



***Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God***

***Welcome to First Lutheran Church.*** During our services of Holy Communion, we follow Jesus' teachings that all people are welcome to his table. This meal of faith, hope, and love is meant for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Feel free to come forward and receive the bread, or wheat-free and gluten-free wafer, along with a small cup of wine or grape juice. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign of your preference. We are so excited to have you with us today!

**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.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by Tad & Maria Schell in honor of their Godchild Estela Yuen's 11th birthday on November 17th.

**THE WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA** (WELCA) Thankoffering is a tradition within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The Thankoffering is an annual practice where members of WELCA give thanks for blessings received and make financial offerings to support various ministries and projects. These offerings are then used to fund specific projects and initiatives chosen by the WELCA community and often focus on issues such as education, health, and community development, both locally and globally. On Thankoffering Sunday, we remember the Saints of WELCA who have gone before us in the past year: Mary Essman, Beth Hardesty, Nancy Meek, Waultraud Mullinger, and Voleta Willford. All women of First Lutheran are members of WELCA and are invited to participate in any of their activities.

**A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** is today at 12:00 noon. The only agenda item for this meeting is the election of our 2024 Church Council members. The election of Church Council members is an important decision that will help shape the future of our church.

**A REMINDER THAT SACRED DAILY** is ongoing at 11:30, Monday through Thursday. All are invited to Sacred Daily.

**OUR COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP** with St. John's and Trinity, is Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 here at First. Pastor Doris Mars will deliver the message.

**DECORATE THE CHURCH.** Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 9:30 am. We will be preparing our church for the Advent/Christmas season. Come join us in decorating.

**YOU ALL HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT** which you can offer God. The idea is that everyone has unique abilities that can contribute to the church's various activities, events, and ministries. The "*Timely Gifts*" card is in your bulletin. Please prayerfully consider how you can offer your talents to God. Remember that offering your talents to God through your church community is not just a one-time event but an ongoing process of service and growth. You may place your Timely Gifts card in the basket by the Communion font.

**SOUND BOARD OPERATORS ARE NEEDED** for both services. Training is available. For more information, please contact Tim Roth at [deceptiot.tw@gmail.com](mailto:deceptiot.tw@gmail.com).

**IT'S A GIRL!** Women and girls of the church are invited on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 in Fellowship Hall for a baby shower for Brittani Huling-O'Leary. Please sign-up on the hallway bulletin board so we know how many are planning to attend. Brittani has a gift registry on Amazon under [Amazon.com/baby registry](https://www.amazon.com/baby-registry).

**THE BOOK LIST OF POSSIBLE BOOK CLUB** selections for the 2024 year is now available the hall bulletin board. If you have additional suggestions, please submit them to Nina Dukes or Kathy Brooks.

**INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN A LAST SUPPER RENACTMENT** during Holy Week? Anyone interested in helping out, please call Steve or Traci Roth at 419-722-5312 or email Traci at [dragonroth@gmail.com](mailto:dragonroth@gmail.com).

**CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH OUR AT-HOME MEMBERS.** A current address list is posted on the bulletin board. Feel free to take a list home and send them a card. Our At-Home members always enjoy hearing from their family at First Lutheran Church.

**WAYNE AND NINA DUKES** are planning to enter semi-retirement starting on January 2, 2024. This means the church office/building will only be open from 8:30 – 12:00. If you need access to the church facilities after 12:00 noon, please call the church office ahead of time to make arrangements. Nina's full retirement is scheduled for June 30, 2024, and Wayne's for December 31, 2024. Please keep the Dukes and the church in your prayers during this time of transition.

**Financial Update thru Quarter**

Receipts	\$279,959
expenses	\$284,168
+/-Difference	(\$4,209)

Receipts down 7.2% from Previous Year.