



# first Lutheran

Findlay, OH



February 22nd  
Worship Services  
4:00 & 7:00  
Communion and  
Imposition of Ashes

“Stewardship is **Heart Work**” is the stewardship theme this year at First Lutheran. WELCA would like to again challenge the congregation to provide food items so that those that have a need will be able to feel our heartfelt generosity. As we enter into the 40 Days of Lent let us celebrate 40 days of giving, one item daily, 40 items total. Lutheran Social Services this year is relying on generosity to fill their pantry. The pantry provides a 3-day emergency food supply to their clients. As we enter into Lent, a time of reflection on God’s abundant generosity in our lives, WELCA is asking members to please consider gifts to the food pantry. Here is a list of 20 of the most needed items:

- |                   |                                     |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Canned meat       | Coffee (11 oz. size)                |
| Tea               | Powdered milk                       |
| Paper towels      | Cereal                              |
| Oatmeal           | Wide Noodles                        |
| Chunky soups      | Canned Soup                         |
| Saltine crackers  | Boxed sides (potatoes, pasta, rice) |
| Canned vegetables | Apple sauce                         |



Items can be brought in weekly and placed in the cart by the elevator. Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity to share your blessings with others.



## Stewardship is Heart Work!

*Heartwarming stories of ministry in Ohio,  
supported by your stewardship.*

**M**y first recollection of First Lutheran was a picture of Jesus from my Sunday school classroom. I am not sure how old I was, but I knew then, at that young age, that I would always feel comfort and love in this place. Years later, when my own children were young, I met an older lady at church one Sunday and started to sit near her. My husband was working a lot and so I was usually there with the girls alone. She always took the time to talk to my children and encouraged me as a young mother.

When my youngest entered second grade, I started a business, helping the elderly at home. My first client was, you guessed it, that same older lady that helped me so many times. Her name was Iola Warner. She was always so kind and helpful to me. I was so happy to finally be able to give back to her. She taught me so many of life's lessons. She was truly my friend and I will always be thankful to the Lord, and to my time at First. It brought her into my life. I helped her for 13 years and I miss her daily.

When I am there, in church, I feel her and know she was the one who has helped to guide me to the service I do today. So as you can see, First Lutheran holds a very special place in my heart and it always will.

- Karen Rose

*Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ... For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.—2 Corinthians 4: 5-6*

# LUTHER HOME OF MERCY

## Love Looks Like Robert

**H**ow do you express love? For some of us, the answer might be easy, you simply say, “I love you”. But for others...those words may be more difficult. Modern television and movies portray love as a superhero flying through the air to save a damsel in distress. But in real life, love doesn’t often come with a cape. In real life...love looks a lot more like a parent caring for us when we are sick in the middle of the night or a friend who picks us up when our car breaks down. At **Luther Home of Mercy**, we see love expressed each day in so many meaningful ways.

Founded 95 years ago by a pastor and his friends in the Northwestern Ohio Synod, Luther Home of Mercy is a ministry dedicated to helping people with intellectual and developmental disabilities live full and enriching lives. Today, we operate one of the largest intermediate care campuses in Ohio along with 19 community homes and day services throughout the Greater Toledo Area.

And while the buildings and programs of Luther Home of Mercy are amazing, what truly makes an impact in the lives of others is the love that is expressed throughout our ministry. And this love looks like staff members like Robert; who hasn’t always had an easy life, but makes it his personal business to make sure that everyone has their favorite snacks. When you are with Robert, he will be sure to greet you with, “welcome home”. Robert sees those he cares for as extensions of family and celebrates their joys, worries when they are sick and helps each day to be met with excitement and purpose.

There are many people like Robert who love and serve our residents in many and various ways. Some work alongside those we serve every day, and some connect with our residents periodically during special events or Bible studies on campus, or out in the community. Some give their time to our ministry by volunteering for one of these events, some give their money to support our programs and services, and some donate personal care items and crafts to help support the people we serve. We look forward to working alongside First Lutheran to express love by continuing to enrich the lives and individual abilities of people with disabilities. For more information about Luther Home of Mercy, visit us on our Facebook page, or at [lutherhome.org](http://lutherhome.org). I also look forward to meeting all of you at a temple talk on March 5. See you soon!



**Heartwarming stories of ministry through  
your generous stewardship!**



Social Ministry

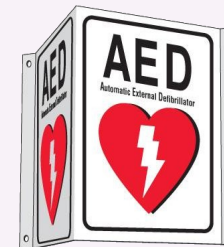


**Blood  
Drive**

**The Red Cross Blood Mobile** will be here at First in Fellowship Hall on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, from 12 – 5 PM.

