

A Note From our Sr. Pastor



Joyous Light: Evening Prayer

Okay, so... spring has sprung,
fall has fell,
winter has come
and it's colder than usual.

But that doesn't mean we've got to get all gloomy about it! We've got two events coming up in the season of Lent that I'm really excited about.

First, the theme for our Lenten Sunday and Wednesday sermons is "Not the Bible." There are a number of sayings that even good Christians use all the time that the Bible directly contradicts. I'll speak briefly on three of these here.

In counseling sessions, good church-going Lutherans often tell me that they know that "God never gives you more than you can handle," and that "God helps those who help themselves," and that "This, too, shall pass." All of these expressions are meant to comfort those in distress but have just the opposite effect. ***And none of them are in the Bible!***

In fact, the Bible directly contradicts all three of them. Many of the saints in the Bible get overwhelmed because life gives them more than they can handle, none of them are able to help themselves out of their troubles, and time heals too slowly and by erosion. To truly recover and live a full life, only the eternal words of the Bible will suffice.

Unbearable troubles come to everyone, believers and nonbelievers, and often what God wants from us is to surrender our self-reliance. To do nothing and "let them pass" is to invite the devil to play havoc with our faith and lives in the meantime.

I'm also excited about our new worship service for Lent. Jane Eakin called Augsburg-Fortress (our favorite Lutheran publishing house) and asked, "Do you have a service like Holden Evening Prayer?" They did, and we're going to try it out this year.

No one loves Holden more than I do, but we've been using it for a dozen Lents in a row. If we can find something similar, I think we should try. We can always return to Holden in the future.

"Joyous Light: Evening Prayer" was written by Ray Makeever, a wonderful Lutheran composer. He wrote the Call to Worship that I used for many years to introduce Holden Evening Prayer:

[Solo] "Come, let us worship God...[All] **Come, Let us worship God**
Come, let us worship God...Come, Let us worship God
Welcome, everyone...Welcome, everyone
To the love of God...To the love of God.

Like the Holden service, this one is prayerful and meditative.

"As we come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the gold of evening light,
we will raise our songs in praise of your glory and with all the universe unite."

I can't wait for Lent!
Pastor Bob

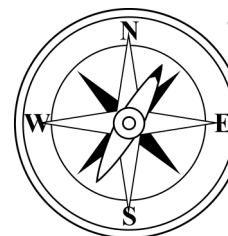
**March 6,
4:00 & 7:00
Imposition of Ashes
Holy Communion**



NOT the Bible

What we say/What the Bible says

March 13th

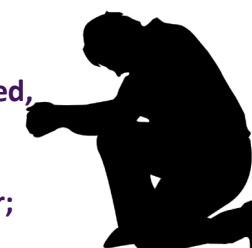


"Let your conscience be your guide"

Proverbs 3: 5-8: " ⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. ⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. ⁷Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. ⁸It will be a healing for your flesh and a refreshment for your body."

"To err is human; to forgive divine"

Colossians 3: 12-13: ²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.



March 20th

What we say/What the Bible says

March 27th

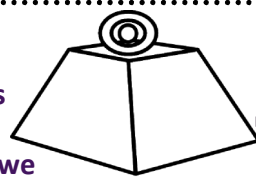


"God helps those who help themselves"

Psalm 94: 17-19: ¹⁷If the LORD had not been my help, my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence. ¹⁸When I thought, "My foot is slipping," your steadfast love, O LORD, held me up. ¹⁹When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.

"God will never give you what you cannot handle"

2 Corinthians 1: 8-11: ⁸"We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, of the affliction we experienced in Asia; for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself. ⁹Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death so that we would rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. ¹⁰He who rescued us from so deadly a peril will continue to rescue us; on him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again, ¹¹as you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.



April 3rd

April 10th



"This too shall pass"

Matthew 24: 35: Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

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.

