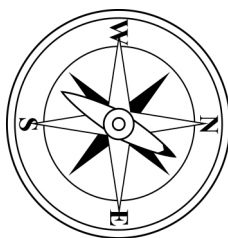


NOT the Bible

What we say/What the Bible says

"Let your conscience be your guide"

March 13th



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"

March 20th



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.

"God helps those who help themselves"

March 27th



Psalms 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"

April 3rd

2 Corinthians 1: 8-11: ⁸We 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.

"This too shall pass"

April 10th



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

L
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Lent IS A TIME TO
GROW
CLOSER TO JESUS

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



Soup Suppers 5:45
March 13, 20, 27,
April 3, 10

Joyous Light
Wednesdays during Lent, 7:00
(March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10)

A setting of evening prayer, offered in thanksgiving as daylight gives way to the night. Ray Makeever gives new shape to the song and psalms of an order of worship that has long brought a holy rest to the people of God. Join us at 7:00 on Wednesdays of lent as we reflect and prepare for the celebration of the Resurrection.

From Our Librarian



Y'all by now probably know that Paul and I are once again at Big Pine Key Fishing Lodge, living in our truck camper and fishing every day we can. Thought I would share some info with you ...for those of you who have been to the Keys and are familiar with the mangroves.

The Mangroves of the Florida Coastline

The mangroves are those dense green masses of trees with the exposed tangled roots along the coastline of the Florida Keys and as far north as Cape Canaveral. One variety of mangroves with their broadleaf evergreen trees are nicknamed "walking trees" for the roots that prop them up on the top of the water. As they line the coastline, the mangroves are the first line of defense against hurricanes, helping to absorb the tremendous wave action and winds of these annual storms.

Three species exist in Florida: red, black and white; and these occupy nearly 470,000 acres.

Mangroves thrive in salt water because they are able to filter out the salt. Both black and white mangroves take in ocean water through their roots and exude salt from the water through their leaves.

These trees propagate in unique fashion. Seeds sprout (germinate) while attached to the tree. A few months later, the seeds drop to root near the tree base, or they drift away to other locations on tides and currents, sometimes creating new islands

A mature mangrove forest is another worldly jungle. It is thick and nearly impenetrable in places. However, a maze of canopied mangrove tunnels often leads to small coves that can be home to myriad sea life and birds.

Mangrove forests are ideal feeding and nursery grounds for fish – snapper, snook, tarpon, red-fish, sheepshead, mullet, cobia, and more, plus shrimp, oysters, and barnacles. The roots provide shelter from predators, and mangrove tree litter – leaves, bark, and wood – forms the base of a rich marine food source.

More than 190 bird species flock to Florida mangroves. The thick green forests are alive with the calls and cries of juvenile birds. Adults fly in and out

on feeding runs. Brown pelicans, great blue herons, brilliant white great egrets, stunning pink roseate spoonbills, and other species all perch, nest, and feed in the mangroves, as do ospreys, hawks, peregrine falcons, and bald eagles – the top echelon of aerial hunters fittingly occupying the topmost branches.

Unique among them all is the mangrove cuckoo, whose extended range includes Mexico, South America, and the Caribbean but only U.S. habitat is the South Florida mangroves.

A canoe or kayak is the best craft for exploring a mangrove forest, but be sure to check the tide charts. At low tide, it is possible to walk through a mangrove forest. The air usually smells heavily of salt and decomposing vegetation,

A close look along mangrove branches may even reveal flowering orchids and bromeliads, along with squirrel tree frogs, green anoles, and orange-brown, mangrove salt marsh snakes.

Because their many attributes are now largely recognized, mangroves have some degree of protection under Florida law and are faring better than they have in the past, when developers destroyed vast forests. Although Paul and I are very aware of one developer who destroyed one major area of mangroves in the Keys ...he had enough money to pay the fine...he didn't care. He just moved on with the development.

There is evidence that the mangroves are expanding their range as global temperatures warm. This may or not be good, as mangrove forests invade more habitats and retreat inland.

Prior to Hurricane Irma, many homeless lived in the mangroves but the mangroves were greatly damaged in the Hurricane.

