

The First Word

First Lutheran

Findlay, OH

June 2023



Welcome the O'Learys

Pastor Tucker and Brittani

Nico (5)

Harper (9)



First Lutheran Church "Questionert"

Favorite Bible Verse:

"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love,"

1 Corinthians 13:13



Favorite TV Show:
Star Trek Next Generation

Red

Favorite Color



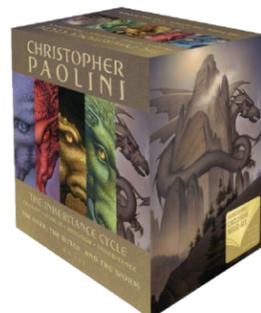
Favorite Movie:
Inception



Favorite Actor:
Jack Black



Favorite activity with sons:
Rock Climbing



Favorite Book Series:
The Inheritance Cycle



Has not gone yet...
(As of this printing)

"Music is the universal language no matter where we come from; even when there are no common words, the expression of music touches the heart."



WHAT AM I READING



Good morning all. Today my heart goes out to all of you who suffer from

seasonal allergies. My past two weeks have been a trial, to say the least. Hang in there, folks.

Let's get to the books that we have been reading. White Fang by Jack London was the topic of book club this past month. It was originally presented as a companion piece to his Call of the Wild. One the story of a wolf/dog eventually tamed through the love of one who will become his last owner; the other a tame dog who answers his own "call of the wild." I vaguely remember reading them together in high school. Some of our readers chose not to get into the dog story; I admit, the books are a "bit" rough at times – after all they are set in the days of gold in the Klondike. A different kind of addition to our list.

Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver was the choice of the HBG book club (stands for the Hurley Burley Girls...a reference to the war in Macbeth...oh, never mind! :-). This group is made up of one from Defiance, another from Toledo, an Oregonian on ZOOM, and me. Anyway, Kingsolver decides to take the social problems that Charles Dickens rails against in David Copperfield, rewrite them into the 1990's eastern Virginia Appalachia and address the ills of "modern" society. The foster care program and rescription opioids seem to be the two big topics. Each character is a rewrite of a main

character in the original novel by Dickens. Much could be said about the "why" here – it seems like much work to do an updated version of a book, to imitate the original. My jury is still out on this read. I do know it won the 2023 Pulitzer Prize for 2023, sharing the award with Trust, a book I have not yet read.

HBG is reading The Four Winds for this month by Kristin Hannah. It is not a typical writing from this author. I may have already mentioned in the past newsletter that this novel addresses the great Dust Bowl of the thirties. It is a tough story.

Just finished last night, Louise Penny's latest, A World of Curiosities. I thoroughly enjoy her mysteries. After 20 books, we know the residents of Three Pines so well. One should always be suspicious of any new person who moves in!!!!!!!

Our daughter Rachael recommended She Who Became the Sun by Shirley Parker-Chan. The only problem I have when she recommends a book to me? I spend much of my reading time wondering what exactly did she like about this book that she wants me to read it as well. It is labeled fantasy, is set in the 1300's of Mongolian China. A young lady sees her brother, whose fortune had recently claimed he would find greatness in his life, murdered by marauders. SHE takes up his name and his fortune and follows his fate. She becomes a great leader of armies. Have not talked with Rachael yet about it; I will keep you posted.

Until next month, God bless and keep reading. As ever, Kathy

WELCA June



WELCA Calendar of Events for June

Martha Circle is in-service for the month of **June**

June 19 – Hannah Circle, 6:00 pm, Dinner Out at Hunan Gardens

June 25 – Cookie Sunday, Martha Circle

Living in Faith and Trust



L.I.F.T. will meet on Tuesday, June 20 at 11:30 for a brown bag lunch, depending on weather, either at the Church Pavilion or in the Church Library. Please contact Sue DeMoss at 419-306-9994 or Marilyn Dunn at 419-722-8543 for more information or if you need a ride.



Congratulations and God's blessings to our high school graduates:

- Shelby Dale
- Seth Franks
- Zachary McRill
- Christian Nielsen
- Kylee Timbrook
- Abigail Zawisza

Food Cart Requests



June:

Shampoo, Cereal, Cleaning Products

All donations benefit **Lutheran Social Services.**

The cart is in the Coat/elevator room.



