

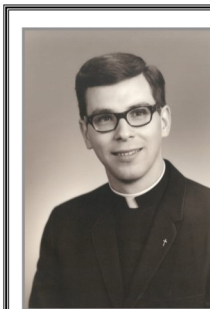


first
Lutheran

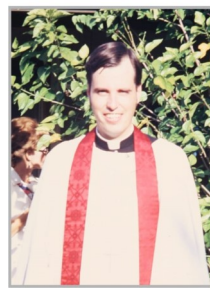
Findlay, OH

September 2022

Our Pastors * 125 Plus Years



Pastor Art Wilde
1968



Pastor Chris Dittmar
1972



Pastor Bob Cochran
1997



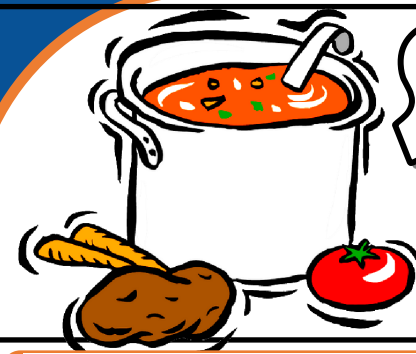
The Diakonia Program

Growing in Faith is a ministry within the ELCA committed to fostering learning environments for followers of Jesus to grow in faith. We believe that lay members of our parishes are integral to healthy discipleship in our churches and communities.

Participants gather in-person or over zoom for six 5-week classes. Each class is three hours long and involves a combination of instruction, discussion and experiential learning. Begin with our **Foundation Year**, then decide if you would like to stretch yourself through a **Practical Year**. Each class is \$65 and may be taken individually. First Lutheran will scholarship its members 50% of each class. For more information contact **Pastor Sarah Schaaf, 419-423-3664, diakonia@NWOS-ELCA.org**



Celebrating Faith



Stewardship Stew

The "secret" ingredients of good stewardship

Gingersnap Pot Roast

INGREDIENTS

- 3 lbs. beef chuck roast
- 1 tbsp. oil
- 1 cup water
- 8 gingersnaps, crumbled
- 2 tbsp. red wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon beef bouillon
- 1/8 tsp. red pepper, ground
- 3 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and quartered
- 3 medium carrots or 2 parsnips, cut into 1/2 inch pieces
- 1 bay leaf

DIRECTIONS

Trim fat from roast. Cut if necessary to fit crock pot.

In a large skillet, brown roast on all sides in hot oil.

In a small bowl, combine water, gingersnaps, vinegar, bouillon, and red pepper.

In crock pot, place potatoes, carrots (or parsnips) and bay leaf. Place meat on top of vegetables.

Cover; cook on low heat setting for 10-12 hours or on high heat setting for 5-6 hours.



Me like
Ginger Snap
cookie!

MMMmmmm
Cookies!



New Starts in the ELCA

The ELCA Christian Community and Leadership in their report to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly [August 8-12, Columbus, Ohio] noted that the ELCA has established 528 new ministries since its inception in 1988. Of these, 383 new starts are still active. Seventy-eight new starts were begun during the pandemic! The ELCA has 8900+ congregations.

The largest number of these new starts were begun in large, urban areas. A total of 98 were multi-ethnic, 80 were white, 73 were Latinx, 15 were African American/Black, and 1 was Arab/Middle Eastern.

The CCL's purpose is: 1. Recruit leaders for the needs of the church, now and in the future. 2. Train Christian leaders to solve problems and adapt to the flexible nature of our world. 3. Deploy leaders who are theologically trained and equipped to serve a variety of faith communities, including in various ethnic and linguistic contexts. Creating and maintaining healthy communities 4. Establish Christian communities designed to invite and respect diversity. 5. Grow communities to deepen faith and more effectively share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Your giving each Sunday helps to support this effort of innovative witness and evangelism!

Stewardship Essential: Love

Most people do not realize why we have offerings in church in the first place. ...Originally, the Israelites brought grain offerings. That was their money—sheaves of wheat. They piled them on the altars, and they lit them on fire and just burned them up. What was the point of that? Worship. Then, after a little while, somebody said, “Instead of just burning up this wheat, we could give it to the poor, or maybe let the priests beat it.” That seemed like a good idea, so they did that, and then, before long, people began to think that the reason they brought the grain offerings was to help the poor or feed the priests. Likewise, people today think that the reason they put money in the offering plate on Sunday morning is to help their church pay its bills or support missions and other good projects...

As a general rule, if you want to love God more, start giving away your money. Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also, Jesus said, and it's a promise.