2019 Stewardship Emphasis

Stewards of Grace



Interview with Jenny Welte

Who are the members of the Youth Committee? Jennie Treece, Dawn Franks, and Jenny Welte

When do you meet? Usually once a quarter on Sundays.

Can members assist or volunteer in the youth ministry of this congregation? Check out our congregation's website (1stlutheranchurch.org). Go to "Service Activities"...then to "Contact Us." There you will find ways to volunteer.

The function of this committee (FLC Youth Ministry) shall be to plan and provide supervision for all youth-related activities in the congregation and to provide an awareness of district, synod, and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America youth activities. [FLC Constitution, By-Laws, Section V. J]

What is your position on the Youth Committee? Most recently I have been a member of the youth committee for two years. My husband and I also helped lead the youth group for several years when we came to First Lutheran in 1998. I traveled to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Atlanta in 2003 as a chaperone as well.

What does the Youth Committee do? The youth committee plans and supervises events and bible studies for the 6th-12th graders, aside from Sunday School.

Tell us about Epic and its activities. Worship/devotion, education, social and service activities. We have bible studies, prayer, games, community service, and help with Sunday School fun for the younger kids.

What things most excite our youth and garner the most participation and interest? They enjoy social media, videos, and food, to name a few things. They were pleasantly surprised how much they liked caroling to the at-home members! Several youth also serve our congregation as ushers.

What are some projects up-coming? We are having a Super Bowl party, bowling, and hoping to visit nursing home residents.

What are you doing to plan for the 2021 Youth Gathering in Minneapolis? It is still two-and-a-half years away, but we are beginning to raise funds so that we aren't rushing around closer to the date.

What are some of the most difficult parts of youth ministry? Planning all the events can be challenging.

How can the congregation help the Committee to better serve our youth? We are blessed with a congregation who cares about the future of our church so we would appreciate their continued support and prayers.

What excites you about Youth ministry? The potential they have as beloved children of God! I love how connected they are, and how welcoming they are to new faces!



Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.—1 Peter 4: 10



Ice Skating

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YOUTH
EPIC

February
3-Super Bowl Party @ Weltes

10-Bible Study
Discussion, Games

17-Bible Study
Discussion, Games

24-Bowling @AMF 2-4



March
3-Bible Study
Discussion, Games

10-Nursing Home Visit

17-Bible Study
Discussion, Games

24-Roller Skating
@Rolling Thunder 2-4

31-Fundraiser Event

Confirmation - February 6, 13, 20, 27 @7:00 pm; Sunday School - 6-12 Grades @ 930am

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**February 5th , 11:30
@ Café Maries**

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

**Monday
February 18th**

Food Cart Requests



**Toilet Paper, Dish
Soap, Cereal**

**All donations benefit
Lutheran Social Services**

**February's
Noisy Offering will benefit**



A prayer chain is a way for people to gain assistance in prayer for any serious and pressing issues they might have in life.

Prayerfully consider this opportunity to carry out God's plan for us to love one another. Sign your yellow sheet and list your email address if you are interested in joining our team of prayer warriors. Questions??? Call Sue DeMoss at 419-423-7109 or Jane Ebersole at 419-422-9640

of the
Women ELCA

Feb. 6. Valentine Snowflake Social
6:30 - 8:00pm; Fellowship Hall.
*All women are welcome
to come for good food, fellowship,
and lots more.*

Feb. 12 9:00am - Martha Circle, in the library.
Feb. 12 9:30am - Rachel Circle, in the lounge
Feb. 18 7:00pm - Hannah Circle, in the lounge.
Feb. 24 Cookie Sunday, Rachel Circle



Blood Mobile

**Want to make a donation
without spending any
money?** The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be at First on February 7th, from 12-6pm.

The donation involves a pint of your blood; see it won't cost any money but will help someone else just like cash. Please consider making an appointment for your donation by calling 1-800-RED CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org, enter sponsor code **1stluthfindlay**.

Donations for any brownies or cookies will also be appreciated. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Thank you to everyone who donates.

