

# STEWARDS OF GRACE

2019 Stewardship Emphasis

## Social Ministry Committee

An interview with Carolyn Bryant

**Briefly describe the work of the congregation's Social Ministry Committee.**

The Social Ministry committee has the opportunity to bring social awareness such as world hunger, human trafficking, drug abuse, injustices and any items we think are important for the congregation to know. We try to be aware of needs both locally, country and worldwide.

**What are some of the local projects and ministries that the Committee has been overseeing?**

Local areas or agencies that the congregation has helped include: Stuff the Bus, Coats for Christmas, Clothe-A-Child, Habitat Build, Lutheran Social Services, Food Boxes for distribution at Community Dinner, Komen Race, Glow Run, Bake Sale, distribution of meat from Chipotle to agencies in Findlay and Riehm Farm produce for community dinner guests or members of congregation, City Mission, CHOPIN Hall, Open Arms, Salvation Army and the Learning Center near the high school. We have helped Lincoln School in their school lunch program, collected Box Tops for them to use. We determine distribution of the Opal Thompson Fund from the Community Foundation. [We also support global ministries including Baby, School and Fabric kits to send to Lutheran World Relief; we have offered Fair Trade coffee and chocolate for sale and have delivered food supplies to areas affected by hurricane disasters.]

**Why do you devote your time to this Committee's work?**

I serve on this committee because I like to be a helper. I refer to myself as a "Martha" which may not always be good but I still try to be involved in the congregation. This congregation is a part of my "family" and I learned from my parents who were involved in their church. It is not hard to do a little to help - music, food, gardening, being with young people as an example or teacher, prayer groups, women's circles, a driver for someone, and just being a friend.

**How can the members of First Lutheran aid in this work?**

My hope is that all members consider the church as an extension of their family. The congregation has helped the committee in so many ways of donations, helping at the community dinners, being willing to share their gifts/talents when needed.



*The purpose of the Social Ministry Committee shall be to extend Christian compassion and helpfulness to the ill, the aged, the orphaned, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, and, in general, to persons of all ages in need of aid in body or soul. It shall strive to enlist in these efforts as many as possible of the individual members and organizations of the congregation. This committee shall further have the duty to study social conditions, primarily in the local community, in order to bring the cleansing and healing light of Christian truth to bear upon critical problems through thoughtful Christian discussion of facts and issues. " - First Lutheran By-Laws Section V G.*

*Social Ministry meets on the 2nd Monday at 7pm [usually in the library]*

*Members are: Janet Baker, Robin Bowman, Sue DeMoss, Jane Ebersole, Jennifer Kamm, Aaron Reid, Rob Leipheimer, Mike Thompson, Bev Yammine, Karen Rose, and Carolyn Bryant, Chair.*

## Summer Worship 8:30 & 10:00

June 2—August 25

*"Gimme That Old-Time Religion."*

All hymns will be those chosen as favorites by the congregation. The service itself hearkens all the way back to the 1970's (that's almost 50 years ago, people!) and that ancient hymnal, the green LBW. So, we will say things like, "cleanse the thoughts of our hearts" and "In fervent love toward one another." The worship style will be somewhat reminiscent of the old camp revivals that we are all so nostalgic for even though most of us have never been to one. In other words, though the service is traditional, the feel will be casual and intimate. As I'm anticipating two 45-minute services (starting at 8:30 and 10:00), these would perfect for inviting those who are uncomfortable with long, formal services. Come and see that the Lord is fervent!



## Chime Master®

### First Lutheran All Saints Memorial Chimes

The Evangelism/Stewardship Committee of our congregation is proposing that we install an outdoor electronic chime system that will ring the time on the hour automatically and will play a customized chime concert at noon and the end of the day for most of the downtown to enjoy.

The chime set will be placed in honor of our church's Saints both past and present. The cost will be \$20,000 for the equipment and installation and we are proposing that anyone who would like to honor a loved one consider contributing to the fund.

Envelopes for making donations in memory of loved ones will be available in the hallway across from the church office and should be returned to the office. Questions can be directed to Kurt Ebersole or one of the committee members.