Make an appointment online to make a donation that will help save another’s life. Appointments can be made at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) by using the rapid pass or come as a walk-in. It’s an hour of your time and refreshments are offered.

Please volunteer to make some brownies or cookies for the donors that day. A check-in person is also needed. Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board to help. Thank you!



**AED** – February is heart month. Did you know there is an AED machine located in the kitchenette to use in an emergency. Take the time to check out the location for this emergency equipment.

Classes in CPR and AED use will be scheduled if anyone is interested. See Carolyn Bryant or call 419-422-0015.



Remember our non-driving members still may be interested in a ride to church. This ministry has been used for the late service. If you could help please let Jerry Bryant know. 419-422-0015.

There are only a few weeks left in the **Riehm Farm Winter Pick-up** schedule.

If you would like to help gather the veggies the Farm shares, please sign-up on sheet outside the office. Time to be there for pick-up is anytime between 4:30 – 5:15. They have a donation box ready to the volunteer to take. These can be used by your family, neighbors or taken to City Mission. Any questions call Carolyn Bryant. (419-422-0015)



## The Christian Clearing

**House** garage sale will be March 18th but they will begin taking donations Feb. 18th until March 11th. Monday - Friday 9 -4 and Saturday 9-1. Items not accepted will be clothing, tubed TV's, pianos, organs, dirty or broken items. This has been a successful fundraiser for CCH. Plan to donate and then come to shop!!



**Christian  
Clearing House**  
Christians Helping in Crisis

*Community*  
**DINNER**

**THANKS,  
THANKS, &  
MORE THANKS!!**

Just a short thanks for the BIG help with the Community Dinner! Whether you baked a cake, made cookies, a jello salad, or brownies, donated money, brought fruit, wrapped silverware, worked in the kitchen, worked the drink table, or ran the dishwasher... THANKS. I may not say it enough, but the dinners don't happen by themselves! You are the difference between someone having a warm meal in a pleasant, warm atmosphere and NOT. So, again, THANKS! Jane Ebersole



# Women of the ELCA

## WELCA Calendar of Events for February 2023

Hannah Circle is in-service for the month of **February**

**Wednesday, February 8** – Snowflake Social; 6:30-8:00pm

**Tuesday, February 14** – Martha Circle  
9:00 am in the Church Library  
Hostess: Mary Ann Chubb; Leader, Miriam Gibson

**Tuesday, February 14** – Rachel Circle  
1:30 pm in the Church Lounge  
Hostess: Janet Baker; Leader, Cindy Fitzpatrick

**Monday, February 20** – Hannah Circle  
7:00 pm – Church Lounge  
Hostess: Beverly Yammine; Leader: Cyndy Rotman

**Wednesday, February 22**  
Start 40 Days of Giving for Lutheran Social Services

**Sunday, February 26** – Cookie Sunday – Hannah Circle

### L.I.F.T. - Living in Faith and Trust



L.I.F.T. will meet on Tuesday, February 21 at 11:30 for a brown bag lunch in the Church Fellowship hall. The book *Good Grief* by Granger E. Westberg will be passed out to those who need a copy. Please contact Sue DeMoss at 419-306-9994 or Marilyn Dunn at 419-722-8543 for more information or if you need a ride.



### DANCE Like Miriam!

The sixth Biblical woman on the cover of our booklet is Dance Like Miriam! Miriam seems to be mostly remembered for watching out for Moses on the river Nile; she was his older sister, and that's what older sisters do. She is mentioned in seven books of the Bible, more than any other woman. But Miriam also accompanied both her brothers, Moses and Aaron on the exodus from Egypt. When the Israelites were led to freedom Miriam took a tambourine in her hands and all the women followed her with dancing and singing, praising God. She not only was a supportive woman but one of that was joyful and filled with music.



So, let's talk about the best books of 2022. I chose to go with the "Goodreads Most Read Books of 2022." The words "Most Read" tells me more than "top selling"... "most read" means someone actually cracked open the book. 😊

The most common name on the list is Colleen Hoover who writes romance and young adult fiction. The teen girls must love her writing. She is best known for her 2016 romance novel *It Ends With Us*. Apparently it is still very popular as it tops Goodreads list and I also bought, by request, the book for one of my granddaughters, along with its companion *It Begins with Us*. She has sold more than 20 million books. When it is time, I shall borrow Cece's books and let you know.

*Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens, a coming of age murder mystery, is also on the list. The story follows two timelines that begin to intertwine. The first is a very young girl who grows up alone in the marshes of North Carolina. She meets and falls for a star quarterback and her heart is eventually broken. What happens next is almost more than I can realistically work with but the book is very popular as is the movie of the same name.