-Mark Allan Powell, Loving Jesus



Coming in the Fall!

Heartwarming stories
of generosity
and love in the
Northwestern Ohio
Synod.



Women of the ELCA

WELCA Calendar of Events for September 2022

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

- Sept. 13 Martha Circle – 9:00 am in the church library
Hostess: Judy Kipker; Leader: Jane Ebersole
- Sept. 13 Rachel Circle – 1:00 Lunch at Scrambler's Marie's
- Sept. 19 WELCA Board – Thankoffering Planning – 1:00 pm
- Sept. 19 Hannah Circle – 7:00 pm in the church lounge
Hostess: Nina Dukes; Leader: Kathy Brooks
- Sept. 24 WELCA Fall Conference, Trinity, Arcadia
- Sept. 25 Cookie Sunday – Hannah Circle
- Oct. 4-6 Set up for Rummage Sale and Bake Sale

Our new program booklet lists seven women of the Bible. The first is *Sacrifice Like Esther*. Her story is told in one of two books of the Bible named after women. We all know the story. Esther did sacrifice for her people, she approached the king without invitation, which could have led to her death. Her life shows us that sometimes we must take personal risks to make a difference and our lives are linked to larger communities, not just our own.

Church Rummage Sale

Friday October 7, 9:00—5:00
Saturday, October 8, 9:00—1:00

Please bring gently used items and place them either in the Rummage Sale Room or on the stage. Please no TV's as we cannot accept them. We are usually in need of children's clothing.

We will need lots of help the week of the sale. Set up will begin on Tuesday, October 4. Please put it on your calendars to come and give a helping hand.

This event is sponsored by Thrivent Financial who provides seed money for advertising and other expenses.

Any Questions, contact Mary Lou McCann at 419-348-6164

L.I.F.T.

Living in Faith and Trust



L.I.F.T. will meet on Tuesday, September 20 at 11:30. Come relax and chat! The LIFT ladies will meet for a brown bag lunch at the church in the fellowship hall at 11:30. If you plan on attending, please contact Sue DeMoss at 419-306-9994 or Marilyn Dunn at 419-722-8543.

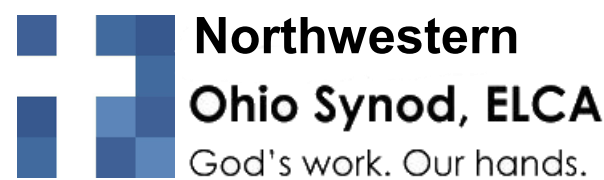
Our New Rose Garden



The garden near our east parking lot and near the shelter house has been renovated as many of the bushes were old & overgrown. The beautiful rose bush, in memory of Eileen Mains, and the two existing boxwoods served as the basis to plan the new garden, which we have named the Rose Garden.

We added a variety of different colored blossom Knock-out Roses, along with matching boxwoods to create an elegant and timeless garden. The green tuteur (French for guardian/trainer) was chosen to provide visual height, but more importantly to repeat the color & look of our fleche, the highest point of our church building. The goal is to draw our thoughts up to God & Heaven. It encourages our communication with Him & reminds us of His love and grace. —Cheryl Everitt

We thank Diane Adler, Jerry Bryant, Jane & Kurt Ebersole and Cheryl Everitt for their planning and implementation of this project. Watch for more beautification to come. The committee has great ideas for the landscaping of our church grounds.



Northwestern

Ohio Synod, ELCA

God's work. Our hands.

Sunday, September 11 is Rally Day at First Lutheran Church. The ELCA has also chosen **September 11 as "God's Work, Our Hands" day**, and is an opportunity for us at First to serve our community.

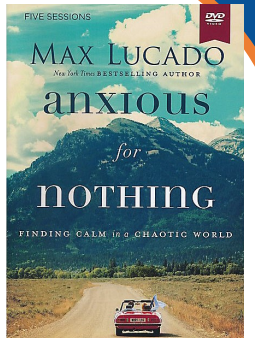
The youth at First have chosen a project to provide food for those who need a little help by donating to the Free Food Pantry Boxes located throughout Findlay. The youth have raised funds to purchase some food to start their effort. As members of First, we can join their effort by bringing a non-perishable item to church on Sunday, September 11, in order for the youth to continue to serve the community of Findlay and provide additional food in the Pantry Boxes over the coming months. Please drop off your item in the cart near the entrance to the Narthex on September 11. Thank you.