## The Year of Scripture....A Marathon not a Sprint!

In the bishop's study for the Sermon on the Mount, he includes a Discipleship Challenge Project with each of the last few lessons (Feel to join us for the last 2 classes in Pr. Bob's classroom on June 2 and 9.). For week 2, he suggests a 90 day Bible reading plan (for those not already involved in the year long read). This might include:



- Readings from June 1 through August 31 ( Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations)
- Reading all 150 Psalms (you could divide into 1-2 per day, but remember 119 is EXTRA long!)
- Start with one or all of the Gospels and proceed through the rest of the New Testament

Lots of ways to read and find God's word an enrichment for your life. The summer when many of our schedules relax (STUDENTS! THIS MEANS YOU!!!), provides a great time to sit outside and enjoy maybe 10 minutes of time with God in His word. Can you not carve out 10 minutes of your day for God?! Well, hope you can and do....perhaps you will want to read the rest of the Bible once you begin with just this 90 days.

www.1stLutheranChurch.org



- 🌐 The home page has been changed to make it easier to navigate
- 🌐 The sermons are a single click away
- 🌐 A daily bible meditation is available
- 🌐 Access to the ELCA site for you to check out all the information about our world outreach
- 🌐 We have access with one button.... "like us"!
- 🌐 The youth page is up to date with access to Instagram

### To do list

- ◇ Read God's Word  
Psalm 119:12
- ◇ Wait Patiently  
Psalm 27:14
- ◇ Have Faith  
2 Corinthians 5:7
- ◇ Pray  
Philippians 4:6
- ◇ Trust in the Lord  
Proverbs 3:5
- ◇ Think of Others  
Philippians 2:4
- ◇ Give Thanks  
Psalm 136



*Designated to support various Lutheran charities.  
Opal and Tell Thompson established the fund through the Community Foundation and charged First Lutheran Church, Findlay (Social Ministry Committee) to determine the use of the interest income each year.*

**Opal Thompson, 1912-2006; Tell Thompson, 1891-1982:  
Saints of First Lutheran Church**

**\$4186 to:**



**Lutheran Disaster Response ... brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world.**

**\$500 to:**



**City Mission.... provides emergency help to homeless and hungry people through collaborative efforts to meet physical, spiritual, vocational and mental health needs demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ.**

**\$4186 to:**



**Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service**

**LIRS's history reflects American Lutherans' deep immigrant roots and passionate commitment to welcoming newcomers, especially those in need.**

**\$500 to:**



**The Sharing Kitchen, Fostoria ... to provide food and comfort to those in need.**

**\$500 to:**



**Open Arms... Serving individuals affected by domestic violence and sexual assault through crisis intervention, emergency shelter, outreach, advocacy, prevention and education.**

**A Total of \$9,872.00 Distributed in 2019**



# Read All About It!!!



## Food Cart Requests

Dish soap,  
paper towels.

Taxable items especially  
needed both months

All donations benefit LSS

The cart is in the coat room.

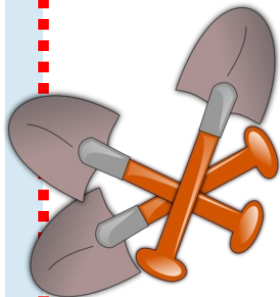
 Lunch  
with the  
**pastor**

June 4th

and July 2nd

11:30 @ Café Maries

## Year Twelve for the Good News Garden!



Our Master's gardener, Jerry Bryant, has tilled the garden and planted the first of our vegetables! Thanks for his skillful timing in proceeding through such a rainy May! Now we look forward to our perennials coming back to life along with God's sunshine to warm the soil for seeds and other produce. Please consider taking a turn at watering, weeding, and harvesting as the summer arrives. Look for a sign-up sheet outside the Pastor's office.

Women of the **ELCA** 

June 11 - Martha Circle  
Breakfast at Scrambler's  
(aka Café Marie) 9 a.m.  
(Come with ideas for 2019-2020 year)

June 30- Cookie Sunday June 30  
Hannah Circle

July 8- Program Book info due  
(2019-2020)

July 28—Cookie Sunday, Martha Circle

A gigantic thank you to all volunteers who gave generously of their time and energy for setting up the spring rummage sale, working during the sale and for the final cleanup.

Another thank you to all those who contributed so generously with their donations to the rummage sale.

We cleared \$1,137.76. The money will be divided and sent to: ELCA AMMPARO Migrant Children, Lutheran Disaster Response for Southeast USA Tornado Relief, and Boxes of Hope for community dinners. Seed money for the rummage sale was provided through *Thrivent Action Teams*.