*The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig explores that space between life and death. As long as the library clock stays at midnight, Nora has the option to try out all the lives she might choose to live. Doing so helps her to eradicate all the regrets that she has. Nora jumps in and out of these alternate realities and begins a journey of self discovery. The book was a pleasant surprise.

*The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V.E. Schwab follows a young French Woman in 1714 who makes a bargain with the devil that makes her immortal, but curses her to be forgotten by everyone she meets. Based on the original Faustian bargain to live forever, the story plays out over centuries and then, what?..... she meets someone who remembers her name. It bears reading.

For those of you with library e-readers, I loaded a book not on the book club reading list. Everyone in the readers' circle with whom I talk have put *Remarkably Bright Creatures* at the top of their 2022 reading titles. A novel by Shelby Van Pelt, the story centers around Tova Sullivan, who works the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium. Marcellus forms a remarkable friendship with Tova and together Marcellus and Tova work to unearth the truth of what happened to Tova's son. Oh yes, Marcellus is an octopus.

Now let's talk about my current book read... *Howl's Moving Castle* by Diana Wynne Jones. Sophie, the eldest of three sisters, is under the spell of the Witch of the Waste. Transformed into an old lady, she moves into the Wizard Howl's castle which is, by the way, ever moving and the four doors open onto four different scenes. Okay, so there's magic involved. At the castle, she tries to break her enchantment AND gets involved with Calcifer and Howl's enchantments. It is cute, it is well-written and it is a children's rather involved chapter book. Paul's daughter gave it to me to read. I'm into it.

Well, folks, God bless and keep reading.

Kathy (kathleenbrooks15@gmail.com)



How Are  
Your New Year's  
Resolutions  
Going?

## TELL ME THE *Stories of Jesus*

A guide for "How to have a Daily Quiet Time" with God appeared in January's newsletter. Just 7.5 minutes! Everyone has that or could make room for that in the busy framework of a day. You probably spend that scrolling through texts, deleting unwanted e-mails, zoning out during commercials. The seven and a half minutes are divided into a short Bible reading, prayer, and meditation.

And speaking of Bible reading, several of us are reading the Synod's Daily Bible Readings, which follow Jesus and tell His story. This is the Year of Story! So, try the time for God or the Bible reading for 7days...you may find a new habit you don't have to break! The suggested reading list is posted on the hall bulletin board.

I Love to tell the story  
Of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory,  
Of Jesus and His love.



### Endowment

Scholarship are Available from the Endowment Fund.

1. 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.

2. The Jeffrey Allan DeMoss Scholarship was established for members of First Lutheran Church by Rev. Dr. 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 that twice.

Deadline for submitting applications and letters of recommendation is March 31<sup>st</sup>. The recipient(s) will be selected and notified on or before June 1<sup>st</sup>. A total of \$7,149.41 for the General Scholarship and \$829.82 for the DeMoss Scholarship is available to be awarded. Any questions, please contact any Endowment committee member or the church office.

Applications are available on the hall bulletin board.

## February Celebrations Birthdays

Seth Franks	2/1	Cheryl Seibert	2/11
Joan Swisher	2/1	Jane Ebersole	2/13
Steven Rodman	2/2	Elliot Holbach	2/15
Erin Meier	2/3	Nancy Bahler	2/17
Breanna Tabler	2/3	Yvette Mains	2/19
Dean Bowser	2/5	James Maurer	2/19
Nancy Haffelder	2/5	Kylee Timbrook	2/19
Janice Wagner	2/5	Cloyce Baker	2/22
Amy Masterlasco	2/6	Steve Leopold	2/22
Richard Ruehle	2/6	Anthony Conner	2/23
Janet Baker	2/7	Casey Leipheimer	2/23
Ruth Parker	2/7	Nathan Leipheimer	2/23
Clarke Huff	2/8	Elaine Ashley	2/26
Erik Nielsen	2/8	Traci Roth	2/26
Steve Brossia	2/9	Doyle Sherman	2/26
Julie Buck	2/9	Victoria Cox	2/27
		Taylor Polder	2/27

## Anniversary

Tom & Mary Beth Dillon  
2/14/99 24 Years



### Snow Emergency

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.







### 2023 Altar Flower Chart

The 2023 Flower Chart is up in the hallway, across from the church office. There are many Sundays that still need flowers to brighten not only the altar, but also either your home or the home of a shut-in. Please consider this ministry as a way to share God's love for His people.



