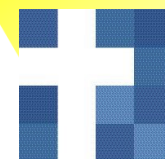


Hallelujah!

HE IS RISEN

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION



Northwestern Ohio Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Northwestern Ohio Synod is one of 65 ELCA synods. Our synod consists of 162 congregations, 75,000 members, who synod wide contribute \$33 million. There are eight Lutherans per square mile in NW Ohio! "Each synod, in partnership with the churchwide organization, shall bear primary responsibility for the oversight of the life and mission of this church in its territory." - ELCA Constitution. Below are some of the synod staff, appointed within the last few months...



Bishop

Bishop Daniel Beaudoin is overseeing and administering the work of the Northwestern Ohio Synod (NWOS). He ordains and commissions candidates for ministry, installs lay and rostered ministers and provides pastoral care and leadership to the congregations and clergy of NWOS.

Director of Leadership Development and Congregational Care

Sherry Krieger provides oversight for congregational relations with a focus on Ministry of Presence and Preventative Health. She is providing leadership for the Call Process in tandem with the Call Facilitators and Interim Pastors; is responsible for congregational care in matters of transition and conflict, providing resourcing, consultation and leadership development; and is assisting the Bishop in staff and synodical development.



Director of Leadership Development and Congregational Vitality

Kent Wilson provides leadership for stewardship development, congregational vision and mission processes, congregational redevelopment and new church starts, and will help develop a synod-wide culture of discipleship.

Program Assistant for Mission Advancement

Cheryl Sondergeld will be leading our event planning and coordination, coordinating volunteers, and will provide administrative support for our professional staff.



Coordinator of Communications and Technology

Caroline Guy is facilitating the synod's communications and media presence, in addition to providing communications and technological administrative support for the professional staff.

Where does our money go? In 2017, our congregation contributed \$38,000 toward our Mission Share. Approximately half of that amount was given to the ELCA for its work. The remaining monies are used toward the mission and ministries of the synod to provide pastoral care, leadership training and recruitment, and discipline for congregations and rostered leaders. The 2018-19 budget of the NWOS is \$1,702,134. Of that, 51% or \$826,200 is directed to the ELCA.

Where do our offerings go? Although we do not budget for Trinity Seminary, the Endowment Committee does provide scholarships for prospective students at Trinity. A portion of our offerings go to the eight ELCA seminaries through our Mission Share (benevolence). Individual gifts and special offerings, like the recent "Noisy Offering" help support our seminary in Columbus.



Putting a Face to a Name for Our Active Service Men and Women

As we continue to celebrate the ELCA Year of Prayer, we are planning to feature our young men and women in service for the month of May leading up to Memorial Day. We will be starting in April to gather pictures (if families are amenable), short bio's, and addresses. There will be an easel for these items as well as a box for cards or letters to be sent to those in service by the end of April or beginning of May. This is a way for all to be involved in deeper prayer for these young people. If you have other ideas, please let Jane Ebersole (kjebersole@aol.com) or Robin Bowman (rbow8656@yahoo.com) know.



We would like to feature our youth and adult chaperones who are going to Houston for the ELCA Youth Gathering in June.

"In the Great House of God there is a furnace. This furnace affects the whole house, and your prayers fuel the furnace. Your intercession is coal on the fire. Your pleadings are kindling to the flames. The furnace is sturdy, the vents are ready; all that is needed is your prayer." Max Lucado

OWLs to Hear Hancock County Children's Choir



The OWLs invite the congregation to hear the Hancock County Children's Choir perform on Tuesday, April 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the nave. The group, directed by Celia Stockton, is comprised of 24 second to fifth graders. In June they will perform in Washington, D.C. Their program is titled "Why We Sing" and will include both religious and popular music.

The program will be preceded by a potluck supper at 5:00. Please bring a covered dish to share and your own table service.



ELCA Year of Prayer (Memory verse)

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6

From our Librarian

"God is present in ordinary things"

Submitted by
Kathy Brooks

Welcome, everyone to April. Welcome as well to the Risen Lord. Hallelujah!

I begin with "The Case for Reading Before Bed". "Research shows that reading can reduce stress by 68% - more than other traditional methods of relaxation. It doesn't take much time to reap the rewards: six minutes is all you need to slow your heart rate. Opt for something light and easy. Avoid anything that will reverse those feel-good effects, like a horror novel or a self-help book that requires too much introspection" —Brandi Broxson.

And on another topic, when you look for reasons to celebrate—no matter how small, you increase your happiness, says Greg Hicks, coauthor of Choosing Brilliant Health: 9 Choices that Redefine What It Takes to Create Lifelong Vitality and Well-being. "It makes you feel more connected to the world and to the people and things around you," he explains.

