



Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45
Sunday School 9:30am

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

Welcome to First Lutheran Church. All *baptized Christians* who understand that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine are welcome to join us for Holy Communion. Wheat-free and gluten-free communion wafers are available on the baptismal font during communion. Grape juice is available on both sides.

WE ASK EVERYONE to complete the "Footprints" and list if you are communing or have a prayer request. You may write your prayer request(s) on the back. Please check YES for the name to be included in the bulletin or NO if you want the name to be known only to the prayer teams. We strive for confidentiality, so be sure you have the person's permission, or use only the first name. Completed "Footprints" may be placed in the offering plate. We ask that you "think green" and place blank "Footprints" forms in the narthex to be reused.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God.

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL will take place today. Council members are Casey Cox, Julie Buck (Secretary), Rob Leipheimer, Beth Meier, Karen Rose, Diana Salisbury, Daryl Rotman (President), Maria Schell, Arlene Schriener, Jeff Short (Vice-President), and Janet Wobser. Sharing the youth representation are Casey Leipheimer and Erin Meier. Please keep our church council in your prayers as they minister in 2023.

WE ARE BLESSED TO HAVE Pastor Chris Dittmar as our interim pastor until we call a new pastor. Pastor Chris will be assisted by Pastor Art Wilde. If you have any questions, or ministry concerns, please feel free to contact them. Their emails and phone numbers are listed on the back of the bulletin. Pastor Chris will have office hours on Tuesdays from 9:30 – 12:00

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY for our Call Committee as they continue to seek God's guidance during the Call process.

OUR ANNUAL MEETING is January 29th at noon. Lunch will be provided by Church Council. Agenda items include, but are not limited to, the approval of the 2022 Annual Report, the approval of the 2023 Budget, and the election of the 2023 Nominating Committee. Please join us as we review 2022 and look forward to 2023.

JOIN US FOR A FUN DAY OF WINTERFEST today from 4:00 – 6:00pm. Children of all ages are invited to an afternoon of crafts, Bingo and pizza. Bring your children, grandchildren and neighbors.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS are needed for both services. If you are interested in offering your talent to this ministry, please talk to Pastor Chris or call the church office.

SR. CHOIR PRACTICE HAS BEEN MOVED to 7:00 on Thursdays. All are invited to join as we raise a joyful noise.

PASTOR BOB AND PAM COCHRAN'S new address is: 25 Castle Run Rd., The Plains, OH 45780. There are small "take home" address sheets on the bulletin board. Help yourself.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS are reminded that Annual Reports are due to the office no later than January 16th.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES: Level 1 – all activities and worship continue; Level 2 – Activities and worship continue. Use your discretion; Level 3 – All activities and worship are cancelled.

THE LADIES SNOWFLAKE SOCIAL will be held on February 8th from 6:30 – 8:00. Come and enjoy *girl-time* with pizza, veggies, fruit and dessert. As usual, our resident artist, Beth Maurer, will return with a snowy craft to make and take. Please bring an in-kind donation. We hope you will save the date and plan to attend.

2023 - THE YEAR OF STORY. Join us in reading the story of Jesus' life. The NWO Synod will be doing a chronological reading of all four Gospels as we explore the life of Jesus. Each day has a short reading from one or more of the Gospels. The daily readings are posted on the bulletin board or you can download them from the Synod website: www.nwos-elca.church. We hope to have some dialogue and new insights with our reading.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE PEOPLE who came to help take down the decorations on January 7th. You were such great workers! We had everything down, boxed up and returned to the storage room in about an hour.