Altar Flowers

Ministry Opportunity

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.

LOVE MUSIC? LOVE TO SING? LOVE TO PLAY?

Soloists, Quartets, Ensembles! Are all invited to share their talents at worship. If you are interested in providing special music for our 9:30 summer services, please contact Jane Eakin at JaneAEakin@me.com. There are a lot of Sundays available between June 18th and September 3rd.



STEWARDSHIP

is

Heart

Work!



Denise and I have been members at FLC for over 20 years. When we moved to Findlay we visited other churches but really felt welcome here. Something that really hit home was a visit the afternoon after our first Sunday by members. We have loved being a part of this family, and singing in the choir, and community dinners are very important to us. We have loved our pastors and families, who guided us in our quest to move one step closer to God. We are very excited about the arrival of our new shepherd. We continue to praise the Lord for all His many gifts.

—Phil Burson

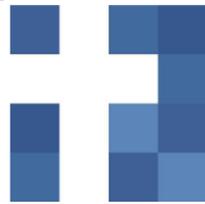
While I was away from my home church family and friends I would get monthly calls from Jane Eakin to see how I was doing. She kept me updated on what was happening here at First Lutheran. I was gone for ten months and really missed my church and singing in the choir. Her monthly calls lifted my spirits and made me feel like I was missed being there.

- Lynda Brancleone

Heartwarming stories of ministry through your generous stewardship!

Recently I had the pleasure of attending the worship service at First Lutheran. As I entered the sanctuary I was welcomed by a greeter and found the worship area to be very warm and inviting. People all around me were smiling and offering kind words of welcome. I instantly had a sense of acceptance and peace. During the worship service I observed people share great involvement in prayer and praise to the Lord. I also was honored to be a part of the congregational meeting to witness the voting of a new Pastor. Congratulations and blessings to all at First Lutheran for the beginning of a new chapter in your church history with Pastor Timothy Tucker O'Leary. Thank you for making me feel so welcome.

- Mary Boals Northwestern Ohio Synod representative



Northwestern Ohio Synod

Imagining Renewal Microgrants

Making Disciples: Jacinda Jones



Jacinda Jones of Trinity, Arcadia, was a student in Pastor Will Stenke's Diakonia class on Proclamation when she began to dream of a way to engage her community in a new way. For her final project, Jacinda was tasked with identifying the unique gifts and needs of her neighborhood and how she might use those elements to engage her neighbors. She imagined what it would look like to nurture a new community beyond the walls of her church, an exercise that Jacinda said, "helped me see my vision" for ministry "in a different way".

Jacinda and her family are regulars at a local seasonal campground in Van Buren, OH, participating in the close-knit community that springs up every summer as folks set up their campers and return to relax together on the weekends. She realized that on Saturday mornings, there is a window of time before the pool opens that the kids of the campground typically get restless. Jacinda developed intentional programming to fill the 30 minutes; a bible story time, followed by a related craft and snack. After presenting the plan for her final project, Jacinda applied and was awarded a 2021 Imagining Renewal Microgrant to begin the weekly activities, which she dreamed could be a "stepping-stone for building community at the campground". She developed 12 weeks of programming around bible stories from the Old Testament through the resurrection, and sometimes up to twelve kids, from preschool age up to pre-teen, would join her, eager for something fun to do before the pool opened. It was a unique time for the kids to "cut loose and have fun before they ran off for the day". After the 12 weeks of programming, when students had gone back to school, Jacinda got a call letting her know that several kids in the campground had still shown up on Saturday morning, looking forward to a bible story and activities.

Jacinda has hopes to further nurture and expand this outreach into "a vacation bible school... or weekly bible study for the parents" next year. Jacinda is excited to continue imagining what the Holy Spirit might be up to in her community! She is a member of the second cohort of the Innovator Learning Academy, and was recently admitted to Wartburg Seminary as a candidate for Word and Sacrament.

What are Microgrants? Microgrants funding are made possible through generous donors just like you. So far these gifts have made \$60,000 available for supporting innovative projects. We pray that this generosity will seed further generosity from those who value this ministry and have experienced its impact on their community. Each awardee organization will be asked to prayerfully consider how in the future they may aspire to join in this generosity and give back to the Imagining Renewal Fund. Microgrant recipients are asked to aspire to give back at least 10% of the grant monies awarded in the year following the completion of their proposed project.