When someone says "Thank you!" Celebrate. Highlighting the positives in your life and feeling the joy they bring really is as simple as that. Pure happiness is all about accumulating a bunch of joyful moments.

Not only do these bursts of bliss leave you feeling more optimistic and content, they also boost your immune system.

Unfortunately, it is human nature to look for the bad, not the good. There is power in negativity—the parents all complain about a teacher or coach, neighbors all complain about the addition to the neighborhood. When we join in a complain-fest, we might feel part of a group, but at the same time we erode each other, with sentiment of "poor us." In these situations, we see ourselves as victims and become even more unhappy.

Let's train ourselves to savor the little things that make us happy. A sunrise, a full moon, a smile from someone...whatever...and fill our bucket with an accumulation of joyful moments. Build up those joy reserves. God is present in ordinary things



Think About It

Some things help you to become the person God meant you to be and some don't.

When your soul is hungry, you become irritable, restless and discontented.

Offer each hour of your day's work as prayer from someone or something. Thus you do as Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to "pray without ceasing."

Make a conscious effort to receive everything that God is pouring into you. Simply be with God.

Questions to consider:
Why do you do what you do?
What is important to you?
What are your dreams for the future?

Every moment of every day, every situation, every person you encounter is an opportunity to become a better version of yourself.

Read one chapter of the Bible every day. Highlight one verse that resonates with you. Talk with God about it.

Women of the ELCA

April - 10 Martha Circle, 9:00, Library
 Rachel Circle, 9:30, Lounge
 April 16 - Hannah Circle, 7:00, Lounge
 April 29 -Cookie Sunday—Hannah Circle

May 5 -WELCA Central Conference Spring Assembly
 9:00—1:00

First Lutheran Church, Findlay
 Speaker - Pastor Christian Dittmar
 "On the Trail to Martin Luther
 RSVP Deadline April 30th to
 Carol Bridinger 419-424-9105 or
 carolbridinger@gmail.com

Spring Rummage Sale

Set-up begins Tuesday, April 24th.
 The sale is April 27th, 9:00—5:00 pm and
 April 28th 9:00—12:00.

You may bring in your items and place them
 in the rummage sale room. Please, no TVs.
 Questions: Contact Mary Lou McCann at 419-
 423-2226 or Barb Smith at 419-427-1515.



.....to *Ken Otte* for his service to
 our church. Ken has been the
 Financial Secretary since October
 1986....over 30 years. What a
 commitment. We are truly blessed to
 have had Ken and

Welcome
Glad you're here!

...we welcome *Daryl Rotman* to
 the position of Financial Secretary. If
 you have any questions regarding
 your giving, contact Daryl.



How do we care for each other?

How can we be
 better in our 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



Lunch with Pastor Bob

Tuesday, April 3rd
11:30 at Café Maries

Pastor Bob's New Phone Number

Pastor Bob no longer has a land
 line. You may call him on his cell
 phone at:

419-788-0803

Remember you can use the online
 directory for congregational
 members addresses and
 phone numbers.

Instructions for our **Instant Church Directory** are on our
 web page www.1stLutheranChurch.org under the Forms/
 Gifts tab. It is a private app and only accessible to our
 member's who have their email address listed in the
 directory. If you need to update your email address with the
 church, give Nina a call or email her. It only takes a minute.



Instant Church Directory™

Your church directory
 on your
 mobile device.
Instantly!

Food Cart Requests



Laundry
 detergent, toilet
 paper, soup

All donations benefit
Lutheran Social Services.

This month's Noisy Offering
 will benefit:



*A distinctive,
 life changing experience.*

Newsletter
DEADLine

Monday.
April 23rd

Christian Education/Youth



April 11, & 18 @ 7:00 PM
April 25 - 8th Graders and Parents
April 29 Confirmation Sunday, 10:45; Pictures at 9:30



April

8th
Activities at church
6:00- 7:30

15th
Roller Skating
2:00

22nd
Activities at church
6:00 -7:30

29th
Hike @
Litzenberg
Memorial Park
2:00—3:30

For more
information contact:
Jennifer Treece or
Jenny Welte



If you are interested in helping with Vacation Bible school this summer, contact Julie Buck by texting or calling at 419-306-2186 or email jabuck67@hotmail.com. We are looking at possible dates for Vacation Bible School at the end of July or beginning of August.



Come Join Us!

Classes are available for Preschool to High school. Preschool classes are located in the basement of the church and can be found behind the blue door. First and second grade classes are behind the green door and 3rd to 5th grade are located behind the yellow door. These classes are studying New Testament stories.

