

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
246 South Main Street
Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601-3183
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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

Kip Boggs	
Rebecca Brunetta	Vice President
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

PHONE 724-834-1457
FAX 724-834-1469

office@felchurch.org

May 2025



Pastor's Note

Give instruction to the wise, and they will become wiser still; teach the righteous and they will gain in learning.

Proverbs 9:9 (NRSV)

Dear Friends in Christ,

I was looking at the calendar for May and noticed that May 5th – 9th is Teacher Appreciation Week, with National Teacher Day falling on May 6th. That got me thinking about the teachers I have had throughout the years. There are a few teachers that stand out in my memories, and I would guess that you have at least one or two teachers that had a particular impact in your life.

I remember those school teachers and professors and I remember my Sunday School Teachers. Along with my parents and family, these teachers helped me to learn about God. They helped to form my faith.

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Pastor's Note

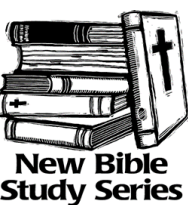
(Continued from Page 1)

I am glad that we have Teacher Appreciation week, and I give thanks for all the teachers that I have had throughout the years. I give thanks for the teachers here at First. Those who teach in our schools and those who teach in our Sunday School.

Thinking of teachers, I also remember THE Teacher, Jesus. "Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and sickness among the people." (Matthew 4:23, NRSV). He came and taught us about the love of God as he proclaimed the Good News. Jesus teaches a new way --- love.

As we have Teacher Appreciation Week in May, I encourage you to remember your teachers and give thanks. Remember THE Teacher too. The one who came and taught, revealing God's love for us and teaching us to love one another.

Together in Christ,
Pastor Chris



THE PARABLES OF JESUS

Interested in Jesus teaching through parables? Join the conversation as we explore some of Jesus' most interesting and challenging teachings.

You have two opportunities each month to join. We will gather at 1:30 PM and 6:00 PM on May 19. Hope to see you there!



FIRLU HAS HEARD...

- that as of March 31st, our general offering receipts were \$45,949. Last year they were \$49,195.
- that **Noisy Offering** will be collected the first Sunday of May to benefit Seton Hill Community Outreach.
- 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 Food Bank distribution is **Thursday, May 15**. 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, your effort will be greatly appreciated.
- that the deadline for the **June newsletter is Monday, May 19**. Please be prompt. You may submit your articles to office@felchurch.org.
- that the Church Office will be closed Monday, May 12 and Monday May 26.
- that **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST** is available in the Fellowship Hall between services through May 18. Grab some coffee, tea, juice, yogurt, or pastries and join us. Our thanks to Sue Boggs who oversees this ministry. If you would like to help, speak to Sue or call the church office.

See you at worship,
FIRLU

Financial Update		
Through March 2025		
Giving		
2025	2024	Budget
\$ 53,746	\$ 60,243	\$ 61,500
Expense		
2025	2024	Budget
\$ 99,016	\$ 88,202	\$ 116,812

Serving At Worship In May 2025

	5/4	5/11	5/18	5/25
8:15 Acolyte(s)	Rachel Boggs	Colton Boggs	Nathaniel Boggs	Noah Boggs
10:45 Acolyte(s)		Owen Lenhart		
8:15 Lector(s)	Rebecca Brunetta	Sue Boggs	Kim Woodley	Kevin Reilly
10:45 Lector(s)	Joan Orr	Malcolm Sias	Rebecca Brunetta	Megan Zobb
8:15 Worship Assistant(s)	Rebecca Brunetta	Dianna Marusko	Rebecca Brunetta	Kim Woodley
10:45 Worship Assistant(s)	Rebecca Brunetta	Dianna Marusko	Rebecca Brunetta	Tawnya Combs



for May includes Kim Woodley and Ann Copper.



Saturday Worship In the Park

Weather permitting

We are trying something new!
Have you ever thought it would be nice to worship outside in the park? Well, we have just the thing! We will be having worship outside in the park on the following Saturdays at 5:00pm:
May 3rd & 17th,
June 7th & 21st,
July 12th & 26th, and
August 9th and 23rd.