Pastor Bob's Adult Sunday School



In this five-session Bible study, beginning October 2nd, Max Lucado explores God's promises in Philippians 4:4-8 and shows that while anxiety is part of life, it doesn't have to dominate life. As you follow God's prescription for worry - celebrate the goodness, ask for help, leave your concerns with him, meditate on good things - you will experience his peace. You can stop letting anxiety rule your day and find true calm and contentment in Christ.



Come Join Us for A Study of the Gospel of John

Kurt and Jane Ebersole will be leading a Sunday School class this year using N.T. Wright's study of the book of John. We will be using Wright's companion book along with William Barclay's study of the Gospel of John as we have done for the past two years to enhance the student guide. Please consider joining us for this 26-week journey.



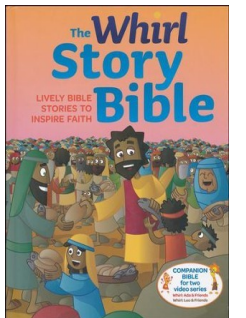
We will meet in our same classroom on the second floor with hopes of outgrowing it and have to seek larger quarters. We look forward to seeing you beginning at 9:30 am September 18. —Jane Ebersole

Kindergarten through Fifth Grades

Sunday School will begin

September 11th at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall.

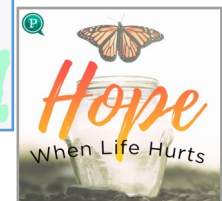
Whirl Kids - Old Testament Stories



Students 6th Grade – 12th Grade

This Sunday School year will help junior high through college-age students **break free from life's hurts, cycles of destructive choices, shame, and guilt.** Through open conversation and discovery, they'll uncover what is at the heart of issues they're experiencing and find freedom through Jesus.

- Pressure to perform
- Accepting forgiveness
- Anger
- Drugs and drinking
- Depression and suicide
- Equality and diversity
- And other topics



We will also learn an overview of the books of the bible and yes, there will be Skit Guys videos. Parents will also be involved by receiving an overview of each weeks topic and conversation prompts to spark deeper discussion at home.

Parents and Students – Mark your calendars for **Sunday Sept 11th at 9:30 A.M.** We will discuss the weekly curriculum and other activities that the youth may want to do outside of Sunday mornings.

BITS AND PIECES

From Our Librarian

So... did you know that the word September derives from the Latin *septem*, or seven because it was originally the seventh of ten months in the oldest known Roman calendar. March was the first month until about 451 BC. After the calendar reform that added January and February to the beginning of the year, September became the ninth month but kept its name... and now you know.

In early July, Jane Ebersole forwarded to me an email entitled "Take a Literary Road Trip! – Explore books set across the United States." The list labels 50 books set in 50 states. A person can read one or 50; it is an interesting list...as some titles are well known, others relatively new titles. If you are interested in traveling the US from your reading chair, you can peruse the list in the library folder labeled "Literary Road Trip." If you wish your own copy, email me and will send you a copy.

Found a new-to-me magazine at our county library free exchange called Mary Jane's Farm in which I uncovered a timely article "Unexpected Benefits of Reading Before Bed." Apparently, a recent survey (I won't go into major background) reported the respondents said that "reading before bed promotes relaxation, reduces stress, induces sleep, centers the mind, and improves sleep quality." Now I will admit I can't read Stephen King, before bed. :-)

I also picked up the July/August 2022 of Saturday Evening Post. It has been a very long time since I picked up a POST. In one article "To Tell the Truth," Chris Wallace, son of famed Mike Wallace, explained that people distrust the media today mainly because of his father and the creation of "60 Minutes," the show that

reported news not as a public service, but rather as a start of the chase for

audiences. He continued that if the networks would stop seeing news as a money maker, news reporting would improve. He cites several examples of misinformation planted by government sources for various reasons. And he mentions centuries old times of fake news.

Another article states that "the average person checks his/her phone 110 times a day and nearly once every 6 seconds in the evening." I am reminded here of the spectacle the other morning of a mother pushing her baby in a stroller while walking the dog, holding on to the cell phone in one hand and the coffee cup in the other. Talk about multi-tasking.

For those who enjoy a glass of wine periodically, here are some facts to throw out at the next gathering. While in office, Jefferson spent roughly \$10,000 on wine and he added about 20,000 imported bottles to his wine cellar. The "Titanic" carried a large collection of wine, and most remains intact in the ship's cellar on the ocean floor. Since the Johnson administration, only domestic wines are served at state dinners. Wine in ancient Rome was often made in lead pots because it sweetened the wine. Of course, it also poisoned the drinkers. Grape juice sales rose 700% during Prohibition. Some brands included "warnings" that were really instructions for making wine at home. The costliest bottle of wine ever sold, a 1945 Romanee-Conti French Burgundy, fetched a price of \$558,000 at a 2018 auction.