Sixth to Twelfth graders are invited to the Open Tomb in the basement to enjoy a video discussion with topics that include making tough choices, making time for God, conflict and other issues that affect kids today. There are always donuts for your enjoyment and lively discussion. Come and give it a try!



Find out more about First Lutheran Church! A New Member Class will be offered on May, 13th and 20th at 9:30 in the church library. New members who choose to join the church will be received and introduced to the congregation in worship on Sunday, May 20th. For more information call Pastor Bob or email him at fllcPastor@Hotmail.com.



Our new carpet will come sometime in early April and will take about two weeks to install. In the meantime, the narthex is being cleaned and a few things moved around. We again ask for your patience during this process.



Julie Buck - jabuck67@frontier.com
Casey Cox- CaseyCox72@gmail.com
Cindy Fitzpatrick- cbrenfitz@aol.com
Tim Franks - TFranks75@Hotmail.com
Greg Johnson - GregJohnson05@yahoo.com
Cynthia Napier-NapierCynthia222@yahoo.com
Aaron Ried - Ried1024@aol.com
Daryl Rotman - Rotman4@aol.com
Wendy Short - Jshort@bright.net
Renee Smith - RSmith0709@att.net
Alex Treece - AlexTreece@yahoo.com



Birthdays

Avarie Needles	4/1
Beth Vaughn	4/1
Cole Westrick	4/2
Doug Bonnoront	4/3
Charles Crates	4/3
Jerry Bryant	4/4
Nick Muntzing	4/4
Harry Fifolt	4/6
Elle Price	4/6
Janice Bishop	4/11
Rhonda May	4/11
Wayne Dukes	4/12
Edwin Dunn	4/12
Hallie Mitchell	4/12
Doris Brand	4/15
Beth Meier	4/15
Ken Bahler	4/18
Jack Haffelder	4/18
Karissa Welte	4/19
Cynthia Fitzpatrick	4/20
Abigail Leatherman	4/20
Robert Rodman	4/20
Patricia Needles	4/21
Madison`VanAtta	4/21
Robert Schriner	4/23
Maurine Denney	4/24
Harper Cleary	4/25
Oliver Cleary	4/25
Daniel Eakin	4/25
Cecilia Maag	4/26
Judith Mains	4/28
Gary Schultz	4/29
Gavin Haudenschild	4/30
Jack Meek	4/30
Patrick Westrick	4/30

April Celebrations

James Maurer	4/1
Merrill Maurer	4/1
Steve Brossia	4/2
James Clayton Sr.	4/2
Samuel Fruchey	4/2
Jeremiah Tatum	4/2
Kendra Tatum	4/2
Marie Peace	4/4
Drew Short	4/4
Sue DeMoss	4/5
Christian Dittmar	4/5
Barbara Larick	4/5
Sue Montgomery	4/5
Andy Schriner	4/5
Beth Schriner	4/5
Douglas Schriner	4/5
Scott Schriner	4/5
Kenneth Howard	4/8
Chris Zawisza	4/8
Emily Betts	4/9
David Wobser	4/9
Ryan Price	4/12
Zoe Thompson	4/12
Steven Wilson	4/12
Donna Brockman	4/13
Victoria Cox	4/13
Hannah Roth	4/13
Phoebe Treece	4/13

Baptisms

Steven Treece	4/13
Sandra Burnside	4/14
Nancy Woodruff	4/14
Donna Mason	4/15
Nikki Needles	4/15
Rick Howard	4/17
Tracy August	4/18
Gary Woodruff	4/18
Wesley Rodman	4/19
Barb Smith	4/20
David Rossman	4/21
Robert Stacy	4/21
Maurine Denney	4/24
Nancy Haffelder	4/24
Linda Ried	4/25
Carol Ruehle	4/25
Cecilia Maag	4/26
Robert Mitchell	4/26
Joshua Basinger	4/28
Janice Bishop	4/29
Dorothy Freeland	4/29
Evan Pitt	4/29
L. Eileen Mains	4/30

Anniversaries

James & Maurine Denney	4/3/1971	47	Jeffrey & Lesley Betts	4/25/1998	20
Clyde & Donna Mason	4/7/1980	38	Jason & Shelby Bower	4/25/2009	9
Randy & Julie Buck	4/15/1989	29	Dean & Amy Bowser	4/26/1986	32
Jim & Wendy Price	4/15/1989	29	Alex & Jennifer Treece	4/27/2002	16

first
Lutheran
109 E. Lincoln Street
Findlay, OH 45840

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

Current Resident or:



Mailed around
March 27th

He is Risen Indeed!



Sunday Morning Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am. Sunday School at 9:30 am.