

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
246 South Main Street
Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601-3183
T: 724-834-1457
F: 724-834-1469
felchurch.org

PASTOR..... Larry Kemp
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC.....Marvin Huls
CHURCH TREASURER..... Patti Sias
OFFICE MANAGER..... Patricia Pluck
OFFICE SECRETARY.....Susan Woodcox
CUSTODIAN..... Jaison Smith

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Merle Baker
Rebecca Brunetta President
Bob Errett
Suzy Flory
Jeanne Kiss
Dianna Marusko
Joan Orr
Sue Ross
Brandie Saraceni Vice President
Amy Schultz
Kim von Schlichten
Megan Zobb Secretary

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday Church School 9:30 A.M.
SCS does not meet in June, July or August

Sunday Worship 8:15 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.
Summer Schedule 8:15 A.M. & 10:00 A.M.

Elevator and Hearing Assistance Available

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
246 SOUTH MAIN STREET
GREENSBURG, PA 15601-3183

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GREENSBURG, PA

PHONE 724-834-1457
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felchurch.org



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MARCH 2018



THE JOURNEY
CONTINUES

This month our Lenten journey continues, and the month concludes with Holy Week and the beginning of the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at the Easter Vigil. As we move through Lent into Holy Week, please be sure to check the calendar and plan to make the most of the opportunities for worship and fellowship for the sake of our life with God. For that journey...

Be blessed,
Pastor Larry Kemp



HOLY WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN



Once a year we gather to take our place in the events that changed all time: the finality of Jesus' earthly life, and the beginning of Jesus' victorious life. Make sure that you don't let anything keep you away from these life transforming events!

March 25	Palm/Passion Sunday	8:15 and 10:45 AM
March 28	Corporate Confession	7:00 PM
March 29	Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM
March 30	Good Friday	7:00 PM
March 31	Easter Vigil	8:00 PM
April 1	EASTER SUNDAY!	8:15 and 10:45 AM (No Sunday School)



Easter Vigil, March 31

Easter Vigil 8:00 PM. This year First will be hosting the Easter Vigil. Weather permitting, worship will begin in the park at 8:00 PM. You are invited to join us in worshipping with our friends from neighboring Lutheran churches for the first celebration of our Lord's resurrection for the Easter season.



FIRLU HAS HEARD...

-that daylight saving time begins on Sunday, March 11. Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour!

-that Continental Breakfast is available in the fellowship hall between services. Grab some coffee, tea, juice, yogurt, or pastries and join us. Our thanks to Sue Boggs for overseeing this ministry. If you would like to help, speak to Sue or call the church office.

-that congratulations are given to Molly and Rick Maga on the birth of their son, Wyatt Richard February 11, 2018.

-that registrations are now being accepted for the 2017-2018 term of the First Lutheran Preschool. Classes are offered for children ages 3 and 4. Please speak to Barb Krunszynsky or call the church office for more information.

-that the JAVA TABLE will be open in the fellowship hall March 25 between worship services. Fair Trade coffees, teas, and chocolates will be available for purchase.

-that assistance is greatly needed the third Thursday of the month by 8:00 AM to unload the truck and sort groceries for Food Pantry distribution.

-that Angel Food cakes (home baked or purchased) are needed the first Sunday of every month for Meals on Wheels. Bring your cake to the church office. Thanks!

-that the deadline for the April newsletter is Monday, March 19. Please be prompt. You may submit your articles to office@felchurch.org.

See you at worship,
FIRLU

JOIN OUR MARCH FOR PARKS TEAM!

We are organizing a First Lutheran TEAM to participate in the MARCH FOR PARKS on Saturday, March 24. The event takes place in two locations simultaneously: Twin Lakes Park and Murrysville. Team members can march at the location of their choice. The March for Parks raises funds for the County Parks and Trails.



To register go to www.co.westmoreland.pa.us/parks. You will need to enter the team name as **First Lutheran** and the team captain as **Molly Maga**.

As in the past all funds raised by the First Lutheran Team will be matched by the Matching Gifts program.

First Lutheran has been a strong participant ever since the March began in 2003 and has won many awards in the team competition. If you enjoy the new facilities at Twin Lakes such as the boundless playground, tubing and sledding area, dog park or skate park you should know that funds from the March helped to fund these facilities. This year the Parks are raising funds for renovations and new facilities at Mammoth and Cedar Creek County Parks as well as to construct another 3.4 miles of the Westmoreland Heritage Trail from Murrysville to Export.

Please join us on March 24! You will have fun, get some exercise, and show our community that First Lutheran is an active church committed to helping make Westmoreland County a better place to live and work!

If you are planning to march, please let the Church office know.

2018 LENTEN CONGREGATIONAL PROJECT

We've bought pigs, built "Lenten Loos" and supplied first aid kits to communities around the world.

This year let's help folks in different countries build community vegetable gardens! With a plot of land and good soil, adding drought-resistant seeds and topping it off with tools and training, plenty of tomatoes, potatoes, cabbage, beans and other vegetables can be grown to go around. Extra produce can be sold and the profit shared by the members of the cooperative to provide a great combination of food and income.