Library News

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*Well, hello there. Is it really February already, the month of Valentines and Presidents and my favorite brother-in-law's birthday? It seems like only yesterday that the grand children were staying at our place between Christmas and New Years. Oh my goodness, did we have fun. We made lots of SLIME and, in case you ever need to know, a vinegar pre-treatment gets it out of clothing (thank you, daughter Rachael! It worked.) We baked cookies, ate cookies, stayed up late and giggled lots. We love all eight to pieces...we are so fortunate.

Now, on to business. I apologize for not keeping you all up to date on your books donated in memory of deceased family and friends. So, here are the latest purchases along with a great big "Thank You" from me...The OWLS donated money in memory of Mary Clayton which bought Expressions of Faith by Guideposts, of Bob Ferrell Stay-at- Home Dads by Libby Gill, of Bob Mullahy Anxious for Nothing by Max Lucado, and of Linda Zaye Women of the Word by Jen Wilkin.

If you EVER have questions concerning books or money that you donated, feel free to ask me. Phone – 419-722-9227 or NEW email – kathleenbrooks15@gmail.com.

And, I just want to let you know that all decorations in the library, prizes awarded, and candy not donated by all you kind church members are paid for by Paul and me...I do NOT take money from the library budget for these things. Just thought you should know.

*Some good advice from YODA (what? Who Yoda is you don't know?).

"When nine hundred years old you reach, look as good you will not.

Try not.
Do. Or do not.
There is no try.

Hard to see, the dark side is.
May the Force be with you."

God bless and keep reading.
Kathy Brooks



This is an authentic washday recipe in its original spelling as it was written out for a bride five generations ago. I found it in Paul's Mom's papers.

Grandma's recipe for doing a family wash.

- Bild a fire in back yard to heet kettle of rain water.
- Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
- Shave I hole cake of lie soap in bilin water.
- Sort things make 3 piles I pile white , 1 pile collard, 1 pile work britches and rags.
- Stir flour in cold water to smooth then thin down with bilin water.
- Rub dirty spots on board. Scrub hard then bile. Rub collard but don't bile.
- Take white things out of kettle with broom stick handle, then rinch blew and starch.
- Spread towels on grass.
- Hang rags on fence.
- Pore rench water on flower beds.
- Scrub the porch with hot soapy water.
- Turn the tubs upside down.
- Go and put on a clean dress, smooth your hair, brew a cup of tea.
- Set and rest and rock a spell and count your blessings.

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Who's Missing?

CH _ _ CH

In an effort to reach out to those who haven't been to church for awhile, Council is starting a card-writing campaign directed to the names that the congregation has been listing on their "Footprints" forms after the words, "I miss..." The goal is to tell everyone who has been missing church that they are missed.

There are an infinite number of reasons someone might be absent from Sunday worship for a period of time, but it is important to us that those who do know that their presence, their spirit, and their love of the Lord have been truly missed by all of us. Worship is a community action, and we need as much of the community present as possible every week.

After Council gets the ball rolling, we are hoping to put blank cards in the narthex for congregation members to fill out and leave in a basket. Then we can address and send them. Especially in a world of isolation and anxiety like we have today, it is essential that we realize how much we need each other and how much we need God. Both of these needs can be addressed in church, but like a health club, *attendance is required!*



Endowment Scholarships

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 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.

Scholarship applications are now available on the bulletin board and in the church office for two scholarships from the Endowment Fund.

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 \$12,327.34 for the General Scholarship and \$1,228.64 for the Jeffrey Allan DeMoss Scholarship is available to be awarded. Any questions, please contact any Endowment committee member or the church office.



