

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

PASTOR.....Chris Combs  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC.....Marvin Huls  
CHURCH TREASURER..... Patti Sias  
OFFICE MANAGER.....Patricia Pluck  
OFFICE SECRETARY.....Gretchen Fischer  
CUSTODIAN..... Jaison Smith

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Debra Black  
Rebecca Brunetta Vice President  
Brian Erdman  
Tom Flory  
Linda Griffith  
Charlie Kaylor  
Dan Krack Secretary  
Bobbie Laciak  
Leon (Bud) Nusselt  
Cheryl Pfeifer  
Holly Rowe President  
Cullen Shuster

**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 9:30 A.M.

Elevator and Hearing Assistance Available

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

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
GREENSBURG, PA 15601  
PERMIT #436

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GREENSBURG, PA**



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FAX 724-834-1469

office@felchurch.org

**June 2024**

Pastor's Note

*But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.*

*(2 Peter 3:8, NRSV)*

Dear Friends in Christ,

This past week I attended the Festival of Homiletics as part of my continuing education for the year. There were plenty of wonderful preachers who shared their insights in sermons, lectures, and workshops. One of the lectures was given by the Rev. Dr. Angela Hancock, a professor at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Her lecture was titled, "The Rest of the Story: Biblical Narrative and Slow Preaching."

I wasn't exactly sure what to expect, but I was intrigued by the title. I was surprised to find out that there is a World Institute of Slowness. It promotes all sorts of "slow" activities. One example is "Slow Art Day." Instead of visiting a museum and trying to see everything you can in the time you have, the idea is to focus on just a few pieces of art. The idea is to linger with each piece maybe up to 10 minutes, recognizing details and movements that might not be noticed in a "normal" visit. In some cases, there is a forum for discussion with other participants.

In our fast-paced, technologically connected world, what might it be like to have a "slow" encounter with scripture? What might we notice if we linger with a text for "a while?" What might we notice even from the most familiar texts?

*(Continued on Page 2)*

(Continued from Page 1)

Naturally there are things that have to get done each day, or week, or month, but what if we took some time to slow down from the busy-ness of the world? Maybe just one bright morning or one pleasant evening, from time to time with a cup of coffee or tea and our favorite passage from Scripture. We just might find something surprising that we hadn't noticed before.

So, as we enter into June and "summer," I encourage you to slow down when you can, take in the beauty of God's creation and perhaps have a "slow" encounter with God's word.

Together in Christ,  
Pastor Chris

P.S. – For an interesting story of a musical exercise in "slow," search for:  
John Cage Organ Project – Halberstadt.

## WE ARE THE CHURCH

Jesus didn't come to start a church. He came to show God's love for the whole world. He came to heal and to teach and to save. And, as he did that, he gathered a crowd. They were changed by that encounter. And when Jesus said, "Hey, you want to come along and help?" they followed him. They were the church. Long before there were church buildings or seminaries to train pastors or even a book with the story of Jesus written down in it, *they were the church*.

The church is people. And, today, the church is us. We are the church when we get together to celebrate and to mourn, to worship and to learn and to serve. But we are also the church when we are at home, at work, at school, having coffee with the neighbor, doing our shopping, paying our taxes, marking the ballot. We are the church wherever we go. It is our job, in all those places, to share the good news of God's love in everything we say and everything we do.

*This message is excerpted from "Like the first evangelists" by Kelly Fryer, a 2007 resource of the Women of the ELCA.*



## FIRLU HAS HEARD...

-that as of April 24th, our offering receipts were \$64,694. Last year they were \$64,962.

-that **Noisy Offering** will be collected the first Sunday of June to benefit Camp Agape.

-that sympathy is extended to the family of Shirley Thomas.

-that congratulations are given to Rachel Boggs who was confirmed May 19, 2024.

-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 there will be no Sunday Church School during the summer months. Sunday Church School will resume September 8 with Rally Recreation Day. Regular worship schedule will resume **September 8**. Continental Breakfast will resume September 15.

-that the JAVA TABLE will not be open in June, July and August.

-that **ALTAR FLOWERS** are needed for June 23, July 14, and 21, 2024. Cost is \$50.00. Please contact the church office if you would like to provide the altar flowers for any of these dates in memory or honor of someone.