Thanks to Doug Alderson and his latest Florida nature book, Wild Florida Adventures, for the above information.



A final report on the library's book accession in 2018...86 books were added to the shelves, 25 of which were memorials, 64 of which were new and nearly new books donated by members, the rest were purchased from the budget.

God bless and keep reading. Kathy Brooks

2019 Stewardship Emphasis

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee shall prepare a draft budget or estimate of expenses for the year succeeding that in which it is appointed, including the congregation's share in the support of the wider ministry being carried on in its behalf by the ELCA and the synod. ...The committee shall exercise oversight of all the financial affairs of the congregation to make sure they are being conducted efficiently...

(Constitution and By-Laws, Section 5f)

Committee Members:

Randy Buck, *Chair*
Tom Bassinger
Doris Staschiak
Greg Johnson
Daryl Rotman
Cyndy Rotman
Casey Cox



Stewards of Grace

Finance Committee

Interview with Tom Basinger, Treasurer of the Congregation and Member of the Finance Committee

How long have you been on the Finance Committee? Being Church Treasurer since 1993, I have been a member of the Finance Committee from that time. I supply the monthly expenses and reports which are the income statement, balance sheet and dedicated funds. Once per year, our committee meets with each individual committee chair and accumulates what they think they need financially for the upcoming year.

What does the Finance Committee do? Why is it important to the congregation? After accumulating all committee wishes, we discuss if our financial giving (income) will sustain these expenses. It is important to the congregation to be assured that our church is able to meet all our expenses and benevolence dollars to other local agencies and the Synod office.

How does the Finance Committee differ from the Stewardship Committee? We report the giving and the Stewardship Committee seeks the giving.

As Treasurer of the congregation, how do you feel giving is going at First Lutheran? As for giving, the trend has basically followed the attendance except for a few exceptions. Sometimes, when attendance is down for a month, giving goes up. Sometimes, when attendance is up, more giving is received. Some people give monthly or quarterly. Electronic giving has helped offset the differences. *The trend is going down because it takes three to four young people to offset one senior member.*

What are our greatest financial needs? To meet all church expenses, maintain the endowment fund for future generations and increase giving.

What impresses you or surprises you about our giving? Looking at old reports from Ken Otte, there are many members giving very little and some members giving very much. Again, this typically relates to the age of the giver.

As one who has spent years working in finance in this congregation and the Synod, other than paying bills, why is the financial ministry of this church so important to us as disciples? We are called by Jesus to give generously. Tithing was a law of the Old Testament, but generosity now comes from the heart in the New Testament.

What needs does the Financial Committee have? It's all about giving. We also could use more members on our committee. We haven't had a new member in years. We need people with new ideas, common sense and financial intellect.

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



The OWLs will meet on March 26th for a program entitled "The Celtic Cross," presented by David & Jane Good. A potluck dinner will

begin at 5:00 with the program to follow at 6:00. Please bring a covered dish to share and your own table service.

*May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,*



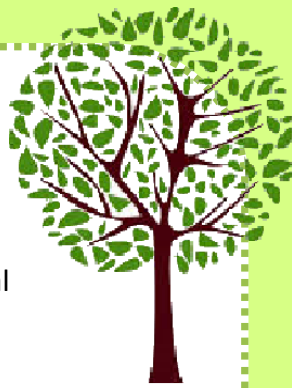
Endowment Committee

Scholarship applications are now available on the bulletin board and in the church office for two scholarship funds from the Endowment Fund, the Endowment General Scholarship and the Jeffrey Allan DeMoss Scholarship. The 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.

The Endowment committee has distributed the funds for all Restricted accounts for 2019. The following funds were given to the appropriate committees:

- Schlee Fund for Special Maintenance \$2,218.29
- McCraken Fund for Candles, Worship and Music \$426.59
- Bradley Fund for Current Benevolence \$199.08
- Yamine Fund for Youth Activities \$2,085.59

First Lutheran appreciates all those who continue to support the current Restricted accounts and other funds within the Endowment guidelines to ease the financial needs of our church, both physical and spiritual, into the future. Any size gift is beneficial to these needs.



