

First News First

Volume 54, Issue 6

June 2021

It's June – It's Summer – We are growing closer to being back to “normal!”

On May 30th we begin our Summer Sunday Worship time of 9:30 a.m. This will continue through Labor Day Weekend and we will return to 10:45 worship on September 12. Also on May 30 worship will be returning to approximately a one hour service. We will have the full liturgy, lessons, and three hymns like we had prior to the pandemic.



It will still feel, not quite normal because, as the church, we will be continuing these practices so those at risk will be more protected. This is how our church cares for one another.

1. We will still be wearing masks
2. We will still be keeping 6 feet distancing
3. We will still enjoy the choir singing the hymns and the congregation listening and meditating on the words and not singing along.
4. We will still be receiving communion in our pews.
5. We will be missing the nursery, as we do not have enough volunteers for the summer months. We hope to open the nursery, once again in the fall.
6. We will be livestreaming worship. In May we said goodbye to Theo and wished him well as he moved to NY to serve in a Methodist congregation in his wife's hometown. Volunteers are learning to livestream our service, so please be patient if we do not appear to be as professional as previously. We are all learning together.

Most importantly – by following these protocols, we will be able to continue gathering together in person to glorify God.

The council will be convening in June to make any updates to these practices.

On June 6 we will welcome The Rev. Martin Zimmann from United Lutheran Seminary, as I will be at my niece's wedding in NY. On June 20 we will be honoring our fathers on Father's Day and celebrating Rose Rent Sunday. And then on June 27 we have our worship in Green Township Park under the pavilion. It will prove to be an exciting month at worship.

Please keep the Lower Susquehanna Synod in your prayers as they conduct the business of our Synod at the Synod Assembly on June 4 and 5. Joyce Ray is the voting member from our congregation.

Also, it is exciting that our confirmation program is getting started with Confirmation Camp the week of June 13. Christian Burkholder and I will be attending at Nawakwa.

Our Neighborhood Task Team has been at work. They have done marvelous ministry throughout the pandemic. Many neighbors who were served in May at the Spring Fling give-away were so very grateful. There is a new laundromat at Southgate Plaza and we are excited to be investigating the possibilities for ministry there, as well.

We hope that as you feel more comfortable returning to activities, that you remember to make the church one of your priorities as we reopen safely.

Pastor Nicholson



Happy Father's Day!



FATHER'S DAY PRAYER (*written by Israel Galindo*)

Our Father God,
we thank you today for the fathers in our lives,
for those who by calling or choice,
by virtue of blood or grace,
stand in that place in our lives
and answer the call to be fathers.

Thank you God,
for perfect daddies who cradle and cuddle,
who can chase away monsters from under the bed,
who can do anything it seems,
and who push us toward our place in a world of possibilities beyond their
own reach.

For responsible dads, who provide and protect,
ho give up dreams for our sake,
whose form of courage is to face daily
the ordinary task of making a living
And to count personal sacrifices cheap for their families' sake.

For grandfathers whose delight in us is unconditional,
whose patience is endless,
And whose legacy of love and strength
reaches across generations
to give us a past, a name, and a destiny.

And thank you, Father God,
for giving us your name to carry and calling us your own,
for your steadfast love that never fails,
and for making for us a place to call home
from which we have come and to which we return,
always into your loving,
uncompromising embrace.

Amen.

Outdoor Worship/Picnic



Sunday June 27 at 10:45 a.m.

Greene Township Park

900-1074 Elevator Street



Price per person is \$8, children under 12 are free. Menu: fried chicken, baked macaroni & cheese, baked beans, potato salad, broccoli salad, dinner rolls & butter, sweet & unsweet tea, water and cookies. Food will be served buffet style by servers wearing masks and gloves.

