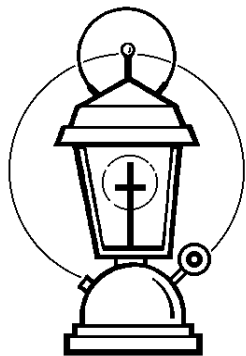


First Lutheran Church
109 West Third Avenue
Warren, PA 16365

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January 2019



JANUARY, 2019 Lantern
“FRIENDS LOVING CHRIST.
FRIENDS LOVING COMMUNITY”

First Lutheran Church
109 West Third Avenue
814-723-6450

www.firstlutheranwarren.com



Pastor's
COLUMN

If you've ever spent any time in the pool at our local YMCA, you know there is a scripture passage hanging on the wall. It's from the book of Galatians the sixth chapter. Depending on the translation it reads something like this: "Let us not grow weary of doing what is right, for after a while, we will reap a harvest of blessing if we do not get tired and give up."

I remember this verse because for years (and I mean years!) I have been saying one word of it for every stroke I take in the pool. I've branched out some with other verses (i.e. Psalm 23, John 3:16 and Romans 12:1-2) and songs (any Michael Card or Barry Manilow song from the 80s – and yes, even some Air Supply tunes ☺) but I always begin with the verse from Galatians. It's a good reminder for me to keep on keeping on – even when I don't see the results I'm working toward.

Pastor Eugene Peterson tells of watching a kingfisher repeatedly dive for fish in a lake. Peterson counted 37 dives before the kingfisher caught its supper! "And he's the king fisher!" Peterson chuckles. From that bird-watching episode, he gleaned a ministry and a life lesson: It may take a long time and many attempts — maybe dozens! — before something works out.

God calls us to live out his love faithfully, even when we don't seem to be accomplishing anything. Maybe we extend 36 invitations to worship, work 36 monthly shifts at a food bank or utter 36 prayers without seeing results. "What's the point?" we wonder. But the kingfisher urges us on: "Maybe number 37 is the charm!"

So, in the words of St. Paul (and mixing fishing and farming metaphors): "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9, NIV).

The joy of the incarnation continues. God is with us. God loves us. God spurs us on. Happy New Year, everyone! See you in church!

Shalom,
Pastor Jeff



Pastoral Acts:

CELEBRATION OF LIFE:

Linda Morse, December 2

Jean Tickner, December 10 (interment)

Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light everlasting shine upon them.

BAPTISM:

Jaclyn Hecei, December 9

We welcome you into the family of First Lutheran, Jaclyn!

Join us on Saturday, Jan 5th for a planning breakfast at Perkins beginning at 8:30 a.m. Come be a part and have a say about what we will be doing in 2019!



SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Worship with communion begins at 11:00 a.m., and lunch at noon. If you are not on a call list, please contact Alayna at the church and we will be sure to get you on one for a friendly reminder each month! Join us on January 8th for the beginning of the new year!



FLC MISSION TRIP PLANNING MEETING

If you are interested in our annual mission trip, please come to an informal gathering and let us know! We'll be talking about various opportunities and places and would love your input! We will meet on Sunday, January 20th after the 11:00 a.m. service.



LET'S MAKE A DEAL returns at **Friday Night Out** on January 25th at 6 PM at the Conewango Club! Bring interesting items from your junk drawers and closets. You'll never know what we'll be asking for! Prizes!



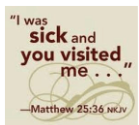
GRATEFULNESS JAR FOR FLC'S 2018 MEMORIES

IMPOSSIBLE!!! The year of 2018 is coming to an end! Add your thanksgiving thanks to the big jar in the Narthex of your happy times and special memories. Don't make it difficult; write down a line or two of a blessing in your life!!



SLED RIDING PARTY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH

Calling all kids, teens, and adults who want to go sled riding! We will be meeting at Beaty Hill at 2pm to enjoy some sled riding, sled races, and snow ball fights! Then, we will meet back at the church to have hot cocoa and a snack. Pray for snow the next couple weeks, but if we don't have snow we will have another activity planned for that time. Bring your sleds and dress warm. If you have any questions please call Cheri at 723-6450. Sign up in the Narthex.



THE NURSING HOME VISITATION TEAM will be meeting on Tuesday, January 8th at 7:00 p.m. in Hanson Parlor to talk about our experiences, plan for 2019, and encourage more folks to join this valuable ministry. If you are interested in hearing about what we do (it's not a huge commitment, just once every month or two), then please join us for this short, informative meeting!



SPECIAL CONCERT On Saturday, January 12 at 4PM, the Chautauqua Chamber Singers will again perform at First Lutheran Church. This concert of “Lessons and Carols” is sung dressed in Renaissance costumes, making it aurally and visually engaging. There is no charge for this event.