Mar. 12, 9:00 am
Martha Circle Library

Mar. 12, 9:30 am
Rachel Circle Lounge

Mar. 13, 10:00
WELCA Board Meeting

Mar. 18, 7:00 pm
Hannah Circle Lounge

Mar. 31, Cookie
Sunday
Hannah Circle

Snowflake Social





Sponsored by:



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



EPIC Youth

April
7-Bible Study
Discussion, Games

14-Bible Study
Discussion, Games

21-No EPiC
Easter

28-No EPiC
Confirmation
Sunday

\$340

**Raised for the
ELCA Youth
Gathering**

Guess the Number Winners

Ali Cox	Buckyeyes	157
Josh Leopold	M&Ms	964
Chris Zawisza	Cashews	622
Sue DeMoss	Candy Mix	479

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



LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

March 5th, 11:30
@ Café Maries

Newsletter DEADLINE

Monday
March 18th

Food Cart Requests



Shampoo,
Deodorant,
Bath soap,
Canned Fruit.

All donations benefit

March's
Noisy Offering will benefit

Capital University

“... a comprehensive, independent university grounded in the

Social Ministry



Lenten Soup Suppers

begin March 13 at 5:45 in Fellowship Hall. Come for a light supper and enjoy the food and fellowship before the Lenten service at 7:00.

Social Ministry

continues to collect

BOX TOP LABELS

FOR EDUCATION. Sometimes they are hard to find but please look for them. There is a list posted of products on the bulletin board and a box for the labels in the designated drawer in the kitchenette. NO CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS are collected. The labels are given to Lincoln School for their use. If you collect for your neighborhood school, that is great!



Blood Drive

October 17th. There is always a need.

Super Bowl

Challenge raised \$25 for the LSS food bank for food or taxable items. Looks like First liked the Rams - \$18 was donated to support the Rams and \$7 supported the Patriots. Thank you to those participating.

The **Red Cross Mobile** was here Feb. 7, only 23 units were collected. Please consider being a donor when we host again on



March Volunteers



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

LECTORS

Mar 3
8:15-Elaine Timbrook
10:45-Nathan Leipheimer

Mar. 10
8:15-Acolytes
10:45-Acolytes

Mar. 17
8:15-Shirley Gerber
10:45-Tim Franks

Mar. 24
8:15-Jeff Kamm
10:45-Pam Cochran

Mar. 31
8:15-Marilynn Dunn
10:45-Jennie Treece

SOUND ROOM

Mar 3
8:15-Sam Ried
10:45-Steve Roth

Mar. 10
8:15-Dave Gerber
10:45-Alex Treece

Mar. 17
8:15-Tim Roth
10:45-Steve Roth

Mar. 24
8:15-Sam Ried
10:45-Alex Treece

Mar. 31
8:15-Tim Roth
10:45-Todd Thomspen

DRIVERS

Mar 3-Jerry Bryant
Mar. 10-Mike Zawisza
Mar. 17-Aaron Ried
Mar. 24-Pam Cochran
Mar. 31-Jerry Bryant

GREETERS

Mar 3
8:15-Elaine & Klyee Timbrook
10:45-Franks Family

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

Mar. 17
8:15-Dave & Shirley Gerber
10:45-

Mar. 24
8:15-Jeff & Jennifer Kamm
10:45-Karen Rose

Mar. 31
8:15-David & Janet Wobser
10:45-Treece Family

ALTAR FLOWERS

Mar 3-Jon & Sandra Burnside
Mar. 10-Dick & Barb Larick
Mar. 17-Carol Roessing
Mar. 24-Doug & Beth Bonnorant
Mar. 31-Tad & Maria Schell

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.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

8:15/10:45
Mar 3-Pastor Chris Dittmar
Mar. 10-Tim Cochran
Mar. 17-Pastor Chris Dittmar
Mar. 24-Tim Cochran
Mar. 31-Daryl Rotman

DEACONS

Ash Wed. Tad Scell, Sue DeMoss
8:15- Tad Schell, Sue DeMoss
10:45- J. Bryant, D. Franks, G. Johnson