#### Food Cart Requests



Toilet paper,  
dish soap,  
cereal

All donations benefit  
*Lutheran Social  
Services.*

The cart is in the  
Coat/elevator room.

#### DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

**Monday.  
February  
20th**



# February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed 1-Feb	Thu 2	Fri 3	Sat 4
5 8:15 & 10:45am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 11:30am Community Dinner	6 10:15am Prayer Group 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 6pm Stewardship/ Evangelism 6:30pm Worship & Music	7 7pm Book Club	8 6:30pm Snowflake Social 7pm Endowment 8pm Theology Pub	9 4:30pm Organ Rhrsal 7pm Sr. Choir 12pm Bloodmobile 1:30pm Staff Meeting 4:30pm Organ Rhrsal 7pm Sr. Choir	10 9:30am Bulletin Assembly	11
12 Noisy Offering 8:15 & 10:45am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 6pm Family Activity	13 10:15am Prayer Group 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 7pm Social Ministry	14 9am Martha 1:30pm Rachel 7:30pm Finance	15 Ash Wednesday Worship 4:00 & 7:00 pm	16 4:30pm Organ Rhrsal 6pm BSA 7pm Sr. Choir	17 9:30am Bulletin Assembly	18 BSA All Day
19 8:15 & 10:45am Worship 9:30am Sunday School	20 10:15am Prayer Group 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 12pm Newsletter Deadline 7pm Hannah Circle	21 11:30am LIFT	22	23 4:30pm Organ Rhrsal 7pm Sr. Choir	24 9:30am Bulletin Assembly	25
26 8:15 & 10:45am Worship 9:30am Sunday School	27 10:15am Prayer Group 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 7pm Council Meeting	28				



# February



March Newsletter Deadline  
Monday, February 20th  
Weekly Bulletin Deadline  
Wednesday Mornings

## Volunteers

### LECTORS

Feb. 5  
8:15 - Marilyn Dunn  
10:45 - Julie Buck

Feb. 12  
8:15 - Elaine Miller  
10:45 - Youth

Feb. 19  
8:15 - Tad Schell  
10:45 - Traci Roth

Feb. 26  
8:15 -  
10:45 - Nina Dukes

### SOUND ROOM

Feb. 5  
8:15 - Tim Roth  
10:45 - Falkyn Roth

Feb. 12  
8:15 - Tim Roth  
10:45 - Toni Poling

Feb. 19  
8:15 - Tim Roth  
10:45 - Steve Roth

Feb. 26  
8:15 - Tim Roth  
10:45 - Jerry Bryant

### ALTAR GUILD

Julie Buck, Amber Leipheimer

### COUNTERS

Randy & Julie Buck

### LSS DELIVERY

Sue DeMoss

### FLOWER DELIVERY

Julie Buck

### COMMUNION BREAD

Feb. 5 - Jennifer Treece  
Feb. 12 - Elaine (Timbrook) Miller  
Feb. 19 - Janet Wobser  
Feb. 26 - Lent—Wafers

### COOKIE SUNDAY

Feb. 5 - Community Dinner  
Feb. 12 - Christian Ed/Youth  
Feb. 19 - Evangelism/Stewardship  
Feb. 26 - Hannah Circle

### DRIVERS

Feb. 5 - Jerry Bryant  
Feb. 12 - Jerry Bryant  
Feb. 19 - Aaron Reid  
Feb. 26 - Jerry Bryant

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS 8:15/10:45

Feb. 5 - Tim Cochran/Traci Roth  
Feb. 12 - Rob Leipheimer  
Feb. 19 - Daryl Rotman  
Feb. 26 - Daryl Rotman

### DEACONS

8:15  
Feb. 5 - Marilyn Dunn  
Sue DeMoss

Feb. 12 - Daryl Rotman  
Sue DeMoss

Feb. 19 - Tad Schell  
????

Feb. 22— Ash Wednesday  
4:00/7:00—Daryl Rotman

Feb. 26 - Marilyn Dunn  
????

10:45  
Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26  
Evan Pitt  
Ted Stombaugh

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Feb. 5 - Jeff & Diana Salisbury  
Feb. 12 - Tad & Maria Schell  
Feb. 19 - Doug & Beth Bonnoront  
Feb. 26 -

Forms for your bulletin announcement  
are available on the bulletin board and at  
1stLutheranChurch.org

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

We ♥ our  
Volunteers

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

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

Current Resident or:



Mailed around  
January 31st



Sunday Morning Worship 8:15 & 10:45

Sunday School 9:30

www.1stlutheranchurch.org

419-422-2638