Organ Fund Benefit Concert

February 24th, 3:00
Featuring our Senior Choir,
Brass Ensemble and Organist



February Volunteers



Newsletter Deadline
Monday, February 18th
Bulletin Deadline
Wednesdays by noon

LECTORS

Feb 3

8:15-Elaine Timbrook
10:45- Daryl Rotman

Feb. 10

8:15-Acolytes
10:45-Acolytes

Feb. 17

8:15-Jenny Welte
10:45-Cindy Fitzpatrick

Feb. 24

8:15-Jeff Kamm
10:45-Mike Zawisza

GREETERS

Feb 3

8:15-Elaine & Kylee Timbrook
10:45-Darly & Cindy Rotman

Feb. 10

8:15-Cloyce & Janet Baker
10:45-Kids of the Kingdom

Feb. 17

8:15-Bart & Jenny Welte
10:45-Bill & Cindy Fitzpatrick

Feb. 24

8:15-Jeff & Jennifer Kamm
10:45-Zawisza Family

ACOLYTES

Feb 3

8:15-Zach McRill
10:45-Seth Franks, Kylee Timbrook

Feb. 10

8:15-Tyler Volk, Reese Volk
10:45-Maddie Essman, Erin Meier

Feb. 17

8:15-Grant Welte
10:45-Tyler Volk, Reese Volk

Feb. 24

8:15-Grant Welte
10:45-Abbey Zawisza, Seth Franks

SOUND ROOM

Feb 3

8:15-Tim Roth
10:45-Steve Roth

Feb. 10

8:15-Dave Gerber
10:45-Todd Thompson

Feb. 17

8:15-Tim Roth
10:45-Alex Treece

Feb. 24

8:15-Sam Ried
10:45-Jerry Bryant

ALTAR FLOWERS

Feb 3-Swisher Family

Feb. 10

Feb. 17-Mike & Chris Meyer
Feb. 24-Todd & Cindy
Thompson

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

ALTAR GUILD

Julie Buck, Amber Leipheimer

COUNTERS

Randy & Julie Buck

LSS DELIVERY

Carolyn Wilde

FLOWER DELIVERY

Julie Buck

COMMUNION BREAD

Feb 3-Pat Needles

Feb. 10-Carolyn Bryant

Feb. 17-Pam Cochran

Feb. 24-Devra Hall

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Feb 3/10-Mike & Amy Tabler

Feb. 17/24-Eric & Elaine Timbrook

COOKIE SUNDAY

Feb 3-Community Dinner

Feb. 10-Social Ministry

Feb. 17-Worship & Music

Feb. 24-Rachel Circle

DEACONS

8:15

Jeff Kamm
Nick Thomas
Tad Schell

10:45

Alex Treece
Daryl Rotman
Steve Leopold

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

8:15/10:45

Feb 3-Tim Franks

Feb. 10-_____/Traci Roth

Feb. 17-Daryl Rotman/Traci Roth

Feb. 24-Pastor Chris Dittmar

DRIVERS

Feb 3-Jerry Bryant

Feb. 10-Mike Zawisza

Feb. 17-Aaron Ried

Feb. 24-Pam Cochran

February Celebrations

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
Richard Ruehle	2/6
Janet Baker	2/7
Barb Smith	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
Charlotte Holbach	2/13
Elliot Holbach	2/15
Dawn Arvy	2/17
Nancy Bahler	2/17



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

Baptism

Thomas Fitzpatrick	2/1
Debra McMillen	2/1
Carson Dale	2/2
Voleta Willford	2/2
Denise Burson	2/7
Elizabeth Kutschbach	2/12
Heather Nielsen	2/12
Mary Lou McCann	2/13
Kahle Thorbahn	2/14
Charlotte Holbach	2/18
Reed Blunk	2/19
Jordan Spoon	2/24

Congratulations

Tom & Mary Beth Dillon	2/14/1999	20
Richard & Marilyn Schweitzer	2/24/1957	62
Steve & Laura Leopold	2/28/1998	21

first
Lutheran
109 E. Lincoln Street
Findlay, OH 45840

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
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PERMIT NO. 338

Current Resident or:



Mailed around
January 28, 2019

Happy Valentine's Day

Lent
PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD
Begins March

Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45 Sunday School at 9:30
Www.1stLutheranChurch.org 419-422-2638