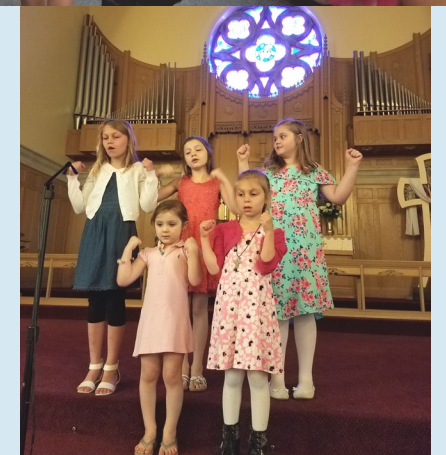


**EPIC YOUTH**

Watch your email for  
EPiC summer activities.



**Praising God!!!**





# Wait for it.....



**Outdoor  
Worship  
Service**

**August 18th  
10:30 am**

At the Riverside Park Bandshell  
**Special Guest**  
**Bishop Daniel Beaudoin**

In conjunction with  
Trinity and St. John Lutheran churches.



## Scholarship

The Endowment Committee would like to recognize our recipients from the Scholarship Selection Committee. Emily Betts and Audrey Leopold both received half of the distribution from the DeMoss Scholarship Fund.

Emily will be attending Malone University and majoring in Exercise Science/Pre-Physical Therapy

Audrey Leopold will continue her education at The Ohio State University majoring in Sociology and Social Work.

We wish them both our best in pursuit of higher education and are pleased to be able to help with the financial needs of our students.



### Summer Noisy Offerings

**June's Noisy Offering  
will benefit**

"Lutheran Homes Society"  
Now known as:



**July's Noisy Offering  
Will benefit**

**Lutheran Outdoor  
Ministries**



**It is summer in my book!** How beautiful the flowers, the greening of the trees, the smell of mud, the sound of a thunderstorm. It is all evidence of God in our lives. I can't wait to start planting the vegetables.

This month I am turning to other writers: the first to explain the various dates on food which have often been a topic of discussion in our household. I thought I would share this information from an article in Time Magazine, March 11, 2019, page 57.

### Learning What Labels Mean Makes Your Food Last Longer

Most Americans are needlessly tossing out packaged food – not because it's gone bad, but because they take the date stamped on it far too literally. That's according to a recent study published in the journal Waste Management, which surveyed more than 1000 people about the phrases and dates on food packages.

Many Americans wrongly believed that food product dates – often prefaced by "best by" or "sell by" – are federally regulated and indicate the point after which the food is no longer safe to eat. (Neither is true: labeling decisions are made voluntarily by food companies and are meant to help consumers determine how fresh a food is, according to the USDA.) As a result, 84% of people throw out food when it's close to the package date at least occasionally, the researchers found.

"These are all dates of quality and freshness, not of safety," says Janell Goodwin, a technical-information specialist with the USDA who wasn't involved in the study. "Best by" refers to when a food is at peak flavor or quality, she says. "Sell by" indicates how long a store should sell or display a product for inventory-management reasons. And the "use by" date is the last recommended day that a product can be eaten at peak quality, Goodwin says.

There's no reason to trash something just because its date has come and gone, she says. Instead, use your senses: Spoilage bacteria will typically produce a noticeable change in odor, flavor or texture. If none of these have developed, it's probably safe to keep your food. (You can help protect yourself from bacteria that cause food-borne illnesses, like *E. coli* and salmonella, by cooking or reheating foods to USDA-recommended temperatures.) The only product with a firm "use-by" date is infant formula, Goodwin says. Otherwise, you can usually trust your gut over the package date. -Jamie Ducharme

I would also like to share a few words from something else that I am reading: Neil Gaimon's The View from the Cheap Seats: Selected Nonfiction. He begins the collection with an essay entitled "Credo." In part, it reads,

"I believe that it is difficult to kill an idea because ideas are invisible and contagious, and they move fast...I believe that repressing ideas spreads ideas.

"I believe that people and books and newspapers are containers for ideas, but that burning the people who hold the ideas will be as unsuccessful as firebombing the newspaper archives. It is already too late. It is always too late. The ideas are already out, hiding behind people's eyes, waiting in their thoughts. They can be whispered. They can be written on walls in the dead of night. They can be drawn.

"I believe that ideas do not have to be correct to exist.

"I believe that in the battle between guns and ideas, ideas will, eventually, win. Because the ideas are invisible, and they linger, and, sometimes, they can even be true.

"*Eppur si muove*: and yet it moves."

I highly recommend this text full of thought-provoking essays that often left me thinking, "Hey, I never looked at it that way."

Have a healthy, happy, and blessed May. God bless and keep reading.