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with **gratitude in your hearts** sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God .*
- Colossians 3:16

June Celebrations

LECTORS

June 4—Marilynn Dunn
June 11— Toni Poling
June 18— Arlene Powell
June 25—Elaine Miller

ALTAR GUILD

Tom & Cindy Fitzpatrick
Carol Meyer

COUNTERS

Erika Cunningham
Judy Kipker

LSS DELIVERY

Sue DeMoss

FLOWER DELIVERY

Sue DeMoss

COMMUNION BREAD

June 4—Arlene Schriener
June 11— Toni Poling
June 18— Susan Waltermeyer
June 25—Jane Ebersole

COOKIE SUNDAY

June 4—Community Dinner
June 11— Church Council
June 18—Social Ministry
June 25— Martha Circle

DRIVERS

June 4— Jerry Bryant
June 11— Mike Zawisza
June 18 - Aaron Ried
June 25— Jerry Bryant

DEACONS

June 4— Janet Wobser, Sue DeMoss
June 11—Marilynn Dunn, _____
June 18— Judy Kipker, Steve Roth
June 25— Judy Kipker, Paul Brooks

SOUND ROOM

June 4—Falkyn Roth
June 11—Steve Roth
June 18— Toni Poling
June 25— Tim Roth

July Newsletter Deadline
Monday, June 19th
Weekly Bulletin Deadline
Wednesday Mornings

Birthdays

Kristi Gerdeman	6/1	John Dale	6/16
Crystal Clark	6/2	Greg Johnson	6/16
Chery Francis	6/2	Jennifer Treece	6/16
Mildred Thomas	6/4	Beverly Yammine	6/16
Dalton Blunk	6/5	Morgan Kirk	6/17
Mike Tabler	6/8	Kim Blunk	6/19
Randall Eakin	6/9	Virginia Borger	6/20
Phil Burson	6/11	Elaine Leonard	6/20
Noah Routson	6/11	Kris Thomas	6/23
Amy Bowser	6/12	Ted Stombaugh	6/24
Zarina Dillon	6/12	John Ried	6/25
Nora Cochran	6/14	MaryAnn Chubb	6/27
Kyle Nunn	6/15	Kelsey Dudics	6/27

Anniversaries

Richard & Susie Polder	6/3/1989	34
Randy & Chery Francis	6/5/1998	25
Jason & Crystal Clark	6/10/2000	23
Tom & Pamela Basinger	6/14/1980	43
David & Shirley Gerber	6/14/1958	65
Steven & Sally Rice	6/15/1969	54
Jon & Sandra Burnside	6/19/1981	42
Kurt & Jane Ebersole	6/19/1976	47
Robert & Sara Cleary	6/20/2009	14
Clyde & Linda Mitchell	6/21/1974	49
Cloyce & Janet Baker	6/22/1958	65
Mark & Karen Rose	6/22/1985	38
James & Judy Routson	6/27/1992	21
Mike & Amy Tabler	6/28/1997	26

ALTAR FLOWERS

June 4 - Miriam Gibson
June 11— Mary Lou McCann
June 18 - Dave & Shirley Gerber
June 25

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**.

JUNE 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1-Jun		
				4:30pm Organ Rhsl	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:30am Worship 11:30am Community Dinner	10:15am Prayer Group 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 6pm Stewardship/Evangelism	7pm Book Club		4:30pm Organ Rhsl	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Noisy Offering 9:30am Worship	10:15am Prayer Group 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 7pm Social Ministry		7pm Endowment 8pm Theology Pub	4:30pm Organ Rhsl 6pm BSA	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30am Worship	10:15am Prayer Group 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 12pm Newsletter Deadline	Fellowship Hall Closed 11:30am LIFT	For Waxing	4:30pm Organ Rhsl	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
9:30am Worship	10:15am Prayer Group 10:30am Ladies Bible Study 7pm Council Meeting	Fellowship Hall Closed 9:30am Newsletter Assembly	For Waxing	7am Pastor Tucker Installation Time - TBA	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	

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

"Moving one step closer to God."

Current Resident or:

**NONPROFIT
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This newsletter was mailed:
May 31st

HELLO
June

Sunday Worship 9:30am

419-422-2638 **www.1stLutheranChurch.org**