ACOLYTES

Mar 3
8:15-Zach McRill
10:45- Kylee Timbrook, ErinMeier

Mar. 10
8:15-
10:45-Abbey Zawisza

Mar. 17
8:15-Grant Welte
10:45-Seth Franks, Shelby Dale

Mar. 24
8:15-
10:45-Casey Leipheimer

Mar. 31
8:15-
10:45

ALTAR GUILD

Linda Mitchell, Pat Needles

COUNTERS

Tom & Pam Basinger

LSS DELIVERY

Carolyn Wilde

FLOWER DELIVERY

Joan Swisher

COMMUNION BREAD

Mar 3-Julie Dittmar

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Mar 3/10-
Mar. 17/24-
Mar. 31

COOKIE SUNDAY

Mar 3-Community Dinner
Mar. 10-Christian Ed/Youth
Mar. 17-Council
Mar. 24-Hannah Circle
Mar. 31-

8:15 USHERS

Richard Ruehle
Jim Schoerger
Ken Bahler
Aaron Ried

MARCH Celebrations

Birthdays

Sue Baxter	3/1
Sandra Burnside	3/2
Audrey Leopold	3/4
Angela Nunn	3/4
Linda Ried	3/5
Hannah Roth	3/5
Jon Wilkins	3/5
Lee Hardesty	3/6
Cameron Roth	3/9
Drew Short	3/9
Richard Larick	3/10
Jeanne Bartolomeo	3/11
John Huff	3/11
Clyde Mason	3/13
Adelyn Tabler	3/13
Christi Volk	3/14
Leslie Dudics	3/15
Dianne Beekman	3/16
Audrey Hicks	3/16
Jaden Tabler	3/18
Jacob Brown	3/21
Steve Roth	3/21
Jonathon Bonnoront	3/22
Thomas Basinger	3/23
David Wobser	3/23
Beth Bonnoront	3/24
Pamela Cochran	3/24
Cynthia Napier	3/24
Justin Volk	3/24
Robin Wilkins	3/24
Lori Cox	3/25
Jon Jones	3/25
Joshua Basinger	3/26
Erin Rodabaugh-Gallegos	3/26
Robert Rodman	3/26
Aaron Clark	3/27
Dawn Franks	3/29
Carol Bridinger	3/30
Evelyn Napier	3/31
Cam Taylor	3/31

Baptisms

Kurt Ebersole	3/1
Jerry Luth	3/2
Nancy Bahler	3/6
Emily Meier	3/7
Beulah Bishop	3/8
Janann Lishawa	3/8
Jeanne Bartolomeo	3/11
Cynthia Habegger	3/11
Brandon Maas	3/11
Elizabeth Brossia	3/13
Ryan Buck	3/14
Lesley Betts	3/16
Brent Fruchey	3/17
Brynlee Johnson	3/17
Michael Leonard	3/17
Thomas Leonard	3/17
Phillip Bash	3/19
John Kapostasy	3/20
Patricia Taylor	3/20
Susan Waltermeyer	3/20
Cloyce Baker	3/22
Kim Blunk	3/22
Brian Fruchey	3/22
Pamela Basinger	3/25
Justin Buckingham	3/27
Pamela Cochran	3/27
Beth Schmidt	3/28
Madison Kirk	3/29
Tad Schell	3/30
Jason Polder	3/31



Michael & Tracy August
3/1/1997
22 Years

Matthew & Carol Meyer
3/7/1998
21 Years

Mark & Kim Blunk
3/13/1992
26 Years

Phil & Denise Burson
3/22/1975
44 Years

Wayne & Nina Dukes
3/24/1979
40 Years

James & Merrill Maurer
3/26/1977
42

Daryl & Cynthia Rotman
3/26/1983
36

Todd & Cindy Thompson
3/28/1987
32

first Lutheran
109 E. Lincoln Street
Findlay, OH 45840

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

Return Service Requested:



Mailed around
February 26, 2019

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



**Soup Suppers 5:45
March 13, 20, 27,
April 3, 10**

Sunday Morning worship 8:15 & 10:45

Sunday School at 9:30