-that Food Bank distribution is **Thursday June 20**. Assistance is needed around 7:30 AM to help with the set-up and the need for assistance increases at 8:00 AM to unload the truck and prepare for distribution. If you can lend a hand on Thursday morning, June 20, your effort will be greatly appreciated.

-that the deadline for the June newsletter is Friday, June 21. Please be prompt. You may submit your articles to [office@felchurch.org](mailto:office@felchurch.org).

See you at worship,  
FIRLU

# Serving At Worship In June 2024

6/2                      6/9                      6/16                      6/23                      6/30

## ACOLYTES

Molly Boggs      Noah Boggs      Corrina Vuick      Molly Boggs      Noah Boggs

## LECTORS

Rebecca Brunetta      Shirley Huls      Sunshine Keiser      Mark Barnhart      Sue Boggs

## ASSISTING MINISTERS

Rebecca Brunetta      Carolyn Hanzel      Tawnya Combs      Dianna Marusko      Dianna Marusko

## ALTAR GUILD

Dianna Marusko  
Carolyn Hanzel  
Sue Ross



*“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above....” James 1:17*



## HONOR FATHER’S...SAVE OTHERS!

Once again for Father’s Day (June 16th) members of the Christian Outreach Team suggest a fitting way to honor and remember your/any father.

Around our planet, our brothers and sisters may not know of America’s Father’s Day but fathers they know may very well be experiencing war, hunger, poverty, calamities of weather or any combination of these.

Honor your father(s) with a gift to Lutheran Disaster Relief in amounts of \$15.00 or more if you can. Lutheran Disaster Relief has a long established track record for helping where it is needed most.

A member of the Christian Outreach Team will be in the education building foyer after the worship services on Sunday, June 9th and 16th for you to make your gifts. You may also make gifts during the week through the church office.

Write out a check payable to First Lutheran Church (or you can give cash). You can write **Father’s Day** on the memo line and place it in an envelope and write **Father’s Day** on the outside of the envelope.

Please include the following information:

Name of father(s) you are honoring/remembering:

-----

Given by -----

## BIBLES FOR LOVE PACKAGES

### BIBLES WILL BE COLLECTED THROUGH RALLY DAY



Do you have old Bibles that you no longer use or have inherited and don't know what to do with them? Well, we have an answer.

Beginning in January and running for several months, First Lutheran will collect used and/or new Bibles as well as Sunday School materials and other Christian materials to send to "Love Packages."

### Putting the Word of God into Hungry Hands All Over the World

Love Packages collects bible donations—as well as donations of Christian books, Sunday School materials, and more—from people and publishers across the U.S. and ship it to our network of distributors all over the world. Love Packages is fueling international missions work and sending the gospel to the ends of the earth by putting donated bibles and other Christian literature into the hands of people around the world. Some of the locations shipped to include Kenya, India, Uganda, South America and others in need. They ship over 1,500 tons of recycled gospel literature to the mission field every year.

### Items we are collecting are:

**Bibles** – new or used, any translation, New Testaments or other portions, individual gospel booklets.

**Reference Material** – Dictionaries, Bible dictionaries, concordances, commentaries, etc.

**Books** – all Christian books – adult or children, non-fiction.

**Magazines and Daily Devotionals** – any devotionals or magazine from a Christian publisher.

**Sunday School Materials** – adult quarterlies and all teacher manuals in any amount from all publishers; children's quarterlies with the teacher's manual and full student manuals.

**CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray** – Christian music & movies.

**Puppets, Nativity Sets, etc.** – bible games, biblical puzzles – anything that helps teach the gospel, especially to children.

## FIRST LUTHERAN AND ZION'S LUTHERAN VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

### "JUNGLE JOURNEY"

June 17-20 9:15 AM – 12PM

Drop off begins at 9 AM

PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Held at First Lutheran Church

246 South Main Street, Greensburg, PA 15601

### REGISTRATION AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Last School Grade Completed \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian cell \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian email address \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary Emergency Contact:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Any known food allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Any other allergies or medical conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Any current medications \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

By initialing below, you are allowing **First Lutheran and Zion's Lutheran Churches to take photos of your child or loved one. These photos may be included on our church websites and/or social media.**

Guardian Initials \_\_\_\_\_

## SUMMER FOOD DRIVE

During the summer months, the Christian Outreach Committee will be collecting nonperishable items for our Emergency Food Cupboard. These items will be used to assist many individuals and families in our community.