Please make your reservation for food by June 14th. Sign up in Memorial Hall after worship on June 6th & 13th, or by calling Mary Beth Warne at (717) 372-8282. You are welcome to attend worship only or bring your own lunch if that feels more safe to you.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

May Church Council Highlights:

- **Property Committee:** The new mailbox has been installed by the Fellowship Hall doors. Vacancy of rooms upon closure of SpiriTrust Counseling Service has not been filled. The purchase of new furniture to enhance the appearance of Memorial Hall is being considered, along with a new system for the collections that also gather in this space.
- **Worship and Music:** Beginning Sunday, May 30, worship services will return to an hour-long service with the more traditional liturgy. The congregation will continue to refrain from singing during worship until the Council revisits this issue at their June meeting.
- **Faith Formation:** VBS for 2021 has been canceled for a number of reasons; lack of volunteers, pandemic restrictions with meals/music/games. Clearances for those working with our children and youth are ongoing, with some abstaining at this time due to pandemic restrictions.
- **Deacon's Report:** The handbell choir will continue through Sunday, May 23. Sanctuary choir will sing during the summer months. Orchestra Sundays will be held in July and August.
- **Pastor's Report:** The congregation has applied for a sabbatical grant for Pastor Nicholson to cover the majority of costs incurred by the congregation and pastor. The results will be received in August. Nursing homes are finally opening for visiting; appointments are required.



BOROUGH LONG RANGE PLAN

The Borough of Chambersburg is working on a 2035 Long Range Plan.

Visioning Weeks will be held in June and will include several in person and online events for all Chambersburg residents to provide input on the comprehensive plan, including a resident and business survey.

Information about upcoming Vision 2035 Comprehensive Plan events can also be found on the Borough's webpage (<http://www.borough.chambersburg.pa.us/government/compplan.html>) and at the comprehensive plan Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=chambersburg%20vision%202035>).

NEIGHBORHOOD TASK TEAM

Sharing God's love in our community **2021 BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT FOR NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN**

In anticipation of a return to in-person classes for the fall 2021 year we are planning for our fourth annual Back to School Special for elementary school children in our community. We can't set a date for the event until we know when local schools will begin fall classes, but it is not too early to shop for bargains in children's underwear, socks, and school supplies. This year we are adding children's tee shirts and plain sweatpants. We will also be collecting pocket sized tissue packages and children's books in good condition.



Items needed for ages 5 – 12:

Girls briefs or boy shorts (no bikinis, low rise or hipsters)

Girls camis in Medium and Large

Boys boxers or boxer briefs

Low socks for boys and girls

Tee shirts and sweat pants (Slightly worn tees and pants are available at local thrift stores)

Many stores already have bargain prices on notebooks, crayons, markers, children's scissors, pencil sharpeners. We will also apply for Thrivent grants to purchase items for this event.

The Give and Take Box

There are people from the community who regularly put food in the box as well as our team filling it with personal care items 3 times a week.

Items are quickly removed by our neighbors. The cub scouts of First Lutheran are now filling the box once per week when they are attending meetings. Thanks to the scouts and their leaders for wanting to serve our neighbors and First Lutheran by placing items in the box.

You may place donations for the box directly in the box or in the crate labeled "Give and Take Box" which is located in Memorial Hall by the office door.





BACKPACK FEEDING PROGRAM: The backpack program continues to be the service project for the Women of the ELCA. All members of the church are invited to contribute. The items

suggested for the month of June are: spaghetti & meatballs, ravioli, beefaroni and lasagna. All items should be in individual size servings. Thank you for supporting this project, which provides weekend meals for students who may not have adequate meals at home.



Ladies' Breakfast

The Women's Fellowship Breakfast

will be on

Wednesday, June 16, 8:30 a.m.
at The Family Table Restaurant
2830 Lincoln Way W.
(former CR Bucks)

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER



world hunger

As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond to hunger needs. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Working with and through our congregations in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. Thank you for your contributions this month for the World Hunger needs.

“Giving is an expression of one’s faith. It reveals how much God is in one’s life.”