COUNCIL MINUTES FOR DECEMBER

1. Introduced Keith Hedges and Sunny Thomas as the new council members.
2. Explained what each committee takes care of and advised them to think about which committee(s) they want to be a part of starting next month.
3. We went over Pastor and Treasurer Reports as well as the Committee Reports.
4. FLC finished Trivia Night in 4th place.

FIRST LUTHERAN JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1/1 Sunny Thomas	1/14Cont.
1/2 Barry Klenowski	Dave Rigg
Connor Rosborough	Hallie Rigg
Gerry Tassone	1/15 Kaelah Knupp
1/4 Ron & Cindy Hillard (27)	1/16 Brianna Check
Renate Downey	Mary Ann Mead
1/5 Jane Ayers	1/18 Tim Bleech
Jennifer Tridico	Kohl Feeny
1/6 Sandy Britton	1/19 Janet Hansen
Johanne Forney	Eli Johnson
Phil Howard	1/20 Jim Rapp
Roberta Stewart	Dee Schultz
Jen Weyant	1/23 Katie Koerselman
1/8 Kevin Downey	Jessica Arnold
Denny Hedges	Chuck & Barb Olson (54)
1/10 Carolyn Jacobson	1/24 Cynthia Klenowski
1/11 Jean Ballard	Cyndy Granger
Barb Boger	1/25 Marilyn Dahlgren
1/12 Katie Bimber	1/26 Taige Honhart
Rachel Labowski	1/28 Caitlyn Wachter
Hunter Peterson	Heather Williams
Earl & Linda Ross (11)	1/30 Nancy Clark
1/13 Elizabeth Miller	Joan Greisbach
Randy Witmer	1/31 Nathan Klenowski
Randy & Colleen Witmer (23)	Jeanne Reinard
1/14 Ed Carr	Charlette Russell
Lilly Downey	Tom & Dee Schultz (49)
Ryan McGuinness	
Peggy Nelson	

Altar Flowers for 2019! These are dates you can still purchase flowers for next year:

January 6, 27	March 10, 17, 24	May 19, 26
June 30	July 14, 28	September 8, 22
October 20 (2 vases)	November 3, 10, 24	December 8, 22, 29 (1 service)

Call Kris Whitaker (726-2843) or email whitakerc@verizon.net to place an order.

JANUARY SERVING SCHEDULE

Ushers: (8am) Barry & Irene Keller, Marilyn Dahlgren, Roger Tubbs **(11am)** Al Dennis, Ed Carr, Joe Colosimo, Jim Moore, John Schwone, Dale Clark, Bob Gregerson, **Altar Guild: (8am)**-Anne Benson & Debbie Backhus **(11am)** Lori Howard, Mary Donaldson, Elsa Redding

Greeters- 8:00am

1/6 Randy & Sandy Britton
1/13 Marilyn Dahlgren
1/20 Carol Johnson
1/27 Barry & Irene Keller

11:00am

Mary Donaldson
Denny & Vonda Hedges
Keith Hedges
Phil Howard

Visitor Greeters

1/6 Andy & Jane Beardsley
1/13 Randy & Sandy Britton
1/20 Marilyn Dahlgren
1/27 Bonnie Miller

Jim & Alice Rapp
Jim & Velma Zock
Rita Hawk
Dale & Nancy Clark

Acolytes

1/6 Elizabeth Koebley
1/13 Isabella Knupp
1/20 Kaelah Knupp
1/27 Elizabeth Koebley

Hunter Feeny/Chase Colosimo
Logan Renninger/Will Strassburg
Izzy McMonigal/Lydia Renninger
Trenton Downey/Kohl Feeny

Assisting Ministers

1/6 Kris Whitaker
1/13 Randy Britton
1/20 Roger Tubbs
1/27 Barb Kersey

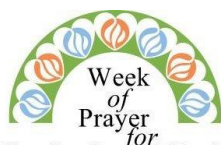
Colleen Witmer
Randy Baughman
Heidi Colosimo
Mary Donaldson

Nursery

1/6 Diane Stenstrom/Rachal Rowland
1/13 Denise & Joe Whipp
1/20 Amy & Kevin Downey
1/27 Cheri Kellogg/Zoe Rodgers

Crucifer

Aidan Flannery
Allison Koebley
Megan Koerselman
Jared Labowski



Christian Unity

Every January, the Christian church worldwide marks the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This ecumenical “octave,” or eight-day observance, lasts from January 18 (the Feast of St. Peter) to January 25 (the Feast of St. Paul). The week is based on Jesus’ prayer to his heavenly Father in John 17:21 that his followers “may all be one ... so that the world may believe that you have sent me” (ESV). Jesus knew that if Christians were fiercely divided, people outside the faith wouldn’t want to learn more about him. The theme for the 2019 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from Deuteronomy 16:20 (NRSV): “Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue.”