June is “Protein Month”. Suggested items are:

- Peanut Butter
- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, etc.)
- Beans



July is “Carb Month”. Suggested items are:

- Pasta / pasta sauce
- Pouch / Box sides (pasta/rice/potato/stuffing, etc.)
- Mac & Cheese
- Crackers (saltines, etc.)

August is “Canned Food Month”. Items especially needed are:

- Soup
- Fruit
- Canned pasta (SpaghettiOs, etc.)

A box is located in the education building foyer for your donations.

Please **check the expiration dates** before donating, as we cannot distribute expired items in the Emergency Food bags.

Thank you!

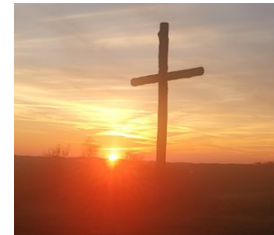
## BIBLES FOR LOVE PACKAGES continued

Boxes for your items will be located in the Narthex, the Education Building and the Fellowship Hall.

For more information on Love Packages check them out on [lovepackages.org](http://lovepackages.org).

We will continue collecting until Rally Day, September 8th.

## NOISY OFFERING FOR JUNE



Camp Agape is an outdoor ministry of the Lutheran Church, providing summer camping programs and retreat facilities. Located in southwestern Pennsylvania approximately 35 miles southwest of Pittsburgh, Camp Agape has over 250 acres of rolling hills, fields, and forest. The natural setting allows you to enjoy the beauty and wonder of God's creation while experiencing an intentional Christian community.

Camp Agape is a place where God's children from 5 to 95 come to learn about themselves, the world in which we live, and our God who created and creates all; a place where children come to explore and experience talents they don't know they have, skills they start to develop, confidence they gain to face the world to which they return, affirmation they receive that God loves them as they are and encourages them to grow into what they can become.

## MESSAGE FOR THRIVENT FINANCIAL MEMBERS

At the first of each year, Thrivent members are given Thrivent Cash Dollars to direct to charitable organizations.

When you are considering where to spend your Cash Dollars, please consider giving your gift to the General Fund of First Lutheran Church. Thrivent Financial considers our congregation and any committee a valid recipient for Cash Dollars. Call (800-847-4836) say Thrivent Choice or email [fraternal@thrivent.com](mailto:fraternal@thrivent.com).

# June 2024

Please note that this schedule of events is subject to change.

## Youth & Family Event Statler's Fun Center

**When:** Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM  
**Where:** Statler's Fun Center  
 386 Frye Farm Road,  
 Greensburg, PA

(No food or drinks will be provided at this event.)

**Package 1: Mini Golf only - \$5.00**

**Kids 5 & under - \$3.00**

**Package 2: Single Kart & Mini Golf - \$10**

Children must be at least 10 years old and  
 57" tall to drive by themselves

**Package 3: Double Karts & Mini Golf - \$11**

Available for smaller Children to ride  
 with an adult. Must be 18 years old  
 to drive. Kids must be at least 36" tall  
 to ride as a passenger.

**Please have reservations and  
 money to the Church by July 7<sup>th</sup>.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Packages    Quantity                      \$ Total

**Package 1:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 5.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

5 yrs.& younger \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ 3.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Package 2:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Package 3:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$11.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:30 Worship NOISY OFFERING	3	4	5 FOOD/HEART Noon	6	7	8
9 9:30 Worship	10	11  6:00 Council	12 FOOD/HEART Noon	13	14  Synod Assembly	15  Synod Assembly
16 9:30 Worship	17  VBS 9:15—Noon	18  VBS 9:15—Noon 6:30 Finance	19 FOOD/HEART Noon  VBS 9:15—Noon	20  FOOD BANK  VBS 9:15—Noon	21  NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	22
23 9:30 Worship	24  1:30 & 6:00 Ten Commandments	25	26 FOOD/HEART Noon  6:30 Property	27  NEWSLETTER FOLDING	28	29
30 9:30 Worship						