It takes about \$200.00 to start a community vegetable garden. Throughout the 40 days of Lent we will be gathering offerings in our homes and bringing those offerings to worship on Easter Sunday (Place your offering in an envelope with your name and "Community Vegetable Garden" on the outside of the envelope.). How many gardens can those in need grow through our gifts?

First Holy Communion

Pastor will be offering first communion instruction to fifth graders who are ready to begin receiving the sacrament. For more information, please contact Pastor Kemp directly.



At the Congregational meeting held Sunday, February 25, 2018 the following were elected, by unanimous vote, to the FELC Call Committee:

Bobbie Laciak

Ron Lambie

Molly Maga

Clint McMaster

Rev. David von Schlichten

Amy Schultz, Council member & Liason

Please keep them in your prayers as they begin the Call process by working on the church profile for First Lutheran.

Do you have an email to share with the church office?

We are currently looking to update the church's contact information and would like to send out timely congregational information via email to those who wish to receive it. If you would like to be placed on the congregational email list, please complete the following and either place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

_____ Yes, I would like to receive email from the church

Name: _____

Email: _____

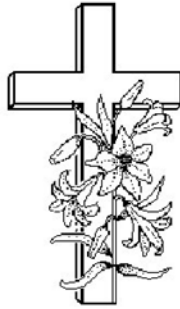
If you have a change of address or telephone number to share with the church office, please complete the following:

New Address: _____

New Telephone Number: _____

ORDER LILIES FOR EASTER

Lilies will again decorate our church on Easter Sunday. You are invited to purchase a plant at a cost of \$9.50 and “lend” it to the parish. Plants that are purchased may be removed from the church following the 10:45 AM Easter Sunday Service. Any lilies that are not removed by the Wednesday following Easter will be given to our Food from the Heart guests.



Your purchase may be made “in memory of” or “in honor of” the person (s) of your choosing. Please indicate your preference and return this form with your payment. The florist must have our order by **Monday, March 19.**

In honor of _____

By _____

and/or

In memory of _____

By _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Serving At Worship In March 2018

3/4	3/11	3/18	3/25	3/29
		<u>ACOLYTES</u>		
Emma Armstrong Cade Cavanaugh	Ailanthus Hanzel Erik Hanzel Jacob Julian	Reese Woodley Bradley Schmidt	Drew Erdman Alyssa Tomb Haley Tomb	Reese Woodley

3/25 Crucifers: Emma Armstrong, Erika AMent

Torch Bearers: Ailanthus Hanzel, Erik Hanzel, Tyler Miller, Mia Saraceni

Bible Bearers: Reese Woodley, Christopher Steel

ASSISTING MINISTERS

Erik Hanzel	Suzy Flory	Dianna Marusko	Rebecca Brunetta	Rocco Marusko
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LECTORS

Sherry Menz Pat Yost	Jean Miller Dianna Marusko	Kim Niccassio Suzy Flory	Kathy McMaster Carol Baker	Suzy Flory
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AV MINISTRY TEAM

Drew Erdman Al Danilko	Drew Erdman	Dwight Miller Lexi Hahn Scott Hahn	Liz Rowe Tim Irwin Spencer Irwin
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Delivery

Cheryl Lucas	Betty Mohney	Betty Kraus	Helen Marie Flinner	Betty Mohney
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8:15 USHERS

Carolyn Hanzel
- chief
Bill Poole
Liz Rowe

10:45 USHERS

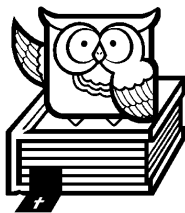
Al Danilko
- chief
Malcolm Sias
Bev & Barry
Attenberger

ALTAR GUILD

Bev Attenberger
- coordinator
Linda Griffith
Beatriz Falta

March Library News

First Lutheran's Library is located on the second floor of the Christian Education building. New materials are added to the library each month for your Christian education and enjoyment. Stop by to check out a new book or DVD.



New in our library this month:

Declaration on the Way, Church, Ministry and Eucharist – Declaration on the Way celebrates fifty years of international and regional Lutheran-Catholic dialogues and harvests the results of those efforts into Statements of Agreement on church, ministry, and Eucharist. It invites both communions to affirm the unity achieved through these agreements and establish church practices that reflect this growth. Read and discuss *Declaration on the Way* in adult study groups, affirm and celebrate these Lutheran-Catholic agreements, and take steps toward greater unity in your neighborhood or community.

New in library for young teens and children:

Looking for Home by Arleta Richardson – The first book in the “Beyond the Orphan Train Series” will take you back to 1907 Pennsylvania and into real-life adventures of four children in search of a true home. With both parents gone and his older brothers and sisters unable to help, eight-year-old Ethan Cooper knows it's his responsibility to keep his younger siblings together – even if that means going to an orphanage.

Haunted Waters by Jerry B. Jenkins – This is the first book in the Red Rock Mysteries series for teens. Bryce and Ashley Timberline are normal 13-year old twins, except for one thing – they discover action-packed mystery wherever they go. Wanting to get to the bottom of any mystery, these twins find themselves on a nonstop search for truth.