Thank You

Women of the ELCA,

Thank you so very much for the basket of goodie's you sent to us. We are enjoying all of these goodies and especially Elizabeth Maffett's visit.

Thanks again,

Barb & Strauss Vinson



Dear Pastor Nicholson, Congregation, and Women of the ELCA,



Thank you very much for your visits with prayer, the lovely red rose, cards and telephone calls. We are trying to return to a normal routine after the covid illness. Thank you so much for the welcome and nice May baskets! We are so grateful for all of you at First Lutheran. Much Love & Gratitude.

Sincerely,

Dalton & Julie Paul

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for sending me the May basket. I am enjoying all of the goodies. I really did appreciate the visit from Nancy Hamilton. It's great to have someone to talk with. We really had a lot of different subjects that we talked about.

I'm looking forward to the time when things are back to normal, and we can come and go as we please.

Getting back to church and seeing everyone is one of my main goals.

Thanks again!

Celena Casseday

Announcements

You probably don't talk about politics or religion with your family or friends. I have just the thing! Starting in Sept, I will be leading a book discussion on the book: THOU SHALT NOT BE A JERK by Eugene Cho. It is a Christian's guide to engaging politics. We will discuss a chapter a week. It is an easy read and we will have some great discussions and time to share our thoughts. Please let me know if you are interested and which day you prefer: Sundays during the Sunday School hour or Thursdays at 2 pm. Starting date is week of Sept 12. Joyce Ray



HELPING HANDS

Council

President: Tim Gotwald
 Vice President: Tom Kriner
 Secretary: Rose Wilson
 Pastor: Jane Nicholson
 Deacon: Freda Dorand
 Jeff Dorand
 Barb Evans
 Warren Heintzelman
 Mary Beth McGraw-Warne
 Joyce Ray
 Tedd Sloan
 Gerry Wilson
 Treasurer: Sally Herritt
 Financial Secretary: Carol McCoy



June Diehl	6/1	Diana Umbrell	6/18
Martha Umbrell	6/3	J. Preston Friend	6/19
Roberts Willits	6/4	Monica Willits	6/21
Shirley Pugh	6/5	Gerald Forrester	6/22
Beverly Rebok	6/5	Joshua Dorand	6/23
Hank Stouffer	6/5	Chad Lensbower	6/23
Amber McCoy	6/13	Sharon Hammond	6/24
Gregory Plasterer	6/14	Dennis Love	6/24
Nancy Hamilton	6/15	Ashley Peters	6/26
Thomas Kriner	6/15	Karen Naus	6/27
John Sekel	6/15	Blaine Wilson	6/27
Kristen Potts	6/16	Dale Forrester	6/29
Jean Reed	6/18		



**July
 Newsletter
 Deadline is
 June 15**

TRANSPORTATION Need a Ride?

Our church provides transportation to church on Sundays! We don't want to miss anyone who would like to join us! Please call if you need a ride.
 Church office: 717-264-2015

HOSPITALIZATION



If someone you know from our church is hospitalized please contact Pastor Nicholson to let her know by calling 717-264-2015 ext.4 or email flcpastor@outlook.com. If this is an emergency—feel free to contact Pastor Nicholson at home 717-753-3940.



PRAYER CHAIN





May we include you in our prayers? Do you have a prayer need that we can help you with? If so, please call our prayer-chain group leader:

Marcia Hunt @
 717-263-0781

Names are kept on the prayer chain for 1 month. After that month, please contact the office again if you would like to have a name on for another month.

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Chambersburg, PA 17201
E-mail: felccoffice@gmail.com
Website: www.felcc.org

 @FirstEvangelicalLutheranChurch
 @felccyouth

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Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE	717-264-2015
Parish Administrator	ext. 1
Director of Music	ext. 3
Pastor	ext. 4

DATED MATERIAL—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



Outdoor Worship and Picnic
(See page 3 for details)
Greene Township Park
Sunday, June 27th at 10:45.