And on that expensive note, I am out of room. God bless and keep reading!

Kathy Brooks

WHAT'S NEW

At First

Call Committee

The Call Committee would like to give a short update on our progress for the new Pastor search.

We received a notification last week that we have a candidate interested in First. The call committee is in the very early stages of the process for this candidate and we will update you all as soon as we have something to share.

We ask that you please continue to keep this committee in your prayers. We appreciate them all! This is a slow and arduous process.

Thank you,
The Call Committee



The Endowment Committee has made three distributions from the Missionary Outreach funds in 2022.

First Lutheran has had the privilege of being able to help Ukraine through Lutheran Disaster Response with \$5000. The women of the church also assembled Personal Care Kits which were sent to Lutheran World Relief with \$500 of available funds to help with shipping and supplies.

The last project approved was for Christian Clearing House Soup Bowl Project fundraiser to be held the first weekend of December. The \$2500 requested was used to purchase soup bowls and mugs to be sold along with a soup luncheon to raise funds for the food insecure in Hancock County.

The ability to help others outside the foundation of our church building is the purpose of the Missionary Outreach Fund.

The committee still has an extraordinary amount of funds still available to distribute in 2022, over \$13,500! If you have an outreach project that you would like to promote, now is the time to present to a committee within our church structure to request funds from Endowment. Support the needs within our community and beyond!

Kitchen Committee

Members of First, We are in the process of forming a "kitchen committee". This committee will be made up of a group of volunteers willing to put in few hours once or twice a year to work on project in the kitchen. We would like to have list of people interested and work from there.

We plan to be going thru all the cabinets and drawers to clean, organize, take a general inventory of what is there. We will also be making a list of items we may need and to remove items no longer needed. We have our first "job" planned for Thursday September 22nd at 3:30 pm. We will be removing everything from the pantry and giving it a good cleaning. Wayne will then seal any cracks in the wall related to keeping the mice and ants away.

If this is something that you would like to be involved in, please contact Karen Rose at 419-348-8775 or email at krose13995@gmail.com

Pastor Appreciation

thank you!

I want to thank the congregation for including me in the recent recognition of Pastor Bob's 25th and Pastor Chris's 50th anniversaries in the ministry. (My landmark this year is the 15th anniversary of my retirement.) The gift, the mayor's proclamation, the cards, and your presence at the reception are greatly appreciated. A great blessing in my ministry has been the many wonderful people I have worked with over the years, and that includes you who are part of my retirement congregation.

— Pastor Art Wilde

Linda Mitchell extends her thanks to all who contributed desserts for our Community worship on the 21st. It was a great day!

We would like to thank the University of Findlay students who gave their volunteer time to remove the pea gravel from around the pavilion. They removed more than 7,700 pounds.



Our Christian Sympathies

are extended to the families of ...

....Jack Meek, who joined the Church Triumphant on July 28th.

...Beverly and Bart Pardee. Beverly passed into the Church Triumphant on August 5th and Bart, joined his wife on August 15th.

HOW YOU CAN HELP...



Christian Clearing House
Christians Helping in Crisis

CCH will be holding the Soup Bowl Project fundraiser December 3rd from 11 AM - 1 PM.

This fundraiser includes the option to purchase a pre-painted soup bowl or mug from Painter's Pottery. The organization needs volunteers to paint a bowl/mug for the sale. The bowls/mugs have already been purchased by CCH and the organization has scheduled three days, September 9, 10, and 11 to have volunteers paint one at Painters Pottery. If you are interested, please call Painter's Pottery at 567-294-4680 to schedule a time, one of these three days, to paint a bowl/mug.

Bring a friend or family member and get your creative juices flowing. The bowls/mugs will then be available for sale at the event along with a soup luncheon. All funds raised will be used to supply food vouchers for the food insecure in Hancock County through CCH.

Support Christian Clearing House (CCH) by joining their Chip in for Charity Golf Scramble on Friday, September 9 at Sycamore Springs Golf Course.