God Gave Us Family by Lisa Tawn Bergren – A heartwarming and colorful addition to the best-selling God Gave Us series, this tale will delight young hearts and help them understand how families of all types reflect God's unconditional love.

10 Bible Stories for the Whole Family (DVD) – Finding the meaning in many of the Bible's stories can be difficult for children, but this ten-film animated collection solves that problem with easy-to-understand tales of compassion, courage, faith and more. Kids will love these colorful classics and parents will appreciate the lessons they teach.



Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Greensburg invites you to be present for their Lenten Thursday Worship and Luncheons. This year, a different Lutheran pastor from the Greensburg/Delmont area will preach each Thursday. We would be grateful for your presence with us in worship and for fellowship.

Zion's is located at the corner of S. Pennsylvania Ave. and West 2nd Street in Greensburg, 140 South Pennsylvania Avenue. Worship begins at 12:05 PM, and the luncheon follows in our Social Room at 12:30 PM. The schedule is as follows:

*March 1 ~ **Preaching:** Pastor Robert Hawk, Crooked Creek Cooperative Lutheran Ministries.*

*March 8 ~ **Preaching:** Pastor John Smaligo, Harrold Zion Lutheran Church*

*March 15 ~ **Preaching:** Pastor Frank Podlinski, Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd*

*March 22 ~ **Preaching:** Pastor Kara Propst, Salem Lutheran Church, Delmont*

*March 29 ~ **Preaching:** Pastor Brian B. Chaffee, Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church*

Our Worship and Luncheon are not held on days when Greensburg-Salem School District declares school closing due to snow.



SPRING CLUSTER MEETING at Salem Lutheran Church in Delmont April 21, 2018. Details will be forthcoming.

SYNOD CONVENTION will be held at The Bishop Connare Center May 18 and 19, 2018. The theme for this year's convention is "WOMEN BLESSED BY GOD". To honor our 30th anniversary a special dinner and event will be held on Friday at Giannilli's starting at 6:30 PM. In addition to the synodical business, there will be worship services and two workshops. Registration deadline is April 1st. Informational details and registration forms are in the church office in the WELCA mailbox.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet a week later than on Thursday March 15 at 7:30 PM in the church parlor. We are currently working on assembling cleaning buckets for Lutheran World Relief. Come join us as we gather together in God's name for study, fellowship and always delicious dessert!

SOLES FOR SOULS

First Lutheran will partner with several local congregations to gather all shoes, boots, slippers you no longer use and give them to those who have none.



Simply **band them together** (singles accepted too) and drop them into the collection boxes located in the education building foyer, the narthex at the back of the church, and the fellowship hall. **Please do not box the shoes.**

We will be collecting until April 15. So, clean out and recycle that unwanted footwear now.

EASTER EGG HUNT

HOLY SATURDAY

March 31, 2018 10:00 AM



All children ages 12 and under are invited to come and hunt for Easter eggs at First Lutheran Church.

Friends are invited to join you as well.

Please call the church office at 724-834-1457 to register for the hunt.

Please indicate if your child has any food restrictions or allergies.

MARCH 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:15 Bell Choir 7:00	2	3 9-11 Healthy Congregations
4 8:15 W&S 9:30 SCS 10:45 W&S	5	6	7 12:00 FOOD/HEART 6:00 Soup & Worship	8 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:15 Bell Choir 7:00 Choir	9	10
11 8:15 W&S 9:30 SCS 10:45 W&S	12	13	14 12:00 FOOD/HEART 6:00 Soup & Worship	15 FOOD PANTRY 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:15 Bell Choir	16	17 9-11 Healthy Congregations
18 8:15 W&S 9:30 SCS 10:45 W&S	19 <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	20 6:30 Finance 7:00 Ch. Ed./Youth	21 12:00 FOOD/HEART 6:00 Soup & Worship	22 6:00 Evening Prayer 6:15 Bell Choir 7:00 Choir 8:00 Worship	23	24 March for Parks
25 8:15 W&S 9:30 SCS 10:45 W&S PALM SUNDAY JAVA TABLE 9:30 Social Ministry	26	27 Newsletter folding	28 12:00 FOOD/HEART 6:00 Soup & Worship 7:00 Corporate Confession	29 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service 6:15 Bell Choir 7:00 Choir	30 7:00 Good Friday Service	31 8:00 Easter Vigil

Soup, Worship & Reflections on Luther's "Small Catechism"

You are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings in Lent beginning February 21 for a light soup supper at 6:00 PM followed by worship at 6:30 PM.

Evening Prayer at First

Pastor Larry Kemp will be conducting evening prayer with anyone who is available on Thursday evening from 6:00—6:15 PM. You are invited to join him in prayer to pray for the life of First.

Easter Vigil, March 31

This year First will be hosting the Easter Vigil. Weather permitting, worship will begin in the park at 8:00 PM. You are invited to join us in worshipping with our friends from neighboring Lutheran churches for the first celebration of our Lord's resurrection for the Easter season.