This is casual worship in the park (or the Fellowship Hall if necessary). Please bring your favorite camp chair and dress for the outdoors. Hope to see you there!

Plan to stay after worship on May 3rd for hamburgers and hot dogs, chips, and macaroni salad. Food and Fellowship to celebrate this new thing God has us doing at First.

YOU BRING THE GOOD NEWS

Giving and receiving nourishment as a community, regardless of a blood connection, is a core Christian practice. Christ gathered with his friends at a meal, teaching them how to remember him and how to pray. Early followers of Jesus gathered at tables for meals and worship, and their offerings were directly redistributed to those in need. In this way, those early Christians became the body of Christ, broken and distributed in the world.

God is with us through the love and care of others. The arrival of Jesus into our world was called the incarnation, God with us, but it didn't stop when Jesus returned to heaven. The incarnate love of God remains through the power of the Holy Spirit. God is always near.

In Scripture, angels often bring the good news of God's love and God's nearness. In fact, you are such a messenger. You are the physical, tangible presence of Christ in this world. You nourish, comfort, wipe away tears and sometimes ship really important cargo. And someone else serves as God's messenger for you. We do it together.

This was excerpted from Daily Grace, a daily devotional prepared by Women of the ELCA. Used with permission. Learn more about Daily Grace at welca.org/dailygrace.

“I have called you by name, you are mine.”

Isaiah 43:1

**MAY NOISY OFFERING IS FOR
SETON HILL COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

For May and June's Noisy Offering, we will be collecting for Street Outreach organized by Seton Hill University's School of Physical Therapy. The group hopes to meet the needs of and provide medical care to individuals who are unhoused or experiencing rough sleeping. Currently they only consist of physical therapists and other non-clinicians, but as they assess the needs of the community, they plan to reach out to other medical providers to ask them to participate as well. They are modeling themselves after Street Medicine which was founded in Pittsburgh over 30 years ago. It is now an international community of providers but its roots started in Western PA and we would like to expand the outreach in our region beyond Pittsburgh. If you are interested in learning more about Street Medicine, you can check out their website: <https://www.streetmedicine.org/>.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN OUTREACH TEAM: We are trying to determine the level of interest and availability of people for a possible Habitat for Humanity project on Saturday, July 19, 2025. There are no specifics as yet. If you are interested, please sign on the line below and send to the Church Office or drop it in the collection plate.

_____ is interested in helping with the Habitat for Humanity Project on July 19, 2025.



HONOR MOTHER’S

With the gift of a chick (or ten!!!)

Once again for Mother’s Day (May 11th) members of the Christian Outreach Team suggest a fitting way to honor and remember your/any mother.

Ten little chicks can make a big difference. Eggs from chickens not only provide an ongoing supply of protein-rich meals for a family, they can also launch a small business that provides a steady source of income.

Honor your mother(s) with a gift to ELCA Good Gifts in the amount of \$10.00. Your gift will purchase 10 chicks for a family in need.

A member of the Christian Outreach Team will be in the Education Building between worship services on Sunday, May 4th for you to make your gifts. A team member will also be available after Worship in the Park on Saturday May 3rd. You may also make gifts during the week through the church office.

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

Please include the following information:

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

Given by:-----

FIRST LUTHERAN AND ZION’S LUTHERAN VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 23-26 9:30 AM – 12PM
PreK – 5th 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 _____

Food allergies _____

Any other allergies, medical conditions or medication that we should know about

T-shirt size _____

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 _____



ALTAR FLOWERS are needed for June 22 and June 29. Contact the church office if you would like to provide altar flowers for one of these dates. Cost is \$50.00.



THANK YOU! When Food from the Heart requested assistance with needed non-perishables we hoped for a few cans from anyone who would like to help. What has happened is FULL cabinets with not just cans, but cases thanks to your generosity. This will enable us to supplement healthy meals for months, if not the year. Your kindness is very much appreciated!

Andy Rooneyisms - Too good not to share!!

I've learned.... That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

I've learned.... That simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me as an adult.

I've learned.... That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

I've learned.... That we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.

I've learned.... That money doesn't buy class.

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.

We have also seen an increased need for personal care items. Anything you are able to provide is greatly appreciated!