Registration is at 8:00 AM with a Shotgun Start at 9 AM. The cost is \$90/player or \$360/team which includes green fees, golf cart, breakfast, lunch and door prizes. Contact CCH for information or brochure at 419-422-2222 or www.cchsupport.org to register by Monday, September 5.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Noisy Offering	10:30am Ladies Bible Study	9am Martha Circle 1:30pm Rachel Circle 7:30pm Finance	7pm Endowment 8pm Theology Pub	4:30pm Organ Rehearsal	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	10am Buck Bridal Shower
8:15 & 1045 Worship						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:15am & 10:45 Worship	Pastor Bob Vacation 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 10:30am Prayer Group 12pm Newsletter Deadline 1pm WELCA Board 7pm Hannah Circle 7pm Property	Pastor Bob Vacation 11:30am LIFT	Pastor Bob Vacation	Pastor Bob Vacation 4:30pm Organ Rehearsal 6pm BSA	Pastor Bob Vacation 9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Pastor Bob Vacation 8:15am & 10:45 Worship	10:30am Ladies Bible Study 10:30am Prayer Group 7pm Council Meeting			4:30pm Organ Rehearsal	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	



LECTORS

Sept. 4
9:30— Julie Buck

Sept. 11
8:15— Marilynn Dunn
10:45—Gabby Cox

Sept. 18
8:15-
10:45—Kristen Johnson

Sept. 25
8:15— Kathy Brooks
10:45— Gabby Cox

ALTAR GUILD

Elaine Timbrook

COUNTERS

Tom & Cindy Fitzpatrick

LSS DELIVERY

Carolyn Wilde

FLOWER DELIVERY

COMMUNION BREAD

Sept. 4— Toni Poling
Sept. 11—Beth Bonnoront
Sept. 18—Susan Waltermeyer
Sept. 25— Karen Rose

COOKIE SUNDAY

Sept. 4—Community Dinner
Sept. 11—Church Council
Sept. 18—Social Ministry
Sept. 25—Hannah Circle

DRIVERS

Sept. 4—Jerry Bryant
Sept. 11—Mike Zawisza
Sept. 18—Aaron Ried
Sept. 25—Pam Cochran

DEACONS

Sept. 4
9:30—Marilynn Dunn,
Daryl Rotman

Sept. 11
8:15— Marilynn Dunn,
Nick Thomas
10:45 -Steve Roth
Mike Zawisza

Sept. 18
8:15— Marilynn Dunn
Sue DeMoss
10:45— Evan Pitt
Mike Zawisza

Sept. 25
8:15— Paul Brooks
Bob Schriener
10:45—Evan Pitt

SOUND ROOM

Sept. 4
9:30—Tim Roth
Sept. 11
Sept. 18
Sept. 25

Celebrations

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sept. 4—Craig & Beth Meier
Sept. 11—Jerry & Carolyn Bryant
Sept. 18— Toni Poling
Sept. 25— Marilynn Dunn
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.*

Food Cart Requests

Kleenex, Laundry Soap, Boxed Side Dishes

All donations benefit Lutheran Social Services.

October Newsletter Deadline

Monday, Sept. 19

Bulletin Deadline Wednesday Mornings

Craig & Beth Meier	9/3/1994	28
Steve & Traci Roth	9/3/1994	28
Michael & Sue Baxter	9/5/1970	52
Jerry & Carolyn Bryant	9/11/1965	57
Robert & Arlene Schriener	9/11/1982	40
Robert & Kristina Rodman	9/14/2002	20
Tim & Dawn Franks	9/19/1998	24
Rob & Amber Leipheimer	9/21/2002	20
Robert & Patricia Stacy	9/23/1950	72
Mike & Chris Zawisza	9/26/1998	24
Tricia Cox	9/1	Sharon Thompson 9/16
Peggy Fruchey	9/1	Jordan Spoon 9/17
Rylie Needles	9/2	Brian Fruchey 9/19
Tad Schell	9/3	Douglas Schriener 9/19
Carol Meyer	9/4	Scott Schriener 9/19
Evan Pitt	9/5	Margaret Maag 9/20
Kristen Buck	9/6	Sally Rice 9/20
Martha Schmidt	9/6	Robert Stacy 9/20
Mike Waltermeyer	9/6	Samantha Franks 9/21
Cheryl Everett	9/7	Doris Staschiak 9/21
Carolyn Bryant	9/9	Lisa Cox 9/22
Cynthia Rotman	9/11	Alexandria Johnson 9/23
Elaine Timbrook	9/11	Debra McMillen 9/29
Alan Hartzell	9/12	Marilynn Dunn 9/30
Kimberly Fultz	9/16	Suzanne Kirk 9/30
Sidney Hoover	9/16	Mary Lou McCann 9/30



"Moving one step closer to God."

Current Resident or:

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



This newsletter was mailed:
August 31, 2022
Give or take a day



**September 4th,
One Service at 9:30**

**September 11th,
Worship at 8:15 & 10:45
Sunday School at 9:30**

419-422-2638

www.1stLutheranChurch