the ages of 18 and 25, attending a nationally accredited college or university with a declared major in health, religion, and/or social work professions. Examples of professions include but are not limited to social work, counseling, psychology, nursing, medicine, youth work, ministry, and mental health. Applicants must also be of good Christian character and be making use of their talents in a manner that is pleasing to God. No one person may receive the scholarship award more than twice.

Deadline for Submitting applications and letters of recommendation is March 31st. The recipient(s) will be selected and notified on or before June 1st. A total of \$4,329.40 for the General Scholarship and \$421.51 for the Jeffrey Allan DeMoss Scholarship is available to be awarded. Any questions, please contact any Endowment committee member or the church office.

Gifts to
First Church's Endowment Fund
become your living legacy
and your testament to the
Church's centrality in your life.





February 2021



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1-Feb	2	3	4	5	6
	10:30am *Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm Worship & Music	4:30pm *Riehm Farm 7pm *Book Club	7pm Confirmation	4:30pm Organ Rehearsal 5:45pm Girl Scouts ?	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	Thompson/ Gagnon Wedding
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship 10am Parking Lot 11:30am Community Dinner	10:30am *Ladies Bible Study 6pm Stewardship/ Evangelism 7pm Property 7pm Social Ministry	9am Martha Circle 9:30am Rachel Circle 7:30pm Finance	7pm Confirmation 7pm Endowment 8pm Theology Pub	4:30pm Organ Rehearsal	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Noisy Offering Worship 10am Parking Lot 10am Drive Thru Snowflake Social	10:30am *Ladies Bible Study 12pm Newsletter Deadline 7pm Hannah Circle	1:30pm Staff Meeting 4:30pm *Riehm Farm	Ash Wednesday  Imposition Of Ashes Drive Thru 4:00 - 6:00	12pm Bloodmobile 4:30pm Organ Rehearsal 5:45pm Girl Scouts ? 6pm BSA	9:30am Bulletin Assembly 6:00 BSA?	BSA All Day?
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship 10am Parking Lot	10:30am *Ladies Bible Study 7pm *Council Meeting		7pm Confirmation Lenten Online Worship Recording Available	4:30pm Organ Rehearsal	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
28						
Worship 10am Parking Lot						

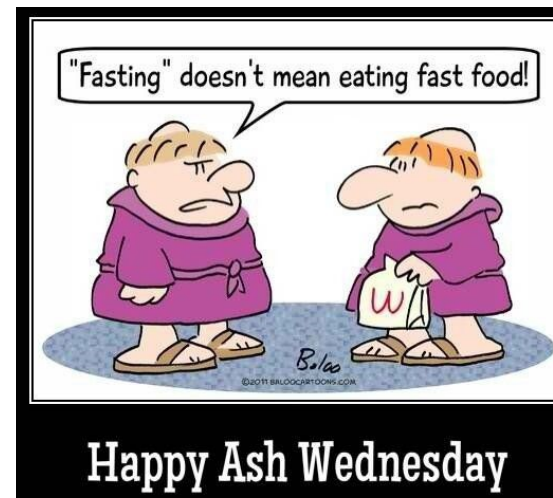


February Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD
Julie Buck
Amber Leipheimer

COUNTERS
Randy & Julie Buck

LSS DELIVERY
Sue DeMoss



Happy Ash Wednesday

Newsletter Deadline
Monday, February 15th
Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays by noon

Food Cart Requests



Toilet Paper,
Dish Soap, Cereal

All donations benefit
Lutheran Social Services

The cart is in the coat room.



www.catholiccartoonblog.blogspot.com

Celebrations

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Birthdays

Seth Franks 2/1
Joan Swisher 2/1
Steven Rodman 2/2
Erin Meier 2/3
Breanna Tabler 2/3
Dean Bowser 2/5
Nancy Haffelder 2/5
Janice Wagner 2/5
Amy Masterlasco 2/6
Seth Rakestraw 2/6
Richard Ruehle 2/6
Janet Baker 2/7

Angela Huff 2/8
Clarke Huff 2/8
Erik Nielsen 2/8
Steve Brossia 2/9
Julie Buck 2/9
Cheryl Seibert 2/11
Jane Ebersole 2/13
Elliot Holbach 2/15
Nancy Bahler 2/17
Yvette Mains 2/19
James Maurer 2/19

Kylee Timbrook 2/19
Michelle Dale 2/20
Cloyce Baker 2/22
Steve Leopold 2/22
Casey Leipheimer 2/23
Nathan Leipheimer 2/23
Fred Parish 2/24
Elaine Ashley 2/26
Traci Roth 2/26
Victoria Cox 2/27
Taylor Polder 2/27

Anniversaries

Tom & Mary Beth Dillon 2/14/1999 21
Steve & Laura Leopold 2/28/1998 22



The Church office is open 8:30—3:00 Monday—Thursday
and until noon on Friday.

Julie Buck
Secretary
JABuck67@hotmail.com

Cindy Fitzpatrick
President
cbfrenfitz@aol.com

Tim Franks
Tfranks75@hotmail.com

Rob Leipheimer
RLeip@sbcglobal.net

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Jeff Short
JFShort1991@gmail.com

Kylee Timbrook - Youth
23TimbrookK@
FindlayCitySchools.com

Janet Wobser
Wobserjr@aol.com

Here to
serve you



109 E. Lincoln Street
Findlay, OH 45840

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
FINDLAY, OH
PERMIT NO. 338

Current Resident or:



Mailed around
Jan. 27, 2021

You are a beloved child of God.

Sunday Mornings at 10:00

In the church parking lot.



www.1stLutheranChurch.org

419-422-2638