—Kathy Brooks

# News & Views

**August Newsletter Deadline  
July 15th**



## ACOLYTES

**June 2**  
**8:30– Grant Welte**  
**10:00–**

June 9  
8:30-  
10:00-Abbey Zawisza, Shelby Dale

June 16-  
8:30-  
10:00-Kylee Timbrook

June 23  
8:30-  
10:00-

June 30  
8:30-  
10:00-

## ALTAR FLOWERS

June 2-  
June 9- Angie & Jeff Nunn  
June 16- Cyndy & Daryl Rotman  
June 23-  
June 30- Sally & Alan Hartzell

Forms for your bulletin announcement are available on the bulletin board and at [1stLutheranChurch.org](http://1stLutheranChurch.org).

Flowers need to be delivered to the church by noon on Friday.

**8:30 USHERS**

ALTAR GUILD  
Tom & Cindy Fitzpatrick

## COUNTERS

Tom & Pam Basinger

## LSS DELIVERY

**Carolyn Wilde**

## FLOWER DELIVERY

**Jeff & Angie Nunn**

**COMMUNION BREAD**

**COMMITMENT DATES**  
June 2-Pat needles  
June 9-Carolyn Bryant  
June 16-Pam Cochran  
June 23-Devra Hall  
June 30-Julie Dittmar

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

June 2/9- Jennifer & Alex Treece  
June 16/23-Sally & Alan Hartzell  
June 30-Jane & Kurt Ebersole

## COOKIE SUNDAY

June 2- Community Dinner  
June 9-Worship & Music  
June 16-Stewardship/Evangelism  
June 23-Christdian Ed. & Youth  
June 30-Hannah Circle

**DEACONS**

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

- June 2-Tim Cochran
- June 9-Pastor Chris Dittmar
- June 16-Tim Franks
- June 23-Daryl Rotman
- June 30-Pastor Chris Dittmar

## DRIVERS

June 2-Jerry Bryant  
June 9-Mike Zawisza  
June 16-Aaron Ried  
June 23-Pam Cochran



**August Newsletter Deadline  
July 15th**

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# July



**VOLUNTEER**

**GREETERS**

July 7-  
8:30  
10:00

July 14-  
8:30  
10:00

July 21-  
8:30  
10:00

July 28-  
8:30  
10:00

**ACOLYTES**

July 7-  
8:30  
10:00

July 14-  
8:30  
10:00

July 21-  
8:30  
10:00

July 28-  
8:30  
10:00

Please Email  
Pastor Bob

**SOUND ROOM**

July 7-  
8:30  
10:00

July 14-  
8:30  
10:00

July 21-  
8:30  
10:00

July 28-  
8:30  
10:00

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

July 7-Karon & Fred Makrancy  
July 14-  
July 21-Chris & Mike Meyer  
July 28-Cyndy & Daryl Rotman

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are available  
on the bulletin board and at  
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**ALTAR GUILD**  
Amber Leipheimer, Arlene  
Schriner

**COUNTERS**  
Bob & Arlene Schriner

**LSS DELIVERY**  
Sue DeMoss

**FLOWER DELIVERY**  
Robin Bowman

**COMMUNION BREAD**  
July 7-Arlene Schriner  
July 14-Arlene Schriner  
July 21-Toni Poling  
July 28-Beth Bonnoront

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**  
July 7/14-Shirley & Dave gerber  
July 21/28-Carolyn & Art Wilde

**COOKIE SUNDAY**  
July 7-Community Dinner  
July 14-Council  
July 21-Endowment & Finance  
July 28-Martha Circle

**DEACONS**

8:30-Paul Brooks, Sue  
DeMoss, Jeff Kamm,  
10:00-Steve Roth, Alex  
Treece, Daryl Rotman

**8:30 USHERS**  
Richard Ruehle  
Dave Wobser  
Aaron Ried,  
Jim Schoerger

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**  
8:15/10:45  
July 7- Tim Franks  
July 14-Tim Cochran  
July 21-Pastor Chris Dittmar  
July 28- Daryl Rotman/Traci Roth

**DRIVERS**  
July 7-Jerry Bryant  
July 14-Mike Zawisza  
July 21-Aaron Ried  
July 28-Pam Cochran

*first*  
**Lutheran**  
109 E. Lincoln Street  
Findlay, OH 45840

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
FINDLAY, OH



Mailed around  
May 29, 2019

**Beginning June 2nd**



# Gimme that Old Time Religion



**Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:00 am.**



*Visit Our Website*  
[www.1stLutheranChurch.org](http://www.1stLutheranChurch.org)