June is "Protein Month": Suggested items are:

Peanut Butter

Canned meats (tuna, chicken, etc.)

Beans



June Personal Care: toilet paper (wrapped single roll or small 4-pack), Kleenex, paper towels (single roll)

July is "Carb Month": Suggested items are:

Pasta / pasta sauce

Pouch / Box sides (pasta, rice, potato, stuffing, etc.)

Mac & Cheese

Crackers (saltines, etc.)

July Personal Care: Shampoo, Body Wash or Bar Soap, Deodorant

August is "Canned Food Month": Items especially needed are:

Soup

Fruit

Canned pasta (SpaghettiOs, etc.)

August Personal Care: Toothpaste, Toothbrush (single or 2-pack), dish liquid (small size), laundry detergent (small size)

A basket 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!



You Are Invited to CampBlast!

Saturday, May 10th 2025, 11am-4:30pm

Join us for a day of FUN that highlights all that Lutherlyn has to offer. Campfire, crafts, gaga ball, archery, zipline, bouldering room, hiking, nature activities, hay rides, games, sports, LEGO room, tours, great food, and MORE!

The best part.... **EVERYTHING IS FREE!**

www.lutherlyn.com/campblast

\$100 off for FIRST-TIME campers!

This coupon entitles FIRST-TIME Lutherlyn campers to \$100 off the registration fee for Summer 2025. This applies to Lutherlyn's overnight week-long programs. Young Folks half-week programs get \$50 off for FIRST-TIME campers. Does not apply to Family Camp, Confirmation Camp, Day Camps, or Small Fry Days.

Must be a FIRST-TIME summer camper.

No additional discounts may be combined with this offer.

Enter coupon code: **FIRST**

Register at **WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM**.

(Please share this code with friends!)



FROM THE ORGAN BENCH.....

TERRIBLE CHURCH BULLETIN MISTAKES....

Choir anthem: "With a Voice of Sinning"

The church will be open for medication and reflection.

"The peach of the Lord be with you all."

Hymn: "There's a Wilderness in God's Mercy"

Away in a Manager

"Nobody knows the trouble I've been."

"How Great We Art"

A reading from the book of Geniuses.

I am the Alfalfa and the Omega.

In honor of Easter, Mrs. Johnson will lay an egg on the altar.



I AM A CHILD OF GOD (Mark Miller)

No matter what people say, say or think about me, I am a child, I am a child of God.

No matter what people say, say or think about you, you are a child, you are a child of God.

No matter what the world says, says or thinks about me, I am a child, I am a child of God.

No matter what the church says, decisions, pronouncements on you, you are a child, you are a child of God.

And there is no thing, or no one who can separate, they can't separate you from the truth that you are someone, you are family, you are meant to be a child, a child of God!


YOU ARE A CHILD, A CHILD OF GOD!

First Lutheran offers Camperships to help defray the cost of camp. Register with Lutherlyn, then let the church office know to send the campership to Lutherlyn.

For the summer camp schedule, please visit www.lutherlyn.com or ask the office for a copy.

MAY 2025

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 5:00 PM Worship in the Park & Picnic
4 8:15 Worship 9:30 SCS 10:00 Choir 10:45 Worship NOISY OFFERING	5 6:00 Stewardship	6 6:00 Council	7 FOOD/HEART Noon	8	9	10
11 8:15 Worship 9:30 SCS 10:45 Worship JAVA TABLE	12 Church Office Closed	13	14 FOOD/HEART Noon	15 FOOD BANK	16	17 5:00 PM Worship in the Park
18 8:15 Worship 9:30 SCS 10:45 Worship	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Bible Study 1:30 & 6 pm	20 6:30 Finance	21 FOOD/HEART Noon	22	23	24
25 8:15 Worship 10:45 Worship	26  Memorial Day Church Office Closed	27 NEWSLETTER FOLDING	28 FOOD/HEART Noon	29	30	31



SUMMER SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS June 1

Beginning **Sunday, June 1**, there will be just one service at 9:30 AM.

There will be no Sunday Church School during the summer months. SCS will conclude the school year **on Sunday, May 18**, and resume **September 7** with Rally Recreation Day.

Regular worship schedule will resume **September 14**.